

Frequently Asked Questions: Ignatius House Columbarium

What is a Columbarium?

A columbarium is a place for cremated remains, constructed as a wall that contains individually reserved niches, each capable of holding urns. Each niche is sealed with a plaque that marks the name(s) and date(s) to memorialize individuals contained within.

Is cremation allowed in the Catholic faith?

The Catholic Church prefers the burial of the body but does allow cremation. In cases where cremation is planned, the church urges that, if at all possible, the body be present for the funeral Mass with cremation taking place afterward. Whenever a Catholic is cremated, the remains are to be buried or inurned, not scattered. Ignatius House has permission from the Society of Jesus and the Archdiocese of Atlanta to offer a Columbarium for cremated remains.

Who is permitted to be inurned at Ignatius House?

The ashes must be human cremated remains. There are no other requirements.

What does my purchase price include?

The price of a niche is \$5,000 and provides a 1'x1' niche, two urns, and memorial plaque(s). Each niche can hold up to 2 urns.

How much does it cost for one urn? Can I purchase a single niche?

The price of a niche is \$5,000 regardless of the number of urns contained within. Those who need only one urn may choose to donate the second urn to Ignatius House. Through the Ignatian Spirituality Project and our partners, we will provide your donation to someone in need of dignified burial but without the means to afford one.

If you are purchasing a niche for one, simply complete the Agreement forms for a single Purchaser. The niche will be your and yours alone, unless you elect and specify that a second urn may be placed in your niche with your permission.

Can I purchase a niche if I don't know the names of the people who will be inurned?

Yes. You can purchase as many niches as you wish to make available to loved ones. You will sign the Agreement forms as the Purchaser. Simply write "not yet assigned" in the form field(s) marked "Inurnment of the Cremains of the human body of..."

Once the name of the individual is confirmed, the document can be updated. Contact Ignatius House by calling 404.255.0503 to begin.

How do I select my niche location on the Columbarium wall?

We have not yet assigned niche locations. Assignment will begin after construction and will be offered on a first come-first served basis, beginning with those who purchased the first niche, followed in sequential order with each contracted family. A niche need only be reserved and not yet paid in full to select a niche location within the Columbarium wall.

What can I put on the plaque?

We will provide guidance on the creation of your memorial plaque. Space limitations will restrict length of the inscription. The niche itself is 1'x1'.

May I bring existing ashes to the Ignatius House Columbarium?

Yes. Ignatius House will provide you with a specially-designed urn suited for your niche if you do not have an existing urn that fits the 1'x1' niche. In the event that your own urn does not fit, you will take a new urn provided by Ignatius House to a funeral home where the transfer of ashes should be performed.

What happens after I die or a loved one dies? What kind of service can I have at Ignatius House?

Ignatius House recommends that funeral masses be held prior to cremation and at the parish of your preference. Ignatius House can offer an inurnment service. Because we are a retreat house, our chapel is not quickly and readily available for funeral masses.

Inurnment of ashes is a Rite of Committal (similar to what takes place at a ground burial) and should be performed by a Catholic clergy member of your preference. To schedule an inurnment, call Ignatius House at 404.255.0503 and ask to speak to a member of the Pastoral Team or the Director of Liturgy.

What happens if Ignatius House closes?

The Society of Jesus is committed to Ignatius House. Those inurned here will remain under the care of the Society of Jesus. Should the Society ever choose to vacate Ignatius House, cremated remains would be transferred to another Jesuit property.

What happens if Ignatius House decides not to go through with this project?

Ignatius House is committed to building a Columbarium. Under the very unlikely scenario that Ignatius House discontinues the Columbarium project, those who purchased a niche will receive a full refund.

How will the property be maintained?

The Columbarium will be maintained through ongoing care of Ignatius House via its general operating budget and also via a future restricted fund, to be established upon completion of construction. The restricted fund will preserve a portion of your purchase investment for maintenance into perpetuity.

What else should I know?

Burying the dead is a corporal work of mercy. In addition to purchasing a niche for you, we invite you to consider a donation of niches for the poor – a portion of which may be a tax-deductible gift. Through the Ignatian Spirituality Project and our partners, Ignatius House can

extend a dignified burial to someone in need who lacks the means to afford one (such as our homeless brothers and sisters).

If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Tara La Bouff, director of development and communications, at 404.255.0503 x227 or columbarium@ignatiushouse.org

To act immediately, donate online at <https://ignatiushouse.org/donate/>
Earmark your gift for the Columbarium by typing "Burial for the Poor" in the "In Memoriam" field online. See screenshot below.

To donate by check, please write "Burial for the Poor" on the memo line, and mail to:


ATTN: Tara La Bouff
Ignatius House Jesuit Retreat Center
6700 Riverside Dr. NW
Atlanta, GA 30328

Ignatius House
JESUIT RETREAT CENTER



Support Ignatius House

* = required field

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	<input type="text" value="In Memoriam or Honor of Name"/>		
I wish to make my gift anonymous	<input type="text"/>		