

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
8833 GOODWOOD BLVD.
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806
225-926-5343



The Pet Memorial Garden

The Pet Memorial Garden is a garden for the remembrance of our beloved pets. It is a resting place for the ashes of those pets that live on in our hearts and memories. Benches are provided for those who would like to sit and pray.

The Pet Memorial Garden was completed by St. Luke's parishioner Ivey Smith as his Eagle Scout project. The Memorial Garden is dedicated in loving memory to our beloved pets that have passed away. Below are the guidelines and suggestions:

1. The Garden is located at the end of the parking lot.
2. Only cremated remains of animals may be placed in the Memorial Garden. These must be in biodegradable containers. No other artificial flowers, toys, plants or other cremains containers may be placed in the Garden. Unauthorized items will be removed and disposed of.
3. Biodegradable containers and paint pens are available in the Church Office. Please put the ashes in a container. Donations are appreciated to help off-set the costs of the containers.
4. Please bury the container below the pine straw, and then replace the pine straw.
5. You may write the name and other information about your pet on one of the rocks and leave it in the on the edge of the pine straw area as a memorial to your pet. Please be aware that with maintenance, sometimes the rocks will be moved around.

6. Remember that this is sacred space on church grounds. It is an appropriate place for prayers and contemplation. Please be respectful of others.

7. Financial contributions to the upkeep of the Garden are always welcome.

8. The Episcopal Church has a liturgy for a service in memory of our pets. This service is not a funeral service but rather a service of prayers in memory of the pet and recognition that we feel a true sense of loss and grief when a pet dies. For more information about this liturgy or special prayers for pets please contact St. Luke's (225-926-5343).

Additional Resources:

Best Friend Gone—Grief Counseling through LSU Vet School. The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine has recognized this need and is offering help. The Best Friend Gone Project offers assistance when a pet has died or when death is anticipated. The Best Friend Gone Project offers:

Telephone counseling
Private counseling
Internet resources
Reading lists
Information on animal loss

You may reach the Best Friend Gone counselors by calling (225) 578-9547 or by having your veterinarian request that a counselor call you.