



# CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

## ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary  
1921

St. Louis  
1867

St. Michael  
1851

St. John  
1849



# A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #19, MARCH 2025

### 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

## April 1st

### Gate Hours Change

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

The gate hours for our cemeteries will be expanding for the season! Our cemetery gates will now be open from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM, and will remain on this schedule until September 30th. Please note that this does not apply to parish and non-Archdiocesan cemeteries.

## Beginning March 7

### Stations of the Cross

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

Stations of the Cross dates and locations:

Guided events will begin at 1:00 PM

March 7 - Calvary Cemetery  
Hosted by Saint Patrick School

March 14 - St. Louis Cemetery  
Hosted by Saint James School

March 21 - St. Michael Cemetery  
Hosted by Archbishop Fabre and Saint Martha School

March 28 - St. John Cemetery  
Hosted by Saint Gabriel School

April 4 - Calvary Cemetery  
Hosted by Deacon Scott Haner

April 11 - St. Michael Cemetery  
Hosted by Holy Trinity School

We will be hosting an ongoing Stations of the Cross event every Friday during the Lenten season. The stations will be outdoors in a different cemetery each Friday. On the first Friday of Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place at Calvary Cemetery. We will gather at the Saint Phillip Neri Cross in Section 35 at 1:00 PM. Students from Saint Patrick School will host the prayer service.

Please note that the total walking distance will be between 300 and 400 yards. If accessibility is an issue, you are welcome to drive the stations on your own time (except during the guided event-please do not follow the walking tour in your car). Crosses will be up from 10 AM to 3 PM the day of the event.

**Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information regarding these events.**

# Upcoming Events

**March 26  
and April 30**

## **Infant Prayer Service**

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.

# What is a Catholic cemeterian?

OUR  
MINISTRY



In the life of every Christian person, there comes a time when we are faced with the death of someone we love. At that moment we rely upon our faith in Jesus and His promise of resurrection to all who believe. At that same time, we are surrounded by individuals and a community of believers wanting to express comfort and consolation. And in the midst of many people and in the tumult of many preparations we turn to the Church. As the final gesture of leave-taking, we gather in a Catholic cemetery and there we entrust the remains of the one we loved to the care of others. Those “others” are known as Catholic cemeterians who perform a ministry of service to all the faithful.

All of us at the Catholic Cemeteries exercise a ministry of service that continues uninterrupted from the time of the earliest Christians communities. Since the time of Jesus, the burial of the Christian faithful has been a part of our Church experience. We are committed to continue the corporal work of mercy that describes our ministry now and for future generations of Christian faithful.

I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in me shall not suffer eternal death.

John 11:24



**OUR  
ARCHDIOCESAN  
CATHOLIC  
CEMETERIES**

# **Saint Agnes Passionist Community Cemetery**

Did you know that there are 46 total cemeteries within the Archdiocese of Louisville? Of those, only 4 are operated and maintained by the Catholic Cemeteries office. The rest are parish cemeteries that are mostly independent operations. Only 2 of these parish cemeteries are located in Jefferson County (St. Andrew Cemetery and St. Edward Cemetery), with the rest spread out across the 24 counties covered by the Archdiocese.

Because they are run independently, Catholic Cemeteries of Louisville does not have access to their records, cannot schedule burials, see their available plots, or assist with members of the community that may wish to be buried in one of these cemeteries. We are there for them to provide guidance and support, but the maintenance, operations, and burials are performed by the parishes themselves. The parish cemeteries within the Archdiocese are incredibly valuable and wonderful resting places. It can be very comforting to know that your remains, or those of your family, will forever reside within your personal parish.



The cemetery near the entrance of Saint Agnes Church is not a parish cemetery, but rather the final resting place for members of the Passionist Community. The first burial took place in 1897, when seminarian Walter Cassels died at just 19 years old. Most of those buried here were local to Louisville or had spent a significant portion of their lives connected to the parish.

Notable figures include Fr. Denis Callagee (pastor from 1893-1899), Fr. Henry Miller (1906-1908), Fr. Cletus Brady (1911-1917), and Fr. Aloysius Dowling, the longest-serving pastor (1923-1946). During Fr. Dowling's tenure, the annual carnival began, and the present church was dedicated in 1928. Other figures like Fr. Kent Pieper (pastor from 1964-1979) helped guide the parish through changes from Vatican II and oversaw building projects. Several associates, including Fr. Cormac Lynch and Fr. Benet Keiran, are also buried there.

Though some tombstones are weathered and hard to read, the parishioners remember these individuals for their devoted service to Saint Agnes.

## OUR STAFF

### HAROLD COLLINS - DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Our employee spotlight for this newsletter edition is our Director of Operations, Harold Collins. Harold started working for Catholic Cemeteries in 1983. He currently oversees the Maintenance Departments for all four of our cemeteries. Harold has been in this role since the summer of 2021.

As you can imagine, it takes a great deal of effort to maintain our large cemeteries. Tasks are being completed behind the scenes throughout the cemeteries everyday. Harold ensures that the daily operations and any major projects (see photo below) are running as smoothly as possible.

The most rewarding aspect of his job is “the relationships I have with my co-workers and being able to assist people in their times of need.”

Outside of work, Harold is involved with the American Veterans. This organization is chartered by Congress to assist veterans in all aspects of their lives. He also enjoys visiting Florida and hosting friends and family for Derby festivities.



Harold working on installing a new columbarium in Calvary.



# The American goldfinch



American goldfinch  
(*Spinus tristis*)

The American goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) is the most-sighted bird during the month of February. You can frequently see this bird in any of our cemeteries. It is a small North American bird in the finch family. It is migratory, ranging from mid-Alberta to North Carolina during the breeding season, and from just south of the Canada-United States border to Mexico during the winter.

The only finch in its subfamily to undergo a complete molt, the American goldfinch displays sexual dichromatism: the male is a vibrant yellow in the summer and an olive color during the winter, while the female is a dull yellow-brown shade which brightens only slightly during the summer. The male displays brightly colored plumage during the breeding season to attract a mate.

The American goldfinch is a granivore and adapted for the consumption of seedheads, with a conical beak to remove the seeds and agile feet to grip the stems of seedheads while feeding. It is a social bird and will gather in large flocks while feeding and migrating. It may behave territorially during nest construction, but this aggression is short-lived. Its breeding season is tied to the peak of food supply, beginning in late July, which is relatively late in the year for a finch. This species is generally monogamous and produces one brood each year.

Human activity has generally benefited the American goldfinch. It is often found in residential areas because it is attracted to bird feeders, which increases its survival rate in these areas. Deforestation also creates open meadow areas, which are its preferred habitat.

Learn more about burial options  
at any of our cemeteries

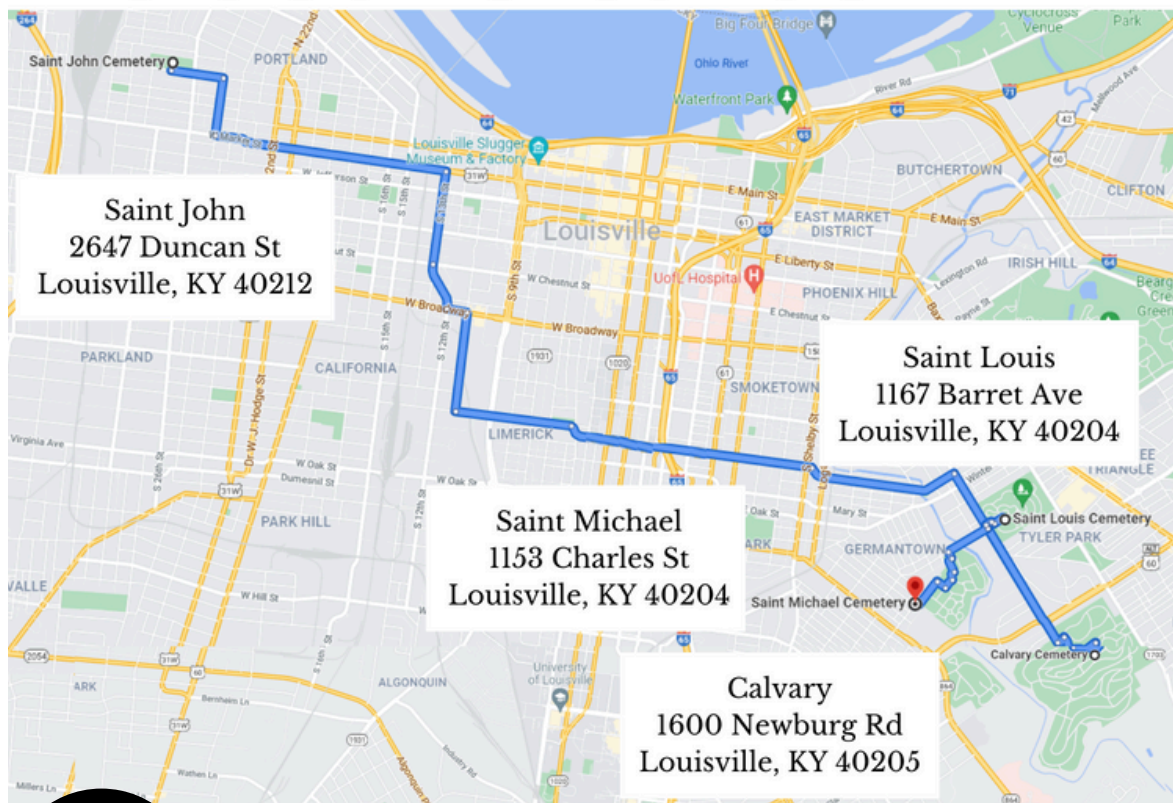
Call (502) 451-7710

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

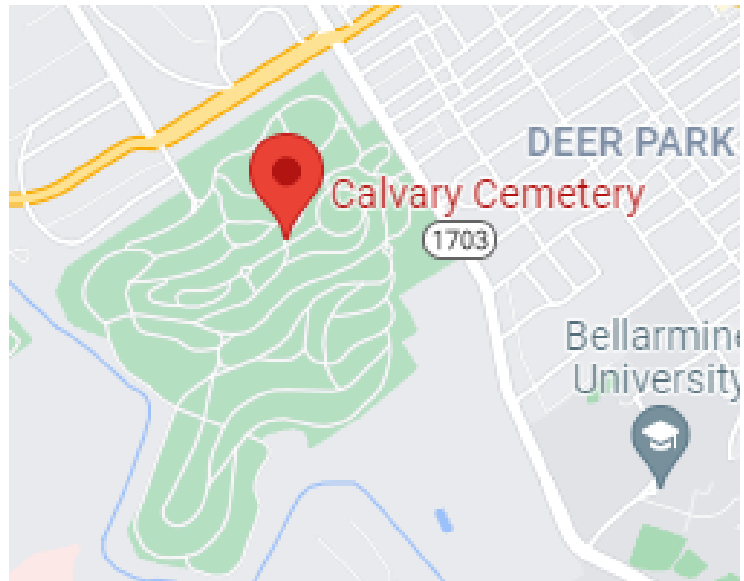


# Visit Our Office

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

