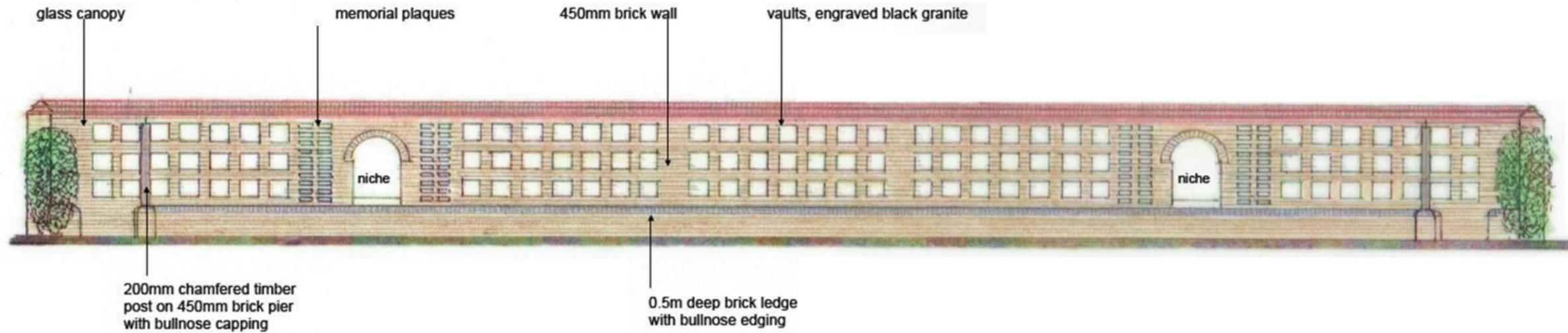


# St Joseph's Cemetery Improvements – Parish Consultation

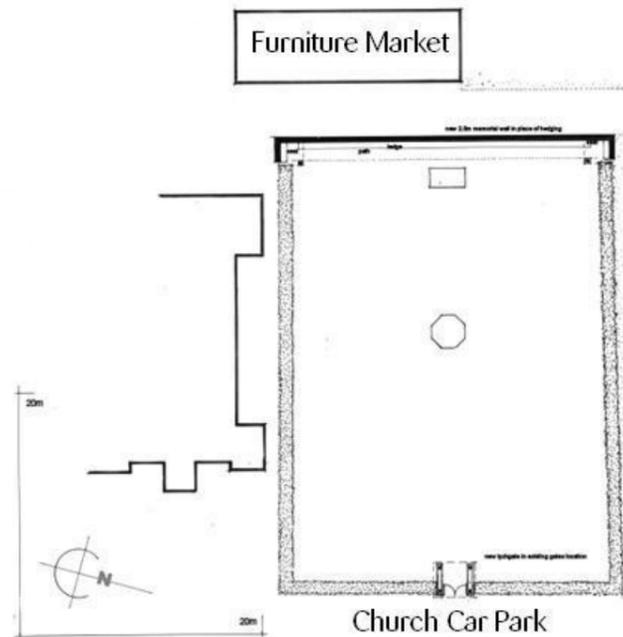


Dear Parishioners,

We would very much like to improve St Joseph's Cemetery. A lot of work was done to make it neat, tidy and presentable for our centenary in 2015, but we are aware that the area is falling into disrepair with the grounds, several gravestones and the mausoleum needing attention. We are also conscious of the fact that the cemetery is now full, with limited space in family plots.

These images outline the improvements that we wish to make. First and foremost, we want to tackle the much needed maintenance so as to conserve this very special and sacred ground. However, we also want to provide facilities in the future for parishioners to permanently remember their loved ones, especially those closely associated with the parish interred elsewhere.

We propose to upgrade the entrance (see diagram below), providing a better, more distinctive gate which lines up with the war memorial and mausoleum. Furthermore, we suggest building a memorial wall opposite the entrance, adjacent to the Furniture Market (see diagram on right).



This wall would provide space for commemorative plaques and could be constructed so as to accommodate vaults for the interment of ashes (see diagram above). A ledge would provide space for flowers and candles, with a canopy offering shelter for those visiting in inclement weather. Niches could be incorporated to house religious images or icons. The diagrams shown here are for illustration purposes only, to help you visualise how it might look. There will be no changes to the interior of the cemetery, but we will do our best, in liaison with families, to preserve the existing graves. There has to be much consultation and dialogue before anything can happen.

We invite parishioners to consider this concept and welcome your comments. Please submit your feedback in writing via email to [pastoral@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@stjosephs.org.uk) or via letter to the Parish Office, marked "Cemetery Consultation". This consultation period remains open until 12 noon on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May.

Fr Michael, Fr Martin & Fr Maurice

