

Entombment and Crypt Information



Holy Spouses Memorial of the Unborn

Healing Ministry of the Unforgettables

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Copatroness of the Unborn

Mail: 601 E. California Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93307

Physical Address: 4600 E. Brundage Ln., Bakersfield, 93307
Diocese of Fresno

Phone: 661.323.3073

Email: memorialunb@guadalupebakersfield.org

Web: www.guadalupebakersfield.org

Entomb & Honor Your Preborn Baby

The Patrons of the Unborn

Our Diocesan Shrine is named for Our Lady of Guadalupe, Copatrons of the Unborn. The image of Our Lady, miraculously imprinted on the tilma of St. Juan Diego in 1531, brought hope and new life to a despairing people. Wearing the maternity band seen beneath her hands, she is the pregnant mother about to give birth. She is the woman of Apocalypse 12. As St. John Paul II wrote in *The Gospel of Life*, her Child under attack by the dragon “especially represents every helpless baby whose life is threatened... Mary is a living word of comfort for the Church in her struggle against death”.

God chose Joseph as husband of Mary to protect Jesus in the womb, and after birth when he had to flee with them into Egypt. In Poland, the same pope spoke of St. Joseph as the defender of life, “especially the life of children not yet born”. Together the Holy Spouses, Mary and Joseph, are Copatrons of the Unborn.

Our Mission

The Memorial Garden is centered around a statue of the Holy Spouses, Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Joseph. Together the Patrons of the Unborn offer compassionate comfort to the afflicted.

Too often mothers grieve alone, and families suffer in silence at the loss of a preborn child. Even when small deceased babies are not named or memorialized, they remain unforgettable.

The Memorial of the Unborn is a place of consolation and healing for all who grieve the loss of a preborn baby. It stands also as a witness to the sacredness of all human life and the hope for reuniting with each tiny family member in Eternity.

As we begin to restore the culture of life, the Memorial Garden is a place where mothers, fathers, and family members can come together to give their child a dignified permanent resting place.

Healing after Miscarriage



Approximately one in four pregnancies ends in miscarriage. You are probably reading this because you have suffered such a loss. Our deepest sympathy to you. The experience of a baby dying in your womb or during

birth can deeply affect you, and also the baby's father or other family members. You may feel emotional and spiritual anguish, or an emptiness and loneliness that can strain relationships. During this sorrowful time we are here to help you to seek solace and strength through Mother Church. Our ministry understands that the loss of this precious child may have turned your world and that of your family upside down. Here at the Memorial of the Unborn we accompany you, whether alone or with family members, through this profound loss, offering comfort along the way. Realize that together with you God created your beautiful child, who will always be important to you, to all of us, and to Him.

As for the loss of any loved one, so too for your preborn child, it is a most important work of mercy to bury the dead. Of course, it was not possible for you to have your baby baptized, but especially if this would have been your intent, we encourage you to celebrate a Funeral Mass for your baby. Following the Mass, or independently of it, a crypt side rite of entombment allows you to find comfort in traditional burial prayers adapted to fit your baby's life and death. Every tiny human is a unique and immortal image of God, deserving to be laid to rest in a marked place that you can visit, remember, and know that he or she is never forgotten.

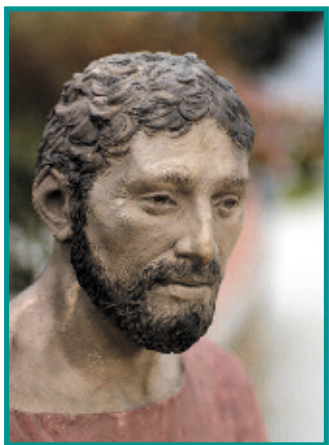
This little information booklet will help you in the process of naming your child, no matter how small, and planning for his or her entombment.

Naming Your Child

A great honor for a mother and family is to name their child. Every human being deserves to be given a name. Naming accepts and affirms your familial bond with your immortal offspring. It recognizes that no matter how painful the loss is, life and relationship are never ended. If your loss was in the early weeks of gestation, you may first reply that you do not know whether your child is a boy or a girl. In such circumstances, you may choose a name applicable to either. Many times, however, a mother has a sense of whether her child is a son or daughter, and you could choose a name based on her maternal instinct.



Entombing Your Child



Every deceased human being deserves to be permanently remembered here on earth. For Christians, a tangible memorial in a reverent space expresses our belief in the immortal soul and our hope for being reunited with each other in Eternal Life. Giving your child a service here at the Memorial of the Unborn is a dignified, spiritual, and emotionally healing celebration of your child's life. By entombing your child you are lovingly

acknowledging his or her existence. Here together with other families that have lost children you will be comforted in knowing that you are not alone. The Memorial will be visited regularly by so many who will pray for all those entombed and memorialized. Periodic liturgical services will be offered for them.

What Costs are Involved

The Holy Spouses Memorial of the Unborn was constructed through donations collected over a period of six years through the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Copatroness of the Unborn. This unique construction of small crypts, each with all the required piping for draining and venting, was quite labor intensive and therefore costly, even though our wonderful Catholic contractors were able to keep costs to a minimum. Every crypt sold requires providing for the cost of replacing it when future expansion is needed, as well as the included granite face plate, long-term maintenance, utilities, landscaping, safe record-keeping, and administrative costs. **Fees thus include:**

- **Crypts:** Our Memorial has 336 small crypts for most babies deceased during the first two trimesters, and 112 medium crypts for babies deceased during the last trimester up to full-term stillbirth. Costs for the smaller crypts are scaled according to which row height of the six options you choose and which location on either the interior or the exterior wall. Costs for the medium crypts similarly vary according to which row height of the four options you choose. Diagrams on the following pages will help you visualize this and see the price ranges. The basic cost of each crypt remains the same when shared for multiple preborns.
- **Perpetual Care Fee:** As is necessary for cemeteries, a 34% fee for a fund to insure the permanent, respectful conservation of human remains at the Memorial.
- **Caskets:** Because of the limited inner dimensions of the crypts, all caskets must be purchased through the Memorial, which sells them as a convenience at close to our actual cost. These costs vary greatly according to the size you need and the option you select.
- **Sales Tax:** Required governmental taxes on the sale of the casket.
- **Documentation:** The recording, registration, and permanent preservation of necessary information on the preborn and the precise location of his or her crypt.
- **Entombment:** The fee for opening and sealing the crypt. **Conversion** (re-opening and adding additional remains) is slightly more costly. Doing this outside of weekday hours requires an additional overtime fee.

- **Face Plate Engraving:** The fee for your inscription on the face plate of your baby's crypt. At right you can see the color of the polished imperial red granite engraved in gold. You may also choose white letters, should you prefer.



We have established an assistance fund to which patrons may donate to aid those mothers and families who find themselves unable to finance entombment at the time of their loss. Those who are truly indigent may apply for available assistance from this fund. Applications will be evaluated by the Assistance Committee of the Memorial Board, particularly for those choosing the least expensive options and willing to avail themselves of opportunities to share a crypt.

2020 GENERAL PRICE LIST

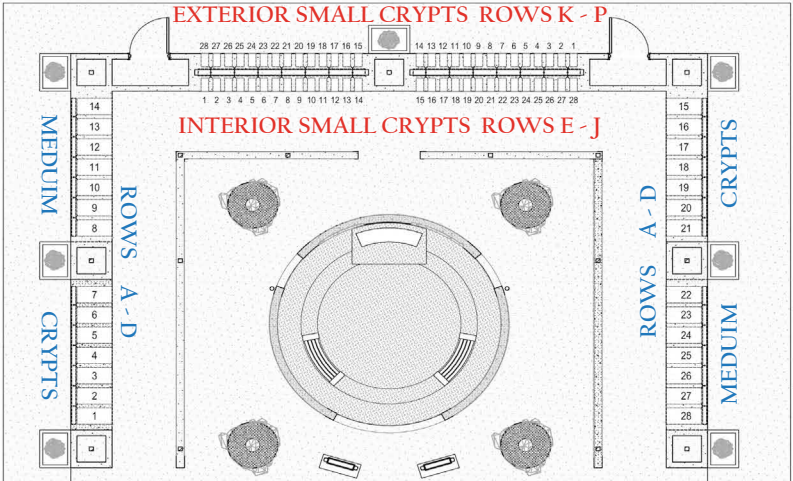
Crypt, single or shared	Medium (13x18x29)	\$1,980-\$2,985
	Small (7x7x12)	\$555-\$1,875
Perpetual Care Fund	34% of crypt cost	\$189-\$1,015
Casket	Various sizes	\$10-\$495
Sales Tax	8.25% of casket cost	\$1 - \$41
Documentation	Secretarial, Recording	\$20
Entombment / Conversion	(Extra for non-weekday hours)	\$25 / \$50
Engraving, white or gold	Medium / Small	\$90 / \$60

Apart from these Memorial Entombment costs, additional outside service fees may be for:

- **Funeral Home:** To receive the remains from hospitals which will not release them to the mother. In the case of babies over 20 weeks gestation, to prepare and transport the remains and to file the required State forms. Union Cemetery is very cooperative with us in providing these services.

- **Clergy Stipends:** For funeral Masses, or chapel or crypt-side funeral services. The priests of the Shrine generally ask a reduced \$100 stipend for these services, and will periodically offer group services with no stipend. For clergy coming from elsewhere, the normal stipend may be \$250.

FLOOR PLAN NUMBERED LOCATIONS



SMALL CRYPTS ROW HEIGHTS

E	5'7"	K
F	4'7"	L
G	3'8"	M
H	2'8"	N
I	1'9"	O
J	10"	P

INTERIOR EXTERIOR

6'2"

MEDIUM CRYPTS ROW HEIGHTS

A	5'3"
B	3'10"
C	2'5"
D	1'

6'2"



*Before I formed you in the womb,
I knew you. (Jeremiah 1:5)*



*I will not forget you. I have carved
you in the palm of my hands.
(Isaiah 49:15)*