HERITAGE

NEWS FOR FRIENDS OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Dave Kemp

This past November 30 was a very sad day for all of us at TCC. Dave Kemp, long-time employee and friend journeyed into eternal life. Dave had given us 53 years of ministry and service with great skill, commitment and laughter. His creative fingerprints are on every one of our cemeteries. Now it is our turn to care for him until the end times. We miss you, Dave.

Dave driving cemetery equipment August of 1996

Memorial Day 2023!

Mark your calendars now and join us for Mass on Memorial Day, May 29, at 10:00am

Mass will be held at 10am rain or shine at our cemeteries: Calvary, St. Paul; Gethsemane, New Hope; Resurrection, Mendota Heights; St. Mary's, Minneapolis. Please note that there will be no Mass at St. Anthony's Cemetery. Refreshments will be served at all of the four cemeteries.

Grave decorations for Memorial Day

During the days leading up to and immediately following Memorial Day, artificial flowers, potted plants, decorations, and other ornaments are allowed. These types of decorations may be placed on graves beginning at noon on Thursday, May 25, and remain there until Sunday, June 4. Decorations should be removed by the June 4th date. The cemetery staff will begin pickup on Monday, June 5. After that time, we require fresh-cut flowers only during the growing season. (scan for decoration policy)

Commemorating veterans, living and deceased

At each of the Memorial Day Masses, The Catholic Cemeteries will offer a special recognition of and prayer for all veterans. Cards will be available to write the names of living and deceased veterans. Thes cards will be brought forward at the offertory and all will be remembered in the Mass intentions. Look for the tables with cards in or near the tents that are set up for Mass. They will also be available in the Resurrection and Gethsemane cemetery offices the week before Memorial Day.

Want to Volunteer? If you would like to volunteer at any of the Masses, please contact Jamie Moloney at jmoloney@catholic-cemeteries.org.

Memorial Day Weekend Office Hours

Calvary, Gethsemane, Resurrection, St. Mary's

Saturday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Monday: 8:00am - 2:00pm

St. Anthony's office will not be open. Call Gethsemane at 763-537-4184 for assistance.

Labyrinth Grief Retreat

Sheryl Rose walking the Labyrinth at Resurrection Cemetery

Journeying Through Grief and the Labyrinth: Walking a Path of Prayer and Meditation for Healing was a retreat offered in our Mausoleum Chapel at Resurrection Cemetery on January 21 and March 4. Sheryl Rose, Spiritual Director & Labyrinth Facilitator, led the two-hour retreat, which was offered to anyone who had buried a loved one in 2022 at any of our cemeteries. The Catholic Cemeteries wanted to offer this opportunity as a way of helping people journey through their grief by walking the labyrinth as a way of healing.

The labyrinth is a spiritual tool for integrating mind, body, and spirit and as a metaphor for our life's journey. It is an ancient meditation and prayer path used all over the world for healing and prayer. During medieval times over twenty European cathedrals had a labyrinth inlaid into the floor, and it would be a place of pilgrimage. One such cathedral in Chartres, France welcomes pilgrims to this day, as it has the original inlaid labyrinth intact for walking and prayer.

Those who attended were so appreciative of this opportunity to reflect on the life of the one they lost, that we will be offering more retreats in the future.

Scan the QR code for upcoming events.

Cemetery Updates

CALVARY

- Another road was finished, seeded, and pegged.
- Old entrance was fenced off with the ground seeded. There are no plans for development on this part of land at this time.
- Barn was emptied and will be taken down in the spring of 2023.
- Working on erosion issues around the mausoleum.

ST. ANTHONY'S

- Still working with the city to resolve the water issue.

GETHSEMANE

- Sidewalks and steps were replaced in front of the mausoleum.
- Two new columbaria were set in the Rosary Garden area.
- Mausoleum was re-caulked.
- Ordered a columbarium/ossuary and a Visitation statue for placement in late spring.
- Had bee hives placed in the cemetery away from the public for pollinator sustainability project.

RESURRECTION

- Seventy-one trees with emerald ash borer disease were taken down.
- Lexington Ave. restoration project was completed.
- New signage was installed at both entrances.
- The pond area was planted with native plants.
- The old landscaping around the corporate office was removed and new planting was done.
- Additional tablets were added to The Children's Memorial and the side of the hill was finished with seeding and mulching.

ST. MARY'S

- New sidewalks installed around the mausoleum which included a handicap ramp.
- New retaining walls near the mausoleum and the front office entry were built.

Entrance Feature at Resurrection

When anyone enters the main entrance of Resurrection Cemetery, one of the first things that one sees is what appears to be a "temple" in front of the pine trees. When it was erected many years ago, it was supposed to remind visitors of a structure often found in an English Garden.

This past fall we had the feature inspected, and we were told that time and weather has had an adverse effect on the concrete. In looking at repair costs, it would cost more to repair than to totally replace it. We are presently considering a replacement of this feature. In the past, we thought a statue of a guardian angel with children would be best, as it is so close to the Children's Memorial Garden. However, recent discussion focused around a statue of the resurrected Christ, as it is the namesake of this cemetery.

No matter what we decide, the fact is that we must have the current feature removed as soon as possible due to the instability of the concrete. We are not sure at this time if it will be removed prior to Memorial Day or sometime soon after.

No project moves quickly in cemetery life. Funding is a main concern and, of course, we want whatever we decide to put in place to be worthy and evoke a sense of hope to those who enter our property.

If you are interested in helping to fund this project, you may visit Catholic-Cemeteries.org/statuary-fund or scan the the QR code to donate to our Statuary and Beautification Fund.

Bringing Them Home

What happens when a loved one is cremated? Often, the family chooses to keep the urn at home instead of finding a permanent resting place. Years can pass, and the urn can make its way to a basement, garage, a park bench, or even Goodwill. To encourage families to choose a permanent resting place for these urns, last fall we offered a special "Bringing Them Home" opportunity. For $200, families could have a secure, permanent resting place for their loved one's cremated remains.

Why is this so important? Our mission at The Catholic Cemeteries is to honor, respect, and bury the dead. We believe that all are destined for eternal life with God, and deserve a resting place and to be remembered. Funeral homes, nursing homes, and individuals participated. On November 1, fifty-two people were buried in a communal crypt at the Chapel Mausoleums at Resurrection and Gethsemane Cemeteries.

Archbishop Hebda presided at the committal service at Resurrection Cemetery, and Father Michael Joncas presided at Gethsemane Cemetery. Some of the urns contained cremated remains from decades past, while others were within the past few years. Two were unknown, found in apartments with no one to claim them and no identification.

Now, all have a place that provides peace of mind for the family knowing that their loved one will be perpetually cared for, affirming the fact that the individual's life was of value.

We urge you to plan now for permanent placement if you or a loved one is planning on cremation. Remember, every person is a child of God and deserves a resting place and to be remembered.

Some of the urns part of the Bringing Them Home program

Mark Your Calendars for TCC's 2023 Events

This year The Catholic Cemeteries is proud to offer several events open to the public. Below is a list of all the events available so far in 2023. To find out more information about each event and to register please visit our website by visiting Catholic-Cemeteries.org/Events or Scan the QR Code below!

Beginning Watercolor **(Reigstration Required)**
Date & Time: May 13 and/or May 20 from 9:00am-12:00pm
Location: Resurrection Cemetery Office (space is limited)

Memorial Day Mass
Date & Time: May 29 at 10:00am
Location(s): Calvary, Gethsemane, Resurrection, St. Mary's

Labyrinth Grief Retreats **(Registration Required)**
1. Date & Time: June 3 at 9:00am - 11:00am (Resurrection)
2. Date & Time: Sept. 23 at 9:00am - 11:00am(Resurrection)
3. Date & Time: Dec. 9 at 9:00am - 11:00am (Gethsemane)

Calvary Cemetery Walking Tours **(Registration Required)**
Date & Time: June 5, June 8, June 20, June 22 at 9:00am
Location: Calvary Cemetery

Half-Hour ZOOM Webinars **(Registration Required)**
1. Natural Burial - June 6 from 6:30pm - 7:00pm
2. Cemetery Options - Sept. 12 from 6:30pm - 7:00pm
3. Remembrance - Dec. 12 from 6:30pm - 7:00pm

Gethsemane Cemetery Open House
Date & Time: June 22 from 10:00am - 2:00pm
Location: Gethsemane Cemetery - Chapel Mausoleum

Resurrection Open House: Natural Burial Tour
Date & Time: August 10 from 10:00am - 2:00pm
Location: Resurrection Cemetery - Chapel Mausoleum

Fall Pre-Planning Seminars **(Registration Required)**
Date & Time: Sept. 6 - 10:00am | Sept. 14 - 10:00am
Sept. 22 - 1:00pm | Sept. 30 - 10:00am
Locations: Gethsemane and Resurrection Cemeteries

Christmas Mass of Remembrance
Date & Time: Dec. 2 at 10:00am
Location: Lumen Christi Catholic Church

Coming Soon:
Walking Tours at
St. Mary's Cemetery in
S. Minneapolis

Scan Here to Register and Learn More!

Welcoming New Staff!

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff to The Catholic Cemeteries:

Ann Dunagan is the Data Entry Specialist. Ann enjoys spending time with family and friends (including rescue dog Bubba), music, sports, reading, research, providing hospice respite, and going for walks.

Edgar Hernandez Cardoso is Field Staff for Resurrection Cemetery. When not at work, Edgar enjoys working on cars.

Emma Hopp is the Accounting Specialist. When not at work, she enjoys gaming with family and friends, and teaching herself Korean. Emma also enjoys playing piano and singing karaoke.

Britiany Mewhorter is the Office Manager for Calvary and St. Mary's Cemeteries. When not at work, she enjoys going on adventures with her children, and enjoys arts & crafts.

Mia Sierra Patton is the Office Assistant for Resurrection Cemetery. Mia enjoys playing piano and doing geneology research. She also likes to read about historical events and to play tennis.

Rich Zasada is Field Staff for Resurrection Cemetery. Rich is known for his passion as a musician, specifically as a drummer. He is also a bow hunter and loves surfing. He says, "I love my family and I love our Lord Jesus."

From the Executive Director

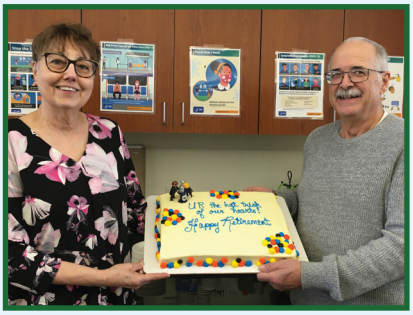
Joan Gecik,
Executive Director

We made it through winter's cold and snow. Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the sun is shining and the grass has regained its healthy green color.

Our main focus in these coming weeks is to prep for Memorial Day. We are sure to have larger numbers than last year for our Masses this year. The Archbishop will preside at St. Mary's.

We held two labyrinth grief retreats, one in February and one in March. The labyrinth encourages "walking prayer," and Sheryl Rose, our retreat leader, led attendees through reflection and prayer around their grief experiences. We had such a good response to this experience that we decided to offer this event quarterly. We are also putting in our own lawn labyrinth in the back of the Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum, east of the Peaceable Kingdom Garden. This area will provide a quiet place for anyone who wants to walk the labyrinth in prayer anytime during our growing season.

We are working with the MN Historical Society to have Calvary Cemetery listed as an historic site. We will then be able to apply for grants to help us maintain old monuments and possibly raise old footstones in the historic areas of the cemetery. Once this task is accomplished, we will move on to do the same process with St. Mary's and St. Anthony's cemeteries.



Joan and Dave holding Dave's Retirement Cake

On Nov. 30, Dave Kemp, one of our good friends and former employees, passed away. Dave had just retired in April of 2022 after 53 years. Of course we were in shock and experienced what it means to grieve a significant loss. Dave received a special posthumous award from the MN Nursery and Landscape Association at their January Conference. We also have a memorial rock and plaque honoring him next to the flag near the office entry at Resurrection. We will miss him in many ways.

IN MEMORY OF

DAVE
KEMP

DEC. 14, 1951
NOV. 30, 2022

CEMETERY EMPLOYEE
1969 - 2022

"WE MADE SOMEBODY'S LIFE A LITTLE BETTER, AND BY DOING THAT, MY LIFE BECAME BETTER"

Dave's Words on the Plaque to be installed at Resurrection Cemetery

With the success of our April Pre-planning Seminars, we have scheduled seminars for September at both Resurrection and Gethsemane Cemeteries. We will also have an open house at Gethsemane on June 22 from 10am-2pm, and one at Resurrection on August 10 from 10am-2pm including a tour of our Natural Burial area. It's a chance for people to see our Natural Burial area as well as have their questions answered about the process.

Last, but not least, on October 4 of this year I am retiring from the Catholic Cemeteries after serving here for five years. This year marks 50 years of ministry for me, and though I am a few months from turning 70, I want to get some traveling in and do some volunteer work while my health is good. I also plan on getting back to Ohio more, where all my family lives. I have loved this ministry and know that the next Director will continue the good work that has been done.

Of Womb and Tomb - October 27, 2023 - At Guardian Angels in Oakdale, MN

1:00pm-4:00pm - Details, Cost and Registration Coming Soon - Educational event for those who work with families who have experienced infertility, loss of child before birth, and infant loss.

7:00pm-9:00pm - No cost and all are welcome - For those who have experienced infertility, loss of child before birth, and infant loss. Seminar followed by a special prayer and ritual service. (no registration required)

Trees at the Cemetery

If you have visited our cemeteries recently, you probably have noticed fewer trees. Forty trees were taken down in St. Mary's in the winter of 2022; 10-15 trees were removed at both Calvary and Gethsemane, and for a first phase, 71 at Resurrection this winter. Next winter we will need to remove around 40 more from Resurrection. We were hit with the Emerald ash borer at both cemeteries. Trees infested with EAB die within a few years and present a hazard as they're dying. So usually as many trees as possible are taken down when struck by the borer.

Most of these trees are older trees and had graced each of our cemeteries. In looking at the future of each cemetery, we want to replace trees we've lost, but it is impossible to replace such a great number at any one time. Any tree that is planted must be watered at least weekly by our staff using a water truck. Most of the time we can manage to handle 10-12 new trees each year. We cannot do much more than this.

Besides the labor it takes to get these trees established in a healthy way, there is also the cost of purchasing new trees. Because we want a well-established tree root ball, the cost is higher. We have a fund for trees, the "John Ireland Memorial Tree Fund", but again, the replacement of the large number of trees will diminish the account greatly. We also look to the fact that it will take us at least 4-5 years to replenish St. Mary's and most likely over 10 years to cover Resurrection's loss.

We are working with an arborist company that will help us determine what kind of species would be best for the future of the cemeteries and where to plant them. We aren't able to remove the old roots from where the former trees were, so we cannot plant trees in the same places where they previously stood. We also need to be careful in planting in a section of the cemetery that is filled with burials. We do not want the roots of new trees to disturb the graves.

If you would like to help us with tree replacement, please go to our website and click on "donate," choosing the "John Ireland Memorial Tree Fund." You may designate the cemetery where you would like your tree donation to go. You may also scan the QR code to go directly to that web page. We thank you in advance for helping us to plant for the future.

GIVE THE GIFT OF TREES AND PLANTS

The beauty of trees and plants plays a significant role in the experience of visiting a cemetery. This is an area of exceptional need because storms and diseases have taken a toll over the years on the cemeteries' trees and plants. Gifts to this fund help with the

TCC Blog

Did you know The Catholic Cemeteries now has a blog? We provide helpful articles and information about all the things we care so much about here at TCC! New content is published regularly so be sure to check back often! To view our blogs visit Catholic-Cemeteries.org/tcc-blog or scan the QR Code below!

An opportunity to give

Please join us in supporting the ongoing ministries and beautification of The Catholic Cemeteries. Your tax-deductible contribution can be used to provide for burial of the poor, ministry to bereaved parents and families, or to beautify the cemeteries.

TO MAKE A GIFT

- **By check.** Clip and complete this form and mail with your check to: The Catholic Cemeteries, 2105 Lexington Ave. S., Mendota Heights, MN 55120
- **Online.** Go to catholic-cemeteries.org and click on "Donate."

I want to support the ongoing ministries and beautification of The Catholic Cemeteries:

___$1,000 ___$500 ___$250 ___ $100 ___Other $_____

Please direct my gift to:

__ Calvary __ Gethsemane __ Resurrection

__ St. Anthony's __ St. Mary's

I would like my gift to be used in the following way(s):

___Unrestricted Donation

___Statuary and Beautification Fund

___John Ireland Memorial Tree Fund (trees, landscaping, and gardens)

___Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Compassionate Assistance Fund

___Children's Memorial & Healing Garden at Resurrection

___Peaceable Kingdom Garden at Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum

___Children's Memorial & Healing Garden at Gethsemane

PAYMENT OPTIONS

___I have enclosed a check payable to The Catholic Cemeteries.

___Please charge my credit card:

__ Visa __ Mastercard __ Discover __ American Express

Card number:_____

Expiration date Security code

Credit-card billing address: _____

Street address

_____

City, state, and Zip Code

Signature _____

Please print all information below.

Your name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____

Telephone:_____

If this contribution is given in memory/in honor of an individual, please print his/her name. Thank you.

___ In memory ___ In honor_____

Name

Appreciating Art in the Cemetery

Photo Contest

The Catholic Cemeteries is having a cemetery nature photography contest this year! When you visit any of our 5 cemeteries between June 1 and October 31, take photos of animals, flowers, trees, and whatever wildlife catches your eye. The contest starts June 1 and ends October 31. The photos will be judged through The Catholic Cemeteries, and the top 3 winners will receive a prize!

To learn more and to register visit: Catholic-Cemeteries.org/photographycontest or scan the QR Code.

Beginning Watercolor Classes

What: Beginning Watercolor
Level: Beginner to 'Dabbler'
Where: Resurrection Cemetery Offices
When: May 13 and/or May 20 from 9:00am - 12:00pm
Cost: $50 for ONE session, or $90 for both
All supplies (and refreshments!) will be furnished
Class enrollment: Max of 20 students (must be 18 yrs or older)

Instructor: Larry Lecheler
Throughout his career as a teacher and illustrator, Mr. L has held and developed a list of solid convictions about what should be emphasized to young and old and everyone in between while teaching art and design. Thus, the "Whole Person Artist" of body, mind, and spirit will act as the foundation and catalyst for the art concepts that are taught.

Because this class is designed to be easy to follow, informative, and fun, Mr. L is hoping you will be able to join us for this scheduled artistic and life adventure! It's TIME TO CREATE! To learn more scan the QR Code or call 651-228-9991.

THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

2105 Lexington Avenue South
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HERITAGE

NEWS FOR FRIENDS OF THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

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Spring/Summer 2023

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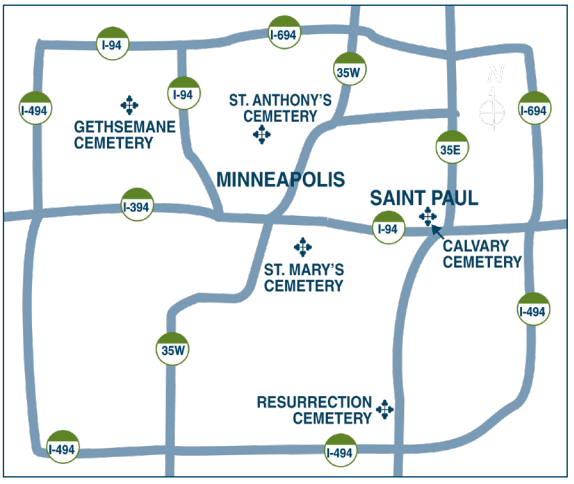
Joan Gecik, Executive Director

To receive *Heritage* by email, go to www.catholic-cemeteries.org/Heritage-newsletters and subscribe to receive the e-newsletter. Thank you.



CEMETERY HOURS

Every day of the year, cemetery grounds are open from dawn to dusk (generally 5:00 p.m. in the winter). You may reach all cemetery offices by phone or email Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Visit our website: www.catholic-cemeteries.org
Follow us on Facebook: TheCatholicCemeteries

GETHSEMANE CEMETERY
8151 42nd Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55427
763-537-4184

ST. ANTHONY'S CEMETERY
2730 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
763-537-4184

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY
4403 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55407
651-488-8866

CALVARY CEMETERY
753 Front Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55103
651-488-8866

RESURRECTION CEMETERY
2101 Lexington Avenue South
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
651-454-5072