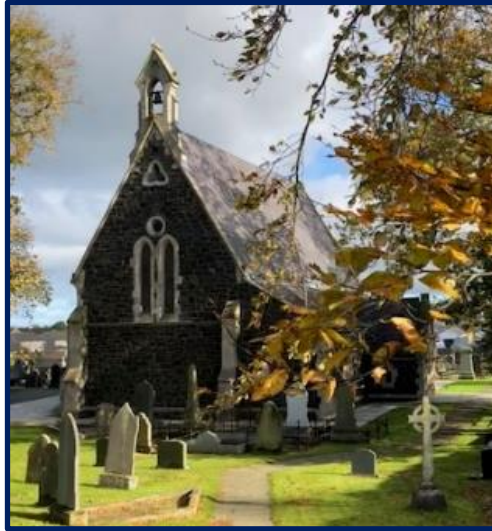


# *Diocese of Connor*



St James' Church  
40 Ramoan Road  
Ballycastle  
BT54 6 EG

## Graveyard and Memorial Garden

## Regulations and Charges

# **DIOCESE OF CONNOR**

## **GRAVEYARD REGULATIONS AND CHARGES**

Effective from: 01 March 2025

### **PARISH OF RAMOAN**

**ALL GUIDELINES SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH CHAPTER 12 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND AND WITH THE DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.**

**Throughout these documents the term “*officiating member of the clergy*” normally refers to the incumbent/Rector. In the event of a vacancy, the officiating member of the clergy is the Rural Dean.**

### **GOVERNING REGULATIONS**

1. The burial ground at St James’ Church is managed by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens of the parish in accordance with these Parish Graveyard Regulations.
2. All committals should follow a Christian burial service and be conducted by a minister who is authorised to do so by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.
3. Any requests to register an interest in an interment space, for permission to bury, or for the erection of headstones, or alterations to these, must be directed to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.
4. Normally the holder of burial registration papers, or a funeral director acting on their behalf will make application for burial to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens. These papers should be produced before a burial can take place.
5. The precise location of any new interment space will be determined at the time of need by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens, provided that suitable space is available in the graveyard at that time. The registration of a burial space does not confer legal title or exclusive right of burial.
6. When members of a family have been buried in a particular place, and following the death of the person whose name appears on the burial registration paper for that burial space, a family member/s may apply to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens on their behalf, for the registration of interest in that space to be transferred to themselves or another family member. When such a transfer of interest has been approved by the officiating member

of the clergy and churchwardens, either the existing burial registration paper should be endorsed accordingly, or the existing burial registration paper surrendered, and a new paper issued. Other relevant parish documents should be amended accordingly.

7. Prior to installation or alteration, all plans and proposed designs for headstones, or flat stones, must be submitted in advance to the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens for approval.
8. Any proposed inscription or alteration to an inscription must be approved in advance by the officiating member of the clergy.
9. No permanent memorial marks, other than those approved above, may be placed on graves. Any hazardous or dangerous memorial or surround may be removed or laid flat in the interests of safety.
10. As the burial ground is subject to natural settlement, the registered holder of the burial registration papers should ensure that headstones, flagstones, memorials are at all times maintained in good order.
11. Unauthorised memorials may be removed by instruction of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens at the expense of those holding the burial registration papers.

The charges outlined below are those approved by the Diocesan Council for this burial ground. Please note that interment spaces remain the property of the Church of Ireland.

The charges itemised are payable in advance preferably by bank transfer to the following account: **Ramoan Parish Church Building Fund, Account 01090378, Sort Code: 98 02 70** or if preferred payment by cheque (**payable to Parish of Ramoan**) can be made to the Parish Treasurer, Ramoan Parish Centre, 3 Station Street, Ballycastle, BT54 6AE

## *12.Exhumation*

Exhumation is a legal matter and may require civil court permission as well as a faculty.

- 12.1 Whenever a deceased person is buried in consecrated ground, it is assumed that the place of burial is intended to be the final resting place of that individual. The same principle applies when the cremated remains of a deceased person are interred in consecrated ground.

- 12.2 The exhumation of human remains (including cremated remains) from consecrated ground for the purpose of reburial in another place is unlawful, unless it has been authorised by faculty. The relatives or personal representatives of a deceased individual will be deemed in the first instance to have chosen the consecrated place of burial as the final resting place and accordingly a faculty for an exhumation will only be granted in wholly exceptional circumstances.
- 12.3 Anyone seeking a faculty authorising the exhumation of the remains of an individual buried in consecrated ground or cremated remains of such a person will therefore have to put forward special grounds in order to obtain a faculty. Mere convenience of visiting a grave or place of burial or the fact that relatives have subsequently moved to a different area are unlikely to justify the grant of a faculty for disturbing the remains.
- 12.4 Exhumation of human remains/cremated remains from a churchyard requires (in advance) a Petition and Faculty from the Bishop of the Diocese. For guidance/advice, please contact the Registry Clerk/Diocesan Registrar/Assistant Registrar.
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## GRAVEYARD RULES

1. The officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens shall have the power to remove any bush, shrub or other form of growth which they consider detrimental to the burial ground or to any other interment space.
2. Artificial wreaths or other adornments are not permitted in the churchyard.
3. The time of the burial must not be arranged without prior permission of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens and reasonable notice must be given.
4. No burial may take place within 30 minutes of or during times of Divine Service.
5. Each single grave plot shall not measure more than **8ft x 4ft / 2.40 m x 1.20 m**.
6. No coffin shall be laid in any grave nearer to the surface than **3ft 3 inches/ 1 metre**, measuring from the upper part of the coffin.
7. No coffin shall be buried within **12 ft/ 3.66 metres** of the fabric of the church except in an existing vault.

- 8 Foundations of headstones must be a minimum of **0.225 metres** deep from ground level and have a minimum width of **0.8 metres** single and **1.2 metres double**.
  9. A fee will be charged where cremated remains are being interred in an existing grave. (See fees section for cremated remains).
  10. No interest in any particular interment space shall be registered until point of need.
  11. In the interest of graveyard maintenance, surrounds are not permitted.
  12. All floral and other tributes may be removed from the grave after 4 weeks of the interment, on the instruction of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.
  13. No major or disruptive grave maintenance work may be carried out on a Sunday.
  14. No domestic animals other than guide dogs are to be brought into the graveyard.
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## **GRAVEYARD FEES**

### **REGISTRATION OF AN INTEREST IN INTERMENT SPACE**

#### **Registration of each new burial space:**

To be paid by bona-fide subscribing\* parishioners

£400

To be paid by non-parishioners or non-subscribers:

£800

### **CHARGES FOR PERMISSION TO ERECT HEADSTONES**

#### **Erection of Headstones**

To be paid by bona-fide subscribing\* parishioners

£200

To be paid by Non-Parishioners and Non-Subscribing Parishioners

£400

*\*See footnote at end of regulations*

## CHARGES FOR OPENING INTERMENT SPACE

£100	subscribing* parishioners
£250	to be paid by non-parishioners and non-subscribers
£100	to be paid by bona-fide subscribing* parishioners, for the interment of cremated remains in an existing grave
£200	to be paid by non-parishioners and non-subscribers for the interment of cremated remains in an existing grave

Actual payment to the gravedigger is in addition to the above and is arranged separately.

*\*See footnote at end of regulations*

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## GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE REGULATIONS AND CHARGES

### PARISH OF RAMOAN

**ALL GUIDELINES SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH CHAPTER 12 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND AND WITH THE DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.**

Throughout these documents the term “*officiating member of the clergy*” is normally the incumbent/rector. In the event of a vacancy, the officiating member of the clergy is the Rural Dean.

### GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE RULES AND FEES

Interment of cremated remains may only take place with the permission of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.

All committals should follow a Christian burial service and be conducted by a minister who is authorised to do so by the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens.

Spaces measuring 2'x2' will be allocated in order as the need arises at the discretion of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens. The space will be covered using a plaque provided by the family of the deceased to the size and design provided by Select Vestry

Information about interments is recorded in the Parochial Register of Burials.

Cremated remains must not be scattered but should be buried directly in the soil in casket made of wood or some other biodegradable container at a depth of not less than 30 cm.

Any floral tributes used at the funeral may be placed at the memorial wall and will be disposed of on the instruction of the officiating member of the clergy and churchwardens after a suitable period or when withered. No artificial wreaths, any other memorials or adornments, inscriptions or flower containers may be placed in the Garden of Remembrance.

## **GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE**

### **Burial of Cremated Remains**

Actual payment to the gravedigger is in addition to the fees below and will be arranged separately.

To be paid by bona-fide subscribing\* parishioners

£200

Non-parishioners and Non-Subscribing Parishioners

£300

*\*See footnote at end of regulations*

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### **Footnote:**

*\*A subscribing parishioner, either resident or accustomed, is defined as one who accepts the ministry of the Church of Ireland and has been subscribing to the funds of the parish through the parish financial system, either through regular giving or as a one-off donation. It must be contributed in such a manner that a receipt could be demanded for it. General Sunday cash collections are not recordable and therefore are not considered as qualifying subscriptions.*

***Contact information:***

*Ramoan Parish Centre*

*3 Station Street*

*Ballycastle*

*BT54 6AP*



Ramoan and Culfeightrin



**Church of Ireland**

*A province of the Anglican Communion*