



St. Mary Magdalene Urn Guidelines:

As an incentive to purchase a niche in the StMM Columbarium between now and December 31, 2022, the StMM Columbarium Committee has been working in conjunction with Apex Funeral Home on special pricing program for the preferred StMM columbarium urn.

We have arrived at two different avenues for our parishioners to obtain the preferred urns at a significant discount:

1. Urns can be ordered online @ <https://squareup.com/store/stmm-columbarium-urns>, paid for immediately via credit card, (no cash sales) and then be picked up from Apex Funeral Home, 550 W. Williams Street, Apex. The net proceeds from the sale of urns through this method will be deposited into the StMM columbarium perpetual care account. Please note that the purchase of the urn through this method does not obligate you to use the Apex Funeral Home as your service provider. The price of the preferred urn during this time frame is \$150.00.
2. As an alternative to purchasing the urn, parishioner(s) who prearrange cremation services with Apex Funeral Home will receive the preferred urn at **no cost**. The pre-arrangement process can include attending an informational seminar provided by Apex Funeral Home, (times to be announced) or directly contacting Apex Funeral Home for an appointment at your convenience - 919-362-8233.

The Church is very supportive of parishioners taking the time to make funeral pre-arrangements. Although we very much appreciate our neighbors in Apex, STMM is not making any type of recommendation of using their services over another provider. There are no financial implications or any other incentive to StMM if you decide on pre-planning with Apex Funeral Home.

Question: Why has the StMM Columbarium Committee chosen a preferred urn?

After choosing the niche supplier, we were then able to determine the exact size of the niche, and in turn begin the investigation of urn selection. It has become very apparent that there are a wide variety of urns available on the market – many of which will not fit in an StMM columbarium niche. Therefore, we have chosen a preferred urn model that is of high quality, simple, dignified, and meets the physical dimensions of the niche. By purchasing the preferred urn, you can rest assured that your family will not have to address this concern at

the time of need. As many other columbarium groups have done, a preferred urn has been selected and is highly recommended for use.

Question: Can I use a different urn than the preferred urn?

Yes. There is a requirement that a pre-fitting of a non-preferred urn be completed prior to the actual inurnment. The worst situation the committee is trying to avoid is when one or both of the urns do not fit, and we have a crisis during an already very traumatic time. Please contact the committee at columbarium@stmm.net to make arrangements for an urn pre-fitting. Please remember that your family may not know of this potential problem at the time of need and make an unwise selection simply because they did not know. A purchase of the preferred urn (before it is urgently needed) removes the risk and decision making out of the picture for the family and thus is highly recommended for your consideration.

Question: Can I prearrange for one cremation with Apex Funeral Home and obtain a free urn, and procure the other urn from StMM?

Yes. This is an individual decision.

**Question: If I purchase the urn through StMM, do I need to pick it up immediately?
Storage of urn?**

Yes. Once your online order has been placed, the urn(s) will be available for pickup at the Apex Funeral Home, 550 W. Williams Street, Apex. Please bring a print out of your emailed receipt.

You will need to store your urn(s) at home or store the urn(s) in your niche once the columbarium is built. There is no additional opening / closing costs associated with storage. Storage in the niche will create another logistics issue the family will have to work through during a traumatic time so it may not be your best option. This incentive offer is to purchase and take possession of the urn immediately.

Question: If I make my pre-arrangements with Apex Funeral Home, will I have to take possession of the urn immediately?

No. Apex Funeral Home will provide the urn at the time of need.

Question: Can I take that urn and have it engraved?

Yes. To make this option as easy as possible a member of the columbarium committee as met with individuals at Mort's, Inc. (919) 661-4200. Mort's is a family-run company that has experience engraving urns. As with the funeral home selection, this is not a recommendation from StMM but rather a referral to what we believe is a high quality organization. A caution is not to add anything to the urn that would increase the maximum diameter of the urn; this could then cause a fitment issue inside the niche.

Question: What if I have an urn filled with ashes and the urn does not fit?

You (or your family) will be responsible for procuring an urn that does fit in the niche (with any other urn already in the niche, if applicable). Apex Funeral Home has committed to assisting parishioners with the transfer of cremains if that need should arise. Any non-standard urn needs to be pre-fitted by contacting columbarium@stmm.net for an appointment. Your cooperation will avoid unnecessary stress / anxiety on the day of inurnment.

Question: What is going to happen after December 31, 2022?

Effective 1 January 2023, St. Mary Magdalene will no longer have involvement with urn purchases. Funeral homes in the area will be advised of the preferred urn for St. Mary Magdalene columbarium. Parishioners will purchase the urn directly from the funeral home of choice.

Question: I have already reserved a niche. Do I qualify for this program?

Yes. We thank you for your support of Our Columbarium. Either option is available to you.

Question: Can I purchase the urn through the StMM parish office?

No. You must purchase online at <https://squareup.com/store/stmm-columbarium-urns/> using your credit card. In turn, Apex Funeral Home will be notified of the purchase and have urn(s) waiting for you. No urns will be stored in the StMM office. If asked, the office staff will refer you to this program as outlined.

Question: Can I complete the pre-planning process with the Apex Funeral Home, receive the free urn(s) and not purchase a niche from the StMM columbarium?

Yes. We respect the individuals right to work with Apex Funeral Home on a pre-arrangement and not have a commitment to a STMM columbarium niche.

Question: Once Apex Funeral Home has my name and address through the purchase / pick up process will they contact me for making a pre-arrangement appointment?

No. Apex Funeral Home prides themselves on their professional work and as members of our community. Certainly they want to be the preferred provider in supporting StMM community funeral needs. It is not their intent to come up with a contact list but rather a sincere effort to support the StMM columbarium as a community member and to promote pre-planning that does take significant pressure off of the family during a traumatic time.

Question: Can I purchase the preferred urn directly from Apex Funeral Home during this incentive period? Not at this pricing. The discounted pricing is only available per the instructions outlined.