



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary

1921

St. Louis

1867

St. Michael

1851

St. John

1849



A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #16, FEBRUARY 2024

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

**Feb &
March**

Stations of the Cross

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

Read more on the next page.

Feb 28th

Infant Prayer Service

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

Each month, the Catholic Cemeteries holds a brief prayer service to remember those infants who were stillborn or who lived any length of time. Those who have lost an infant are invited to attend the service and pray with us for their baby and the others on the last Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. The service is held in Calvary Cemetery in the “Holy Innocents Section” (Section 20). The names of all of the infants buried during the month in any of the archdiocesan Catholic cemeteries will be mentioned during the service. Any other name, whether the infant was buried in a prior month 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.

Please call (502) 451-7710 if you would like to add an infant’s name to be prayed for.

Stations of the Cross



Each year, the Catholic Cemeteries hosts Stations of the Cross which take place throughout the season of Lent at a rotation of our four cemeteries (Saint John, Saint Louis, Saint Michael, and Calvary). Students from local Catholic schools lead attendants through the stations, which are set up throughout the hosting cemetery, which changes each week. Total walking distance is typically about 300-400 yards.

Alternatively, one could make the trip (except during the guided events) either via car or walking at their own pace; crosses are usually set up around 10 or 11 AM on the day of the event, and taken down by 3 PM. This year, the dates for each Station of the Cross events are as follows:

- **February 16th @ 1 PM** - Calvary Cemetery, gathering at the St. Phillip Neri Cross in Section 35. Hosted by students from Bellarmine University.
- **February 23rd @ 1 PM** - Saint Louis Cemetery, gathering at the Priest Section. Hosted by Deacon Scott Haner.
- **March 1st @ 1 PM** - Saint Michael Cemetery, gathering at the Priest Section. Hosted by students from Saint Martha School.
- **March 8th @ 1 PM** - Saint John Cemetery, gathering at the front gate. Hosted by students from Assumption High School.
- **March 15th @ 1 PM** - Calvary Cemetery, gathering at the intersection by the office parking area. Hosted by students from Saint Francis of Assisi.
****Archbishop Shelton Fabre will be leading this prayer service****
- **March 22nd @ 1 PM** - Saint Michael Cemetery, gathering at the Priest Section. Hosted by students from Holy Trinity.

We hope to see you all there! Severe weather may cancel. Please contact our office at 502-451-7710 if you have questions regarding any of these events.

OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

About Our Annual Spring Clean Up



March 1st begins the preparation for our mowing season, which lasts through the summer and ends on November 15th. With the mowers in use, stray items around graves become a safety hazard to our grounds crew and visitors — anything caught up in a mower could be spit out and strike someone, cause a mower to malfunction or break, etc. Because of this, February 28th is the last day we allow artificial decorations at ground level until November.

Artificial decorations are permitted in attached vases or saddles on above-ground markers and monuments year-round. Examples of artificial decorations that need to be removed from the ground include but are not limited to flower baskets, wreaths, votive candles (solar-powered only are allowed to begin with), flags, and shepherd hooks.

Please collect all ground-level items prior to March 1st or they will be removed and discarded.

- Fresh flowers are allowed year-round. They may be placed in temporary metal or plastic containers or in permanent inground vases (where permitted).
- Glass vases or bottles are not permitted and containers cannot be buried in the ground.
- On Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and Father's Day, potted plants are permitted from the Friday afternoon before the holiday through the following Sunday after (approximately one week).
- American Flags are permitted only on Memorial Day and Veterans Day from the Friday before the holiday to the following Sunday after (approximately one week). Flags must be small and made of wood and cloth. No metal or plastic is allowed.
- Community Mausoleums and Columbaria have designated decoration areas. Decorations may not be attached to the crypt or niche fronts or left on the sidewalks. On Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and Father's Day, potted plants are permitted in the designated areas from the Friday afternoon before the holiday through the following Sunday after (approximately one week).

Greg Allgeier, Grounds Crew

When asked how long he's been with Catholic Cemeteries, Greg Allgeier pauses for a moment then reveals that he can't remember the exact number, but that it's "definitely pushing 50" years. (An amazingly long time of dedicated service — thank you, Greg!)



For the first few years, he says, he was in charge of trimming or odds and ends, things that newer or seasonal workers would do typically now. However, he became the primary caretaker of all our special care lots after a few years and has been doing that ever since.

Relaxing during a break with some reading material.

On graves with monuments, shrubbery (rose shrubs are not allowed) and ivy can be requested. Approval of the management must be obtained before planting can be performed. The shrubs or ivy can be planted by cemetery personnel for a fee, with one year guarantee, or by the family, with approval of the management. Cemetery personnel will perform all maintenance work to shrubbery which includes trimming, fertilizing, mulching and spraying for insects and diseases. For that work, and for the cleaning of memorials and mausoleums, families can choose to pay either year-by-year, for 15 years, or for 30 years of care.

Right now we have around 350 lots in Calvary Cemetery which utilize a care plan. This means that Greg's days (depending on the season) are full of watering, trimming, and beautifying shrubs and ivy, as well as ensuring the plants there are not dying. He coordinates with the office when there are issues or unauthorized plantings.

An avid enjoyer of art and media, Greg is never without a book (sometimes multiple) and can most often be found listening to audiobooks while he goes about his days. Outside of work, he says he likes to watch good movies and good plays, and spends his time at the Speed Art Museum, Baxter Avenue Theater, and local playhouses. He appreciates and enjoys visiting Kentucky landmarks, along with the occasional camping trip.

Ode to Hummingbirds



Rufous hummingbird

Have you ever seen one of these adorable, tiny birds on our grounds? If not, next time you're here, look into the trees — we are lucky to be host to many throughout the year. While the only species native to Kentucky is the ruby-throated hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*), we have also spotted the Rufous (*Selasphorus rufus*).

The color variation between the male and female ruby-throated hummingbirds is so stark that you might not even know they are the same type! Males have their stereotypical red-throat and are primarily green with white tummies. Females tend to be more slender, with no red throat, and have feathers of muted green, grey, and white. These hummingbirds breed in Kentucky and migrate for the winter, so they are most often spotted in the warmer parts of the year. During the winter months, they head to Mexico to enjoy warmer temperatures.

Hummingbirds in general get most of their energy from nectar, and are particularly attracted to red native flowers that are long and tubular (hint if you're looking to attract hummingbirds to your yard — plant native!).

The Rufous hummingbird, pictured above and right, are actually a more aggressive type, and are known to scare away other types of hummingbirds and even squirrels and chipmunks. These photos were taken on our grounds, although these hummingbirds are apparently more rare and not often seen throughout the state.

We'd love to see photos you've taken of hummingbirds (or any other species!) on our grounds. Send us an email or message us on Facebook!



Learn more about burial options
at any of our cemeteries

Call (502) 451-7710

or visit

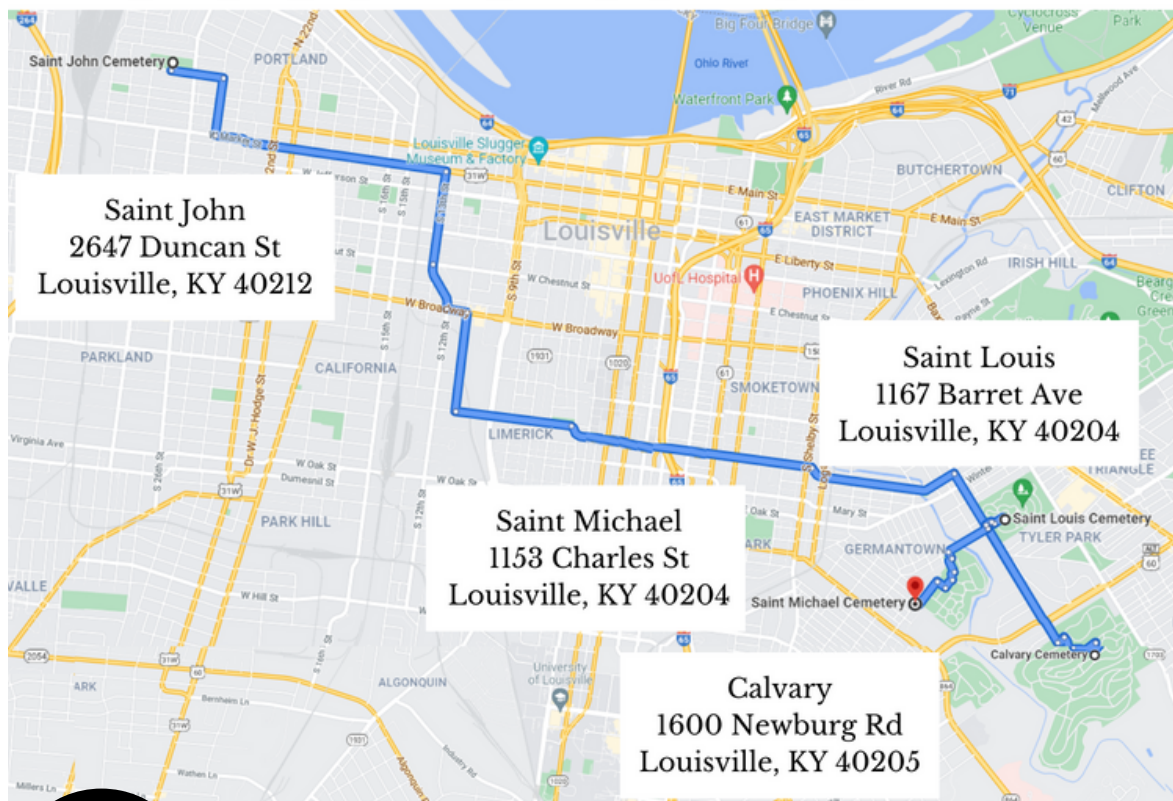
CatholicCemeteriesLouisville.Org

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*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



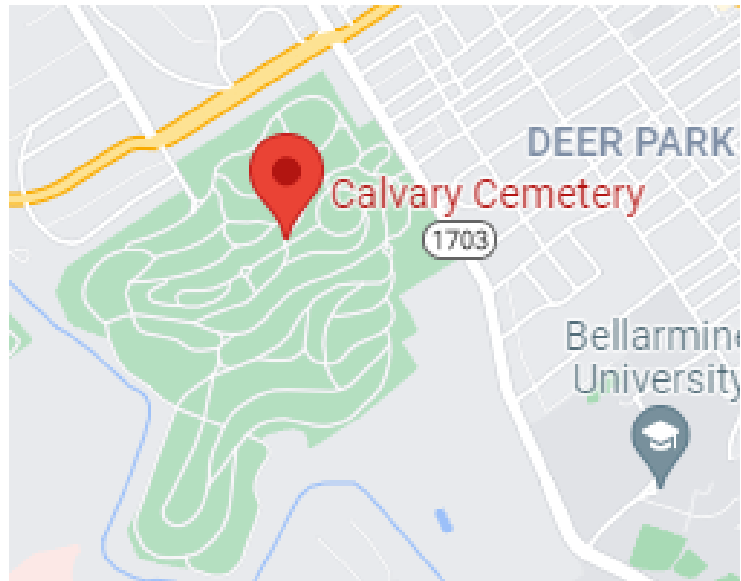
Open April-September: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
October-March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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

