

History of the Memorial Garden and Kinney Outdoor Chapel

In 1974, the first memorial site at St. Matthew's was established at the then Ridge Oak Drive church location when Shawn Kinney, the young daughter of Sue Kinney Burton, was killed in an automobile accident. There was strong sentiment within the youth group and the church to dedicate to her memory a "Kinney Outdoor Chapel." Memorial gifts were used to construct the outdoor chapel. When the church relocated to Mesa Drive, the Kinney Outdoor Chapel was relocated also, to preserve the significant piece of church history and provide a quiet, inviting, and accessible place to meditate and pray. The Bell Tower next to the Memorial Garden includes a small chapel, approved by the vestry in 1981, dedicated to Charlotte Cauley Gray, who also died in a car accident. It was built with funds from her parents, Dabney and Barbara Cauley.

When the concept of interring ashes in a Memorial Garden was proposed in the early 1990s, the area around the Kinney Chapel was the logical place. Early advocates for the site, Jim and Betty Newman, traveled around Texas collecting information on such sacred spaces at other churches. With widespread support from parishioners and Rector Chuck Huffman, the idea took hold and in 1995 the St. Matthew's Vestry approved the establishment of a Memorial Garden to follow the centuries old Anglican tradition of locating burial grounds on church property. The Vestry appointed a Memorial Garden Committee, initially including Jim Newman, Jack Robertson, and David Barrow, to oversee and manage the site.

In 1997, Henry Krystow desired to honor his late wife, Billye Taegel Krystow, and inter her ashes. Henry and Billye's nieces, Gaye and Janis, gave a gift of \$57,000 to build Phase 1 of the Memorial Garden that had been envisioned. The wall was dedicated by Rector Chip Nix on September 21, 1997 and completed in 1998. When completed, Phase 1 included 74 niches in which to place individual urns with memorial name plaques and 6 niches for crosses and scripture verses.

In 1999, Phase 2 extended the original South wall all the way to Mesa Drive, adding 4 more alcoves. In 2010, Phase 3 further extended the Memorial Garden stone wall on the Steck Avenue side, adding 53 niches. In 2017, Phase 4 of the envisioned Memorial Garden site was completed, raising the final total number of niches for interring ashes to 556.

Along with the stone columbarium walls with individual niches, a Common Urn was constructed in the Memorial Garden to provide a place for those who wished their ashes be interred in a communal earthen crypt, in keeping with the sentiment that "...we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return..." (BCP 482). A Remembrances Memorial Wall was constructed adjacent to the Common Urn, dedicated by Rector Merrill Wade on April 9, 2017, to memorialize those interred within, as well as loved ones interred elsewhere. Several stone benches with memorial plaques, have been installed throughout the garden enhancing the space as a place for rest, prayer, and meditation.

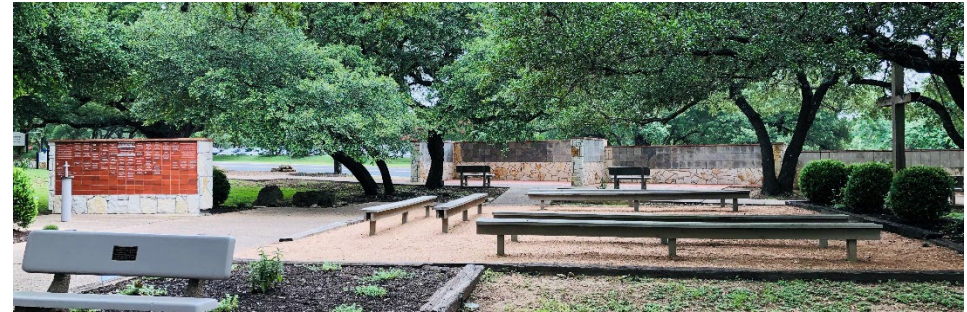
Parishioners and honored guests are encouraged to enjoy the Memorial Garden as a sacred space for contemplative prayer, memorializing and interring of loved ones, and other suitable gatherings with specific permission of the Rector.



ST. MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Billye Taegel Krystow MEMORIAL GARDEN

<https://stmattsaustrin.org/About/memorial-garden.html>



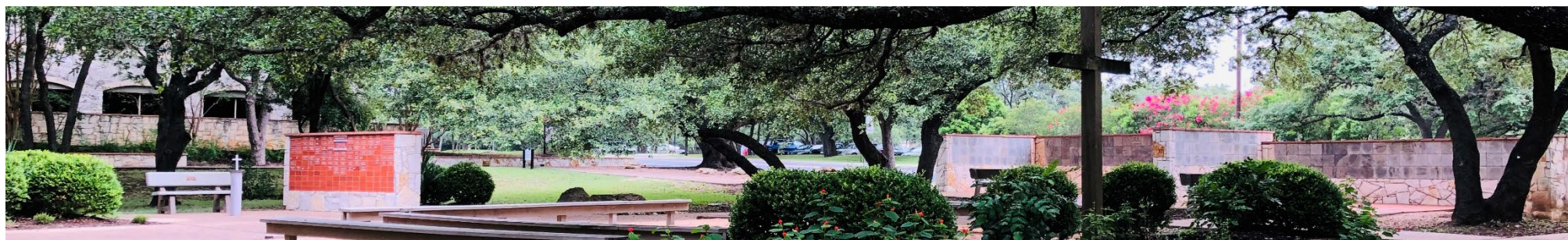
History, Services, Rates and Contact Info

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church has a long tradition of providing a place for the living to honor, memorialize, and inter deceased current or former church members, immediate family of members, or others with the specific permission of the Rector. The Billye Taegel Krystow Memorial Garden is a sacred place for this purpose, as well as for meditation and prayer, to seek reconciliation and peace, and to remember those who have gone "...into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints..." (BCP 483)

This brochure explains the 3 Interment and 3 Memorial options available within the Memorial Garden, as well as a brief history.



For more information about pursuing one of these options and/or to speak with a clergy person about arranging a Committal Service from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer to inter cremated remains, please contact the Church Office at 512-345-8314, send an email to office@stmattsaustrin.org, or visit the office at:

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8314 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78759




(Pricing as of 08/27/2019)

Interment Options (i.e. including ashes):

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| 1 | Columbarium Wall Burial Niche Price: \$1,500 | An individual compartment within the Columbarium Wall designed to hold a vessel containing the ashes of one deceased person. The niche interior measures about 7.5"x7.5"x9.5" (LxWxH) and thus the urn selected should be smaller than those dimensions to fit in the compartment. Every niche is covered by a 12" x 12" granite plate. The plate is engraved after death with the deceased's full name, date of birth and date of death. A reserved niche is marked with a white cross. A niche with no mark is likely unreserved, but the Church Office can confirm this. |  |
| 2 | Common Urn Burial, with 4" x 8" Tile Price: \$350 | A communal urn houses the ashes of individuals wishing for their remains to be returned to the earth without a vessel. Following interment, a 4" x 8" tile is installed to commemorate the person. The tile contains the deceased's full name, date of birth, date of death, and an icon signifying their ashes are in the Common Urn. |  |
| 3 | Common Urn Burial, with 8" x 8" Tile Price: \$600 | An individual may choose to have a larger 8" x 8" tile instead of the 4" x 8" tile if they wish, allowing for the inclusion of a short memorial sentiment (subject to Rector approval). | |

Note: Anonymous interments are not permitted. Any scattering, spreading or burying of ashes is strictly prohibited.

Memorial Options (i.e. not including ashes):

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| 4 | Memorial Tile, size 4" x 8" Price: \$250 | An individual 4" x 8" terra cotta tile intended to commemorate a deceased person. The tile contains the full name of the deceased person, as well as the date of birth and date of death. |  |
| 5 | Memorial Tile, size 8" x 8" Price: \$500 | An individual 8" x 8" terra cotta tile intended to commemorate a deceased person. The tile contains the full name of the deceased person, the date of birth and date of death, and space to allow for the inclusion of a short memorial sentiment selected by the purchaser (subject to Rector approval). | |
| 6 | Memorial Gift | Monetary donations of any amount in honor of deceased loved ones are always deeply appreciated, are tax deductible, and contribute greatly to support the ongoing care and maintenance of the St. Matthew's Memorial Garden. | |