

Northminster has a Columbarium where families may place the cremated remains of a loved one upon his or her death. It allows Church members to have their final resting place in the environs of the Church which has been an important part of their lives. The Columbarium is a serene place of beauty and dignity where loved ones can visit, and it provides a spiritual site for reflection.

The Columbarium consists of two attractively constructed brick and granite walls with individual compartments called “niches” where urns containing cremated remains may be placed. Each niche has a granite faceplate for engraving names and dates. The Columbarium is located on the West side of the Church near the entrance to the Chapel and is landscaped to enhance its privacy.

Northminster added a Columbarium because more people are opting for cremation instead of traditional burial in a cemetery. Today almost half of people who die in the United States are cremated. Cremation and inurnment in a Columbarium can provide a considerable cost savings over a traditional funeral and burial in a cemetery.



Niches in the Columbarium may be reserved before death. Each niche will accommodate two urns which may be purchased from any source. Northminster offers a bronze urn supplied by Eickhof Columbaria.

In addition to the niches, the Columbarium has a Memory Wall where families may place a plaque in memory of a loved one who may be interred in a cemetery or other location.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can be inurned in the Columbarium?

The Columbarium is a religious cemetery under Indiana law (Indiana Code §23-14-33-32) that is intended for the inurnment of the cremated remains of members and employees of Northminster, Presbyterian ministers, and their respective family members. The Columbarium is not available to the public.

Who is eligible to purchase a niche?

Rights of inurnment in the Columbarium and plaques for the Memory Wall may be purchased only by members and employees of Northminster, Presbyterian ministers, and their respective family members and estates. Two eligible purchasers may purchase one right of inurnment or Memory Wall plaque jointly and severally.

What does the purchase of a niche entitle me to?

The purchase of a right of inurnment entitles the purchaser to the use of one designated niche in the Columbarium for each right purchased. The niche may be used only for the placement of urns containing the cremated remains of one or more members or employees of Northminster, Presbyterian ministers, or their respective family members. The right of inurnment does not vest in the purchaser any property right in the niche, the Columbarium, or any other property of Northminster.

Can I select my nice?

The purchaser of a right of inurnment may select a niche from among those still available at the time. Purchasers may select niches in the order in which their purchase agreements or applications are signed and submitted to Northminster with any required payment. Spaces for plaques on the Memory Wall will be assigned sequentially in the order in which applications are signed and submitted to Northminster with any required payment.

What inscription can I have on the faceplate?

A uniform faceplate with lettering in a uniform style, as determined by the Session, shall be used on all niches. Inscriptions on faceplates shall be limited to the name(s), birth date(s), and date(s) of death of the deceased(s) whose cremains are placed in the niche. Memory Wall plaques shall be uniform in style, including lettering, as determined by the Session.

Can I decorate the niche?

No flowers, flags, or other ornamentations may be placed on the outside of a niche or on the memory wall.

What happens if I decide not to use the niche?

If the owner of a right of inurnment elects to surrender the right before any cremains are placed in the assigned niche or after all cremains are removed from the niche, the owner shall notify Northminster in writing, and the right of inurnment shall terminate without any refund or other compensation to the owner.

Can Northminster re-purchase my niche if I die and my remains will be not be inurned at Northminster?

If (a) the owner of a right of inurnment dies, (b) the owner's remains will not be placed in the owner's assigned niche, (c) no joint owner of the right survives the deceased owner, and (d) no cremains are already in the assigned niche, Northminster may negotiate to re-purchase the right of inurnment from the deceased owner's estate, or may consent to the transfer of the right of inurnment to a person who would be eligible to purchase the right from Northminster.

Who maintains the Columbarium?

Northminster is responsible for maintaining the Columbarium and the grounds where the Columbarium is located.

What if the church closes or relocates?

If Northminster ceases operation of or relocates its Church, or if the Columbarium is destroyed by an act of God, all rights of inurnment and memory wall space in the Columbarium shall terminate without any refunds or other compensation to the owners of the rights. In that event, owners or their families shall remove all cremains from niches and plaques from the Memory Wall within thirty (30) days after Northminster gives them written notice of the termination of their rights. Any cremains and plaques not removed within thirty (30) days may be removed and disposed of by Northminster in any respectful manner allowed by law. If the Church relocates and has a Columbarium, owners will have the option to transfer cremains and plaques to the new location.

What is the liability of Northminster?

Northminster shall not be liable, and assumes no liability, for any defects or deficiencies in the design or construction of the Columbarium, the preservation of any cremains in the Columbarium, or any loss or damage to cremains, urns or plaques in the Columbarium or to the Columbarium. Northminster shall not be required to maintain insurance on the Columbarium that would cover losses of owners of rights of inurnment or Memory Wall plaques in the Columbarium.

How is revenue from the Columbarium used?

Revenue from the sale of rights of inurnment and Memory Wall plaques in the Columbarium may be used by Northminster for any purpose for which Northminster may use general funds of the Church, including maintenance of the Columbarium.

COLUMBARIUM PRICE LIST

Niche*	\$2900
Bronze urn	\$85
Memory Wall plaque	\$300

ENGRAVING

Engraved at Same Time

One name + date(s)	\$150
Two names + date(s)	\$250

Engraved at Later Date

Second name + date(s)	\$150
Date(s) (i.e., death date)	\$75

Prices subject to change without further notice

**Maximum size for two urns to fit within a niche is
11" wide x 10" high x 5.5" deep*

*For now we see in a mirror; dimly,
but then we will see face to face.
Now I know only in part;
then I will know fully,
even as I have been fully known.*
I Corinthians 13:12

Columbarium at Northminster

*For more information or an
application for inurnment,
please visit our website at
northminster-indy.org*

*or contact our Office
Administrator at
office@northminster-indy.org*

Northminster Presbyterian Church

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