

Newsletter

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Sacred Places

Vol. 22 No. 2
Fall 2011

Sacred Places (Cyber Editions)

Since 1990, in the spring and fall of each year the Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese of Rockville Centre has published a newsletter entitled *Sacred Places*. Past issues have featured articles on bereavement, cremation, and other items related to the Cemeteries. We are in the process of archiving our newsletters on our website and moving away from the paper form of this newsletter.

If you enjoy receiving *Sacred Places* and would like to continue reading it we ask that you obtain future copies at:

<http://www.holyroodcemetery.org/newsletter.htm>

Email us at newsletter@holyroodcemetery.org to be placed on our electronic mailing list for future editions. The Spring 2012 newsletter will be available only in electronic format.

Legacy Giving

Catholic Cemeteries serve the Church by spanning the kingdom now present and the kingdom yet to come. On behalf of the entire Christian community, the Catholic Cemetery holds the bodies, once temples of the Holy Spirit, until the Lord comes again in glory. It serves as a symbol of the extended community of believers, a community unbroken by death. Catholic Cemeteries help to illuminate the path as we make our pilgrimage from earth to heaven.

Catholic Cemeteries need financial assistance from people like you to continue our mission of serving the living and caring for the dead. By making bequests and other "planned gifts," you can help ensure the sustainability of the maintenance of our Cemeteries.

- Gifts large and small are important. Charitable giving is not only for the wealthy!
- A bequest is the easiest way to make sure that your family's cemetery will be provided for in the future.
- You can make a significant gift without affecting your current income or cash flow.
- You can direct your bequest to benefit a specific cemetery or to the diocese.

For more information write to: Catholic Cemeteries-DRVC
PO Box 182, Westbury NY 11590-0182
or visit: <http://www.drvc.org/CMA>

About Catholic Cemeteries

- More than 3200 interments were performed in 3 Diocesan and 20 parish cemeteries during 2010.
- 64 parishes offered bereavement support groups and programs for the bereaved in 2010.

Catholic Cemeteries include Holy Rood Cemetery, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and Queen of All Saints Cemetery. During the fiscal 2010 year, the Cemeteries contributed \$3.25 million to the Administrative Offices. The Cemeteries ended the fiscal year with a net increase of \$5.0 million in total net assets due primarily to both realized and unrealized gains on investments.

When a "right of burial" or entombment is sold by Catholic Cemeteries, a percentage of the fee is designated as a Permanent Maintenance fund or a Mausoleum Maintenance Care fund. These funds are not donations; therefore, they are not permanently restricted under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Further, New York State only regulates permanent maintenance funds when they are held by entities other than religious corporations, requiring that such funds be treated as trust funds, prudently invested with the intent of preserving capital and producing a reasonable income. Although Catholic Cemeteries is exempt from the State regulations, it recognizes a written promise to invest the principal of the Permanent Maintenance Fund and to use the income to fund the general maintenance and improvements of the cemetery. As of August 31, 2010, Catholic Cemeteries had \$79.4 million of net assets contractually committed for such purposes.

In fiscal 2009, Catholic Cemeteries undertook a study to estimate the amount of maintenance that they will incur in the future to care for Catholic Cemeteries. Based on an actuarial projection of 50 years and a discount rate of 3.5%, the present value of future obligations for permanent maintenance are substantial and would require an estimated \$134.0 million to be fully funded as of August 31, 2010. (<http://www.drvc.org/financial-statements2010>)

***"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest."*** **Matthew 11:28**

Cemetery Ministry

The burial of the dead has always been recognized by the Church as a religious rite and a corporal work of mercy. Many people are involved in this ministry: priests, deacons, religious, musicians, cemetery staff, funeral directors, funeral home staff, and parish members who assist the family, lead bereavement support groups, and support the faithful in praying for the dead.

The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead. (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2447)

The Canon law of the Church states that the Catholic cemetery is a sacred place. The Catholic Church provides Catholic cemeteries to carry out the sacred religious functions of burial and to care for the resting places of the faithful departed.

Order of Christian Funerals

The Church through its funeral rites commends the dead to God's merciful love and pleads for the forgiveness of their sins. At the funeral rites, especially at the celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice (funeral mass) the Christian community affirms and expresses the union of the Church on earth with the Church in heaven in the one great communion of saints. Though separated from the living, the dead are still at one with the community of believers on earth and benefit from their prayers and intercession. At the rite of final commendation and farewell, the community acknowledges the reality of separation and commends the deceased to God. (OFC, #6)

"I am the Resurrection and the life, whoever believes in Me will have eternal life." (John 11:24)

Funeral Rites

There are three principle ritual moments in the Catholic funeral rites: "Vigil and Related Rites and Prayers", "Funeral Liturgy", and "Rite of Committal."

"Vigil and Related Rites and Prayers" includes rites that may be celebrated between the time of death and the funeral liturgy. The Vigil for the Deceased is usually celebrated during the wake at the funeral home or church. The Order of Christian Funerals also includes rites for occasions of prayer with the family: "Prayers after Death", "Gathering in the Presence of the Body", and "Transfer of the Body to the Church or to the Place of Committal." (OCF, #45)

The "Funeral Liturgy" is usually a "Funeral Mass", but may be celebrated as "Funeral Liturgy outside of Mass."

There are two forms of the rite of committal: "Rite of Committal" and "Rite of Committal with Final Commendation". The former is used at the cemetery; the latter is used when the final commendation does not take place during the funeral liturgy or when no funeral liturgy precedes the committal. (OCF #47)

Choices

"This is the will of My Father, says the Lord, that all who believe in the Son will have eternal life and I will raise them to life again on the last day." John 6:40

This is a brief overview of the options available at the Catholic Cemeteries-DRVC. Our staff is always available to assist you. If you'd like to learn more about your choices, please call the cemetery office for more information.

Only you can decide what is best for your family.

Traditional Burial Options are available at all Diocesan Cemeteries in either monument lots or shrine graves. Monument lots, varying in grave numbers are sold as a unit in certain sections of the cemetery and allow one upright monument to be installed on the lot. Shrine sections generally have a central shrine or feature and each grave is memorialized by a lawn-level bronze marker.



Lawn Crypts provide burial space for two in a pre-installed, double depth concrete chamber. Lawn crypts allow a family to provide for the majority of their cemetery needs at an affordable package price: burial space, outer container and lawn-level bronze memorial with vase. Lawn Crypts are available at Queen of All Saints Cemetery and Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.



Community Mausoleums offer a number of options to meet the preferences and budgets of those families that prefer above ground entombment. The price of a mausoleum crypt can compare favorably with the total cost of ground burial. Cemetery of the Holy Rood, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and Queen of All Saints Cemetery have community mausoleums.



Family Heritage Lots can accommodate either a private family mausoleum or in-ground burial spaces. Custom landscaping and distinctive memorialization is available on these estate lots.

Cremation Urn Columbariums are specially designed for families choosing cremation. Our cemeteries offer a variety of cremation niche spaces for inurnment at our community mausoleums.

Please visit the website of the Office of Catholic Cemeteries www.holyroodcemetery.org

Holiday Decoration Program

Catholic Cemeteries will again offer a holiday decoration program. For those families who have gravesites, the Christmas program affords the opportunity to purchase an evergreen blanket or pillow, while the Easter Program offers a palm cross for placement on individual graves.

We will continue to decorate the chapels in our mausoleums with poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter. All families, especially those who have entombments in our Crypts, are invited to purchase a plant in memory of a loved one. The name of the deceased will be listed in a memorial book placed in each of the chapels.

If you placed an order last year, or ordered flowers for the Chapels in the past, you will receive notification through the mail. Otherwise, you may fill out the coupon below and mail it with your check as soon as

Christmas (2011)	
_____ Blankets (Graves)	@ \$55 = \$ _____
_____ Pillows (Graves)	@ \$40 = \$ _____
_____ Poinsettias (Chapels)	@ \$25 = \$ _____
Easter (2012)	
_____ Palm Crosses (Graves)	@ \$25 = \$ _____
_____ Easter Lilies (Chapels)	@ \$25 = \$ _____
Total Enclosed =	\$ _____
Name _____	
Address _____	
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____	
(Day Time) Telephone _____	
Cemetery _____	
Name of deceased _____	
Section _____ Range _____ Plot _____	
or	
Chapel / Mausoleum _____	
Corridor _____ Tier _____ Crypt # _____	
Please make checks payable to: Catholic Cemeteries P.O. Box 182, Westbury, NY 11590-0182	

possible.

Christmas Ornaments

The Christmas Holiday season is not a happy one for everyone. If you are in the midst of grief, you may feel overwhelmed not only by your loss, but also by the expectations of others. There is an inherent need to remember those you have loved in a special way and, hopefully, we can provide you with such an opportunity.

At Holy Rood, Holy Sepulchre, and Queen of All Saints Cemeteries, during the Saturday Mass on **December 3rd**, family members will be invited to place an ornament on our Christmas trees in memory of their loved ones. You are invited to bring an ornament with you to be placed there during the offertory procession. Please remember that our chapels are public places, so we recommend an ornament that can be easily replaced, if necessary. The ornaments will remain on the trees throughout the Christmas season and can be picked up any day from January 1st through January 10th.

Candle Lighting Service

It has been said that a cemetery is for the living. Although it's true that a Catholic Cemetery is the final resting place of the mortal bodies that were temples of the Holy Spirit until the Lord comes in glory, it is also a place where we, the living, come to remember those we love who have gone before us. It is a place where we come soon after the funeral filled with sadness and loneliness.

In time, however, we come to the awareness that the cemetery is a place of comfort; we live in the hope that those we love are safe and secure in the Lord. We are also comforted in the simple act of remembering our loved ones, as the visit to the cemetery renews a bond we know can never be broken.

On **Sunday, November 6th**, we will have an opportunity to remember, in a special way, those we love that are interred in Catholic Cemeteries. **Beginning at 3:00 PM at Holy Rood Cemetery**, the Diocesan Choir will preside over a ceremony of prayer, song and remembrance. All will participate in a candle lighting ceremony at which time those who were interred since **November 1st 2010** will be remembered by name as requested.

We invite all to attend, pray, sing, and remember.

If you plan to **attend**, please contact the cemetery office at (516) 334-7990 no later than **Wednesday, November 2nd** with the name of the deceased who was interred after November 1st, 2010, whom you wish to have remembered.

Grief and Bereavement

Grieving is a natural response to the death of a loved one. People experience anticipatory grief during a prolonged illness. Shock grief comes at the time of death and lingering grief during times of bereavement. The Church extends the healing ministry of Christ through parish grief ministry or bereavement support groups. For assistance please contact:

Kathleen Logan
Associate Director for Family Ministry
Bereavement Coordinator
Office of Faith Formation
PO Box 9023
Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023
516-678-5800 ext. 236 klogan@drvc.org
www.holyroodcemetery.org/bereavement.htm

***“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted”(Matthew 5:4)***

Pre-Arrangement

Planning for one's own death is not a sign of hopelessness, but an expression of trust and acceptance of our Lord. Pre-arrangement is an act of love, because it frees your family from the burdens that they may otherwise face at the time of your death. Funeral planning should involve the Parish, the Catholic Cemetery, and a funeral home. Pre-Need planning enables families to discuss cemetery, funeral, and memorialization options in an atmosphere free from the anguish and grief that accompanies a death.

Saturday Masses in the Chapel at 9:30 AM:

Holy Rood Cemetery		Holy Sepulchre Cemetery	
111 Old Country Road - PO Box 182		3442 Route 112	
Westbury, NY 11590-0182		Coram, NY 11727	
Tel: (516) 334-7990		Tel: (631) 732-3460	
2011	Oct. 1	2012	Jan. 7
	Oct. 15		Jan. 21
	Nov. 5		Feb. 4
	Nov. 19		Feb. 18
	Dec. 3		Mar. 3
	Dec. 17		Mar. 17
			Apr. 21
			May 4
			May 18

Queen of All Saints
 115 Wheeler Road
 Central Islip, NY 11722
 Tel: (631) 234-8297

2011	Oct. 1	2012	Jan. 7	Mar. 3
	Nov. 5		Feb. 4	May 4
	Dec. 3			

Cemetery gates are open everyday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
 Offices are closed at noon Saturday, on Sundays and the following holidays:

Columbus Day	October 10 th	----- 2011
Veterans' Day	November 11 th	
Thanksgiving Day	November 24 th	
Christmas Day	December 26 th	(observed)
New Year's Day	January 2 nd	(observed) - 2012
Martin Luther King Day	January 16 th	
President's Day	February 20 th	
Holy Thursday	April 5 th	(12:30 PM)
Good Friday	April 6 th	(12:30 PM)
Memorial Day	May 28 th	

Forms, Maps, Answers to Questions at
www.holyroodcemetery.org

Planting Regulations

As cool weather approaches, we would like to remind you about the planting regulations. Artificial flowers are permitted during the winter months beginning November 1st. Holiday decorations in the form of a blanket or wreath may be placed on the gravesites. **Christmas decorations will be removed beginning January 15, 2012 (weather permitting).**

Dates to Remember:

Cemetery Sunday, November 6th
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury
Candle Lighting Service at 3:00 PM

All Souls Day Mass celebration on Wednesday, November 2, 2011
9:30 AM Cemetery of the Holy Rood at the Holy Rood Chapel Most
Reverend William Murphy 9:30
AM Holy Sepulchre Cemetery at Our Lady of the Rosary Chapel Most
Reverend Peter Libasci 11:00 AM
Queen of All Saints Cemetery – Field Mass Most
Reverend John Dunne

Christmas Ornament Placement
December 3rd at All Cemeteries – 9:30 AM Mass

Diocesan Bereavement Conference
Saturday, March 17, 2012

Change of Address

Name _____

OLD Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

NEW Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Plot Location: Cemetery _____

Section _____ Range _____ Lot _____

OR

Mausoleum _____ Corridor _____ Tier & Crypt (Niche) _____

Deceased's Name: _____

Have You Moved? It's important to keep your current address on file in case you have to be contacted for any reason.

Saturday Masses in the Chapel at 9:30 AM:

Holy Rood Cemetery 111 Old Country Road P.O. Box 182 Westbury, NY 11590-0182 Tel: (516) 334-7990		Holy Sepulchre Cemetery 3442 Route 112 Coram, NY 11727 Tel: (631) 732-3460		
2011	Mar. 5	May 21	Aug. 6	Oct. 15
	Mar. 19	Jun. 4	Aug. 20	Nov. 5
	Apr. 2	Jun. 18	Sept. 3	Nov. 19
	Apr. 16	Jul. 2	Sept. 17	Dec. 3
	May 7	Jul. 16	Oct. 1	Dec. 17

Queen of All Saints Cemetery 115 Wheeler Road Central Islip, NY 11722 Tel: (631) 234-8297				
2011	Mar. 5	Jun. 4	Sep. 3	
	Apr. 2	Jul. 2	Oct. 1	
	May 7	Aug. 6	Nov. 5	
			Dec. 3	

*Cemetery gates are open everyday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
Offices closed at noon Saturday, on Sundays
and the following holidays:*

President's Day	February 21st
Holy Thursday	April 21st (12:30 PM)
Good Friday	April 22nd (12:30 PM)
Memorial Day	May 30th
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	September 5th
Columbus Day	October 10th
Veterans Day	November 11th
Thanksgiving Day	November 24th
Christmas Day	December 26th (observed)

Have you Moved?

It's important to keep your current address on file in case you have to be contacted for any reason, or to keep receiving your copy of Sacred Places.

Planting Regulations

As warm weather approaches, we would like to remind you about the planting regulations. In monument sections, annual flowers such as geraniums, begonias, impatiens and marigolds may be planted in a bed that can extend 18" in front of the monument. Bouquets of fresh flowers are permitted in monument sections in vases that are ground level, and in shrine sections in the vase that is part of the bronze memorial. No glass vases, statues or other breakable items are permitted as they could cause injuries to employees as they are maintaining the grounds. **As a reminder - Items placed in violation of the planting and decorating rules and items deemed unsightly or out of season are often removed and disposed of in accordance with stated policies.** Potted plants are permitted for holidays. All holiday decorations will be picked up on the following Monday dates:

Easter (4/24)	Mother's Day (5/8)	Father's Day (6/19)
Monday - May 2nd	Monday - May 16th	Monday - June 27th

Dates To Remember

Stations of the Cross - Friday, April 22, 2011
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury
MEET IN THE CHAPEL AT 12:00 NOON

Memorial Day Field Masses
Monday, May 30, 2011
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury - 11:00 AM
Most Reverend William Murphy
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Coram - 11:00 AM
Most Reverend Peter Libasci
Queen of All Saints Cemetery, Central Islip - 12:00 Noon
Most Reverend John Dunne

Change of Address

Name _____

OLD Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

NEW Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Plot Location: Cemetery _____

Section _____ Range _____ Lot _____

OR

Mausoleum _____ Corridor _____ Tier & Crypt (Niche) _____

Deceased's Name: _____

Return Service Requested

Catholic Cemeteries
Diocese of Rockville Centre
P.O. Box 182
Westbury, N.Y. 11590-0182

Newsletter

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Sacred Places



Vol. 22 No. 1
SPRING 2011

Honoring Veterans at our Catholic Cemeteries

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently made available a new medallion to be affixed to an existing privately purchased headstone or marker to signify the deceased's status as a veteran. If requested, the medallion will be furnished in lieu of a traditional Government headstone or marker for veterans that died on or after November 1, 1990, and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

The medallion is currently available in three sizes, 5 inches, 3 inches, and 1 ½ inches. Each medallion will be inscribed with the word VETERAN across the top and the Branch of Service at the bottom. **On June 30, 2010, Catholic Cemeteries implemented a program for a fee to assist families with the order, delivery, and installation (with the appropriate affixing adhesive) of the medallion.**

Important: This benefit is only applicable if the grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. In these instances, eligible veterans are entitled to either a traditional Government-furnished headstone or marker, or the new medallion, but not both. For family members of eligible Veterans interested in submitting a claim for the new medallion, instructions on how to apply for a medallion will be updated on NCA's web site at www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp. Until a new form specifically for ordering the medallion is available, use [VA Form 40-1330](http://www.va.gov).

On the application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker, fill the form out completely with the exception of blocks 11 (Type of Headstone or Marker Requested) and 27 (Remarks). Leave block 11 and 12 blank. In block 27 put the word Medallion followed by the size requested. For example; use "Medallion 5 inch" to request a 5 inch medallion. Block 30 and 19 should state the cemetery name and address for delivery.

The cemetery collects a fee for the permit, record keeping, installation and replacement needs governed under this program

Catholic Cemeteries says -- Thank you for your family's support of our Armed Forces as well as the overall care of these sacred and special burial grounds.



At the cemetery -- where permitted and where approved

*For cremation niches and abbey crypts –
Medallion Size is 1 and 1/2 inches;
For Side by Side and True Companion Crypts –
Medallion Size is 3 inches;
For cemetery monuments the selection method is the largest permitted size (no artwork or design on the cemetery monument will be covered with the medallion placement).*

Note: 1) The cemetery's responsibility to repair and/or replace VA Medallion shall be subject to limitations expressed in the published Monument/Memorial Rules and the General Rules and Regulation documents of the cemetery as well as the parameters of the Veterans Administration Medallion Program.

- 2) The cemetery reserves the right to remove any Medallion of any type not permitted under this program. No notice will be given.*
- 3) Permitted Medallions incorrectly or improperly installed with regard to service, installation process, or placement other than permitted and specified will be removed from the burial place. No notice will be given.*
- 4) Nothing shall be affixed or attached to the Veterans Medallion.*
- 5) Orders placed may take 6 to 8 weeks according to the VA processing ability and also may be delayed with placement or installation (weather restrictions).*

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Farmingdale, NY
PERMIT No. 75

Candle Memorial

In November of 2010 Catholic Cemeteries introduced **Image or Picture memorial candles**. Where available, families may memorialize their deceased loved one with a picture on the candle at the cemetery mausoleums. The image may be the deceased or chosen from a selection of religious and patriotic symbols. Custom memorials may also be made to include service recognition emblems.

Spring Decoration Program

The spring decoration program will again be offered for Mother's Day and Father's Day. Live floral decorations will be available for placement on gravesites and in the chapels of the community mausoleums. A beautiful, live potted plant will be placed directly in the planting area in front or rear of the monument. For those families who have mausoleum crypts, the flowers will be placed on stands in the respective chapels. The names of those remembered will be placed in a Book of Remembrance at the altar.

The cost for each plant ordered will be \$25.00. They will be placed the week before Mother's and Father's Day, and will remain there through the week of the holiday itself. Families are invited to take their plants home prior to their removal by our staff.

If you placed an order last year, you will receive notification through the mail. Otherwise, you may fill out the coupon below and mail it with your check as soon as possible.

2011 Mother's Day: # of Plants _____ Father's Day: # of Plants _____
Total: _____ Plants @ \$25 each = \$ _____
Name _____
Address _____
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone No.: _____
Email Address: _____
Cemetery _____
Section _____ Range _____ Plot _____
Or Chapel Mausoleum:
Corridor _____ Tier _____ Crypt # _____
Name of deceased Mother: _____
Name of deceased Father: _____
Please make checks payable to: Catholic Cemeteries Mail your order to: P.O. Box 182, Westbury NY 11590-0182

When does the cemetery pick up and remove items from the gravesites? <http://www.holyroodcemetery.org/info.pdf>
Why are some things allowed and other items a problem?
<http://www.holyroodcemetery.org/decoration.pdf>

From the Heart - Charity at Work

Charity Burial - Burial in a Catholic cemetery is available to every Catholic who, at the time of death, is entitled to receive Christian burial. Inability to meet the cemetery costs is no deterrent to Christian burial in a Catholic cemetery.

Many families have assisted with the donation of the unused space in their family burial lot. If you or a family member wishes to participate in our program please write to:

Donated Cemetery Lots
Catholic Cemeteries
PO Box 182
Westbury NY 11590-0182

info@holyroodcemetery.org

La Misa en Espanol

Last November 2nd, All Souls Day, Catholic Cemeteries celebrated its **first mass in Spanish**. The mass was held at Queen of All Saints Cemetery. The mass, although not advertised, had a gathering larger than our English speaking mass. The event was so well received there are plans for future additional masses in Spanish.

Cremation Services

Catholic Cemeteries encourages cremation burial to follow the same process as a funeral with a casket. Use of a funeral director's services, funeral mass at the parish, and a blessing at the grave-side, crypt or cremation niche is recommended and encouraged.

To help with these arrangements, the following procedures and guidelines are recommended for your review. Cremation Planner and the Catholic Teaching on cremation can be found at:

<http://www.holyroodcemetery.org/cremation.htm>

Before purchasing a cremation urn, families should review the cemetery's rules and regulations regarding the appropriateness of the container and the maximum permitted urn size for the intended burial space.

Rite of Committal

The last step – the last concrete act we can do for our loved ones in this world – is the Committal, the burial or entombment of the remains of the deceased. The relationships, bonds and "communion" we build with one another in faith are not broken by death. Resting in a holy place with our brothers and sisters is a profound statement of that belief.

The Rite of Committal is the final liturgy in the Order of Christian Funerals. Like the Vigil Service, the Rite of Committal makes use of Scripture, a few words of hope by the presider, intercessions and prayers.

A Catholic cemetery is a sacred place of honor and respect for those who have died. It is a memorial to all who are interred there. It is a sacred place where Catholics come to express their grief and hope in the resurrection for their loved ones who have preceded them in death. It is blessed ground, fitting for someone whose body was a temple of the Holy Spirit on earth and now awaits the resurrection from the dead.

To have a representative of the Church present at this final moment is a great source of consolation to those who will now have to continue their journey in life without their beloved. While a priest may be unable to preside at the Committal Service, a deacon or a trained bereavement minister may represent the Church at this final moment.

"The Vigil, the Funeral Liturgy and the Committal set us on a path to a true healing, wholeness and peace."

Bereavement Conference Saturday March 19, 2011

"**Let Light Shine Out of the Darkness**," sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries and the Office of Faith Formation, Diocese of Rockville Centre, for the bereaved of all faiths and those caring for them, at Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale, from 8:30 to 5:30 pm. Most Reverend Peter A Libasci, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop will be the Keynote speaker. In addition, forty-eight workshops will be offered (registrants have a choice of three) by prominent leaders in the bereavement field. Breakfast, lunch and conference folder are included in the registration fee (\$60 and \$70 walk-in registration). A well-stocked Conference Bookstore will be available and the day will close with a Eucharistic Celebration. The conference brochure and registration form may be downloaded from the cemetery website: www.holyroodcemetery.org/conference.pdf or you may call (516) 334-7990, x 120 or x 119 for a copy of the brochure.

Stations of the Cross



We invite you to join us on **Good Friday, April 22nd, at 12:00 noon in the Holy Rood Chapel** for the opening prayers. Weather permitting, we will follow the mile-and-a-half route throughout Holy Rood Cemetery as we commemorate Our Lord's redemptive death. If the weather is inclement, the ceremony will be held in the chapel. The service will conclude with final prayers and Veneration of the Cross in the Chapel.

The Catholic Cemetery is established to carry out the sacred religious function of the burial of the dead and the care for their resting places, recognizing the deep spiritual significance of this Corporal Work of Mercy.

Choosing a Catholic Cemetery

When we are baptized, we are brought to a sacred place, a Catholic church, and baptized into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection - thus giving us the promise of eternal life. When one of our loved ones dies, we take them to another sacred place, a Catholic cemetery, for burial in sacred ground while they await the resurrection of the dead and the promise of eternal life.

Since death is a natural part of life, it is only fitting that the Catholic Church be present at the time of death. In the Preface of the Funeral Mass the words "...for your faithful people O Lord, life has changed not ended" are prayed. Death as seen through the eyes of a Christian is not the end, it is simply a natural passageway to a changed life with God. Burial in a Catholic cemetery is a statement of continued belief in that everlasting life, even in death.

Cemeteries hold the earthly remains of our family members and friends who have shared their love, fellowship and faith with us. Although a grave in a cemetery evokes sadness, a grave in a Catholic cemetery is also a sign of hope in God and His promise of everlasting life.



**Catholics believe in life eternal. Jesus said:
"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will never die." (Jn.11:25-26).
Just as Christ rose from the dead, He will raise our mortal remains to be like His in glory.**

**Cemetery grounds open everyday (weather permitting) 8 AM to 5 PM ~ Mausoleum Buildings open from 8 AM to 4:30 PM
Office open 9 AM to 4:30 PM (Monday thru Friday) ~ 9 AM to 12:00 noon on Saturdays
For further information please visit the website of the Office of Catholic Cemeteries www.holyroodcemetery.org**