

# Newsletter

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES  
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

# Sacred Places

Vol. 22 No. 2  
Fall 2011

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## ***Sacred Places (Cyber Editions)***

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

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

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

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

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## ***Legacy Giving***

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

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

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

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

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## ***About Catholic Cemeteries***

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

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

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

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

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

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## Cemetery Ministry

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

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

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

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## Order of Christian Funerals

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

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

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## Funeral Rites

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

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

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

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

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## Choices

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

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

*Only you can decide what is best for your family.*

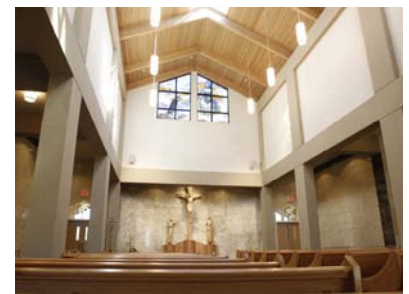
**Traditional Burial Options** are available at all Diocesan Cemeteries in either monument lots or shrine graves. Monument lots, varying in grave numbers are sold as a unit in certain sections of the cemetery and allow one upright monument to be installed on the lot. Shrine sections generally have a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



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



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



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

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

**Please visit the website of the Office of Catholic Cemeteries [www.holyroodcemetery.org](http://www.holyroodcemetery.org)**

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## Holiday Decoration Program

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

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

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

### Christmas (2011)

\_\_\_\_\_ Blankets (Graves) @ \$55 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pillows (Graves) @ \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias (Chapels) @ \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Easter (2012)

\_\_\_\_\_ Palm Crosses (Graves) @ \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lilies (Chapels) @ \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Day Time) Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ Plot \_\_\_\_\_  
or

Chapel / Mausoleum \_\_\_\_\_

Corridor \_\_\_\_\_ Tier \_\_\_\_\_ Crypt # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

**Catholic Cemeteries**

**P.O. Box 182, Westbury, NY 11590-0182**

possible.

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## Christmas Ornaments

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

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## Candle Lighting Service

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

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

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

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

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

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## Grief and Bereavement

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

**Kathleen Logan**

Associate Director for Family Ministry

Bereavement Coordinator

Office of Faith Formation

PO Box 9023

Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023

516-678-5800 ext. 236 klogan@drvc.org

[www.holyroodcemetery.org/bereavement.htm](http://www.holyroodcemetery.org/bereavement.htm)

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

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## Pre-Arrangement

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

**Saturday Masses in the Chapel at 9:30 AM:**

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

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

<u>2011</u>	Oct. 1	<u>2012</u>	Jan. 7	Mar. 3
	Nov. 5		Feb. 4	May 4
	Dec. 3			

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

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

**Forms, Maps, Answers to Questions at**  
[www.holyroodcemetery.org](http://www.holyroodcemetery.org)

**Planting Regulations**

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

**Dates to Remember:**

**Cemetery Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Holy Rood Cemetery, Westbury**  
**Candle Lighting Service at 3:00 PM**

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

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

**Diocesan Bereavement Conference**  
**Saturday, March 17, 2012**

**Change of Address**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

OLD Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

NEW Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Plot Location: Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Range \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_

OR

Mausoleum \_\_\_\_\_ Corridor \_\_\_\_\_ Tier & Crypt (Niche) \_\_\_\_\_

Deceased's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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