

The Saint Francis Garden



A Place of Peace for Pets

Our Garden

The **Saint Francis Garden** is a safe, quiet place set aside on the plaza at Holy Trinity as a permanent resting place for dear pets who are no longer with us, but whose memories we will always cherish.

God gave us pets to be our companions, that in caring for them we might learn to love and care for all creatures and find in them a sign of God's grace. They give us the gifts of joy, love, comfort, companionship, and laughter; and the pain we feel when they are gone is real.

We hope that this pet memorial garden will be a place where we can remember our pets with joy and love and that it will be a haven of comfort, peace and healing.

Burial of Ashes

The St. Francis Garden is for the burial of pet cremains (ashes) only, no physical remains may be buried in the garden. We ask that no artificial flowers, urns or other mementos be placed in or buried in the garden.

The ashes will be buried in the earth under the mulch. The mulch will be replaced in a manner that the mulch appears not to have been disturbed. We ask that families contact the church to discuss proper placement of the ashes.

Burials may be private, handled by the family alone, or attended by a lay minister from Holy Trinity, who can assist with short prayer service.

Memorial Stones

The border around our garden is marked with natural river rock painted with images of dogs, cats, bunnies, and other pet companions. At your request, our local artist will add the name of your dear pet to one of the rocks as a permanent memorial to him or her.

Additional Information

There is no fee for burying your pet's ashes, however, donations for the upkeep of the garden are gratefully accepted. A \$50 donation for each burial is suggested. This will help to defray landscape and administrative costs associated with the garden. It will also cover assistance with placement and the personalized memorial stone, if requested. Ten percent of all donations to the garden will be sent to the Animal Welfare Association in Voorhees.

Other Donations



The church will be responsible for the approval, purchase, placing and planting of any flowers, plants, furniture, statuary, or other artifacts in the garden or on the surrounding plaza.

If you would like to donate toward the purchase of any of these items, please contact the church office. If you would like to make a general donation to help further the ministries of Holy Trinity Church, please see the online giving information on our website.