

### CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

#### ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary 1921 St. Louis 1867 St. Michael 1851 St. John 1849

# A Guiding Light NEWSLETTER ISSUE #20, JUNE 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**

#### July 30, August 27, and September 24

NEWS &

EVENTS

The prayer service will take place around the "In God's Hand" statue (see photo below).

This statue is located in Section 20 of Calvary Cemetery.

#### Infant Prayer Services

Each month, the Catholic Cemeteries holds a brief prayer service to remember those infants who passed prior to birth, 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 committal service?

#### O U R M I N I S T R Y



A Catholic committal prayer service is a short, solemn ceremony performed at the graveside or place of final disposition (like a cemetery chapel) after a funeral mass or memorial service. They typically last between fifteen to twenty minutes.

Catholic Cemeteries offer families two options for the committal prayer service: an indoor service at one of the chapels located at Calvary Cemetery or a graveside service at the burial site. Both options are included at no extra charge in the price of burial. Please be aware that it is the responsibility of the family to schedule and arrange for a priest or deacon to lead the service, as there is no staff available onsite for this role.

Graveside services are held directly at the burial site, under a tent with four chairs for seating, depending on the weather. These services are straightforward and conducted at the location of the interment.

Indoor committal prayer services are held at one of the chapels within Calvary Cemetery (see photo below). These services are not intended to serve as visitations or longer memorial services.

Please call our office at 502-451-7710 if you have any further questions on what is entailed at a committal prayer service.



OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

How to find records of burials not located in one of our cemeteries



One of the most common interactions we have is with persons looking for the burial location of a family member or friend. We are more than happy to provide this information for burials in one of our four cemeteries. However, there is a misconception that Catholic Cemeteries has records for all 42 parish cemeteries in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Catholic Cemeteries of Louisville cannot access records or schedule burials for parish cemeteries, as these cemeteries are independently managed by the individual parishes. If you know that an individual is buried in a parish cemetery, then the best option is to start by contacting the parish. If the parish does not have records for the individual, then the following resources may be able to assist you:

- Parish of the deceased
- 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
- Find A Grave
  - findagrave.com

Please feel free to email or call our office if you have any questions regarding records for one of our four cemeteries.

#### NATASHA COLEMAN -FAMILY COUNSELOR

This edition, we're proud to shine our spotlight on Natasha Coleman, a dedicated member of our Catholic Cemeteries team. Natasha joined us in November 2024 as a Burial Coordinator and now serves as a compassionate and knowledgeable Family Counselor.

In her role, Natasha walks alongside families during some of life's most difficult and emotional moments, assisting them with the purchase of cemetery items whether planned in advance (pre-need) or during times of immediate need (at-need).

No two days are ever the same for Natasha. One moment, she might be guiding a family through the process of selecting a final resting place. The next, she's helping coordinate the details of a bronze plaque or a memorial inscription. Her flexibility, care, and commitment make her an invaluable part of our ministry.

Natasha finds deep fulfillment in supporting families during some of their most challenging moments. For her, the heart of the work lies in compassion — "trying to make a difficult day a little bit easier," as she puts it.

Outside of work, Natasha is passionate about homeschooling her daughter. You might also spot her in Central Park, soaking up a Shakespeare in the Park performance. If you do, don't hesitate to say hello — she'd love it!

### OUR STAFF



Natasha and her daughter, Kathryn.

## NATURE & WILDLIFE

## What you should know regarding coyotes in Calvary



Unsure if the animal you see is a coyote or a dog? Assume it is a coyote and be sure to not agitate them. As per cemetery regulations, keep your dog on a leash at all times.

Each spring and summer, we experience an increase in wildlife activity on our grounds. Already this year, we've received multiple reports of coyote sightings. These animals are typically spotted in the undeveloped, wooded areas near the outskirts of Calvary, especially around Beargrass Creek. However, it's important to remember that coyotes can roam beyond these areas as well.

If you encounter a coyote while on our grounds, there's no need to panic. They are usually more scared of humans than we are of them. During this time of year, female coyotes are particularly protective of their pups, and their instinct is to encourage you to leave the area.

That being said, we advise caution especially if you're accompanied by a dog. Always keep your dog on a leash and ensure they don't wander out of sight. Our priority is to keep families and pets safe, while also acknowledging that wild animals like coyotes are a natural part of our environment and deserve our respect.

#### 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.

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## **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



DEER PARK

Bellarmine

Calvary Cemetery

1703





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