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# nolic Cemeteries

Serving Northeast Kansas • Fall/Winter 2012

As we experience increasing numbers of individuals and families making pre-arrangements, our Catholic Cemeteries' team members are grateful for the opportunity to serve in this archdiocesan ministry and to respond to your needs.

## From the executive director



This year-end newsletter provides an excellent overview of enhancements and events at our Catholic cemeteries in 2012. It was a busy year and one in which we fulfilled the three

dimensions of our Mission Statement: "burying the dead with dignity and respect; comforting the living with compassion and concern; and providing sacred space for remembering."

Record numbers of parishioners and family members attended Memorial Day Masses at our Catholic cemeteries. Through most of the year, weather extremes proved challenging for landscaping and outdoor events. But in spite of the heat and cold, people came to our cemeteries for quarterly Memorial Masses and All Souls' Day and Veterans Day observances.

With the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial and Veterans Burial Section at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, we anticipate cultivating relationships with local Veterans to assist with observances at this western Wyandotte County location. The annual Veterans Day ceremony at Resurrection Cemetery is a popular event allowing special time and space for remembering persons who have served our country.

While these events and special occasions are highly visible expressions of our Mission, our Catholic Cemeteries' team members stri to exemplify the Mission daily. They do this as they respond to persons interested in pre-arrangements or assist with at-need requests on the loss of loved ones. Burying the dead with dignity and respect, and comforting the living are the heart and soul of what we do year-round.

# Blessings of this holy season!

May Christ who came to dwell among us fill your heart and home with abundant grace and lasting peace this Christmas season and throughout the New Year.

Photo of stained glass in Holy Family Mausoleum, Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan.



Three new sections on the southwest side of Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan., will feature religious statuary as represented in this digitally designed photo. Statuary will be installed over a three-year period. Pre-arrangements can be made for burial spaces that will be available in early 2013.



# Three new sections to open at Resurrection

To accommodate increased demand for pre-arrangements and burial space, Catholic Cemeteries is opening three new sections on the southwest side of Resurrection Cemetery. This will result in 3,000 additional burial spaces available starting in early 2013 at the 83rd and Quivira Road, Lenexa, Kan., location. Each section of the newly developed Resurrection Gardens will feature a large statue on the gradually sloping landscape. A statue of the risen Christ will be the first installed at the far south end. A pieta (statue of Mary holding Jesus after he was removed from the cross) will be positioned at the south end of the middle section. Completing the visual artistry will be a crucifixion

scene at the south end of the north section of the new gardens. A columbarium (for holding cremated remains) will form the base of each statue. Statuary will be installed over a three-year period, or sooner if donors designate and make memorial contributions. The three sections will offer burial rights for above ground monuments with alternating rows for lawn-level markers. In the southernmost section, a minimum of four burial spaces must be purchased; a minimum of two burial spaces in the other two sections.

We thank you for your trust and confidence as we continue to serve Catholics and their families in Northeast Kansas. In this Year of Faith, we pray many blessings on you and your loved ones – a year of health, happiness, hope, charity and peace.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Robert W. Chenoweth **Executive** Director

Catholic Cemeteries planted 14 trees in this new garden area and has completed road work and seeding.

## To view burial space options or for more information, contact us at 913-371-4040 or information@cathcemks.org.

For more information about services and pre-planning, call 913-371-4040 (Kansas City area) or 785-272-0820 (Topeka area); email information@cathcemks.org; or visit www.cathcemks.org.



Office and more information 913-371-4040 (Kansas City area) 785-272-0820 (Topeka area) information@cathcemks.org www.cathcemks.org

**St. John Cemetery** 36th and State Ave. Kansas City, Kan. Mt. Calvary Cemetery 38th and State Ave. Kansas City, Kan. **Gate of Heaven Cemetery** 126th and Parallel Kansas City, Kan.

# Recap of developments at Catholic cemeteries

In addition to assisting Catholics of Northeast Kansas with pre-planning and at-need burial arrangements, Catholic Cemeteries is committed to beautification and upkeep of our eight locations as holy ground.

Challenged by this year's drought, we continued to maintain the cemeteries with mowing and road repairs. Like many property owners, we faced air conditioning repairs and replaced one unit in the St. Joseph Mausoleum at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan.

## Mt. Calvary, Topeka

In spite of unfavorable weather, we made several enhancements at our Catholic cemeteries. At **Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, Kan.,** we:

- Installed wrought iron fencing on the east and south sides.
- Installed new gates on the east side, providing the ability to secure access to the cemetery during evenings and nights.
- Installed and blessed the new Holy Family Columbarium for cremated remains.



A new fence and gates were among major enhancements this year at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, Kan.



Following Memorial Day Mass at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, Father Tim Haberkorn, pastor, Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish, blessed the new Holy Family Columbarium on the west side of the cemetery.

- Sodded the priests' burial section.
- Trimmed trees.
- Enhanced office space.
- Began developing a master site plan.

Larry Krische, family service counselor and member of Christ the King Parish, Topeka, says that the progress at Mt. Calvary has been well-received with positive feedback from the region's Catholic community. "The many improvements reflect that good things are happening at Mt. Calvary," Larry says. "Catholic Cemeteries is demonstrating that we care about the families we serve. We strive to exemplify this through personal interactions, services provided and the appearance of the cemetery."

#### Gate of Heaven, KCK

At **Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan.,** we installed and dedicated the new Veterans Memorial. (See related article and photo, page 3.) On the east side of Gate of Heaven near the Veterans Memorial, we introduced the new burial section for Veterans and spouses. Grading, roadwork and seeding preceded installation of the memorial.

#### St. Joseph, Shawnee

With no space remaining in the existing columbarium, we installed a new monument for cremated remains at **St. Joseph Cemetery, Shawnee, Kan.** The granite columbarium is located in the northeast section of the cemetery and surrounded by cremation benches (each of which will hold two sets of cremated remains).

#### **Donations for trees**

The drought was hard on trees, a number of which need to be replaced in four of our eight cemeteries – Gate of Heaven, Resurrection, St. John (Lenexa) and Mt. Calvary (Topeka). To contribute toward purchase of new trees as a memorial or charitable donation, please send your check payable to Catholic Cemeteries with a note designating the contribution is for trees and which cemetery. You can mail your tax-deductible donation to Catholic Cemeteries, P.O. Box 2327, Kansas City, KS 66110-0327.

## Limited space available at Mt. Calvary, KCK

If you have family buried at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, 38th and State Avenue, Kansas City, Kan., and/or you had planned to be buried there but haven't made pre-arrangements, contact one of our family service counselors at your earliest convenience. Or, consider starting a new family tradition by making burial arrangements at nearby Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 126th and Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, Kan.

Burial space is limited at Mt. Calvary, KCK. Only six spaces with three upright monument rights remain. These are located on the far west (43rd Street) side of the cemetery. A total of 277 quality, flat marker spaces are available in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Section and in Section 6G, located west of the mausoleum. These sections can accommodate two, four or eight family members on a limited basis. (Our Lady of Guadalupe has 134 spaces; Section 6G, 143 spaces.) Only 47 crypts remain on the outside north wall of St. Joseph Mausoleum at the cemetery.

Mt. Calvary, KCK, was established in 1901. To accommodate westward growth, Catholic Cemeteries opened Gate of Heaven Cemetery in 1996. Gate of Heaven serves all parishes of Wyandotte County and the surrounding communities.

# Catholic Cemeteries welcomes new Board member

Steven McCoy, member of Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, Topeka, Kan., joined the Board of Trustees of Catholic Cemeteries of Northeast Kansas earlier this year. Steve has served as a member of the Mt. Calvary Cemetery Advisory Board, Topeka, since October 2010, when that group formed.

Retired from the Kansas Highway Patrol and currently serving as a special deputy U.S. Marshal Service court security officer, Steve has had a lifetime career in law enforcement. He was a military policeman in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971 and served briefly with the Riley County Police. He was with the Highway Patrol 23 years, retiring as a sergeant, and then with the Veterans Administration Police in Topeka.

Originally from Ohio, Steve worked in the quality control lab of General Electric in Coshocton, Ohio. He earned his associate degree from Barton County Community College, Great Bend, Kan.



Mt. Calvary Cemetery 158th and S. Hwy. 169 Olathe, Kan. Resurrection Cemetery 83rd and Quivira Lenexa, Kan. **St. John Cemetery** 89th and Pflumm Lenexa, Kan. **St. Joseph Cemetery** 61st and Quivira Shawnee, Kan. Mt. Calvary Cemetery 801 S.W. Westchester Rd. Topeka, Kan.

# A busy autumn season at Catholic cemeteries

Starting in late October, Catholic Cemeteries of Northeast Kansas provided several opportunities for remembering deceased loved ones and paying tribute to living and deceased Veterans.

## New Veterans Memorial and Section Gate of Heaven Cemetery, KCK



Father Gary Pennings (right), vicar general of the archdiocese, and Father Jeremiah Spencer (left, in vestments) blessed the new Veterans Memorial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan. The Lt. Wm. T. Fitzsimons Assembly 0280 Knights of Columbus formed the honor guard. Also pictured (with his back to the camera) is Robert W. Chenoweth, executive director, Catholic Cemeteries.

On Oct. 27, Father Gary Pennings and Father Jeremiah Spencer presided at the Mass and dedication of the new Veterans Memorial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan. Father Pennings is vicar general of the archdiocese; Father Spencer is vice chairman of the Catholic Cemeteries Board of Trustees. The Lt. Wm. T. Fitzsimons Assembly 0280 Knights of Columbus formed an honor guard for the Mass and dedication. Michael Steimel, music director, Church of the Nativity Parish, Leawood, Kan., was the cantor/song leader.

The new Veterans Memorial features five monuments and flags representing the five branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. Connecting the monuments are granite walls, on which family members and friends can remember living and deceased Veterans by having their names engraved. Names can also be engraved on bricks that line the path leading up to the memorial. Surrounding the memorial is a section of the cemetery designated for burials of Veterans and their spouses. Contact Catholic Cemeteries for more information about memorial giving opportunities and pre-arrangements.

## All Souls' remembrance Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka

to remember their serious responsibilities to "accompany the deceased in prayer and to pray for the release of souls from purgatory." Father Brian Schieber, vicar general of the archdiocese and pastor, Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, celebrated the Mass. Providing liturgical music were Sandy Carter, Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish and Mater Dei Parish, and John Reb, Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish, Topeka.

## Veterans Day observance Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa

Cold, damp weather didn't dampen spirits of the American Legion Band that provided patriotic



Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel James E. Ludwikoski, pastor, Good Shepherd Parish, Shawnee, Kan., offered a reflection on what it means to be a Veteran and led the group in prayer at the Nov. 11 observance at Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan. music for the annual Veterans Day observance on Sunday, Nov. 11, at Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan. In his remarks, Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel James E. Ludwikoski, pastor, Good Shepherd Parish, Shawnee, Kan., answered the question "What is a Veteran?" by applying letters of the word to representative themes.

- V Virtue reflected by knowing how to sacrifice for others.
- **E Example** of practicing what the Veteran preaches by living ideals.
- **T Tenacity** by having a focus and being persistent and on task.
- E Enemy with the recognition that not everyone is "nice" to our country and that this calls for action to protect and defend.
- R Religious as demonstrated by love of God, one another and family members and friends.
- A Affirmation of seeing the positive and knowing what is worth fighting and dying for in service to our country.
- **N Nation** which calls the Veteran and for which he/she serves.



The American Legion Band provided a patriotic musical prelude at the Veterans Day observance at Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan.

## People, serene location appeal to office coordinator

Working with people is an everyday job bonus for Joann Gough-Stallbaumer, office coordinator at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, Kan. In addition, Joann appreciates the





Father Brian Schieber, archdiocesan vicar general and pastor, Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, celebrated Mass on Nov. 3 at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka. Pictured left to right, are Father Schieber; Deacon Dan Ondracek, Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish; Steve McCoy, Catholic Cemeteries Board trustee; and Larry Krische, family service counselor.

Topeka area parishioners and family members attended an outdoor Mass on Saturday, Nov. 3, where Deacon Dan Ondracek, Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, encouraged them in his homily beauty and serenity of the cemetery.

"I like helping people who come into the office," she says, "and the staff with whom I work."

Joann joined the Catholic Cemeteries' team in August 2011. She learned about the job opening from her father who has worked with Catholic Cemeteries doing monument repairs and engraving.

In her role, Joann is the administrative support person in the Topeka office that is open Monday through

Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. She processes contracts and payments, helps families locate gravesites of loved ones and answers questions about pricing and cemetery regulations. She is also transitioning paper records into an electronic system.

Originally from Lenexa, Kan., Joann attended Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kan., and Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan. Joann, her husband and four children relocated to Topeka in 2002. Her past work experience includes property management and administrative assistant roles. Joann is a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Lawrence, Kan.

# Record numbers attend Memorial Day Masses

An estimated 500 persons attended the outdoor Memorial Day Mass at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka. Father Tim Haberkorn, pastor, Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish, celebrated Mass and preached the homily with Father **Catholic Cemeteries Staff** Vincent Krische concelebrating. Linda Ulses, Jane Ziegler, Stephanie Schmitz and the Mother Teresa

Celebration

Choir provided

liturgical music.

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Record numbers of persons attended Memorial Day Masses at our Catholic cemeteries on May 28. We estimated approximately 500 persons at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Topeka, Kan.; 400 at Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan.; 250 at St. Joseph Cemetery, Shawnee, Kan.; and smaller numbers at other cemetery locations. This speaks to the value area parishioners and family members find in the many special services provided by Catholic Cemeteries.

## 2013 Memorial Mass schedule

Catholic Cemeteries hosts Masses quarterly to remember persons who have been buried at all of our cemeteries during the preceding three months. These Masses are open to all families with loved ones buried in our Catholic cemeteries.

Masses are offered simultaneously at 9 a.m. at Holy Redeemer Chapel, Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Kansas City, Kan., and Holy Family Chapel, Resurrection Cemetery, Lenexa, Kan. The Mass schedule for 2013 is:

- Saturday, Feb. 2
- Saturday, Aug. 3
- Saturday, May 4 • Saturday, Nov. 2

## **Opportunity to gain** an indulgence

An indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from Nov. 1-8; on other days of the year, it is a partial indulgence.

4 Catholic Cemeteries • Serving Northeast Kansas • Fall/Winter 2012

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