

Catholic Journey



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Archdiocese of Newark
For Our Catholic Community

Spring 2015



The stunning stained glass window at Maryrest Chapel Mausoleum in Mahwah, original liturgical artwork, depicts the Resurrection.

Easter Blessings

Easter is a time of renewal and promise. We celebrate Easter following 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving known as Lent. Through abstinence and spiritual reflection, we prepare ourselves to mourn the death of Christ on Good Friday, the day of His Crucifixion, and rise again with Him in new life on Easter.

The celebration of Easter represents the fulfillment of our faith as Catholics. Pope Francis' reflection last Spring on the meaning of Easter focused on why the Resurrection of Jesus is a source of authentic hope and joy.

The joy of Easter is born of our faith in Christ's Resurrection and his continuing presence in the Church and in our world. With the Resurrection, all has been made new and fresh hope has been poured out

upon our world. The question which the angel asked the women on the morning of the resurrection is directed to us as well: "Why do you seek the living among the dead"? (Lk 24:5).

The Gospel shows us three examples of a life changing encounter with the Risen Lord and invites us to a similar encounter. Like Thomas, we need to grasp the reality of Christ's rising to new life. Like Mary Magdalene, we need to hear Jesus' voice calling our name. And like the travelers on the road to Emmaus, we need to find renewed joy and hope by recognizing that the Lord is ever at our side.

These disciples sought the living among the dead, yet Jesus led them, by different paths, to faith in Him and the power of His resurrection. Today, He challenges each of us to seek Him, the Living One, and to leave behind everything that holds us back from encountering Him and sharing in the rebirth, the freedom and the hope which He alone can give.

Easter and All Souls' Day, and our belief in Resurrection, are the very reason for our Catholic Cemeteries. This Easter, may your heart be full of joy as we greet our risen Lord and live in Him, to pray in Him, and to rise again in Him. A Blessed Easter to all of you.

Plan Ahead -

Set Aside a Holy Place

No one wants to think about their death or the death of a loved one any sooner than necessary. But making relevant and difficult decisions in advance about cemetery arrangements, also known as “[pre-planning](#),” often can ease the anxiety for a grieving family.

“When there is a death in the family and loved ones are experiencing a great deal of emotional pain and suffering, the worries of last-minute arrangements and burial

services should not become part of the grieving process,” says Andrew P. Schafer, Executive Director of the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark. “You can take the responsibility of making these plans beforehand and make it less difficult and certainly much kinder for your family.”

Advance planning allows families ample time to carefully consider all memorial options in a thoughtful and unhurried manner. It also facilitates better financial planning and provides an opportunity to personalize a lasting legacy for years to come. (Continued on page 7)



Hallmark of Love & Remembrance



Remembering loved ones with a greeting card is a common expression of affection. At Catholic Cemeteries, guests have an opportunity to express themselves on life-sized cards on special days including Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Veterans Day, All Souls' Day, and Christmas. Here, visitors at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington share personal messages during Valentine's Day.

Snow & Ice Not a Deterrent



Neither snow nor ice nor bitter cold keeps our diligent cemetery workers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds. Here at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington, workers clear areas surrounding headstones and prepare for new burials during harsh winter days. Catholic Cemeteries closes only during unsafe weather conditions and declared state of emergencies, and notifies families of closings via e-mail. To ensure your e-mail address is on file for future notifications, please contact the [Catholic Cemeteries office](#) at 973-497-7988.

The Final Resting Place for Cremated Remains

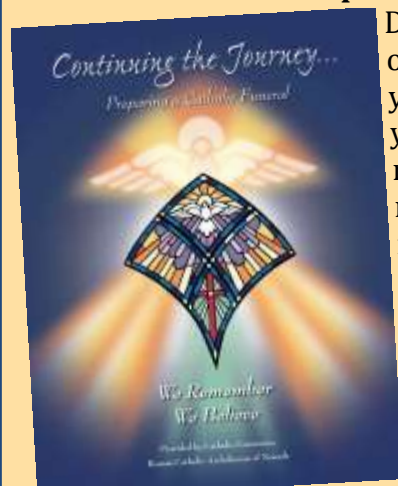
Many Catholics are unaware that it is the desire of the Church to have the cremated remains of a loved one remain together and to be buried or interred in a sacred space. Many are unaware it is considered irreverent to display a loved one's ashes on the mantel or scatter them across the green of a loved one's favorite golf course.

The Church teaches us that the human body has been a temple of the Holy Spirit. It deserves reverence and requires a proper burial. Human cremated remains should be treated with the same respect given to the human body. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and their final disposition. Catholic burial practice calls for human cremated remains to be buried in an urn within a consecrated grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. When possible, appropriate means for memorializing a loved one should be utilized, such as a plaque that records the loved one's name.

Cremation

When cremation is chosen, it should take place after the vigil service (wake) and funeral mass and not before since Catholic funeral rites are designed to be celebrated in the presence of the body. The committal service takes place after cremation at the place where the ashes are to be interred or entombed in the Catholic Cemetery. A committal service after cremation can be arranged with a parish priest. The pastor should be advised at the time of funeral arrangements as to the final disposition of the human cremated remains.

How should a Catholic plan for cremation?



Discuss your wish to be cremated with your pastor or parish staff person, or with Catholic Cemeteries. If your decision is to be cremated, make your wishes known in your will or in documents designed to help plan your funeral and burial. Provide copies of these documents to family members, your pastor, funeral home, or Catholic Cemetery. Also, as you make plans, keep in mind the healing aspect of celebrating the full funeral liturgy with the body present for your family. Think of cremation of the body and committal of the remains as the conclusion of a funeral with the body.

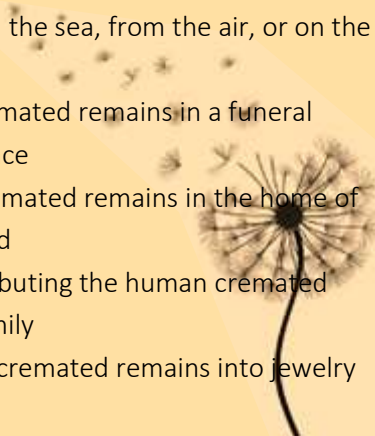
More information regarding burial, entombment and cremation can be found in [Continuing the Journey - Preparing a Catholic Funeral](#), available at www.rcancem.org.

Where Their Catholic Journey Continues... Catholics who wish to make arrangements for urns kept at home to be interred or entombed at [Catholic Cemeteries](#) may call 973-497-7988.



The Church does not consider the following to be the reverent disposition of ashes:

- Scattering ashes on the sea, from the air, or on the ground
- Leaving human cremated remains in a funeral home's storage space
- Keeping human cremated remains in the home of a relative or a friend
- Separating or distributing the human cremated remains among family
- Fashioning human cremated remains into jewelry or other keepsakes



Cemetery Floral Tribute Program

If you wish to honor the memory of your loved one with year-round flowers, our [Floral Tribute Program](#) features a beautiful, silk floral arrangement for each season. Designed especially for mausoleum crypts and headstones, the program includes a lovely vase and quality silk flowers that are refreshed seasonally.

You'll be assured knowing a symbol of remembrance is always there to honor a very special life.

For more information, contact Catholic Cemeteries at 1-973-497-7988 or visit www.rcancem.org.



Tips for Spring Gardening



Welcome Spring! The garden is awakening and it's time to renew life! Get ready to plant, prune, prepare beds, and care for your lawn.

Early Spring... Check for signs of growth. Enjoy an early breath of spring by forcing branches of early flowering trees and shrubs into bloom. Cut branches at an angle, crush bottom slightly for easier water absorption, and place in water in indirect sunlight. Blooms will sprout in a few weeks.

Prep & Prune. Remove winter mulch from flower beds, or if well composted, work into the top layer of the soil. Trim fruit trees if you didn't prune in winter. Prune before buds bloom or you'll stress the tree and get little to no crop.

Start seeds indoors. You've spent the winter reading seed and plant catalogs, so try some! Learn more about seed-starting.

Plant veggies. Hardy vegetables, such as onions, potatoes, artichokes, and lettuces, should be planted now.

Divide perennials. Split and divvy perennials before plants begin spring growth. Share divisions with your friends this year!

Mid-Spring... Build new flower beds. This year, install complementary shrubs that bloom all season. See which shrubs flower most in summer.

Enjoy the spring show! Resolve to plant more flowering bulbs next fall. Meanwhile, plant hardy annuals, sow seeds and transplant seedlings.

Apply mulch. Mulch now and you'll have little-to-no weed come summer.

Late Spring... Deadhead bulbs. Remove spent blossoms from spring-flowering bulbs; and thin too-thick branches to rejuvenate older plants.

Go shopping. Purchase flats of your favorite bedding plants; choose ones not yet in bloom for stronger plants.

Enjoy your garden!

Adapted from Better Homes and Garden
www.bhg.com.

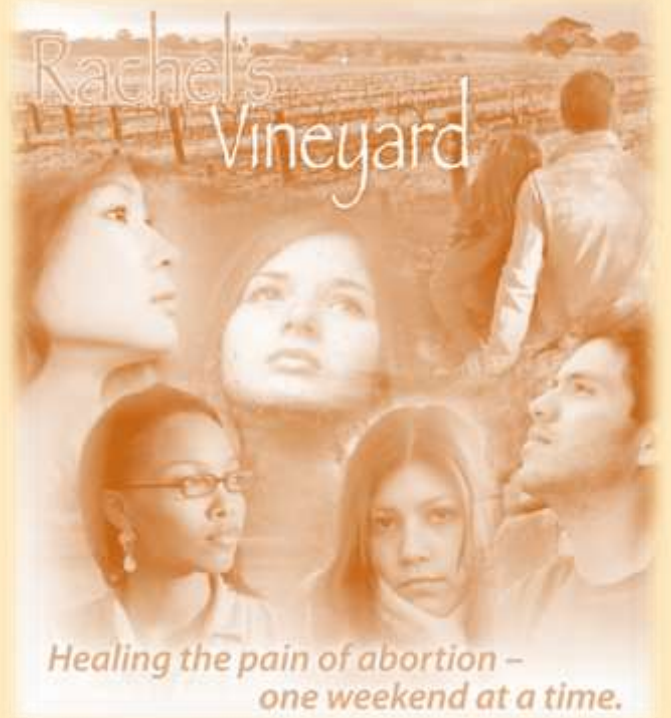
Rachel's Vineyard Reunion

In October of 1997, The Archdiocese of Newark sponsored its first Rachel's Vineyard retreat. Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. Since its inception at the Archdiocese, there have been 68 retreats offering hope and healing to hundreds of men and women.

On May 31, 2015 the [Respect Life Office](#) will sponsor a Rachel's Vineyard Reunion. Anyone who has attended a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat within the Archdiocese of Newark or another site is welcome to come to the reunion.

The day's program will consist of attendance at the noon Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, followed by luncheon and brief, uplifting presentation in the auditorium of the Archdiocesan Center, across the street from the Cathedral Basilica at 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark.

To reserve your space call Cheryl A. Riley 973-497-4350 or via e-mail rileyche@rcan.org. Please RSVP no later than May 26, 2015.



Cemetery Beautification Schedule

In order to preserve the loveliness of our cemeteries year-round, beautification, or general clean-up, days are scheduled quarterly to remove holiday ornaments and decorations from graves and mausoleums. Due to the volume of removed decorations, it is not possible to claim items after removal. Therefore, any items families wish to keep must be collected prior to scheduled clean up dates.

Notice of these clean up dates are posted on signage at Archdiocesan cemetery entrances, on our [website](#), and in various cemeteries publications. E-mail notification also is sent quarterly. To ensure your e-mail address is on file for future notifications, please contact the [Catholic Cemeteries](#) office at 973-497-7988.

Upcoming General Clean-Up Days

April 13

June 21

November 16

A Prayer for the Year of Consecrated Life



O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

For Year of Consecrated Life events at the Archdiocese of Newark, visit www.rcan.org.

www.usccb.org/cclv • www.usccb.org

Please **Don't** Eat the Daisies!

Keeping deer out of your garden and off our cemetery properties isn't easy. Deer enjoy many of the same beautiful flowers we enjoy. But, they don't hesitate to nibble away at your annuals, perennials and bulbs.

The best way to prevent deer from making a buffet out your garden is to know which plants and flowers they eat, and then plant strategically.

Hosta, a popular shade perennial, is frequently damaged by deer. Deer also eat bulb plants such as tulips and certain lilies. Other spring-blooming favorites of home gardeners and deer alike include pansies, violas, buttercups, hybrid roses, hydrangeas, azaleas, and many fruit trees and bushes.

Deer Busters

What don't they eat, you ask? Lily-of-the-valley are low-care and deer-resistant. Just ensure they are adequately watered and moist during the hot summer months. Also, deer tend to pass up Virginia bluebells, a wildflower native to most of the northeast, as well as the daisy-shaped, perennial Golden Marguerite. The gorgeous, long-lived, perennial Bee Balm with bright flowers attracts plenty of hummingbirds and butterflies, but not deer.

Deer also dislike plants with bitter or spiny foliage. Some annual flowers like prickly poppies are toxic for deer. Other florals poisonous to deer include desert marigold, common sunflowers, and saw-leaf daisy. Dry flowers or plants with sticky foliage and leaves also are unpalatable.



Bee Balm flowers will deter deer but draw hummingbirds and butterflies.



Deer often visit our cemeteries to nibble on funeral flowers and spring and summer plants.



Our cemeteries are maintained as lawn facilities. Thorn-free annuals may be planted up to 12" in front of a marker or monument. Plants or flowers may not exceed 15" in height. For more information, please refer to our [rules & regulations](#).

Keep in mind that no flower or plant is completely deer-proof. Whether or not a deer eats certain flora and foliage may depend on the availability of flowers that deer favor, the number of deer in the area competing for food, and/or environmental conditions like drought. If deer are drawn to your garden like a Las Vegas breakfast buffet, try to discourage them with the above-mentioned plants. There is, however, a possibility that deer in your area may have already developed a taste for some of these flowers. But unfortunately, deer can't read signs.

Plan Ahead - Set Aside a Holy Place

(continued from page 2)

“When the responsibility of final arrangements is fulfilled in advance, families can focus on celebrating a life and remembering their loved one as they make their journey to God,” says Schafer.

To assist families with advance planning, Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark is hosting its annual spring open house at cemeteries throughout New Jersey. Open house events are 9am-4:30pm. Memorial planning advisors will be available at each cemetery to answer questions and provide an overview of services. No obligation is expected and all are welcome.

CEMETERY OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE*

April 11-12 Holy Cross Cemetery & Mausoleum, 340 Ridge Rd., North Arlington, 888-467-8903, 9am-4:30pm

April 25-26 St. Gertrude Cemetery & Mausoleum, 53 Inman Ave., Colonia, 888-444-2791, 9am-4:30pm

May 9-10 Holy Name Cemetery & Mausoleum, 823 West Side Ave., Jersey City, 888-621-0337, 9am-4:30pm

** Remaining open house events*



For more information, visit www.CemeteryMinistry.org or call **1-866-773-7526**.

Delivering Donations That Support Our Communities

Catholic Cemeteries recently presented checks to two local Catholic Charities programs that provide food to the area's poor, low income, and homeless. The funds, donations collected during the Christmas season, will help support the work of The Missionary Sisters of Charity and The Emergency Food and Nutrition Network.

The Missionary Sisters of Charity, founded by Saint Mother Teresa and located in Newark, provides food and shelter primarily for women in the community. The center helps with daily meals, clothing, and career and emotional counseling.

The Emergency Food and Nutrition Network, located in East Orange, coordinates and supports a network of food pantries, donor churches, schools, community groups, and volunteers by providing assistance and emergency food supplies to 50 food centers in the Archdiocese of Newark.

If you wish to make a donation to Catholic Charities, visit “Outreach & Giving” at www.rcan.org.



(Pictured) Robert Mauriello, Director of Operations and Parish Cemetery Liaison at Catholic Cemeteries, proudly presents a check to Sharon Reilly-Tobin, Program Manager for the Emergency Food and Nutrition Network, and Catherine L'Insalata, Division Director of Catholic Community Services.



Memorial Day Mass

Serving God & Country: A Memorial Day Salute to Our Heroes
Monday, May 25, 11am



CEMETERY MASS LOCATIONS

Holy Cross Cemetery, N. Arlington
Most Reverend John J. Myers

Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover
Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda

St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia
Most Reverend Manuel A. Cruz

Holy Name Cemetery, Jersey City
Most Reverend Thomas A. Donato

Christ the King Cemetery, Franklin Lakes
Most Reverend John W. Flesey

Maryrest Cemetery, Mahwah
Reverend Monsignor Thomas P. Nydegger

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, East Orange
Reverend Philip Waters

For a complete schedule, including Parish cemetery times, visit www.rcancem.org.

Monthly Masses of Remembrance - An integral aspect of the ministry of Catholic Cemeteries is to provide for the spiritual needs of our families. As part of the fulfillment of this commitment, Remembrance Masses are celebrated on Memorial Day and throughout the year, typically the first Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday each month at our cemeteries. For a complete schedule, please visit www.rcancem.org/mass-schedule.

WITNESS YOUR FAITH

Catholic cemeteries are a statement of your faith. They are a physical and perpetual testimony that life is unbroken by death. Just as we come together in church to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ until He comes again, so, too, our departed loved ones are gathered in our cemeteries awaiting our Savior. The countless chapels, monuments, memorials, and tributes in our Catholic cemeteries are a remarkable testament of our enduring faith.



The staff at Catholic Cemeteries minister to the needs of individuals and families before, at the time of, and after death. This includes caring assistance with cemetery planning before **death; compassionate support at the time of death, facilitating a loved one's interment in a holy place; support throughout bereavement; and perpetual cemetery care thereafter.**

We hope the information provided in this newsletter offers helpful information on Catholic Cemeteries that will assist you in your Catholic journey and in planning for your future needs. As always, our Catholic Cemeteries staff are available to help you and to answer any questions. We can be reached at 973-497-7988 or via e-mail at cemetery@rcan.org. For additional information, visit our website at www.rcancem.org.