RESPECT FOR THE DEAD: The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of the Resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honors the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit. The interment of the body is always to be preferred as it most closely imitates the burial of our Lord in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the resurrection of the body, cremation is permitted and the following are to be observed.

1. The body is **not** to be cremated until **after** the Parastas Service and the Funeral Divine Liturgy.

2. The Parastas, Funeral Divine Liturgy, or other services may **not** be celebrated at the place of cremation.

3. In the event that cremains arrive from out-of-state, they are to be present at the Funeral Divine Liturgy.

4. Photographs and other mementos may be used at the Parastas Service; a portrait of the deceased is appropriate at the Funeral Divine Liturgy when cremains are present.

5. The cremains shall ordinarily be buried in a grave, entombed in a mausoleum or in a columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in one’s home or in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased is **NOT** permitted.