

# Consecrated Grounds

Preparing for Eternity

Spring 2022



**Catholic Cemeteries**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA

*Our Faith is at the Heart  
of All That We Do!*

## Infant of Prague Columbarium

Deacon Steve Hill, Director



As many of you know, in July 2021 a vandal stole our statue of the Infant of Prague from Calvary Cemetery's Holy Innocents section. The Infant of Prague depicts an infant Jesus

in his royal kingship. This statue had stood on our grounds since the late 1960s. While we were heartbroken by this disgraceful act, with a spirit of renewal we will be installing a granite Infant of Prague statue on top of a beautiful columbarium – this new structure has 168 granite cremation niches, some of which are companion niches which can hold two cremation urns.

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Art rendering of the Infant of Prague from Calvary Cemetery's Holy Innocents section.

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**CatholicCem.com/Newsletter**



## Catholic Cemeteries

### ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA

#### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

(78th Street south entrance)  
Calvary Cemetery  
7710 West Center Road  
Omaha, NE 68124  
402-391-3711  
CatholicCem.com

Office hours: 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday

#### FIVE CONSECRATED CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Calvary ..... 7710 W. Center Road  
Resurrection ..... 7800 W. Center Road  
Holy Sepulchre ..... 4912 Leavenworth St.  
St. Mary Magdalene ..... 5226 S. 46th St.  
St. Mary ..... 3353 Q St.

**Gates Open:** 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
(8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during Daylight Saving Time)

#### STAFF MEMBERS

Rev. Michael Grewe ..... Executive Director  
Deacon Steve Hill ..... Director  
Bill Barnes ..... Manager, Memorials and Facilities  
Deacon Jim Tardy ..... Outreach Manager  
Deacon Norm Tierney ..... Manager of Ministry  
Denyse Lafferty ..... Accounting Manager  
Lance Zimmerman ..... Family Service Manager  
Maureen Fitzgerald ..... Family Service Representative  
Kathy Dropinski ..... Memorial Representative  
Peggy Sjuts ..... Memorial Representative  
Rachel Meyer ..... Administrative Assistant  
Dan Gilster ..... Manager, Grounds and Facilities  
Zach Worthing ..... Asst. Manager, Grounds and Facilities  
John Czeranko ..... Caretaker, Holy Sepulchre  
Zach Urwin ..... Caretaker, St. Mary Magdalene  
Greg Boll ..... Operations Representative  
Zach Jeffrey ..... Operations Representative  
Leonard Kline ..... Operations Representative  
Jerry Shotkoski ..... Operations Representative  
Dave Sparks ..... Operations Representative  
Marygrace Worthing ..... Operations Representative  
Steve Goetzinger ..... Part-time Family Service Representative  
Lisa Shaw ..... Part-time Housekeeping

#### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Archbishop George J. Lucas  
Father Michael Grewe  
Father Richard Reiser  
Deacon Steve Hill  
Deacon Randy Grosse  
David Delgado  
Dr. David Volkman  
J. J. Schenkberg  
Andrea McMahon

### Infant of Prague Columbarium – Continued

We are very excited about this new columbarium, especially since this good outcome is coming as a result of something bad happening. With the nicer weather that we experienced in February and March, we anticipate installation in April. We began taking pre-construction orders for these columbarium niches in

early February and we've been very pleased with the response. This new structure and statue will add significantly to the beauty of our Holy Innocents section.

If you have any questions or would like more information, contact one of our Family Services Representatives – we would be happy to discuss this with you.

## Memorial Day 2022 Mass Schedule

### 10 a.m., Monday, May 30



Cemetery	Celebrant(s)	Assisting
Calvary	Archbishop George Lucas – Rev. Michael Grewe	Deacon Norm Tierney
Resurrection	Archbishop Elden F. Curtiss	Deacon Harold Sawtelle
Holy Sepulchre	Rev. John Pietramale	Deacon Tim Mulcahy
St. Mary Magdalene	Rev. James Buckley	Deacon Jim Tardy
St. Mary	Rev. William Safranek	Deacon Ed Bevan

**Please direct questions to Deacon Norm Tierney, Catholic Cemeteries  
Ministry Manager at (402) 391-3711**



### Sue Buras Retires from Catholic Cemeteries

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Sue Buras whose last day at Catholic Cemeteries was February 26 – excitement for Sue as she begins this next phase of her life; sadness that she is leaving.

Sue has been an integral part of the cemeteries for the last six years, as well as during the additional time she worked for Catholic Cemeteries earlier in her career. Her contributions will always be valued. Her hard work, commitment, and dedication are worthy of our appreciation. Sue will be greatly missed.

**On behalf of everyone at Catholic Cemeteries, we wish her the best of luck.**



## Spring Renewal

As the calendar turns toward spring, we look outside and see our brown lawns start to turn toward green, we see buds sprouting on the trees and flowers

beginning to peak out of the ground. While we were fortunate that our winter wasn't overly severe this year, there were times when it seemed like the dreary brown just wouldn't go away. The same sentiment could be said about Lent this year. With Ash Wednesday occurring so late in the season, it seemed like Easter would never arrive – the timing this year is just about the latest in the calendar as is possible.

The renewal we are experiencing in our lawns and gardens can also take place in our hearts. As we finish Lent, finish this time of preparation

of ourselves for Easter and the Easter season, we can look for a similar renewal in our relationship with God. Our sin damages our relationship with God, causes it to deteriorate, turn brown and feel withered. But through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God repairs the damage, renews us and strengthens us with His Grace.

If you haven't yet taken advantage of the wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent, I urge you to do so soon, so that you can let God's Grace pour over you like the spring rains, cleansing you and renewing you for this coming Easter season!

May God Bless you and your families!

Rev. Michael Grewe,  
Executive Director



## Memorial Weekend

Memorial Day is Monday, May 30. Mass is currently planned for all five cemeteries on Memorial Day at 10:00 a.m. All Masses will be celebrated outdoors with the exception of Resurrection Cemetery.

Information tents in Calvary Cemetery will be staffed during the following hours to answer questions, help you locate a loved one's burial space, or to purchase flowers (while available):

<b>Fri. May 27</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sat. May 28</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sun. May 29</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Mon. May 30</b>	<b>9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</b>

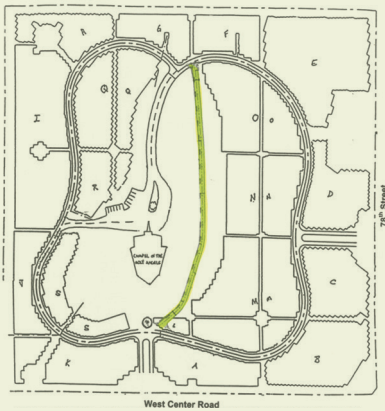


You can find a loved one's location in Resurrection and Calvary cemeteries on your smartphone by going to our website, **CatholicCem.com**, selecting, ("Find a Loved One"), typing in the name and selecting the individual, and then tapping "directions". The application is set up to walk you within a few spaces of the grave in these two cemeteries.

*Gates will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. over the Memorial Day weekend. Bring your family to decorate graves, reminisce and pray for your loved one.*



## Resurrection Cemetery



Yellow Line Indicates Location Where  
New Road Will Be Located

## New Road in Resurrection Cemetery

Deacon Steve Hill, Director

This past winter, we've been working behind the scenes to plan and prepare for a project to add a new north-south road inside Resurrection Cemetery on the west side of sections M, N and O. This new road will open up the western side of these sections as well as provide better access to the interior of the cemetery. We anticipate construction will begin in August 2022.

Much of the space in these sections has been less desirable because of its large distance from the existing roads, and our new road will address this issue. Over the next several months we will further develop our plans for this interior space, including expanding our Family Estate offerings and identifying additional projects to enhance the look and feel of this area. We look forward to communicating our progress on both the road and these associated projects in the months to come!

## Grief Seminars at Catholic Cemeteries

Deacon Jim Tardy, Outreach Manager

While this winter has been mild compared to previous Nebraska winters, it seems much longer than six months since my last communication within our semi-annual newsletter. I pray you have been well and are recovering from the COVID pandemic that has been with us and all that it has brought to us.

Pandemic or not, life has kept us busy as we forge ahead in what we hope is God's plan for all of us as we try to serve you and your families in the difficult time of death.

We have begun a new ministry regarding grief to be held on-site in our office in Calvary Cemetery. It is a six-week series designed specifically in our Catholic faith and traditions to see us through our grief. "The Way" through Grief is a series of sessions concentrating in faith, hope and love as the pillars of our Catholic faith experienced through the Stations of the Cross. It is a

concentration of a series of questions to guide us to what is next after our initial hurt and pain in the loss of our loved one. This series will hopefully bring a sense of hope to those who are learning to step forward to the love of the Father in the realization of the Resurrection.



This journey and a series of presentations is a collaboration of walking the "Via Dolorosa" with our Lord while we proceed in learning and articulating the steps of our changed lives.

This series is a good reminder that we need not venture this road alone. It is a reminder for all of us that our Catholic Cemeteries are here to assist you in this time in your lives when all can seem so chaotic. But in Christ there is a peace to be had as

you venture forward without your loved ones.

It goes without saying, we have three Deacons along with an incredibly compassionate staff available to assist you in the plans after death and in the recovery of the brokenness that death so often brings to each of us.

Blessings, Deacon Jim

# Are You Angry with God?

Deacon Norm Tierney,  
Manager of Ministry



I have encountered several people recently who are angry with God. They have been angry with God because one suffered the loss of a loved one, another suffered the loss of their marriage, and still another perceives God has caused all the wrongs taking place in the world. They believe God has caused wrongs like the current war and suffering of the Ukrainian people, natural disasters caused by floods, fires, and earthquakes resulting in loss of property and life and disease and pandemics bringing illness and death. Their grief is certainly justified because grief is an outpouring of love for those they have lost. Their empathy for those experiencing great injustices in the world is a good and moral response. Righteous anger and sorrow at those situations are also

understandable, but anger at God specifically for causing bad things to happen is misplaced.

God loves us without condition. His love does not require anything from us. He made each of us a distinctly unique child of his own. So why does God make bad things happen? The short answer is: God does NOT make bad things happen. He is all good, all love, He is pure love. The reason bad things happen in this world goes all the way back to the original sin of Adam and Eve in the garden. Since that time, our relationship with God, with the world, and with each other has been fractured. Humanity's original sin allowed evil to flourish. God loved us so much so that He gave us our free will, and because of evil we have misused it since the fall of Adam and Eve.

The next question they posed to me was: Then why does God let bad things happen even if He doesn't cause them? God sees the big picture, He knows what has happened, what is happening now and what will happen in the future. He knows the outcome before it happens. From tragedy, God can make good things happen. Yet since we do not know the mind of God, we cannot see and understand the mystery of His plan. We cannot understand His action or inaction at any particular time. We are called to have faith and trust in God in all situations. We do believe all things will be made clear in the end when we see God face to face.

Until we leave this world, we will face trials, temptations, and tragedy. God

gives us the Church, its sacraments (especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist) and Sacred Scripture to strengthen us and bring us closer to Him during these times. He is always accessible to us in our prayer. At the same time, Satan will attack us at our weak points as we encounter the bad things in our life. He will attempt to cause doubt and anger to grow in us, thereby creating separation from our Heavenly Father. It can be overwhelming and make us want to give up, but that is what evil wants, not what God wants for us! So He sent us Jesus! In the purest act of love, He suffered persecution, beatings and gave up His life on the cross. In this act of love, Christ won humankind's redemption for all sins past, present and future. He also defeated death and opened the gates of Heaven. Our salvation is now ours to lose or to retain. It is our choice to trust in God and His Love for us, or to reject him.

Know it is evil that causes all bad things to happen; nothing evil comes from God. At some point, we will all do battle with evil in this life. Remember you are not alone and in the end, God has already won. In the end, this world will pass away. God will bring about a new world, a new resurrected body, and eternal life without end. There will be no more pain, no more suffering, no more loss. In the storms of life, be at peace knowing God loves you and is with you.

Peace be with you!  
Deacon Norm

## Volunteers Needed for Memorial Weekend

One of Catholic Cemeteries most anticipated holidays of the year is Memorial Day. Once the snow starts to melt and the days get longer, we begin preparing for the thousands of folks that will be coming out to visit their loved ones' graves during this decoration holiday. We couldn't make this weekend happen without the many volunteers that help us to serve our families. Please let us know if you have some time to share with us here at Catholic Cemeteries this Memorial Day weekend. You would be helping families locate their loved ones' graves, selling floral arrangements, handing out flags and supporting our veterans. We provide lunch and snacks while you are here.

**Call to sign up: 402-391-3711 and ask for Peggy**

<b>What:</b>	Answer basic visitor questions – provide grave locations
<b>How Long:</b>	1 (2-hour) shifts between hours below at outdoor tents
<b>Dates/ Times:</b>	Fri., May 27 – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat, May 28 – 10:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sun., May 29 – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mon., May 30 – 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
<b>Where:</b>	Catholic Cemetery 7710 West Center Road
<b>Training:</b>	Will be provided on Wednesday, May 25 at 5:30 p.m.

# Memorial Day Decorations Now Available from Our Online Store

## Visit: [CatholicCem.com/Flowers](http://CatholicCem.com/Flowers)

We are happy to announce our new online flower store. Honor the memory of your loved ones with a flower placement ordered easily through our new store. You can still send in the order form to:

Catholic Cemeteries – 7710 West Center Road – Omaha, NE 68124

Memorial Day decorations will be placed  
beginning **Thursday, May 26.**

**Order early, as quantities are limited.**

**We reserve the right to substitute.**



**Catholic Cemeteries**  
ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA



Complete form and mail to:

Catholic Cemeteries • 7710 W Center Road • Omaha, NE 68124

Orders can also be placed online or by calling 402-391-3711

Name of Deceased	Name of Cemetery	Item Letter	Item Name	Quantity	Unit Price	Total

Ordered by: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle method of payment:    Check    Visa    Mastercard    American Express    Discover

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ V-Code (from back): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (       ) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>A. Artificial Peony Tribute</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$25</b>	<b>B. Artificial Patriotic Tribute</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$25</b>	<b>C. Artificial Spring Tribute</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$25</b>	<b>D. Artificial Large Cross</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$35</b>	<b>E. Artificial Deluxe Memorial Tribute</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$30</b>	<b>F. Artificial Red Roses</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$25</b>	<b>G. Artificial Crypt / Niche Bouquet</b>  <small>*Vase not included</small> <b>\$20</b>	<b>H. Live Planter</b>  <small>Arranged in plastic container</small> <b>\$30</b>
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## Spring – Summer Decoration Guidelines

### Flat Markers:

Only fresh flowers are permitted in permanent and approved in-ground vases from April 1st through March 31st. Appropriate artificial decorations may be placed November 1st through March 31st.

### Monuments:

Appropriate decorations may be placed year round on the base of an upright memorial as long as they do not interfere with the daily operations of the cemetery.

### Mausoleums, Crypts, Niches:

Items can only be placed in or on an approved vase attached to a crypt or niche front. No items can be taped, wired or otherwise attached to the crypt or niche front. Fresh flowers are not permitted in a mausoleum, and will be promptly removed if found.

### Inappropriate Items:

Items not conforming to Catholic Cemeteries' policies, items placed in the ground or those extending onto adjoining graves, crypts or niches will be removed without notice. Out of respect for our consecrated grounds, pets and smoking are not permitted.

### Holidays:

Appropriate decorations may be placed on in-ground graves starting at noon on the Thursday prior to the following holidays: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day and Independence Day. Decorations must be removed prior to gate closing on the Sunday following these holidays; Catholic Cemeteries will dispose of all decorations beginning on the Monday following these holidays. Live flowers in vases will be removed once they begin wilting.