



Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
St. Maurice and St. Verena
Coptic Orthodox Church

A Ministry of Love, Integration, and Outreach

Church Cemetery Plots

Frequently Asked Questions

The SMSV Coptic Orthodox Church owns plots at Elgin Mills Cemetery and Visitation Centre and through its Ministry, we facilitate the transfer of the interment ownership to the purchaser.

1. Where is the cemetery located?

The Elgin Mills Cemetery and Visitation Centre is located on the northeast corner of Leslie St. and Elgin Mills Rd. at 1591 Elgin Mills Road East, Richmond Hill, L4S 1M9.

The Elgin Mills Cemetery is part of the Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries.

2. How much does the plot cost?

A plot, which holds two caskets, costs \$3,100. This includes HST and maintenance costs (known as perpetual care).

3. What do I get when I purchase a plot?

The purchaser will get a *Contract for Interment Rights*, the *Cemetery By-laws*, and a *brochure for funeral services*.

4. Does the purchase of a plot include any other services?

No. Additional services such as funeral services, headstones, and opening/closing fees are separately charged by the provider. SMSV can refer you to a selection of organizations which provide funeral home services.



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5. Where can I find information about other services?

Funeral services are available through:

Chapel Ridge Funeral Home and Cremation Centre

8911 Woodbine Avenue, Markham

Contact: Eric Tappenden

905-305-8508

Toll Free: 1-877-889-8808

www.chapelridgefh.com

OR

Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries

1591 Elgin Mills Road East, Richmond Hill

Contact: Deborah Van Pelt

416-881-9458

Toll free: 1-866-293-1257

www.mountpleasantgroup.com

Head stones can be purchased through:

Smith Monument Company Ltd.

349 Weston Road, Toronto

416-769-0674

1-888-836-7771

www.smithmonument.com

6. What if I only want one space in the plot?

The only option available is to purchase the entire plot. Purchasing half a plot is not available.



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7. What is the payment method? And can I pay in instalments?

There are two different payment methods:

- a. One lump sum payment of \$3,100 by cheque payable to SMSV.
- b. If a lump sum payment is not viable for you, then SMSV will make arrangements to accommodate your financial needs. You can pay instalments with post-dated cheques providing that the last payment is made by March 15, 2014.

8. Are there groups of plots available?

SMSV has purchased a group of 80 plots that are sequential, and purchasers have been selecting plots together according to their need. As available plots become fewer, the choices will be limited.

9. Can I be cremated?

The Coptic Orthodox Church does not accept cremation. The cremation of the bodies of the dead is contradictory to that which was established in the Christian Church from the very beginning. The burial of the dead is based on Holy Scripture, according to the belief that burial of the dead is a fulfillment of the judgment passed by God onto Adam: "*Earth thou art, and unto earth thou shalt return*" (Genesis 3:19).

Christianity teaches that the human body will rise at the Second Coming of the Lord, and will attain, together with the soul, the blessedness of the Heavenly Kingdom or the suffering because of rejection by God. Therefore we must respect the body even after death. For more information see <http://www.suscopts.org/q&a/index.php?qid=90&catid=93>.

**For more information OR to purchase a plot,
please contact Ahdy Awad at cemetery@smsv.ca**