

2015

OUR MISSION

To perform the Corporal Work of Mercy of burying the dead and to care for their resting places; to preserve, promote and protect the Church's teachings on death and resurrection; and to console the bereaved.



The
**CATHOLIC
CEMETERIES
ASSOCIATION**

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

OUR CATHOLIC CEMETERIES: A GREAT SOURCE OF COMFORT FOR US

by Most Reverend David A. Zubik, D.D.

Typically, we don't like to consider our own mortality, but it is, as we know, a simple fact of life.

This is driven home most vividly in the loss of a loved one. Yet, as Catholics, our faith tells us that death is a new beginning, it is the time of transition, when we achieve what we have journeyed toward throughout our entire life.

A popular reading at funeral liturgies is from the Old Testament Book of Wisdom: "The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace" (Wis.3:1-3). These words of Sacred Scripture are a great source of comfort and consolation for us, knowing that our loved one is at peace.

Our sixteen Catholic cemeteries serve as a very real presence of that peace we long for in the difficult times following the loss of a loved one. When we visit these sacred places throughout the diocese, we are reminded, in a tangible way, of the Paschal Mystery and our share in that mystery of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Burial



within a Catholic cemetery declares our beliefs and our faith as Catholics. It is within these holy grounds that we are reminded to hold onto joyful hope for Christ's return in glory.

When we think of our Catholic cemeteries, hopefully we are also reminded of the importance of making preparations for our own eventual death. In doing so, we remove a great burden from those left behind after our passing. Recognizing our own mortality also calls us to prepare

for our own death; to peer into the future; knowing we too will share in Christ's resurrection.

In these beautiful places of solace, we take comfort in knowing that the battle has been won; there is no more pain, no more suffering for those interred there. Our Catholic cemeteries provide that great source of comfort for us; may they continue to do so for future generations as well.

Grateful for our belief that "Nothing is Impossible with God," I am

Your brother in Christ,

+ *David A. Zubik*

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Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh





2015

WE HAVE NEW INTERNET TECHNOLOGY

Search our burial records on the web!

Are you looking to visit a loved one's grave, but aren't sure where it's located? We're here to help. In order to assist families in locating loved ones, we have added the Search Burial Records to our redesigned website, www.ccapgh.org. This exciting new feature allows visitors to search for their loved ones' records. The records indicate the specific cemetery and location that the individual is buried.

Don't have time to search before you visit? No problem we have an app for that! Both iPhone and Android users can use our Search Burial Records on their mobile phones by downloading our app. To find it, search "Pittsburgh Catholic Cemeteries" in the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. The app is free to all users.

In addition to finding a location, visitors have the option to create a personalized memorial page for their

loved one. We encourage family and friends to post obituaries, memories, life history, pictures and much more. Be sure to visit the website and start your search today!

If you would like to stay up-to-date with all things CCA, be sure to connect with us on social media. We strive to post the latest information regarding cemetery projects, news and events. Find us on Facebook, Google+ and LinkedIn by searching "The Catholic Cemeteries Association."

Questions or comments on any of our updates are always welcome. Please contact CCA's Marketing and Social Media Coordinator Emily Meeder at meeder@ccapgh.org.



CREMATION AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Guidelines to be followed

The Catholic Church has officially allowed cremation since 1963 with the expectation that the body would be brought to the Church for the funeral liturgy followed by cremation. More recently, the Holy See has authorized the celebration of funeral liturgies in the United States with cremated remains present. According to the Order of Christian Funerals, "The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scatter-

ing cremated remains on the sea, from the air, on the ground, or keeping cremated remains in the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires." (Order # 417) This is why the burial of ashes in the earth or placement in a tomb or columbarium is called for. The Catholic Church desires to keep holy the burial places of the dead – and to make them places of prayer. This is why it is always desirable to commit the remains of our loved ones in a blessed cemetery with appropriate marks of remembrance. For more information on cremation and the proper disposition of cremated remains please contact The Catholic Cemeteries Association by calling 877-886-7526.

Catholic Cemeteries - Reliqueries of Saints

718 Hazelwood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2807
412-521-9133

VISIT US ON THE WEB:
WWW.CCAPGH.ORG
WWW.CATHOLICFUNERALPLAN.COM

THE CATHOLIC FUNERAL PLAN™

Still The Best Long-Term Nursing Care Resource to Protect Your Assets

The unfortunate reality today is that many of us are living longer and the odds that we will enter a nursing home have increased dramatically. The cost of skilled nursing home care today is over \$8,000 per month. Many families are forced to spend their entire life savings, sell their homesteads and cash in their life insurance to pay for their care before they can qualify for Medicaid or Veterans' benefits. Many people are not aware that Medicaid will only pay for an individual's nursing home care once someone has exhausted all other resources.

With proper planning you can put in place a plan to protect and shelter some of your hard-earned assets. A certified Elder Law attorney can assist families with these issues and guide them through the process.

One of the planning techniques utilized by Elder Law attorneys is to have families pre-plan for their burial and funeral expenses using The Catholic Funeral Plan™. The Plan allows families to make decisions about their funeral and burial arrangements, and set aside money for these expenses without jeopardizing their eligibility for Medicaid. Not only will this shelter these funds from being used for nursing home care, but it will assure that their funeral and burial arrangements will be carried out according to their wishes, without creating a financial or emotional burden on their surviving family.

A major benefit of the Plan is the flexibility that it affords. Families enrolled are under no contractual ob-

ligation to use any particular funeral home, and they are free to change any of their funeral preferences, including the funeral home, without penalty. The Plan can be used at any funeral home in the United States.



*The Catholic
Funeral Plan™*

Another important benefit of The Catholic Funeral Plan™ is that the family maintains control of the disposition of the funds at the time of death, not the funeral home. A designated family member is selected to be in charge, and the funeral home is paid only when the services are delivered as promised. All funds in excess of the funeral costs are returned to the family of the deceased.

The Catholic Funeral Plan™ was instituted over 15 years ago to provide Catholic families with a faith-based alternative for planning their funerals. It has proven to be not only an effective way of avoiding the short comings of a typical funeral arrangement process, but it is an effective planning tool for those entering a nursing home and eventually applying for Medicaid and Veterans' benefits.

For more information on The Catholic Funeral Plan™ and a list of certified Elder Law attorneys call 1-877-866-7526 or complete the attached reply card.

2201 Babcock Boulevard, Suite 1

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Toll free 1-877-886-7526

WWW.CATHOLICFUNERALPLAN.COM

“Honor Our Mothers

Honor Our Fathers

and

Honor Our Veterans”



Design specialists are ready to assist

Every life has its own story to tell. There are many different ways in which families view and think about memorialization. Some view a memorial as a tribute to a loved one, artwork, and some see a memorial as just a piece of stone. None of these opinions are wrong and they should all be respected. The one universal truth about a memorial is that it is the only purchase that will be made once, if done properly, and will last forever. Since a memorial is not a commodity that we are all familiar with investing in, it is our goal to provide you and your family with information pertaining to the selection of a memorial. The Catholic Cemeteries Association has professionally trained staff to help you create a loving and meaningful monument or grave memorial.

Working closely with family and friends allows us to get to know your departed loved ones and suggest many creative ways to remember them. Your cher-

ished photos can be used in the design of a memorial along with many other personalization options. Please allow us to create a unique memorial with you by calling your Catholic cemetery and arranging a memorial design session.



CEMETERY RULES AND REGULATIONS

Please Be Reminded

In the spirit of maintaining the sacred nature and dignity of the Catholic cemetery, the following will be enforced. We ask for your understanding and your cooperation.

Permitted:

- Planting in approved planting bed up to one foot in front of memorial. Area is to be maintained free of weeds and grass.
- Artificial flowers:
 - in approved permanent vases
 - in approved planting beds
 - on an upright memorial
- Faded, rotten or worn flowers will be removed.
- Christmas decorations from the first Sunday in Advent to February 28.
- Easter decorations from the first Sunday in Lent through Ascension Thursday.
- Other holiday decorations such as Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day and All Souls Day.
- Approved solar vigil lights.

Not Permitted:

- Planting or decorating during the general cemetery cleanup occurring in the month of March.
- Any shrubs, trees or bushes.
- Anything that represents a safety hazard such as: statues, borders, marble chips, fencing, wire, toys, glass, rocks, bottles, cans, stones or gravel.
- Flowers or objects that are unsightly or detract from the spiritual setting of a Catholic cemetery.
- Pets, trail vehicles, littering and loitering.
- Hanging items on tree branches.
- Regrettably, we cannot be responsible for anything placed at the grave or crypt site.



Our resources are varied



PUBLIC SPEAKERS?

We have them!

If your group is looking for a speaker at your next gathering, The Catholic Cemeteries Association has speakers available. Topics include: Estate Planning, Medicaid Planning, Pre-planning for Cemetery, Funeral and Cremation. To check availability or schedule a speaker for your next event please call 1-877-886-7526.

PRAYER SERVICES

You are invited

The Catholic Cemeteries Association holds events throughout the year in which everyone is invited to gather together in one of our many chapels to pray for and remember our dearly departed. We offer monthly memorial prayer services, All Saints & All Souls Day services, Memorial Day events and Stations of The Cross. Everyone is invited to attend these events and bring family and friends. All of our prayer services are coordinated by Pastoral Consultant, Sister Patricia Buranosky OSF. If you would like additional information on any of these very special events, please call your local cemetery directly or you may call The Catholic Cemeteries Association toll free at 1-877-886-7526.



FAITH. FAMILY. COUNTRY. In recognition of the sacrifices made for us by our veterans, The Catholic Cemeteries Association provides resting places in each of the diocesan cemeteries honoring those who have faithfully served our country. Recently, we have established two new sections. One is in Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Peter's Township and the other is in Good Shepherd Cemetery, Monroeville. These sections are unique in that they not only provide burial space for the veteran and spouse, but for additional family members as well.

NEED A TAX DEDUCTION?

Gifts & Contributions

The Catholic Cemeteries Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and all charitable donations are tax deductible according to IRS regulations. We work hard to make sure that every cemetery location is well maintained and economically accessible to all families that enter our gates. Because of this, we are asking that you consider making a generous donation. There are many ways to donate, such as: Memorial Gifts, Gifts through Wills, Life Insurance, Foundation or Corporate Gifts, Appreciated Stock, Gifts of Cash or donate back unused or unwanted burial spaces for the less fortunate. Your gift allows us to continue with our Mission of service.

Thank You !

PERPETUAL CARE

Costly Maintenance

At The Catholic Cemeteries Association, we are serious about Perpetual Care. Each year our dedicated employees work hard to keep all of our cemeteries maintained as we care for the resting places of your loved ones. With more than 25 miles of roads, we are paving sections each and every year. With the harsh winters that we have experienced these last few years, paving has become a very expensive part of our annual budget. Additionally, this past year there were many rooftops replaced as well as concrete sidewalks, patios and updated mausoleum heating and air-conditioning systems.



The sensible choice for Catholic families

Approved and Endorsed by The Diocese of Pittsburgh



"The Catholic Funeral Plan™ is an important planning tool to insure that our funeral arrangements are carried out in conformity with our faith and the norms of the Church, and to insure that they are carried out according to your wishes."

--Bishop David A. Zubik

The Secure, Sensible Choice for the Future...

Why more than 8 in 10 families* recommend The Catholic Funeral Plan™

- You control the funds until needed
- Flexibility to make changes with no penalty
- All excess funds returned to the family
- Freedom to choose any funeral home
- Endorsed by Elder Law Professionals
- Security for your monies
- No binding contracts
- Nationwide protection
- Endorsed by the Diocese of Pittsburgh
- 21,000+ Catholics have chosen the plan

Before you pre-plan any funeral arrangements, find out about the many advantages of The Catholic Funeral Plan™. You will be happy that you did.

Please do not wait~
Call Today!

2201 Babcock Boulevard, Suite 1
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Toll free 1-877-886-7526
www.catholicfuneralplan.com

*Results of an independent study conducted by Campos Market Research of Pittsburgh



YES! WE HAVE A DIOCESAN CEMETERY NEAR YOU!

All Saints Catholic Cemetery
1560 Brinton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15221-4899
412-271-5950

Calvary Catholic Cemetery
718 Hazelwood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2807
412-421-9959

Christ Our Redeemer Catholic Cemetery
204 Cemetery Lane
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-2722
412-931-2206

Good Shepherd Catholic Cemetery
733 Patton Street
Monroeville, PA 15146-4530
412-824-0355

Holy Savior Catholic Cemetery
4629 Bakerstown Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044-8993
724-625-3822

Holy Souls Catholic Cemetery
100 Resurrection Road
Moon Township, PA 15108-7759
724-695-2999

Mount Carmel Catholic Cemetery
7601 Mount Carmel Road
Verona, PA 15147-1518
412-241-1260

Our Lady of Hope Catholic Cemetery
1898 Bakerstown Road
Tarentum, PA 15084-3213
724-224-2785

Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery
2900 Washington Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3278
724-941-7601

Resurrection Catholic Cemetery
100 Resurrection Road
Moon Township, PA 15108-7759
724-695-2999

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery
97 Sacred Heart Road
Monongahela, PA 15063-9605
724-258-2885

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery
1443 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, PA 15137-2448
412-823-9111

St. Mary Catholic Cemetery
Penn Avenue & 45th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15224
412-421-9959

St. Stanislaus Catholic Cemetery
St. Anthony Catholic Cemetery
700 Soose Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15209-1544
412-821-4324

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

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