



Sacred Places

Vol. 13 No. 1
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The Resilient Heart

by Joyce Rupp, OSM

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;
persecuted, but not driven to despair;
persecuted, but not forsaken;
struck down, but not destroyed. (2 Cor. 4:8-9)*

Several years ago a number of books were written on the topic of resilience. It is not surprising that this vital quality of living would be the current theme of numerous authors. In our culture of constant violence and rapid change we need to be resilient in order to meet these challenges as well as to contend with the natural processes of life and death that are a part of the human condition.

The sharp delineation of seasonal changes in the Midwest provides ample opportunity to see how essential resiliency is in order to maintain hope in difficult times. When I walk through the woods amid the stark, barren branches and dry leaves in late autumn, or drive along seemingly dead, brown fields stripped of grain, I know that a vibrant green springtime will follow. The barren fallowness of this season with its inherent promise of new life reminds me of my own inner resiliency. I need to know that I can not only endure through a silent, empty season but that this season is also preparing me for a time of new growth. I need to believe that I have a suppleness to my spirit that will help me bounce back after being flattened by the unwanted and the inevitable struggles of life.

Resilience is rooted in every human heart. It is a unique and invaluable gift of the Creator, an essential catalyst for moving through painful and devastating experiences. Resilience is about being down and out and springing back. Resilience is being persistent in the face of defeat. It is solidarity with others that strengthens the soul. It is hope that holds on in spite of overwhelming loss. Resilience is endurance that leaves one not bitter and resentful, but filled with love and a deeper compassion. It is unrelenting faith in the promise of a loving divinity whose abiding presence provides strength through every season.

I thought a lot about resiliency a few years ago when I went to visit my aunt in California. That year the gardeners had come and pruned her lemon tree. I had seen the tree on previous visits when it was a burgeoning, lovely tree with branches often so weighted with delicious lemons that they hung all the way to the ground. This particular year, however, the tree was pruned beyond recognition. Almost all the smaller branches were gone, leaving gray blunt stumps. There was nary a leaf anywhere on what remained of that once fruitful tree. I could not imagine it ever producing lovely lemons again.

To my great surprise and joy the lemon tree was once again filled with yellow fruit two years later when I returned. Since then I have noticed many other lessons of resiliency in nature. An old cottonwood tree with large holes in the trunk continues to green as it provides a home for creatures. Bushes of beans that I'd given up for dead in the dry garden blossomed again after an inch of rain. A three-legged doe, the fourth leg broken and held high, birthed two fawns and nurtured them. Fireweed grew on a mountainside a year after a devastating forest fire. Determined grass pushed its way up through the cracks of a concrete parking lot. A green shoot emerged out of a dead tree stump.

A similar resilience is apparent in many human situations. At the time of a devastating demise we feel demolished and broken. We experience unspeakable pain and distress. We can't imagine ever feeling good again. We forget, or perhaps have never understood, that we are capable of immense resiliency. We can only think of how much we hurt. It is in this time of great need that the courageous ability of "bouncing back" rises in us, urging us to not give up.

People with missing limbs, serious illness, thwarted dreams, lost jobs, violated bodies, trampled spirits and grief so deep it penetrates to the core of the soul, can eventually return to a sense of peace and acceptance. Those who lose homes in floods, fires or earthquakes gradually put the pieces of their lives back together. Those whose loved ones have died or whose relationships are terminated learn to live with their loss and unwanted change. It may take a long time but something deep inside tells them they must go on, that they have to believe there will be more of life yet to live and enjoy. The voice of resiliency tells them they can move on into the future. It asks them to trust in the possibility of unfolding happiness even if they can never reclaim what has been lost.

When we come upon hard times, let us remember that we have much more resiliency within us than we ever imagined. We may not feel strong, and we may doubt our ability to do what is required of us, but we have the power to do it. Long ago this wonderful gift was seeded in our soul while we were yet in the womb. This gift of resiliency will not fail us. We can bounce back from what threatens to destroy us. We can rise up from what knocks us down. We can stand by a wintered tree and listen to the hope residing there. We can call upon the ancestors to help us stand strong. We can open our heart to the Holy One and feel confident that all the resiliency we need is there for the receiving.

Editor's Note: Joyce Rupp, OSM, international speaker, author and retreat director, describes herself as a "spiritual midwife." She is a member of the Servants of Mary community and a volunteer for Hospice in Des Moines, Iowa, where she resides. This article is an adapted excerpt from her next book, *The Cosmic Dance*, scheduled to be published by Cross Books in February 2002. Article reprinted with permission, National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved.

From the Director's Desk

"After September 11th, things will never be the same." How many times have we heard those words, and more likely than not, felt those very feelings since that horrific day. The sheer and utter destruction, the enormity of the sorrow of the families whose lives were changed in an instant, the unexplainable act of terror, hatred and disregard for the sacredness of life, the immense sense of vulnerability and the realization of just how fragile our existence really is... all were feelings thrust upon an entire nation in one short moment of time. We have only just begun to understand the enormity of this tragedy, and I'm sure that it will be years before we come to any understanding of all that was involved.

So many families of the Diocese were tragically affected: husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, friends and acquaintances were lost in an instant. They left that morning for their jobs or vacations or business trips, not knowing that their "good-byes" were the last they would utter. The lives of those left behind would be forever changed. Children would be born who would never know their fathers.

Yet, through the absolute horror of it all, the courage of the American people shone through. Not just in the acts of bravery by those firefighters, police and port authority officers, emergency service personnel and others who gave their lives, but also by the heroism of those left behind. Many times my spirits and those of the rest of the cemetery staff were lifted by the very people we try to assist... those who had suffered the loss of a loved one.

America was drawn together. Our political leaders were united and people of all backgrounds came together to assist with their labors, their blood, and their resources. People of many other nations joined in these efforts, and for at least one moment in time the world seemed to think and act as one.

At Holy Rood Cemetery, where more than thirty victims are buried, we quickly opened a small section of land for those who lost their lives in the World Trade Center. It soon became apparent that the need was not so much a place for burial, since tragically many of the bodies of the victims may never be recovered, but a sacred space was needed for memorialization. To that end, we are in the process of planning a memorial for that section, on which can be listed the names of those who died on September 11th, whether or not they are interred in the cemetery. The hallowed ground of a Catholic Cemetery, made holy by the saints buried there, is indeed a fitting place for such a remembrance.

In order to assist with these efforts, those families who are on our mailing list will soon be receiving a request for donations for this memorial. Obviously, there is no obligation, for those who cannot assist financially, we ask your spiritual help by praying for the needs of the families left behind. If there are any excess funds, they will go to the Diocesan charities in their efforts to provide comfort and support to the families of the victims.

The feeling that "things will never be the same" is one that is shared by all who have suffered the pain of losing a loved one. Whether your beloved died suddenly and violently as those on September 11th, or died after a long illness, the pain of loss and separation is real. The hope that winter turns into spring, the hope of the

Resurrection and Salvation won for us by our Redeemer, the hope that one day laughter will once again fill our hearts... this is what keeps the human spirit going. For those who have not yet experienced re-birth after your loss, I can promise you that although things will never be the same, although you will never forget your loved ones, you will once again look forward to living in the present, knowing that death separates for the moment, and as St. Paul reminds us: "Love is without end."

Jesus promised us: "Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted." May we have the grace to trust in His promise. It is through Him that we can hope for our spirits to be reborn, as we individually and as a nation cope with the tragedies that have befallen us.

Sincerely,

Neal S. Barlin

Stations of the Cross

We invite you to join us on **Good Friday, March 29th**, at **12:00 noon** in **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.

Bishop John R. McGann 1924-2002

On January 29th, the Lord called Bishop John McGann to his eternal reward. As Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre since 1971, and Second Bishop of the Diocese since 1976, Bishop McGann worked tirelessly on behalf of the people he loved. He was especially concerned and interested in the Catholic Cemeteries of the Diocese. All who knew him knew of his concern for his friends and brother priests who had pre-deceased him. This carried over to the care of their resting places as well as the resting places of all the people of the Diocese.

He made sure that the Cemeteries operated in a fiscally responsible manner, and he supported their growth as the whole rest of the Diocese grew under his leadership. He began the practice of the Bishops of the Diocese celebrating the Memorial Day and All Souls Day Masses, commemorating the lives and praying for the souls of those interred in the cemeteries. Most of all, he supported the staff with his loving concern and guidance.

At a Mass celebrated in his memory for the Pastoral Center employees, Msgr. Alessandro commented that he was sure that Bishop McGann left this world behind only when he was confident that the Diocese was in good hands. With the sudden passing of Bishop McHugh, he waited until the Diocese was given a new shepherd to guide her. Bishop Murphy has already built upon the beautiful spirituality and the personal warmth of Bishop McGann, who we are confident continues to guide the Diocese he loved.

May we all strive to emulate his motto, which he lived to the fullest: "Serve the Lord with gladness."

Why Do We Pray For The Deceased? God's Time Is Not Our Time

Rev. John J. Dietzen
Diocese of Peoria

Q. A dear member of our family died recently, and a question arose about our prayers for the dead. This is because we have continued to remember this relative in our prayers. I think I read once that we should never stop praying for our dead relatives because the person receives the benefit of our prayers at the time of death, even if the prayers are said 30 years later. Did I understand that correctly?

A. Yes, you did. As far as we can know, there is nothing like time in our sense of that reality—hours, days, and years—in eternity. Supposedly, we will be out of a dimension where such measures of time make sense.

Thus, any answers to your question cannot be based on a parallel between events here and the duration of events after we die. In its prayer and liturgies (the Eucharistic Prayers at every Mass are good examples), the Church basically just walks around that question and continues to pray always for all who have died.

There are excellent reasons for this Christian tradition. Perhaps the most fundamental is that our prayers for the dead, as all our prayers, go to a God who is eternal, who has no beginning or end, for whom there is no past or future.

Everything, from the beginning of time to the end of the world, is one eternally present moment for God. We cannot imagine God saying, for example, "If you had just said that prayer a week ago I could have done something about it, but now it's too late."

St. Thomas Aquinas explained, God is present in the whole of reality, the whole span of time and place, in one infinite act of divine knowledge.

When we pray for someone, therefore, considering that universal reach of God's presence and being, our prayers are not limited by time. They extend back and forward to the beginning of an individual's life, through to the end, and into eternity.

For the same reason we pray constantly (again, the Eucharistic Prayers at Mass are excellent examples) for a good and holy death for others and ourselves. The fact that death may be years away doesn't matter.

It is worth remembering, finally, that prayers for our loved ones are also always prayers of thanks, praising God for His goodness to that person and for all the good done for others in and through that individual's life on earth.

Your memory, and your instincts, are good. Keep up the prayers, for those who have died, and for the living, too.

Reprinted with permission, *The Catholic Cemetery*

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 name of those remembered will be placed in a Book of Remembrance at the altar.

The cost for each plant ordered will be \$15.00. 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, or ordered flowers for the Chapels in the past, you will receive notification through the mails. Otherwise, you may fill out the coupon below and mail it with your check as soon as possible.

Mother's Day # of Plants _____	Father's Day # of Plants _____
Total: _____ Plants @ \$15 each = \$ _____	
Name _____	
Address _____	
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____	
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 P.O. Box 182 Westbury, NY 11590-0182	

Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,
not with the old yeast,
the yeast of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Corinthians 5:8

Saturday Masses in the Chapel at 9:30 AM:

Holy Rood Cemetery P.O. Box 182 111 Old Country Road Westbury, NY 11590-0182 Tel: (516) 334-7990			
Mar. 9	Jun. 8	Sept. 7	Dec. 7
Mar. 23	Jun. 22	Sept. 21	Dec. 21
Apr. 6	Jul. 6	Oct. 5	
Apr. 20	Jul. 20	Oct. 19	
May 4	Aug. 3	Nov. 16	
May 18	Aug. 17		

Holy Sepulchre 3442 Route 112 Coram, NY 11727 Tel: (631) 732-3460		Queen of All Saints 115 Wheeler Road Central Islip, NY 11722 Tel: (631) 234-8297	
Mar. 9	Jun. 8	Sep. 7	Dec. 7
Apr. 6	Jul. 6	Oct. 5	
May 4	Aug. 3		

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

President's Day	February 18th
Holy Thursday	March 28th (12:30 PM)
Good Friday	March 29th (12:30 PM)
Memorial Day	May 27th
Independence Day	July 4th
Labor Day	September 2nd
Columbus Day	October 14th
Veteran's Day	November 11th
Thanksgiving	November 28th

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 a warm weather approaches, we would like to remind you about our planting regulations. In monument sections, annual flowers such as geraniums, begonias, impatiens and marigolds may be planted in a bed which can extend 18" in front of the monument. Bouquets of fresh flowers are permitted in monument sections in vases which 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.

Potted plants are permitted for holidays. All holiday decorations will be picked up on the following dates:

- Easter Decorations**
Monday, April 8th
- Mother's Day**
Monday, May 20th
- Father's Day**, Monday, June 24th

Dates to Remember:

Stations of the Cross
Friday, March 29, 2002
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury
MEET IN THE CHAPEL AT 12:00 NOON

Memorial Day Field Masses
Monday, May 27, 2002
Holy Rood Cemetery - 11:00 AM Bishop Dunn
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery - 11:00 AM Bishop Weira
Queen of All Saints Cemetery - 12:00 PM Bishop Murphy

Change of Address

Name _____

Old Address _____

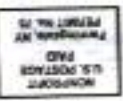
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Plot Location:
Cemetery _____

Section _____ Range _____ Plot _____



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

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. 13 No. 2
Fall 2002

Coping With Grief at Christmas

By *Magr. James McNamara*

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born to you who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2: 10-11) The feast of Christmas is near so let the celebrations begin. It is a time for joy, for family gatherings, for the enjoyment of friendships, for ethnic and family traditions to be continued. Do not be afraid but, rather, rejoice.

You may find that your spirit is far from the spirit of Christmas and celebration. You may find that your spirit is more in tune with another passage from Luke's Gospel: "It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipse, a darkness came over the land until the ninth hour. The veil of the temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice He said: 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' With these words, Jesus breathed his last." (Luke 23:44-46)

We may find ourselves living more within the darkness of Calvary this Christmas than under the star of Bethlehem. Christmas (like Thanksgiving which we just celebrated) can be a very difficult time for anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. This may be true to a greater extent this year because of the terrible events of September 11th and November 12th. Whether the loss is in such unspeakable tragedies or the loss of a loved one through illness or accident, when young or old, the holidays present unique challenges in the midst of bereavement.

The crib and the cross are intimately connected because Jesus is vulnerable out of love for us both in the town of Bethlehem and in the city of Jerusalem. Jesus is vulnerable as a baby born in a cold stable out of a deep desire to be one with us by becoming one of us in everything except sin. Jesus is vulnerable on the cross at Calvary in order to convince us of the Triune God's unconditional love for us.

So, if you are vulnerable as Christmas approaches, bring your vulnerability to Jesus whether it is at the crib or on the cross. There are no emotions you should feel this Christmas and no traditions you should keep. If you have lost a loved one, you know that life is not the same. There is an ache in your heart and a weight upon your spirit. Most of the things we do at Christmas and the songs we sing do not alleviate this pain but make it more poignant. With particular attention on Jesus Christ, let us walk with one another through this Christmas season.

--"Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you." (Matthew 11:28) Jesus



will lift your spirits through the presence of other people. It is helpful to let family members and friends know what you need, what your preferences and desires are. People who want you to be happy no matter what and those who see only the darkness and the gloom will not help you. Sometimes such people are meeting their own needs rather than yours. You know who can really help you. Seek them out. They will fulfill Jesus' promise to refresh you.

--"My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.... For it is when I am weak that I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12:9,10b) Grieving consumes a lot of your available energy. You do not have the emotional strength you had before your loss. St. Paul was able to rejoice in his weakness because he discovered strength given to him by Jesus Christ. You may not have the energy to do all the things you usually do during the Christmas season. So do not try to do everything and let others know what you are not up to doing. The work of grieving is real work. It is emotionally draining. Your emotions may swing

[Continued on Page 2]

up and down and moments of sadness may surprise you. This can be an emotional path you may not have traveled before. Recognize your weakness and seek the strength of Jesus Christ. You may want to go to Mass during the week as well as on Sundays in order to be more deeply nourished by Christ.

--"No one tears a piece of cloth from a new cloak to put it on an old cloak; if he does, not only will he have torn the new one, but the piece taken from the new will not match the old." (Luke 5:36) It may be wise to make some changes in your Christmas traditions in order to reduce stress. Finding new surroundings, rituals and traditions is not meant to deny your grief but to find new ways to cope with the loss that has torn apart the fabric of your life. Your life no longer fits together as a harmonious unity. Seek God within your sorrow, not aside from it. Cry out to God from the depths of your heart. Let God hear your anguish. God will meet you there.

--"I will never forget you. See, I have branded you on the palm of my hands." (Isaiah 49:15) It is important to remember that God has not forgotten you even though you may not feel His presence as strongly as you once did. He is still with you. He still loves you. It is also good to find ways to remember your loved one at Christmas. Words, symbols, and silence can be comforting and helpful in the process of grieving. You might purchase a live Christmas tree that can be planted in memory of the person you are grieving. A moment of silence, a prayer, or a toast, a candle or a flower can help mark the presence of the one you love and miss.

The Wise Men followed a star and found a child laying in a manger and they worshipped Him. Darkness covered the earth when the sun eclipsed over the cross of Christ and a stranger proclaimed that Jesus was truly the Son of God. Wherever you find yourself this Christmas, under a star or within the darkness, be there with the desire for Jesus. He will be there with you and He will be vulnerable because, no matter what you are experiencing, He loves you. Merry Christmas!

Reprinted with permission, *The Long Island Catholic*,
December 12, 2001

From The Director's Desk

As this letter is being written, we are fast approaching the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attack on our nation, a tragic event that will define this generation and has caused heartbreak to so many families of the Diocese. Sometimes it seems hard to remember life before the attack on the World Trade Center towers, as so much of the past year has been defined by it. We have seen increased security in our travel, the sending of troops and subsequent military actions in a country half way around the world, and an economy faltering, due in part to the fear and economic turmoil caused by these attacks. At the same time we have seen some heroic efforts, not only on the part of the military personnel, the police and fire fighters, but also by the construction workers who toiled seven days a week to find remains

of those lost amidst the rubble. Through their efforts families were able to bring to some completion the rites and rituals of the burial of a loved one.

If we think back to the weeks following September 11th, we all acted differently immediately after the tragedy. The churches were full, people were kinder and gentler, the commuters were more patient, and home and family became more important. I'm afraid, however, that most have reverted back to the old routine. As the debris was cleaned up and as additional attacks didn't materialize, we began to go about our regular business and lose our focus on the values that had become so important to us.

The movie *Saving Private Ryan* recounted the story of a squad of soldiers sent on a mission immediately following D-Day to find and bring home a soldier whose three brothers were killed in battle. At the end of the movie, the now grown-old Ryan, while standing at the gravesites of those who died while trying to bring him safely home, asks his wife to reaffirm that he had been a good husband and led a good life. He needed to hear her reassurance, not for his own self-esteem, but just so that he knew he had honored those who died instead of him. Wouldn't it be a true honor to those who lost their lives on September 11th, and a sign of respect for the ones they left behind, if every day we took a moment to refocus our lives, and pay attention to what is really important and what really matters?

*At once Jesus spoke to them,
"Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."
Matthew 14:27*

I was reminded of this as I listened to the Gospel reading of this Sunday. It was the familiar story of Our Lord walking on the water while the small boat that the Apostles were on was floundering in the stormy sea. Peter, at Jesus' bidding, walked on the water towards Him, until Peter became frightened by the rough seas and began to sink. He had to be rescued at the hand of Jesus. Peter lost his focus!

In the same Gospel story we take comfort in Jesus' calming words: "Do not be afraid." Some have been paralyzed by fear by the recent events. Especially for those who have lost a loved one, a common feeling is one of fear, as life cannot be imagined without the love, guidance and support of the one who died. Follow the example of Peter, and reach for the hand that our Lord holds out, for it is He who will save us from the surrounding storm.

Sincerely,

Neal S. Barkin

Christmas Ornament Memorial Program

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 7th**, family members will be invited to place an ornament on our Christmas tree 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 tree throughout the Christmas season and can be picked up any day from January 1st through January 10th.

Holiday Decoration Program

The 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 for our Christmas or Easter decoration programs in 2001, you will receive notification of this year's program through the mail. If you did not purchase last year and are interested for the coming season, you may fill out the coupon below and return it with your check to the address listed on the coupon.

Catholic Cemeteries P.O. Box 182 Westbury, NY 11590-0182	
# Christmas	
Blankets (Graves)	@ \$45 = \$ _____
Pillows (Graves)	@ \$30 = \$ _____
Poinsettias (Chapels)	@ \$20 = \$ _____
# Easter	
Palm Crosses (Graves)	@ \$15 = \$ _____
Easter Lilies (Chapels)	@ \$20 = \$ _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____	
Name _____	
Address _____	
Town _____	State _____ Zip _____
Cemetery _____	
Section _____	Range _____ Plot _____
or Chapel Mausoleum _____	
Corridor _____	Tier _____ Crypt # _____
Name of deceased _____	

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, October 27th**, we will have an opportunity to remember, in a special way, those we love who are interred in the Catholic Cemeteries. **Beginning at 3:00 PM at Holy Rood Cemetery**, the Diocesan Choir under the direction of Monsignor Ronald Hayde will preside over a ceremony of prayer, song and remembrance. All will participate in a candle lighting ceremony at which time those who died between **November 1st, 2001 and October, 2002** will be remembered by name.

We invite all to attend: to pray.. to sing.. to remember.

If you plan to attend, please contact the cemetery office (516) 334-7990 no later than **Monday, October 21st**, with the name of the deceased who was interred after **November 1st, 2001**, whom you wish to have remembered.

September 11th Memorial

Many thanks to all who responded to the request for donations towards a memorial in Holy Rood Cemetery for all who died in the tragic events of September 11th. We currently have received over 1,100 donations totaling in excess of \$37,000.00. We have also received an additional \$5,000.00 donation from the National Catholic Cemetery Conference, which we will use to this purpose.

A committee of two local pastors, a landscape architect and a monument designer have met and discussed preliminary plans and proposals. It was important to proceed slowly, so that we fully understood the needs of all affected by this tragedy. We hope to finish the task by the end of the year, with work commencing shortly thereafter. The completion date will depend upon the size and scope of the project, and you will be kept informed by way of this newsletter.

You may still contribute towards the memorial. If you wish to donate in memory of someone, you may give us the information and we will send a memorial gift card to the family. Kindly fill in the coupon below, and mail along with your donation.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Enclosed is my gift toward the 9-11 Memorial to be erected in Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury.	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____	
Contributor(s) _____	
Address _____	
Telephone No. _____	
Kindly make checks payable to Catholic Cemeteries 9-11 Memorial	
All gifts are tax deductible	

Saturday Masses in the Chapel at 9:30 AM:

Holy Rood Cemetery P.O. Box 182 111 Old Country Road Westbury, NY 11590-0182 Tel: (516) 334-7990			
2002	2003		
Oct. 5	Jan. 4	Apr. 5	Jul. 12
Oct. 19	Jan. 18	Apr. 26	Jul. 26
Nov. 16	Feb. 1	May 3	Aug. 2
Dec. 7	Feb. 22	May 17	Aug. 16
Dec. 21	Mar. 1	Jun. 7	Sep. 6
	Mar. 15	Jun. 21	Sep. 20

Holy Sepulchre 3442 Route 112 Coram, NY 11727 Tel: (631) 732-3460		Queen of All Saints 115 Wheeler Road Central Islip, NY 11722 Tel: (631) 234-8297	
2002	2003		
Oct. 5	Jan. 4	Apr. 5	Jul. 12
Dec. 7	Feb. 1	May 3	Aug. 2
	Mar. 1	Jun. 7	Sep. 6

Offices are closed on Sundays and the following holidays:

Columbus Day	Monday-October 14, 2002
Veteran's Day	Monday-November 11, 2002
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday-November 28, 2002
Christmas Day	Wednesday-December 25, 2002
New Year's Day	Wednesday-January 1, 2003
Martin L. King Day	Monday-January 20, 2003
President's Day	Monday-February 17, 2003
Holy Thursday	Thursday-April 17 (12:30PM), 2003
Good Friday	Friday-April 18 (12:30PM), 2003
Memorial Day	Monday-May 26, 2003

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 the 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 27th, 2003, weather permitting.

Dates to Remember:

Cemetery Sunday
Sunday, October 27th
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury
CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE AT 3:00 PM

All Souls Day Masses
Saturday, November 2nd
Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury - 9:30 AM *NOTE NEW TIME
Most Reverend John C. Dunn, D.D.
Queen of All Saints Cemetery, Central Islip - 11:00 AM
Most Reverend Emil A. Wozniak, D.D.
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Coram - 11:00 AM
Most Reverend William F. Murphy, S.T.D., L.H.D.

All Three Diocesan Cemeteries
Saturday, December 7th - 9:30 AM
Christmas Ornament Memorial Program
[See Article in Newsletter]

Change of Address

Name _____

Old Address _____

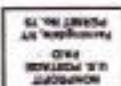
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Plot Location:
Cemetery _____

Section _____ Range _____ Plot _____



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