

## *The Memorial Garden*

For many generations, people were buried in and around the church. Then, as time passed customs changed, restrictions were imposed, and in many cases people had to be buried elsewhere. Recently, concerns in human affairs have brought about a resurgence of interest in cremation of bodily remains. This has rebirthed the tradition of making one's final resting place on the grounds of the church. Such a memorial garden has been established at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

The Garden is located on the west end of the church building and is filled with plantings, benches, and is a place of tranquility and beauty to be enjoyed by everyone.

Cremation is an old tradition and has been widely practiced throughout the world from earliest times. As Christians we regard burning as a proper reverent way of disposing objects blessed for religious use such as prayer books, altar linens, and palms. By common Christian consent we agree that this is a reverent way of returning that which has been set apart and used to the glory of God. Christians who favor cremation have every right or reason to cite this principle. The Church of England and the Episcopal Church support cremation as an acceptable, proper, and dignified way of treating the human body at the time of death. Almost a quarter of all Americans now choose cremation over other means of burial. In response to this need churches have established special facilities for the care and safekeeping of cremated remains.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
330 E. 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Upland California 91784

## St. Mark's Memorial Garden



*"Father of all, we pray to you...  
for all those whom we love but see  
no longer. Grant to them eternal  
rest. Let light perpetual shine upon  
them."*

~ Burial of the Dead, Rite II

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
UPLAND, CALIFORNIA

*Request for Interment*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby make application for the burial of cremated human remains in the St. Mark's Memorial Garden, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Upland, California.

My address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Designee: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F

Designee's last address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Cause of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

My relationship to designee: \_\_\_\_\_

I do  I do not wish St. Mark's Episcopal Church to order a nameplate with the name of the deceased to be affixed to a Memorial Plaque.

I am making a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, which will be placed in the Memorial Garden Fund



I acknowledge that I have read the St. Mark's Memorial Garden Policy Statement on the reverse and agree to abide by the policies set therein.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Garden  
Policy Statement

The St. Mark's Parish Memorial Garden is intended to be a simple, dignified meditation garden with plantings and benches, set aside as a place where the cremated remains of those who have died may be committed directly into the earth and where people may gather for reflection, prayer or meditation. Interment shall be officiated by the Rector of St. Mark's Parish or a person appointed by the Rector. The committal rite shall be according to the Book of Common Prayer or as directed by the Rector. No containers or objects other than the cremated remains may be committed in the Garden. St. Mark's Parish shall keep accurate records of all committals in the Garden. Reservation and/ or committal allows only for the privilege of use of the space and does not create or transfer real property rights. The Church has sole right to the Memorial Garden and property. Any contribution for committal will be placed in the Memorial Garden Fund and shall be used for maintenance and enhancement of the Garden, at the discretion of the Vestry. The bereaved may not place flags, emblems, monuments, plaques, headstones, plants, floral arrangements or bouquets, or other objects on or near the site of committal or in the Garden. The remains of any person may be committed in the Garden, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief or absence thereof. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. Mark's Parish have full rights and responsibilities concerning the Memorial Garden. Any issue not covered in this Policy Statement shall be determined solely by that body. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. Mark's reserve the right to change Memorial Garden policies from time to time, at their sole discretion.