

#### St. Gertrude Cemetery: 2021-2022 ACE Award Recipient

St. Gertrude Cemetery and Mausoleum is proud to be recognized as a runner-up recipient of the 2021-2022 American Cemetery Excellence award. Thousands of cemeteries and mausoleums around the globe were judged for this prestigious award.

The story of St. Gertrude Cemetery is the parallel between the first generation of loved ones interred after the cemetery opened in 1933 and the oak trees that were planted at the time to beautify the former farmland.

Over the years, as families built their heritage in grave plots and eventually chapel mausoleums, the oak trees, like the mausoleum structures, also began maturing, growing taller and more majestic.

Today, the near 100-year-old oak trees reach the end of their life cycle with newly planted maple trees at their side. At the same time, the classic-designed mausoleums stand a short distance from taller, more modern, liturgically inspired, museum-like structures.

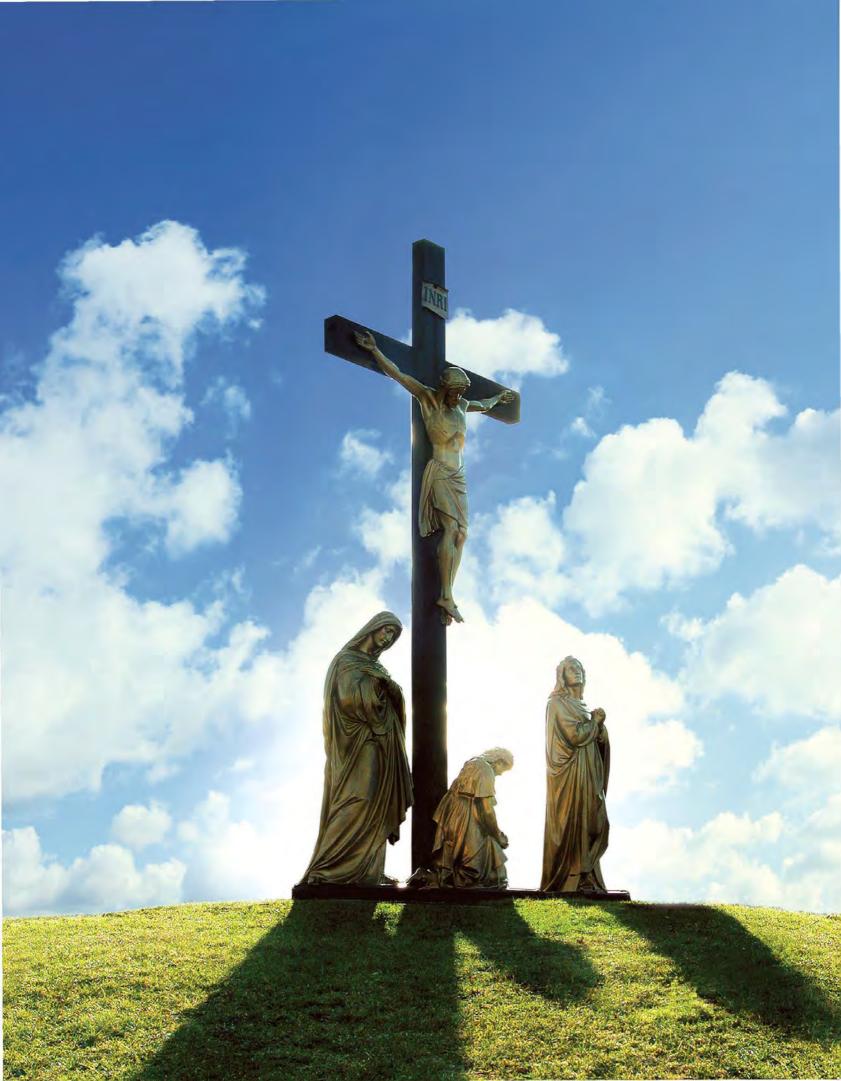
St. Gertrude Cemetery and Mausoleum in Colonia, New Jersey, has been living up to these values since its inception in 1933. Similar to a well-planned, college-like campus design, this Middlesex County cemetery and its mausoleums provide a connected experience that is simple and safe to traverse for daily funerals while providing a serene and magnificent space for visitors to pray for their loved ones.

Its rich history as an agricultural farm is evident in the lush, emerald-green grass fields, welcoming gazebo family estates, majestic century-old oak and young maple trees, and the frequent nature sightings of deer, rabbits, geese, and foxes.

Colorful birdhouses hand-built by volunteer teenagers provide attractive and safe dwellings for nesting birds. Over 300 new trees have been planted in the last three years to continue enhancing the graceful ecological environment St. Gertrude Cemetery has become known for and will continue to be for future generations.

Its magnificence continues with 18 new commissioned liturgical artworks created by some of our time's most outstanding liturgical art studios. Several century-old artworks are reclaimed from closed churches that have been restored to their original glory and were given a new lease on life by being installed throughout the cemetery and mausoleums.

When combined with the other 32 priceless artworks throughout the cemetery, together they create a magnificent tapestry that inspires hope, faith, and peace for many who have lost a loved one. Welcome to St. Gertrude Cemetery and Mausoleum. We hope you enjoy your experience.



# SAINT GERTRUDE CEMETERY Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE; WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, EVEN IF THEY DIE, WILL LIVE. JOHN 11:25

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#### Installation of New Chapel Mausoleum and World-Class Art

The new *Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection* is a modern, church-like facility designed to create an atmosphere that is respectful and conducive to prayer and meditation for family and friends who visit.

The new mausoleum features 18 world-class works of art, and two chapel areas: one for traditional committal services, another for cremated human remains - the first in archdiocesan history to feature a unique chapel exclusively for cremation niches.

The New "Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection"

Providing our families a special and uplifting place for prayer and reflection.



The handcrafted marble altar is located beneath a 100-year-old, 12-foot Tiffanystyle stained-glass dome highlighting the Holy Spirit and biblical icons.

This captivating work of art saved from the former St. Brigid's Parish in Union City, New Jersey, suspends from a marble structure.

The altar serves families during the Monthly Masses of Remembrance and provide a spiritual backdrop during committal services.







Intricately designed bronze figures of Mary and the 12 Apostles during Pentecost can be seen below the glorious marble altar. Progetto Arte Poli created the statues, an art studio in Verona, Italy, known for producing artworks for the Holy See at the Vatican Gardens, the Apostolic Palace, and the Diocese of Rome's St. John Lateran Basilica.

# **Above-Ground Burial -** Mausoleum Alcoves

Within each alcove, the elegant marble crypts and glass cremation niches provide elegant resting spaces for loved ones within several mausoleum alcoves. The magnificent 12-foot stained-glass windows reclaimed from the former St. Mark's Church in Rahway, NJ, provide a church-like environment for reflection and mediation. The alcoves also feature remarkable handcrafted wooden statues of the four evangelists, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John, commissioned from Demetz Art Studio in Ortisei, Italy.



### **Glass Cremation Niche Chapel**

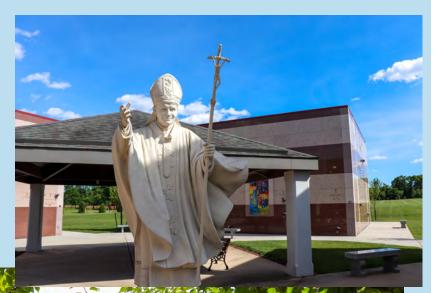
The new Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection is the first in archdiocesan history to feature a unique chapel exclusively for glass cremation niches. It features a brilliantly colored, 14-foot stained-glass window of Jesus ascending to heaven. The chapel is also designed to accommodate cremation committal services for the deceased, and their family members and friends.





#### **Above-Ground Burial Gardens**

Four outdoor garden mausoleum pods, collectively known as the **Holy Rosary Garden Mausoleum**, are constructed with exterior crypt and niche spaces, offering families the benefits of aboveground entombment with the openness and beauty of the outdoors. Each pod features several brightly colored liturgical works of art to inspire prayer and reflection.



Four paintings, highlighting the mysteries of the rosary, joyful, sorrowful, glorious, and luminous, were commissioned for the Holy Rosary Garden from Leonardo M. Velasco, an artist known for mosaics of the Incarnation and Redemption domes inside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.



## Traditional Ground Burial

Our beautiful and impeccablylandscaped cemetery grounds offer a variety of choices for families who prefer traditional in-ground burial options. Different sections provide burial spaces with either flush memorial or upright monument lots. Space for two, for four or multiple family lots are available.

A Special Floral Tribute Program featuring seasonal silk arrangements is now available through our cemetery offices.

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# **Open-Air Gazebo and In-Ground Family Estates**

Aliter Milling

Built to accommodate individual family requirements, these options offer a unique opportunity to establish a personal and private family memorial surrounded by St. Gertrude Cemetery's picturesque rural beauty and several statues of saints.



Call us at 866-Pre-Plan (866-773-7526) or stop by today to view the many options that are available to you and your family.

# Visit The New St. Gertrude Cemetery Office



To better serve the needs of families and funeral directors, a new, modern cemetery office building was completed in 2020 to replace the original "farmhouse" office, which was over 80 years old. With its soaring, chapel-like gathering area, the new ADA compliant building is designed with front and rear entrances: one to accommodate the funeral directors and another to provide services to families. It is also maintained as a clean, safe, and socially-distanced environment.

The office features four modern working stations for Customer Service Representatives, Memorial Planning Advisors, and Management. It also features a chapel-inspired design with pews and ceilings in the reception area and a touch-screen kiosk for visitors to access the beautiful cemetery and mausoleum images, grave locations, mapping, and other essential information. There is also a conference room for Memorial Planning Advisors to meet with large families and restrooms that visitors can access during and after office hours.

The side of the office building closest to Inman Avenue was widened to accommodate funeral processions and provide a stacking lane for funerals. In contrast, the opposite side of the office building offers a separate entrance and several parking spaces for those visiting loved ones or seeking internment services. The improvements resulted in smoother traffic flow. Please call our new cemetery office for all your burial and memorialization needs: (888)444-2791 or (732) 388-0311.



A Wise DECISION,

A Loving GESTURE, A Perfect SOLUTION.

Continuing the Journey...



**Continuing the Journey...** is a planning guide written in accordance with the Order of Christian Funerals. It is a valuable resource to plan all the details in advance or at the time of the funeral. This helpful booklet contains information on Practical Preparations, Liturgical planning (wake, mass and committal service) and Bereavement. A free video also is available online at www.rcancem.org/ocf

# **Pre-Need Planning**

Death can be a confusing time filled with emotional stress

and multiple obligations.

From a practical perspective, the selection of burial space in advance is often easier, kinder and more economical and offers your loved ones peace of mind. Making a selection together on your own time and terms will ensure that your loved ones will not have to make these decisions alone at a most difficult time.

Experienced memorial planning advisors are available to listen and respond to your individual needs.



Choosing a Gatholic Gemetery is a statement of faith.

#### Liturgical & Memorial Sculptures of St. Gertrude Cemetery



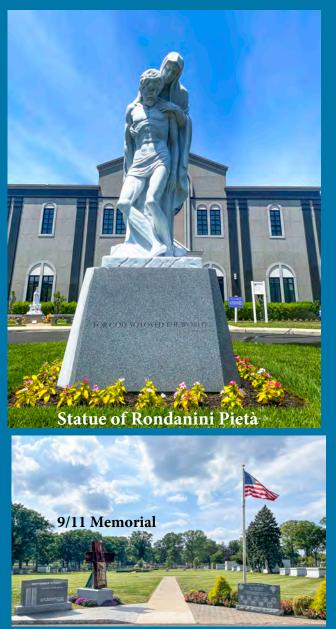
Statue of John the Baptist baptizing Jesus



Statue of Resurrected Christ



Statue of St. Gertrude



Following in the Easter theme and architectural master plan of St. Gertrude Cemetery, a breathtaking, 14-foot statue of the **Resurrected Christ**, made from Italian Carrara marble, stands triumphant outside the main entrance of the new Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection.

Outside the front entrance of the Chapel Mausoleum of the Crucifixion, Catholic Cemeteries has installed a magnificent new marble **Rondanini Pietà** statue of Mary holding Jesus after His crucifixion. This Pietà statue carved from the same marble quarry that Michelangelo carved his original Pietà masterpiece, is *one of only two Pietà statues like it in the world*.

Near the redesigned entrance of St. Gertrude Cemetery stands a 14-foot bronze statue depicting the **Baptism of Jesus Christ by St. John the Baptist** in the Jordan River. The design features a glistening, blue glass infused into the bronze to represent baptism water flowing from the head of Jesus onto a magnificent stone foundation quarried in Italy. Light passing through the blue glass changes with the movement of the sun. The porous appearance of the stone foundation is indicative of a large river stone weathered over hundreds of years.

St. Gertrude Cemetery honors 9/11 victims and their families with its own 9/11 memorial installed on September 8, 2021, days before the 20th anniversary of 9/11. The monument includes one of the last remaining relics of the original World Trade Center buildings. The 9/11 monument is installed across from the Eagle Scout Commemorative Stone To U.S. Armed Forces & First Responders.

## *"We Remember We Believe"*



His Eminence Cardinal Joseph Tobin, Archbishop of Newark, blessing and dedicating Saint Gertrude Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection



Cardinal Joseph Tobin blesses the marble altar within the new Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection with Chrism oil. This is a relatively rare occurrence since altars are only consecrated once after being constructed.



Cardinal Joseph Tobin celebrating Memorial Day Mass inside Saint Gertrude Chapel Mausoleum of the Resurrection





*Please pick up a complimentary copy of your "Continuing the Journey..."* booklet today!

This helpful booklet contains information on: Practical Preparations, Liturgical planning (wake, mass and committal service) and Bereavement. A free accompanying video is available at www.rcancem.org/ocf

Catholic Cemeteries cordially invites you to our Memorial Day Mass celebrated annually on our beautiful cemetery grounds. Invite friends and family to the celebration of Mass to pray and remember the faithful departed. Mass begins at 11:00 AM.

#### 866-PRE-PLAN (866-773-7526)



Pictured above is the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark N.J. This magnificent Basilica is considered to be one of the most spectacular cathedrals in the country. Situated on the highest peak in Newark next to Branch Brook Park, the French gothic structure covers 40,000 square feet, an area equal to that of London's Westminster Abbey. It is larger than the renowned St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

Saint Pope John Paul II visited the Cathedral on October 4, 1995 and presided at Evening Prayer. He is the

first Pope to visit New Jersey and his presence in this church was a tribute to all who sacrificed to make its completion a reality. It was during his visit that the Holy Father designated the Cathedral a Minor Basilica.

"This magnificent building stands in the heart of Newark as a powerful reminder of God's steadfast love for his People and as a sign of faith in Christ, our 'hope of glory."

Saint Pope John Paul II Address given at Evening Prayer Papal Visit, October 1995



#### Saint Gertrude

Catholic Cemetery & Mausoleum 53 Inman Avenue, Colonia, NJ 07067 (732) 388-0311 or 866-PRE-PLAN (866-773-7526) www.SaintGertrudeCemetery.org www.RCANCEM.org