



St. Mary's Church
Chiddingfold



Burial of Ashes in the Garden of Rest Advice for Families

- We are pleased to arrange the burial of ashes of any Chiddingfold resident or for others who have had a long standing connection with St. Mary's church. Please contact both your firm of undertakers and the Rector to arrange a mutually convenient date and time. The undertakers will need to be asked to prepare the plot. They may or may not be present on the day, depending on your requirements.
- The ceremony lasts approximately 20 minutes. It begins in church with prayers and a reading in the Lady Chapel, following which the casket is carried to the Garden of Rest where it is lowered into a pre-prepared plot with appropriate prayers.
- Please order the stone tablet to mark the plot when you make arrangements with your undertakers. The stone tablet should be no larger 18" x 12" x 2" in order to maintain the quality of the layout in the garden of rest. The tablet can be in any natural stone or slate.
- It is possible to request a double depth plot in order that another person's ashes can be added at a later date. If you would like this to happen please be sure to confirm with your undertakers in good time, so that they are aware of the need for a double depth plot when they come to prepare the site. The stone tablet should have space left on it for future engraving of the second name and dates.
- You are welcome to leave a potted plant or floral arrangement on the stone tablet when you come to visit, but please be aware that our churchyard is visited by deer that tend to eat flowers that are left on graves, which can cause upset. You may prefer to buy a shrub to be planted in the churchyard in memory of your loved one. Please speak, in the first instance, to the Rector if this is your wish. Please do not place artificial flowers in the churchyard. Baskets and pots will be removed once they have come to the end of their natural life and the contents recycled within the Churchyard wherever possible.
- The undertakers will advise you that there is a Churchyard fee of between £80 and £90 for the introduction of a tablet, plaque or other marker. This is a statutory fee set by the central Church of England to whom, in large part, the fee is paid. The remainder is held by the church and used as a contribution to the maintenance costs, such as grass cutting and tree maintenance, incurred in keeping the Gardens of Rest, and the rest of our churchyard, in good order.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Rector,
 Revd Sarah Brough, for more information - 01428 682008
 or sarahbrough@btinternet.com