In him

the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned.

that those saddened
by the certainty of dying
might be consoled
by the promise of
immortality to come.

Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended,

and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.

> The Order of Mass Preface I for the Dead

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Memorial Garden 2150 Frieze Avenue Ann Arbor, MI 48104

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Memorial Garden



when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.

What is the teaching of the Catholic Church on cremation?

While the Church prefers burial of the dead or entombment after the example of Christ's own burial, cremation has been allowed for many years as long as it has not been chosen for reasons contrary to Christian teaching or as a denial of the Resurrection.

A person or family may desire cremation as a more appropriate means of disposition. This decision should be made in consultation with family members and a priest. The Church requires that the decision to have the body cremated must have been the clear choice of the individual before death or requested by the family of the deceased for appropriate reasons.

When is cremation allowed?

There can be a number of reasons for choosing to have the body cremated. An example would be for economic reasons such as expense of transportation and burial, especially in a case in which the remains will be transported a considerable distance (perhaps for burial in the deceased's homeland).

Can I have a Catholic funeral if I am going to be cremated?

The practice of cremation of the body of the deceased has become part of Catholic practice in the United States and other parts of the Western World. Since the Catholic Church commends its deceased members to the mercy of God by means of its funeral rites, all of the usual rituals may be celebrated in the presence of cremated remains.

Where are the cremated remains placed during the Funeral Liturgy?

The cremated remains are placed in an Ossuary

which is used as part of the funeral rite. It is set on a table at the foot of the sanctuary, with room for a small bouquet and a picture of the deceased loved one. The Paschal Candle, symbolizing Christ's undying presence among his faithful and his triumph over sin and death enabling us to share in that victory, is placed nearby.

What is the proper disposition of the cremated remains?

Interment (careful burial of the ashes directly into the ground, without an urn) is the means of disposition at St. Francis. At the time of interment in the St. Francis Memorial Garden, a short prayer service is conducted by a priest or deacon.

Who may be interred in the Memorial Garden?

Ordinarily the Memorial Garden is open only to registered and active parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. However, non-parishioners related to registered parishioners may, with the pastor's approval, be interred in the Garden.

What fees are associated with interment of cremated remains in the St. Francis Memorial Garden?

The established fee is \$1000.00 or \$1500.00 for non-parishioners related to a registered parishioner who have the pastor's approval for interment. This fee includes interment and the prayer service; inscription of the deceased's name, year of birth and year of death on a black granite panel within the garden (inscriptions are done twice a year, in May and September); and an endowment care fund for the upkeep of the Memorial Garden. Fees for future interments are accepted. Donations to the Memorial Garden are always welcome.

Please make chec	Phone	1	Address	Name \square_F	ish to participate
Please make checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church-Memorial Garden, 2150 Frieze Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at (734) 821-2100.	Date of birth:	City State Zip		Name	rish to participate in the Memorial Garden of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan