



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary

1921

St. Louis

1867

St. Michael

1851

St. John

1849



A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #13, AUGUST 2023

Our Mission

The services of Catholic Cemeteries are a ministry of the Archdiocese of Louisville. We offer the rite of burial to the Catholic Community and all of God's people. We commit ourselves to the Gospel and Catholic tradition. We affirm the sacredness of human life and profess the resurrection of the body and everlasting life.

Upcoming Events

**Aug 30th &
Sept 27th**

Infant Prayer Service

Calvary Cemetery
Holy Innocents Section
(Section 20)
1:30-2:30 PM

Each month, Catholic Cemeteries holds a brief prayer service to remember those infants who were stillborn or who lived any length of time. The names of all of the infants buried during the month in any of the archdiocesan Catholic cemeteries will be honored during the service. Any other name, whether the infant was buried prior to that month (even decades ago) or in another cemetery, can also be mentioned at the request of the families or friends. Holy water is sprinkled on the graves of those babies buried that month in the Holy Innocents Section. Severe weather will cancel.

If you would like a name to be included on the prayer list, please give us a call at (502) 451-7710.

Any who have been affected by the loss of an infant are invited to attend and pray with us for their baby and all others.

Oct 1st

Gate Hours Change

Calvary Cemetery
St. Louis Cemetery
St. Michael Cemetery
St. John Cemetery

Beginning on October 1st, the visiting hours will be changing to 8 AM to 5 PM. Our fall/winter hour changes do not affect the main office hours, only the visiting hours. This change will remain in effect until March 31st.

Explaining the Burial Rights Agreement

OUR
MINISTRY



If you have purchased a grave, crypt, or niche at one of our cemeteries, then you are probably familiar with a document we have called the Burial Rights Agreement. It often gets mistaken for a deed of ownership of the grave, but that isn't quite true. Our counselors explain all of this information during appointments, but we know there is so much information to soak in that it may easily be forgotten. For that reason, we wanted to give a quick review:

The document states that "the Cemetery does hereby grant to Lot Owner the right of burial... solely for burial purposes" in the location named. The right of burial is what has been purchased, not the gravespace itself. We own and maintain the grounds themselves.

There is another line that sometimes confuses people as well: "The above location contains approximately X square feet, conferring the Lot Owner the privilege to erect only the following type of memorial" — the type or types allowed, along with the square footage, will then be filled out by our counselors. Some people are under the impression that this means that a memorial "comes with" the grave, but again, this is not the case. The right to place such a memorial is what has been purchased, but the memorial itself is ordered separately; this can be done either within our own memorial department, or through an outside local company.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to give us a call at 502-451-7710.

OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

How to Find Records for Burials Not in Our Cemeteries



While we take pride in our extensive records, some of which date back to the mid 1800s, sometimes we have families come to us to search for ancestors whose burial records we are simply unable to find. Maybe it is because they are not buried in any of our four Archdiocesan cemeteries, or maybe it is because we were not given enough information to find the record (for older burials, a date or year of death is the minimum we would need to even begin looking for a death recording), but whatever the reason, we don't have it.

If that's the case — where can people look next? We recommend starting with parishes, if it is known where the ancestor attended. It never hurts to check and see what records they may have. After that, there are several local and state-wide resources we like to point people towards:

- Archdiocese of Louisville Archives
 - (502) 636-0296, ext. 1217
 - archives@archlou.org
- Kentucky Historical Society
 - (502) 564-1792
 - history.ky.gov
- Filson Historical Society
 - 502-635-5083
 - filsonhistorical.org

We wish you the best of luck in your record research!

Steve Suhre, Family Services Counselor

OUR
STAFF

Steve has worked here for 11 years. He applied for and has been a Family Services Counselor, through the recommendation of his wife Kelly.

The first thing he does each day is to review the shared office calendar and figure out what needs to be prioritized. He likes to try to stay as far ahead as possible when it comes to knowing what's going to happen for the week — “both professionally and in my personal life,” he adds.

As a counselor, Steve meets with families who come in looking to purchase a grave or niche, sometimes just planning for the future and sometimes at the time of the death of a loved one. Meeting with families can be challenging not knowing their entire situation or personalities, only the basics of the circumstances, but he looks for body language to gauge how to approach them. “I always introduce myself, offer condolences, and let them know that I’m here to assist them through this most difficult time.” He makes it a point to make a personal connection with each person he meets with, which can be an undertaking in and of itself — right now he estimates he is working with 25 different families.



"My greatest goal for the families is that their minds are at ease while all information is presented before them, and that they walk out with complete understanding and clear peace of mind."

Steve and Kelly are the parents of Sophia, currently attending Presentation Academy. Outside of work, Steve finds joy in cooking and grilling on his grill (named Uncle Joe). He has a dog, Zoe, and 8 fish which he gets a kick out of caring for.

Oh, Deer!

We have lots of deer who reside in and around our grounds, and as such, have many babies here just like the cutie pictured below (and its mother giving us a look for disturbing her baby)!

Most likely the season for young babies has just passed, but if you do encounter a fawn during your visit to our grounds, we ask that you not touch or approach them. They are most likely perfectly fine and waiting for their mother to come back.

Baby deer typically stick around their mothers for around 1 full year; you may see them running with their mother or the rest of the herd throughout our grounds. Fawns typically wean from their mothers at 2 to 3 months old.

Deer can live up to around 20 years, often remaining with the same herd for their entire lives. This means you are probably seeing the same deer year after year that make their home on and around our grounds!

We love to feature visitors' photos so if you have a picture or video of our deer friends on our grounds, send us an email and we'll feature it on our Facebook page!



Learn more about burial options
at any of our cemeteries

Call (502) 451-7710

or visit

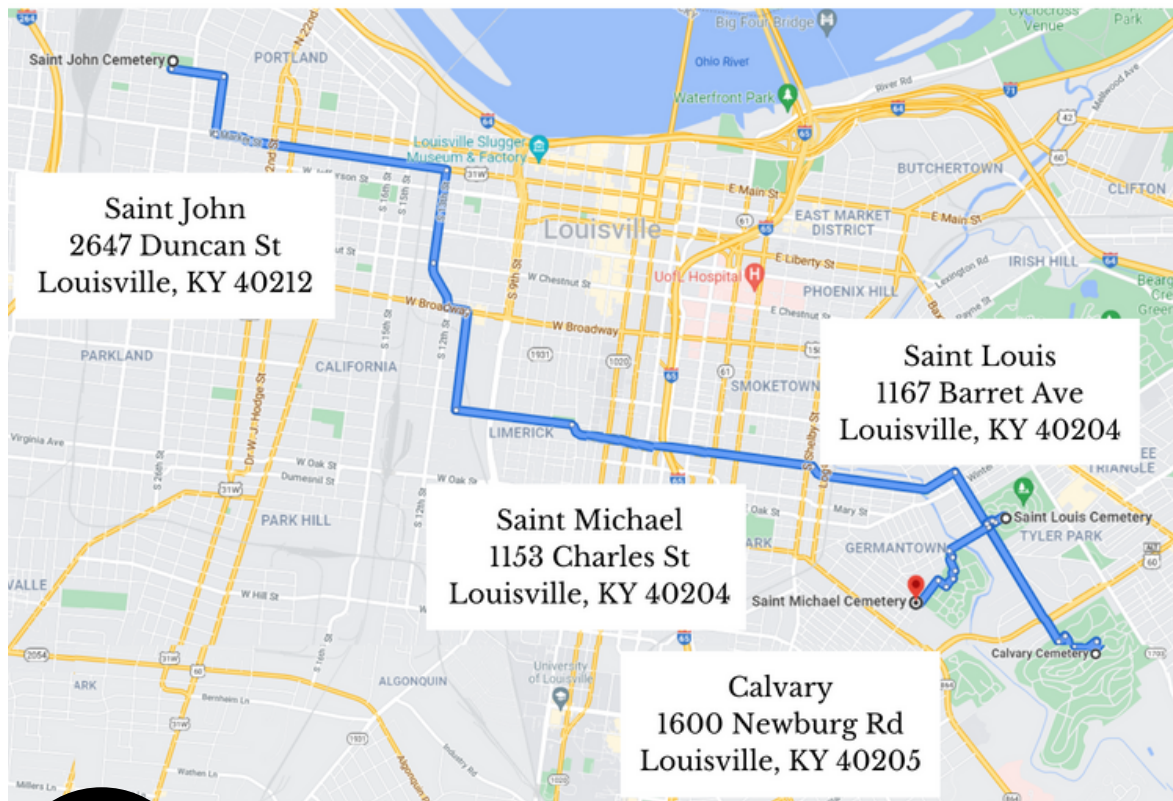
CatholicCemeteriesLouisville.Org

“

*God of the living and
the dead accept our
prayers for those who
have died in Christ and
are buried with him in
the hope of rising again.
In your mercy grant
them eternal rest.*

”

Visit Our Grounds



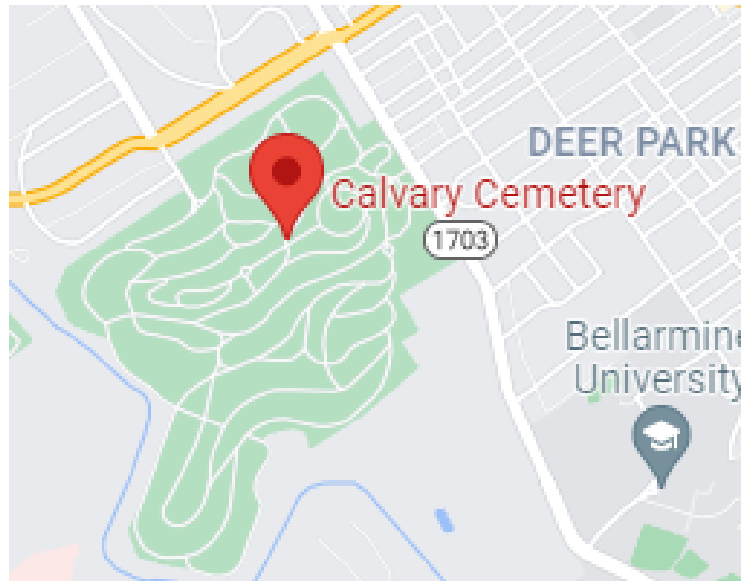
Open April-September: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
October-March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Visit Our Office

Located inside
Calvary Cemetery

1600 Newburg Rd
Louisville, KY 40205

There is a blue line
on the road from
the gates leading to
the office



Questions? Call us
(502) 451-7710

Open Monday-Friday:
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Saturday:
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

