

Consecrated Grounds

Preparing for Eternity

Spring 2024



Catholic Cemeteries
ARCHDIOCESE OF OMAHA

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

Spring Renewal

Rev. Michael Grewe, Executive Director



At this time of year, when the weather teases us with sunny, warmer days despite the fact that we are still in winter, and as Easter draws nearer, I can feel the renewal taking place. In nature, we see the grass starting to

green from the yellowish-brown it's been for months, the buds are springing up on the trees, the colorful flowers are beginning to poke their heads from the ground, and the robins are preparing their nests for new birth.

During Holy Week, we experience the pain and suffering of Jesus, we are present for His death and His being laid in the tomb, and we witness the sheer joy of His resurrection from the dead.

In His pain and suffering, Jesus takes our sinfulness upon Himself; in His dying, He willingly sacrifices Himself in atonement for our sins; and in His resurrection and ascension into heaven, He opens the gates of heaven to us, allowing us the opportunity for everlasting life with Him.

This is the renewal spring points us toward. We have the opportunity to change our lives for the better, in a sense, the opportunity to “clean-house”, casting out from our lives all that is not of God and renewing ourselves with what is of God. We hope you use this upcoming Easter season to truly refresh yourself to allow the beauty of spring and the Resurrected Christ to be present in your heart as well as around you.

May God Bless You!

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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)

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 Deacon Steve Hill Director
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 Deacon Jim Tardy Outreach Manager
 Deacon Norm Tierney Manager of Ministry
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32 cremation niches added at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Mausoleum



Due to a high demand for cremation niches, this spring we will be adding 32 single niches to our Santa Lucia Walk located in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on the front side of the mausoleum. These niches are for those who prefer cremation but want to be above ground. These curbside

niches make it very easy for loved ones to visit year-round. If you are interested in information on these or any of our many other options, please contact one of our [Family Services Representatives](#).

Monthly Memorial Mass Now on Tuesdays

Our Monthly Memorial Mass is now on Tuesdays, generally on the first Tuesday of each month. Come and pray with us at Holy Angels Mausoleum in Resurrection Cemetery. We begin at 5 p.m. with a Rosary followed by Mass at 5:30. We pray specifically for our loved ones who were interred in one of our five Catholic Cemeteries during the prior month, as well as those interred during that month of the prior year. We would love to have you join us.



Remaining 2024 Mass Dates – Tuesdays

April 2	July 2	October 8
May 7	August 6	November 5
June 4	September 10	December 3

Please direct questions to [Deacon Norm Tierney](#).

Lenten Preparations

Deacon Steve Hill, Director



As I'm writing this, we are halfway through our Lenten Journey. It's a great time to pause and reflect on how our Lent is going. Maybe you've "given something up", decided to deprive yourself of some luxury to have a personal participation in Christ's suffering. I've heard people talk about giving up sweets, alcohol, time

on social media or other screen time. Or, maybe you've decided to add something, such as more prayer time or more time reading scripture. How are you doing with your Lenten resolutions? Is whatever you are doing helping you to achieve the goal of becoming closer to Christ this Lent? If not, it's a good time to re-evaluate things.

Remember that Lent is a time of preparation – a time when we attempt to prepare ourselves for Christ's death and resurrection, a time when we prepare ourselves for when we will meet Christ face-to-face. Let the Holy Spirit

come into your life and allow your flame of faith to burn away all that is preventing you from becoming closer to God, all that is preventing you from having a strong, loving, personal relationship with Jesus.

Our time here on earth is limited, and none of us knows which day will be our last. Rather than dwell or lament on the inevitable, let the Holy Spirit into your heart and live each day with the love, peace and charity of Christ so that you will be prepared when you meet Him face-to-face.

New road at Resurrection

As you have probably seen, last fall we installed a new north-south road in Resurrection Cemetery, allowing much easier access to the interior of Sections M, N and O. There will be continued construction this spring and possibly into this summer as we add a sidewalk connecting the new road to Holy Angels Mausoleum.

When this project is fully completed, the new road will provide overflow parking for events at Holy Angels Mausoleum but there will also be significantly easily-accessible monument and flat marker graves and additional family estates to meet your needs. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact one of our [Family Services Representatives](#).



God is with Us

Deacon Norm Tierney,
Manager of Ministry



When we suffer the loss of a child, a spouse, a parent, or friend, we can find ourselves feeling crushed and alone. It also can happen with the death of a marriage resulting from divorce, infidelity, betrayal, even death itself. These can leave us feeling angry and alone. When we experience the loss of a home or other property due to a storm, vandalism, or theft, things can seem out of control. We can again feel angry, lost and alone in our plight. When we lose our independence or our ability to function as we did in the past, we can feel abandoned, angry, and alone.

ALONE, ALONE, ALONE!

Sometimes it is self-imposed because we just can't deal with others at that moment. At other times we may wish people would come to our aid and walk with us through the loss we are experiencing, but we don't want to bother them.

People who mean well might tell us to push through it, to put our nose to the grindstone, to put our head down and get to work, or to put on our big boy / big girl pants. What do these statements even mean? Do any of them change the situation? Are we able on our own to bring back our happiness? Likely not, but there is one thing we can do! There is one person we can turn to! That is the person of the one true God! The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit! Whether in good times or the desolation of bad times, seek the Lord who has loved us since before we were born and continues to love us even after death!

Now you might be thinking, I am not worthy to bother God with my troubles; or I caused my problems and I have to be the one to solve them. First and foremost, none of us is worthy, no one! From our Pope to the lowest person on the earth, we are all sinners, and we are all unworthy. Yes, we are likely the ones who have caused our problems; we should repent with a true and contrite heart, and if we do, God will forgive us.

If we ask, trust Him, and practice patience, He will guide us to a way of resolution. It may not be the way we want, but it will be what is right for God's plan. And His plan is the best for each of us!

I have known people who have experienced significant loss. The ones who got through the loss all have one thing in common, their faith in God. He is the anchor they could hold on to. He gave them purpose and let them know they were not alone. They were not spared the pain or emptiness, but they did not walk through it alone. The Lord was with them and gave them the grace to allow others to also walk with them. Others have not fared as well and no matter what they did, they seemed to not be able to find happiness. The thing these other folks have in common is they have closed themselves off from God and those who love them. But God is waiting for them to turn back to Him. He has not left their side!

God Bless





Journey Through Grief

Deacon Jim Tardy, Outreach Manager

Greetings to all. In this Lent I am thankful for our winter not being too severe apart from early January, but I will continue to pray for moisture so that we have a very lovely spring and a greener summer here on our cemetery grounds.

I thought I might give us some thoughts and reflections with regards to our Stations of the Cross and grieving. For those who are attending our Stations of the Cross on Wednesday evenings I have asked them to ensure they have poured out their grief. What I mean by this is simply, did I/we take the time to express our deep sorrow for our loved ones. As I look back into my own grieving experiences, I found that I had to almost experience desolation in remembering what I shared in life with each of my losses. This allowed me to deepen my faith and gave me a stronger dependence on God the Father who created each of us and loved us first. Much like Lent my life experience in those moments seemed stark, with little direction, life itself seemed muted. In short, I was DOING life, not living life.

Metaphorically, I had to travel to and through the desert to fully re-engage my relationship with Jesus Christ. When we grieve it is somewhat like Lent in many aspects. When I was grieving, I learned how to take my abandonment and loneliness and offer it to our Lord. Much Like our Lenten experiences we are called to offer ourselves up to understand that our Lord never really leaves us and in fact our dependence on Him is even greater. Simply, I have walked with Jesus through these two journeys. I learned to faithfully engage in my grief and in Lent to heal from my losses and my sinfulness to heal physically, mentally, and spiritually in the love of Christ.

During Lent I often gaze upon our Lord and His journey to Calvary, and I realize I share that sadness and agony with him. His cross at times was too heavy to carry and yet he rose and moved forward maybe not sure of his next step yet carried by His Father's love. My friends, I pray you are feeling the weight of the cross this Lent

and come to understand that it is God calling you forward in your journey of life. You and I, like our Lord, must pass through this "Way" so that we can truly experience the grace of Easter. Our journeys of grief and Lent may be different, but we must take these paths so that we become whole again in the love of our merciful Father.

Each of our journeys through grief and Lent are similar in the weight of the Cross being given to us. These journeys are uniquely our own but very necessary to become whole again. If we encounter these moments in our weakest state, then perhaps we are receptive to God and the great power of his love.

These journeys of grief and Lent I pray, teach all of us something regarding our own patience with ourselves and others. I am often not very good with this concept, and I stumble many times, but we all do when we are learning and relying on Grace given to us so freely. The love of Christ in this journey is a hand held out for me to grasp, to lift me up and compel my journey of life forward. I simply must choose to reach for the hand of Jesus Christ. If we do this, we will find comfort, and thank God for the hand of Simon to assist us with the weight of our cross in this world so that we hopefully continue to resurrection.

I pray you will walk the Stations of the Cross and place yourselves in the scene. Who are you, where are you and what is it you are looking for? Ultimately where are you finding comfort in your grief or in this prayerful journey during this Lenten season? I pray for any brokenness you are feeling to be healed and you find peace deep in your hearts for the remainder of your life journey.

My friends, it is in the hope of the Lord that we ultimately find healing. Hope gives us purpose and resolve to move forward in our respective journeys. My friends, this journey in the Via Dolorosa gives us resolve to move forward to live in the promise of resurrection.

Blessings to all.

Holy Sepulchre Serving Veterans Since World War II

The Veteran Section in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (also called Section H) was started in World War II for fallen soldiers and sailors, and it has been serving veterans ever since with each veteran's grave having an engraved granite veteran marker or a cast bronze veteran plaque. These veteran graves are marked with flags by cemetery staff on Veterans Day and Memorial Day. There are still

10 casket-sized locations available for veterans within this contiguous section. We also developed the surrounding area, which created 32 cremation-only graves and 37 casket-sized graves that are available to both veterans and non-veterans. All of these graves allow for a flat marker so the visual focal point of Veteran Section H continues to honor our military veterans.

Spring and Fall Flower Decorations

This spring we will be taking flower orders for **Easter, Mother's Day, or Memorial Day**. They will be placed and removed as follows:

Easter – Will begin placing on March 28th and must be picked up by April 7th or they will be removed and disposed of by the Cemetery on April 8th.

Mother's Day – Will begin placing on May 9th and must be picked up by May 19th or they will be removed and disposed of by the Cemetery on May 20th.

Memorial Day – Will begin placing on May 23rd and must be picked up by June 2nd or they will be removed and disposed of by the Cemetery on June 3rd.

In the Placement Period field below enter **"E"** for Easter, **"M"** for Mother's Day or **"MD"** for Memorial Day.

Holiday Decoration Guidelines.

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, and Father's Day.

Decorations must be removed prior to gate closing on the Sunday following these holidays. Catholic Cemeteries will dispose of all artificial decorations starting on the following Monday.

Fourth of July decorations can be placed from July 1st through July 11th.

Easter, Mother's Day, or Memorial Day Now Available from Our Online Store. Visit: CatholicCem.com/Flowers



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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	Placement Period	Item Number and 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: () _____

<p>A. Artificial Peony Tribute</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$25</p>	<p>B. Artificial Patriotic Tribute</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$25</p>	<p>C. Artificial Spring Tribute</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$25</p>	<p>D. Artificial Large Cross</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$35</p>	<p>E. Artificial Deluxe Memorial Tribute</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$35</p>	<p>F. Artificial Red Roses</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$25</p>	<p>G. Artificial Crypt / Niche Bouquet</p>  <p>*Vase not included \$20</p>	<p>H. Live Planter</p>  <p>Arranged in plastic container \$35</p>
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Spring – Fall Decoration Guidelines Bill Barnes, Manager Memorials and Facilities

Gravesites.

Only fresh flowers are permitted in permanent and approved in-ground vases from April 2nd through November 1st. Appropriate artificial decorations may be placed November 2nd through March 31st.

Vases.

Certain cremation niches were not originally designed or intended to have cemetery-approved flower vases attached to the front cover. Unapproved vases are not to be attached and will be removed without notice. In-ground vases should be left turned down in the cemeteries when not in use.

Monuments.

Appropriate decorations may be placed year-round on the base of an upright memorial so 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.

If you have any questions regarding these policies, please contact the cemetery office at 402-391-3711.