



Sacred Places

Vol. 30 No. 1
Spring 2019

Corpus of Christ Statues

Late last Fall, Catholic Cemeteries began a project to renovate the Corpus of Christ statues at Cemetery of the Holy Rood, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, and Queen of All Saints Cemetery.

Five new fiberglass corpus statues were ordered to replace the older wooden statues in our cemeteries – three in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, one at Cemetery of the Holy Rood, and one at Queen of All Saints Cemetery. Once the new corpus statues were received, our field staff started the process of renovating each cross. One by one, our staff is taking down each existing cross to make necessary repairs and stain the crosses to give them a fresh new look. After these renovations are completed, the new statue is affixed to the cross, and the cross is returned to its place in the cemetery.

As of February 15th, three of the five renovations have been completed and the new corpus statues are now erected. The remaining renovations are scheduled to be completed by the early Spring.



Above is a picture of the new corpus statue in Section 10 at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Coram.

Mausoleum Skylight Replacements



A major construction project will begin this Spring at Catholic Cemeteries to replace the skylights of our garden mausoleum buildings in Cemetery of the Holy Rood, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, and Queen of All Saints Cemetery.

Construction is scheduled to commence in mid-April at Cemetery of the Holy Rood. Once the skylights have been replaced at Holy Rood, construction will move on to Holy Sepulchre Cemetery and then to Queen of All Saints Cemetery. Construction will last approximately 16 weeks at each cemetery, with the expectation that work at all cemeteries will be completed by Spring 2020. Please keep in mind that as with any construction project, timelines and schedules are subject to change.

Notices will be posted by the mausoleum buildings and on the electronic signs in the cemeteries as we approach the start of construction at each site. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that this construction may cause.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, March 30th: 2019 Bereavement Conference

- St. Patrick Parish, Huntington: **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Friday, April 19th: Way of the Cross

- Cemetery of the Holy Rood: **12:00 PM**

Monday, May 27th: Memorial Day Masses

- Cemetery of the Holy Rood: **9:30 AM**
- Holy Sepulchre Cemetery: **9:30 AM**
- Queen of All Saints Cemetery: **9:30 AM**

The Gift of Life and Emily's Gift Program

Submitted by **Richard C. Bie**, President/CEO of
Catholic Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, Inc

We all love to give and receive gifts. Gifts are used to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and various other special occasions. The best gift that is often overlooked and taken for granted is the **Gift of Life**. Given to us by our parents and the grace of God, the Gift of Life is the single greatest gift which is not appreciated nor respected by certain members of our society. As Catholics, we believe that life begins at conception; however, there are those who have a different opinion. It is unfortunate that as a society, we continue to struggle with defining the moment at which we should acknowledge and respect life. Perhaps, if we redefine our birthdays and began counting from the moment we were conceived, it might change our perspective on how we look upon the Gift of Life.

At Catholic Cemeteries, we perform a Corporal Work of Mercy which is Burial of the Dead. This is defined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as follows:

"Funerals give us the opportunity to grieve and show others support during difficult times. Through our prayers and actions during these times we show our respect for life, which is always a gift from God, and comfort to those who mourn."



The Burial of the Dead is, in itself, a celebration of the Gift of Life. The monuments at cemeteries throughout the world are a testament to this. At Catholic Cemeteries, we don't discern nor discriminate on the necessity for a proper burial on whether a particular life spent 100 years on this earth or less than 9 months in mother's womb. This is evident in a recent project at one of our cemeteries. Catholic Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, Inc., in conjunction with St. Charles Hospital, recently established a new burial area for the unborn.

In 2018, my staff and I began working with Sister Edith Menegus, Director of Pastoral Care at St. Charles Hospital as well as Jim Spencer, Senior Vice President of Mission and Ministries for Catholic Health Systems of Long Island, to define a special area on the grounds of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in which the remains of the miscarried babies from St. Charles Hospital could be properly buried. When we initially embarked upon the discussions, I proudly explained that Catholic Cemeteries already had designated areas in each of our cemeteries in which we provide space to the burial of the unborn. Sister Edith insisted on a specific area for the proper interment of St. Charles Hospital babies which are unable to make it to full term so that the families would have a place to visit their loved ones. Marilyn Fabbicante, Executive Director of Public and Internal Affairs at St. Charles Hospital, explained the St. Charles Hospital Pastoral Care Department approach led by Sister Edith:

*St. Charles Hospital, as a ministry of the Catholic Church, offers a special bereavement program for families suffering an early pregnancy loss. Called **Emily's Gift**, the program offers families support, acceptance, and gentle guidance. With a commitment to justice, integrity and respect for the dignity of each person, St. Charles also provides a final resting place for those lost early in the pregnancy.*

On December 20, 2018, St. Charles Hospital celebrated a funeral mass for the remains of 35 babies which was followed by a committal service at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In the Spring of 2019, St. Charles Hospital will be dedicating a monument at this location in Section 4 of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery which will appropriately be entitled "**Emily's Gift**".



In a recent interview on the Diocese of Rockville Centre website, Bishop Barres stated: "*We as a Catholic Community together are vigilant, active and strong in every dimension of what we express as a church.*" The sanctity of human life should be cherished. Losing a loved one is never easy and losing a child before full term is especially difficult on families. Interment at our Catholic Cemeteries is that celebration of the Gift of Life which reinforces our Catholic doctrine and is a shining example of the respect for the lives which have been lived, regardless of the length of the life.

New Glass Niche Walls at Holy Rood

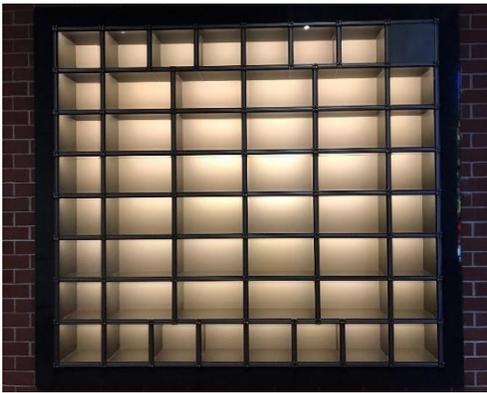
Catholic Cemeteries has added ten new glass niche walls at **Cemetery of the Holy Rood**. These new glass niches can be found in Phase 3 of Holy Rood Chapel Mausoleum in the following areas:

First Floor

- St. Rita corridor – 4 walls

Second Floor

- St. Benedict corridor – 4 walls
- Ven. Pierre Toussaint corridor – 2 walls



Glass front cremation niches offer an indoor above ground viewing place for a cremation urn. A glass window can be extremely desirable for families who wish to see the urn of their loved one.

When choosing an urn, a unique personalization opportunity exists. A wide array of urns is available, ranging from humble to decorative. Given the visibility of the urn, the urn must conform to certain standards set forth by the cemetery. All urns must be approved by the cemetery prior to the day of inurnment.

Niches are available in two sizes: Select (11.5" wide) and Classic (18" wide). Both niche sizes can accommodate up to two urns.

For more information, or to find out about availability and pricing options, please contact the cemetery office for assistance.

Additional Information on Cremation - Links

[Catholic Teaching on Cremation](#)

[Planning Guide – Inurnment of Cremated Remains](#)

[Choosing a Permanent Burial Site for Cremated Remains](#)

Planting & Decoration Guidelines

It is important to be mindful of our cemeteries' rules and regulations for planting and decorations.

Below are links to a few important resources to help you determine what items are permitted at each gravesite and mausoleum location:

[Planting & Decoration Guidelines - Quick Reference Guide](#)

[Cemetery Rules & Regulations - Overview](#)

[Seasonal Planting & Decoration Schedule](#)

Holiday decorations may be placed on the following dates:

Holiday	Place ON or AFTER this date	Take away BEFORE this date
Saint Patrick's Day	3/8/19	3/26/19
Palm Sunday-Easter	4/7/19	4/29/19
Mother's Day	5/5/19	5/20/19
Memorial Day	5/18/19	6/3/19
Father's Day	6/9/19	6/24/19
Independence Day	6/27/19	7/12/19

Please note the following important reminders on decorations:

- No placed item, whether floral or otherwise, is considered permanent to the site. The cemetery makes every effort to enforce rules and regulations uniformly and with compassion.
- Because the cemetery is open to the public, with thousands of visitors each year, **the cemetery cannot guarantee plants and decorations from DAMAGE, THEFT, or DISAPPEARANCE.** The cemetery will not be responsible for plant or shrub damage caused by wildlife.
- The cemetery reserves the right to remove and dispose of any decoration/planting **WITHOUT NOTICE OR COMPENSATION** when deemed as unsightly, out of season, or otherwise not permitted in accordance with the cemetery's rules and regulations.

Easter & Spring Decoration Programs

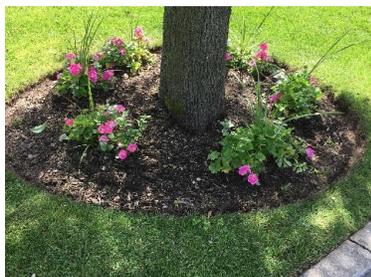
Catholic Cemeteries will again offer decoration programs for Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day. For the Easter season, families may purchase a palm cross for placement on gravesites or a lily for placement in our mausoleum chapels. For Mother's Day and Father's Day, live floral decorations will be available for placement on gravesites and in our mausoleum chapels. 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, and the names of those remembered will be placed in a Book of Remembrance at the altar.

Decorations will be placed the week before the respective holiday 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 in late 2018 for Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, and Father's Day decorations, there is no need to do anything further. Otherwise, you may fill out the order form to the right and mail it to the applicable cemetery with your check as soon as possible. You may also complete a decoration order online at www.ccdrcinc.org.

About Catholic Cemeteries' Decoration Programs

- Orders are placed and then delivered to the family gravesite 1 week before holiday.
- If flowers are to be kept, families should plant at lot or remove their flowers by 1 week after the holiday.
- The cemetery staff then collects the remaining potted plants from the lots
- The removed flowers are planted around the grounds for all to enjoy throughout the summer time.
- Provides a holiday gravesite decoration for our loved ones
- Provides the cemetery grounds with common area floral beautification
- Recycles the plant and saves money
- Revenue supports Catholic Cemeteries missions



SEASONAL DECORATION ORDER FORM

Easter (2019)

___ Palm Crosses (Graves) @ \$25 = \$ ____
 ___ Easter Lilies (Chapels) @ \$25 = \$ ____

Mother's Day (2019)

___ Potted Plant (Graves) @ \$30 = \$ ____
 ___ Potted Plant (Chapels) @ \$25 = \$ ____

Father's Day (2019)

___ Potted Plant (Graves) @ \$30 = \$ ____
 ___ Potted Plant (Chapels) @ \$25 = \$ ____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

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:

HOLY ROOD: P.O. Box 182, Westbury NY 11590-0182

HOLY SEPULCHRE: 3442 Route 112, Coram, NY 11727

QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS: 115 Wheeler Rd, Central Islip, NY 11722

Why are some things allowed and other items a problem?

[Click here for additional information](#)

Stations of the Cross

We invite you to join us on **Good Friday, April 19th, 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 Cemetery of the Holy Rood 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.



Saturday Masses at our Chapels

In time, 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.

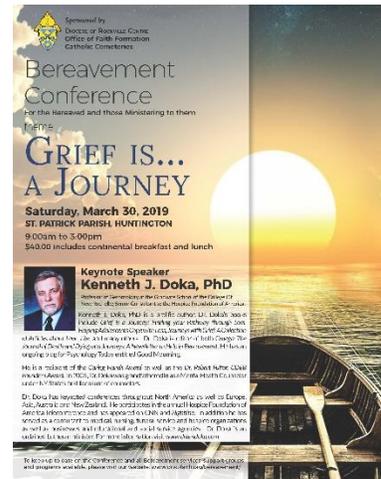
Please join us for the monthly masses at Catholic Cemeteries.

[Click here for the 2019 Mass Schedule](#)

Bereavement Conference 2019

Along with Office of Faith Formation of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Catholic Cemeteries invites you to attend this year's [Bereavement Conference](#) on **March 30, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The conference will be held at St. Patrick Parish at 400 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743.

This conference promises to be a very informative and beneficial experience for both the bereaved and those who minister to them. The theme of the conference, is "**Grief is... a Journey.**"



To review the full conference schedule or to register for the conference, please go to www.drvc-faith.org/bereavement.

Memorial Day Masses

Please join us at Catholic Cemeteries for our Memorial Day Mass celebration on **Monday, May 27, 2019**. Mass times are as follows:

- 9:30 AM** – Cemetery of the Holy Rood
- 9:30 AM** – Holy Sepulchre Cemetery
- 9:30 AM** – Queen of All Saints Cemetery



Monument Cleaning Service

A clean monument enhances the natural qualities of the granite and adds to the overall beauty of a well-kept cemetery. It is usually the intention of a certificate holder to keep their memorial clean, but years often pass without this taking place.

Catholic Cemeteries recommends that certificate holders and their heirs consider the cemetery's monument cleaning program. Our staff is knowledgeable on the cleaning products necessary to remove different types of stains. We will ensure that proper tools are used and clean up procedures are followed when servicing each monument.



For pricing and for more information on this program, click the following link: [Monument Cleaning Program Brochure](#)

Note: Monument cleaning requests will not be worked on until the Spring after water in the cemetery has been turned on.

Gravesite Bouquet Holders

Aluminum bouquet holders are the perfect place for floral arrangements and are a lasting and beautiful memorial tribute. Available for use at most in-ground burial sites, these bouquet holders come in two parts: the holder and the insert. The holder can easily be inverted when not in use.



Aluminum bouquet holders are priced at **\$65** and can be purchased through the cemetery office or [online by clicking here](#). All purchasers are encouraged to read the rules and regulations concerning bouquet holders before making a purchase.

Shrub & Bush Maintenance Service

A well maintained, balanced shrub or bush not only enhances the natural qualities of the plant, but also adds to the overall beauty of a family lot and compliments a family monument. For that reason, please consider our shrub maintenance program.

Unattended shrubs and bushes require severe pruning to conform to regulations. Severe pruning can threaten the life of the plant, whereas constant and consistent maintenance can result in a beautifully shaped, balanced, and complimentary plant fitting to the lot and its surrounding area. Regular trimming maintenance goes hand in hand with a routine visual inspect for good plant health. With regular maintenance throughout the growing season, early detection of growth-related problems are possible. A treated bush can be saved when early detection occurs.



For pricing or for more information on this program, click the following link: [Shrub/Bush Maintenance Program Brochure](#)

Does your shrub/bush meet cemetery guidelines?

Please refer to the following reference guide to see what size shrub or bush is permitted on your lot:

[Bush & Shrub Size Permitted by Plot Type](#)

Msgr. Bernard J. Quinn

Sunday, April 7, 2019 will mark the 79th anniversary of the passing of Servant of God Msgr. Bernard J. Quinn.

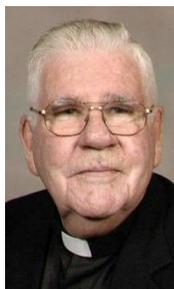
Msgr. Quinn, whose cause for sainthood is being considered by the Vatican, was the founder of St. Peter Claver parish, Bedford-Stuyvesant; St. Benedict the Moor parish, Jamaica; and Little Flower Children Services, Wading River, Long Island.



All are encouraged to visit and pray at Msgr. Quinn's gravesite, which is located in the Saint Brigid Section at Cemetery of the Holy Road.

Rest in Peace, Father Minturn

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Reverend Joseph P. Minturn who passed away on February 19, 2019.



Father Minturn was appointed Superintendent of Catholic Cemeteries on December 9, 1967. He was later named Moderator of Catholic Cemeteries on June 14, 1989. Father Minturn retired on June 24, 1998.

The staff at Catholic Cemeteries has the distinct honor of carrying on Father Minturn's legacy with the proper stewardship of our cemeteries. May Father Minturn rest in peace!

Catholic Cemeteries Employee Updates



Please join us in welcoming the following employees who joined the staff of Catholic Cemeteries since January 2018:

Main Office

- Richard Bie, President/CEO
- John Kennedy, CFO
- Kwame Ampeh, Staff Accountant
- Joanne Gonzales, AR/AP Bookkeeper
- Barbara Zareba, AP Bookkeeper

Cemetery of the Holy Rood

- Karen Rice, Customer Service
- Christopher Quinn, Customer Service
- Jeffrey Larios, Field Staff

Queen of All Saints Cemetery

- Annamarie Mooney, Customer Service



We also said farewell to several longtime employees who have moved on to new adventures. We thank them for all that they have done for Catholic Cemeteries, and we wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Cemetery of the Holy Rood

- Bill Haddigan, Cemetery Manager
- Ken Onderdonk, Assistant to the Manager
- Luca Abbatiello, Irrigation Specialist
- Eileen Neave, Customer Service Representative
- Joann Navarra, Customer Service Representative

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

- John Stauer, Field Foreman
- Tony Graviano, Committal Deacon
- Jake Gutierrez, Field Staff

Queen of All Saints Cemetery

- Sandra Bennett, Senior Customer Service Representative

Like Us on Facebook



Have you "liked" us on Facebook? We operate a main Facebook page for Catholic Cemeteries and separate Facebook pages for each of our cemetery locations. Be sure to "like" our pages to receive the latest news and updates, receive notifications on upcoming events, and view photos of our cemeteries.

Click below to access each of our Facebook pages:

[Catholic Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, Inc \(Main Page\)](#)

[Cemetery of the Holy Rood](#)

[Holy Sepulchre Cemetery](#)

[Queen of All Saints Cemetery](#)

Below are links to the Facebook pages for the parish cemeteries managed by Catholic Cemeteries:

[St. John of God Parish Cemetery \(Central Islip\)](#)

[St. John the Evangelist Parish Cemetery \(Riverhead\)](#)

[St. Boniface Parish Cemetery \(Elmont\)](#)

[St. Francis de Sales Parish Cemetery \(Patchogue\)](#)

[St. Patrick Parish Cemetery \(Brookville\)](#)

[Cemetery of the Sacred Heart \(Cutchogue\)](#)

Helpful Brochures & Documents

[2019 Holiday Schedule \(Office Closed/No Burials\)](#)

[Cemetery Visitors Guide](#)

[Overview Guide for Lot Owners and Visitors](#)

[Cemetery Visitor Safety Warnings](#)

[Candle Memorial Program](#)

[Seasonal Decoration & Planting Schedule](#)

[How Do I Purchase a Monument?](#)

[How Do I Inscribe a Family Monument?](#)



Sponsored by

DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
Office of Faith Formation
Catholic Cemeteries

Bereavement Conference

For the Bereaved and those Ministering to them

theme

GRIEF IS... A JOURNEY

Saturday, March 30, 2019

ST. PATRICK PARISH, HUNTINGTON

9:00am to 3:00pm

\$40.00 includes continental breakfast and lunch



Keynote Speaker **Kenneth J. Doka, PhD**

Professor of Gerontology at the Graduate School of the College Of New Rochelle; Senior Consultant to the Hospice Foundation of America.

Kenneth J. Doka, PhD is a prolific author, Dr. Doka's books include *Grief Is a Journey: Finding your Pathway through Loss*, *Helping Adolescents Cope with Loss*, *Journeys with Grief: A Collection of Articles about Love, Life, and many others*. Dr. Doka is editor of both *Omega: The Journal of Death and Dying* and *Journeys: A Newsletter to Help in Bereavement*. He has an ongoing blog for Psychology Today entitled Good Mourning.

He is a recipient of the *Caring Hands Award* as well as the *Dr. Robert Fulton CDEB Founder's Award*. In 2006, Dr. Doka was grandfathered in as a Mental Health Counselor under NY State's first licensure of counselors.

Dr. Doka has keynoted conferences throughout North America as well as Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. He participates in the annual Hospice Foundation of America Teleconference and has appeared on CNN and *Nightline*. In addition he has served as a consultant to medical, nursing, funeral service and hospice organizations as well as businesses and educational and social service agencies. Dr. Doka is an ordained Lutheran minister. For more information visit www.drkendoka.com

To keep up to date on the Conference and all Bereavement services, support groups and programs available, please visit our website: www.drvc-faith.org/bereavement/

