



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Memorial Day Mass** – Monday, May 29, 2023

**Our Lady of Sorrows Mass and Rosary** –

Friday, September 15, 2023

**All Souls Day Mass** – Thursday, November 2, 2023

## Monthly Mass Schedule

Come pray for the souls of your beloved dead buried at the cemetery. This Spiritual Work of Mercy continues your relationship with your loved one through the prayers of the Church.

## Gate of Heaven Cemetery

1st Saturday of the month, 9:00 A.M., Cemetery Chapel

## Mount Olivet Cemetery

2nd Saturday of the month, 9:30 A.M., Cemetery Chapel

## Resurrection Cemetery

3rd Saturday of the month, 9:00 A.M., Cemetery Chapel

## All Souls Cemetery

1st Tuesday of the month, 8:00 A.M. Celebrated at Mother Seton Church, 19951 Father Hurley Blvd., Germantown, MD

## Memorials to Enslaved Catholics

Since 2018, parish cemeteries have prayerfully installed memorial markers honoring the unknown enslaved and formerly enslaved men and women buried in Catholic cemeteries. The markers remind cemetery visitors of the notable presence and sacred destiny of the deceased, allowing parishioners to reflect on the contributions enslaved persons made to their community and nation despite their great suffering. *“May this stone be a sign of comfort to the living descendants of those buried here, and a sign of their hope for unending life for their ancestors,”* — **Cardinal Wilton Gregory** prayed at St. Peter Claver parish cemetery, Inigoes, MD, in November 2022.

## Did you know...

Catholic Cemeteries offers exceptional payment terms when purchasing pre-need with 10% down, no interest for two full years on burial lots and three years on crypts and niches.

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON, INC.



# NEWSLETTER

Serving the needs of the faithful in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia

2023

*Dear brothers and sisters,*

Please accept a warm welcome to these *gardens of the saints*. These cemeteries have been respectfully developed for the burial needs of our Catholic families.

Your visit to Catholic Cemeteries probably means that you have experienced the loss of a loved one who rests here within these sacred grounds. Or perhaps you are here to plan for your own burial when the Lord calls you to Himself. Either way, the reality of death always shakes us to the core, especially during challenging times.

Our Catholic belief in the salvation of the soul and the resurrection of the body continues to be a sign of contradiction for those in the culture who “consider death the definitive annihilation of the person or the moment of fusion with Mother Nature or the universe,” as acknowledged in the Church’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (“To Rise with Christ”).

The increasing practice of dividing and scattering human remains points to a cultural dehumanization of the body in death. Yet here at Catholic Cemeteries, the deceased never become *some thing* to be discarded, but always the cherished *someone* who will be resurrected in Christ on the last day.

This foundational tenet of our faith was beautifully articulated by the late Pope Benedict XVI:

*Resurrection “is the greatest ‘mutation’, absolutely the most crucial leap into a totally new dimension that there has ever been in the long history of life and its development. ... a cosmic event, which includes heaven and earth and links them together.”* (15 April 2006)

Brothers and sisters, we are the carriers of this good news about everlasting life within our families, neighborhoods and workplaces. Catholic Cemeteries are a tangible sign of our faith in these sacred mysteries!

Devotedly yours in Christ,

✠ Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington



The Resurrection, Perugino, The Metropolitan Museum of Art



## Archdiocesan Cemeteries

**All Souls Cemetery**, 11401 Brink Rd., Germantown, MD, (301) 428-1995

**Gate of Heaven Cemetery**, 13801 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD, (301) 871-6500

**Mt. Olivet Cemetery**, 1300 Bladensburg Rd., NE., Washington, DC, (202) 399-3000

**Resurrection Cemetery**, 8000 Woodyard Rd., Clinton, MD, (301) 868-5141

**St. Mary’s Queen of Peace Cemetery**, 38888 Dr. Johnson Rd., Mechanicsville, MD, (301) 475-5005



**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington is to perform the Corporal Work of Mercy of burying the dead of the Archdiocese and to witness our faith and hope in the Resurrection of the body in Christ.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What happened to my flowers?

Catholic Cemeteries welcomes the age-old tradition of bringing fresh flowers to the gravesite of a loved one year-round. In fact, this gesture helps contribute to the beauty of the cemetery. Since the sacred grounds are also visited by wildlife, the flowers can sometimes be eaten by deer. Other times, they are removed by the cemetery staff when they begin to wilt and lose their beauty. Artificial flowers are welcome before and after the grass mowing season, since wires in the flower stems pose a safety hazard to the mowers, maintenance staff and cemetery visitors.

### If my parents purchased six sites and they are buried in two of them, who is entitled



### to the remaining four sites?

Catholic Cemeteries follow the inheritance laws of each local jurisdiction. In general, all the children inherit the remaining burial sites of a family grave purchased by their parents, unless otherwise specified in a will. If one child has a need to use one of the sites, the other children must all sign an authorization, as well.

### What should I do if I am still holding the cremated remains of a loved one in my home?

Catholic Cemeteries seeks to serve families who are ready to lay their loved ones to rest. The Church asks that cremated remains be kept in a respectful vessel and always be treated with the same reverence as full body burial. The cemeteries of the Archdiocese have prepared for the interment of cremated remains in ground burial sections, columbariums or mausoleum niches, with varying options for memorialization. Kindly contact the cemetery office to make an appointment for burial arrangements.

### New Sections at Catholic Cemeteries

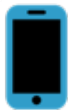
Responding to the future needs of the families of the Archdiocese, Catholic Cemeteries is developing new sections at four major properties. In 2023, Gate of Heaven began opening new sections for inground burial, a Cremation Garden, and an area for the burial of infants.

All Souls Cemetery will begin developing a large new section for cremation and full body burial. Mount Olivet expects to add niches for cremated remains. Planning is underway for Resurrection to expand its garden mausoleum, adding crypts for full body entombment and niches for cremated remains.



***“Let us look upwards,** because we are on a journey toward the Height, whereas the things from down here will not go up there: the best careers, the greatest achievements, the most prestigious titles and awards, accumulated wealth, earthly earnings — all will vanish in an instant, everything. And every expectation placed in those things will be disappointed. And yet, how much time, how much effort and energy do we spend worrying and feeling sad because of these things, letting the tension towards home fade, losing sight of the meaning of the way, of the goal of the journey, the infinite towards which we go, the joy for which we breathe! Let us ask ourselves: do I live out what I say in the Creed, ‘I look forward’ — that is — ‘to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come’?”*

— Pope Francis, Nov. 2, 2022



### Let’s stay in touch

To receive Flocknote updates on cemetery visiting hours, inclement weather closings, monthly Masses and annual events via text message or email:

Text CCAW to 84576 on your cell phone, or sign up on the ccaw.org homepage.



### Employment Opportunities

Join us in this important ministry of the Church. Kindly visit [ccaw.org](http://ccaw.org) for employment opportunities on sacred ground. Second careers welcome.



Catholic Cemeteries Director of Operations Autumn Buck and CEO Lilliam L. Machado receive the wreath placed by The White House Historical Association March 14, 2023 on the grave of Irish immigrant James Hoban, architect of the White House, at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Washington, D.C.



*For more answers to your questions, visit the Catholic Cemeteries website, [ccaw.org/ask-the-managers](http://ccaw.org/ask-the-managers)*