



# CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

## ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary

1921

St. Louis

1867

St. Michael

1851

St. John

1849



# A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #21, AUGUST 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.

**August 27, September  
24, October 29,  
November 26**

## Infant Prayer Services

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.

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.**



**Monday, November 3  
at 11:00 AM**

## All Souls' Day Mass

Join Most Reverend Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre and Catholic Cemeteries of Louisville in celebrating All Souls' Day Mass at 11:00 AM on Monday, November 3 in Calvary Cemetery. The service will take place outdoors, under a tent with seating provided. Upon arrival at the front gate, please follow the guidance of our crew who will be directing traffic.

*Following the All Souls' Day Mass at Calvary Cemetery, Archbishop Fabre greeted Kelly Osting, a member of St. Martin of Tours Church, and her young sons Benedict and Fulton, held by the archbishop. (Record Photo by Ruby Thomas)*



All Souls' Day purposely follows All Saints' Day in order to shift the focus from those in heaven to those in purgatory. The theological basis for the feast is the doctrine that the souls who, on departing the body, are not perfectly cleansed from venial sins or have not fully atoned for past transgressions are debarred from the Beatific Vision, and that the faithful on earth can help them by prayers, alms deeds and especially by the sacrifice of the Mass.

**Friday, December 5 at  
6:30 PM**

## Lighting of the Tree of Remembrance



*Attendees listening to  
Archbishop Fabre's blessing  
and admiring the  
illuminated Nordmann Fir.*

Join Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre on Friday, December 5 at 6:30 PM for the blessing and the lighting of the Tree of Remembrance, located by the Newburg Road entrance at Calvary Cemetery. Complimentary personalized ornaments, hot drinks, and pastries will be available. Participants are encouraged to hang ornaments —either one brought from home or provided by us— on the tree in memory of loved ones. This event is open to all people, regardless of where their loved one is buried or how long ago. It is our hope that these prayers and token of remembrance will honor the deceased and alleviate the pain of those mourning.

**\*\*No entry will be allowed during the blessing ceremony – the gates will close at 6:25 PM\*\***

Ornaments may remain on the tree until January 6th, the Feast of the Epiphany. Remaining ornaments that are unclaimed after that date will be reverently buried on our grounds.

# What exactly is All Souls' Day?

OUR  
MINISTRY

All Souls' Day is a day in the Catholic Church dedicated to honoring the souls of the deceased, particularly those believed to be in purgatory. All Souls' Day purposely follows All Saints' Day in order to shift the focus from those in heaven to those in purgatory. The theological basis for the feast is the doctrine that the souls who, on departing the body, are not perfectly cleansed from venial sins or have not fully atoned for past transgressions are debarred from entering heaven.

For cemeteries, especially for those with Catholic ties, it holds great significance. It is a day where we can reflect on the idea that the living and the deceased are connected through faith and prayer. Catholic cemeteries are sacred spaces for reflection, remembrance, and prayer, which all reinforce the belief of resurrection of the body and eternal life.



*In addition to reflecting and praying for the deceased in purgatory, it is also common for flowers and other commemorative items to be placed on the graves of loved ones.*

# OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

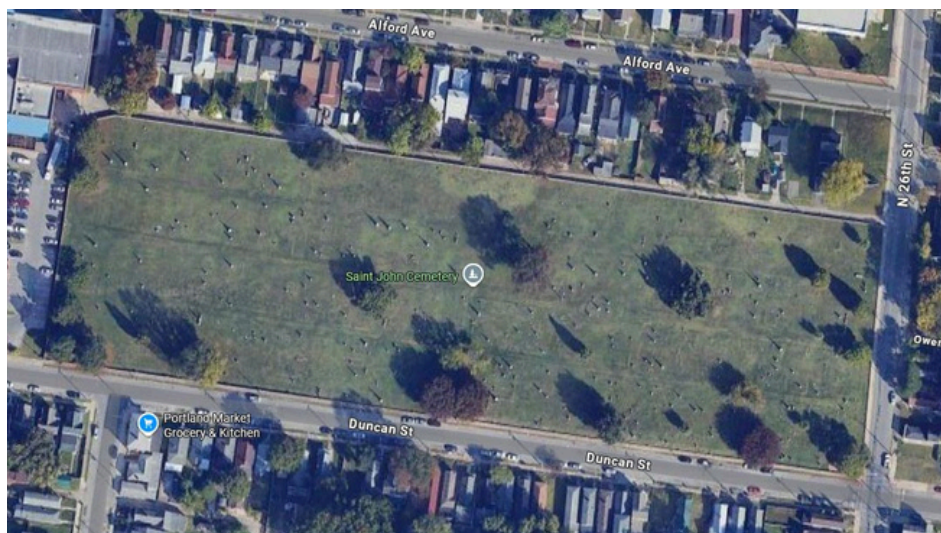
## Saint John Cemetery



The Catholic Cemeteries manages four archdiocesan cemeteries that are all located in Jefferson County. Three of the four (Saint Louis, Saint Michael, and Calvary) are located in the Highlands/Germantown neighborhoods and are only a short drive from each other. We also manage Saint John Cemetery, in the Portland neighborhood. Saint John is located at 26<sup>th</sup> Street and Duncan Street.

On November 30th, 1849, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth conveyed by deed approximately nine acres of land to the Diocese of Louisville, extending west of Duncan and 26th Streets. Cemetery lots were laid out and the first burial took place in 1851. Over 8,600 persons have been laid to rest at Saint John Cemetery. There are still a few casket and cremation graves available for purchase.

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



*Left: A monument located in Saint John Cemetery.*

*Above: Satellite overview image of Saint John Cemetery.*

# JOE MONTGOMERY - MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

## OUR STAFF

In this edition, we're proud to feature a member of our Maintenance Department. Joe Montgomery has been a part of the Catholic Cemeteries since July 2012, when he started as a groundskeeper. Over the years, his dedication and knowledge led him to be our mechanic. In his current role, he makes sure that all of our equipment is in tip-top shape. Whether it is repairing equipment, lending a hand with a different task, or jumping into whatever needs attention, his flexibility is a huge asset to the team.

One of the aspects of his job that he truly values is the camaraderie with his co-workers. He describes the work environment as feeling like a second family, where everyone has each other's back. This sense of community keeps him motivated and makes every workday enjoyable. Outside of work, Joe enjoys spending quality time with his family. In addition to his family time, he has a passion for motorcycles and racing.



*Joe working on one of the many trucks used daily by Catholic Cemeteries.*

# What you should know regarding red foxes in Calvary

Red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes fulva*) are some of the most adaptable and widespread mammals on Earth. The most prominent features of a red fox are the reddish-orange coat, a bushy tail, and pointed ears. The bushy tail is most noticeable and aids them in balance and agility while running. A little known fact regarding red foxes is their exceptional hearing ... they can hear rodents and other small animals from miles away.



They can be found in a variety of habitats, from frozen tundras to barren deserts. It should come as no surprise that they are occasionally spotted in Calvary Cemetery.

*Did you know that group of foxes is called a skulk or a leash?*

If you happen to come across a red fox, you should not be scared. These animals are typically not aggressive towards humans and will likely flee to avoid a potential confrontation with you or your dog. With that being said, please follow cemetery regulations and keep your dog on a leash at all times.

Learn more about burial options  
at any of our cemeteries

Call (502) 451-7710

or visit

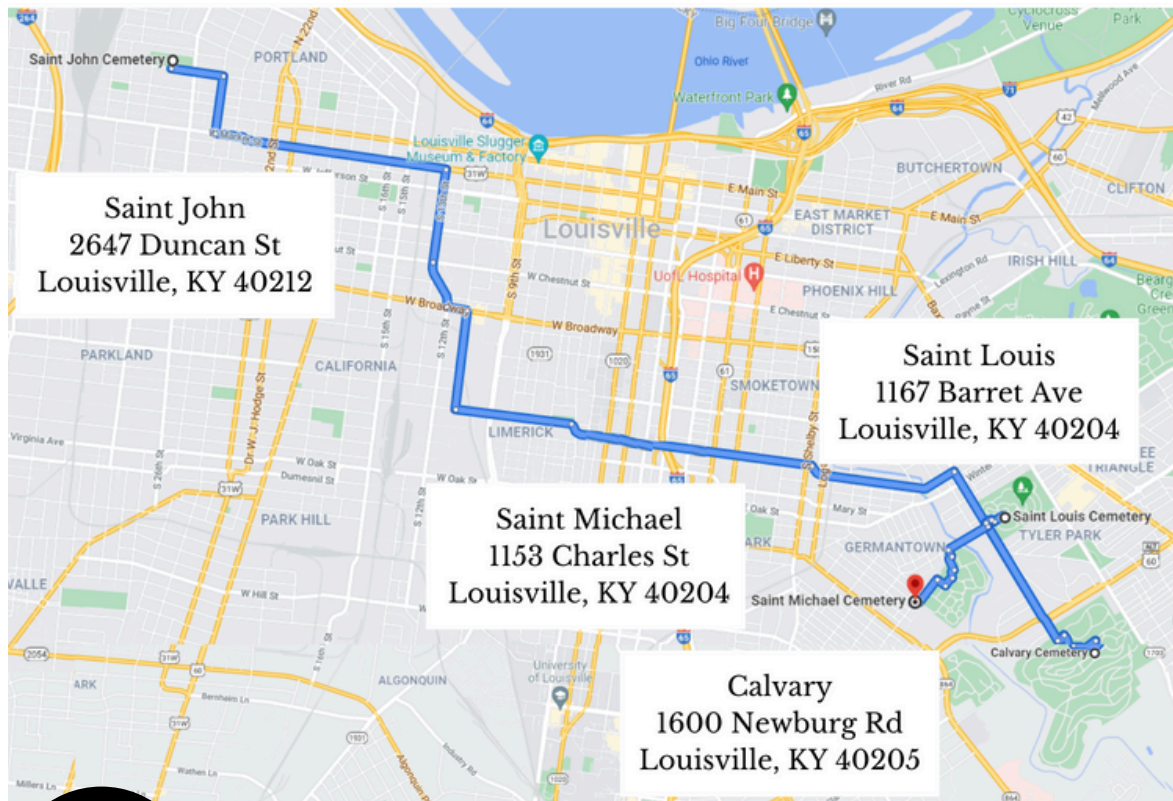
CatholicCemeteriesLouisville.Org

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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



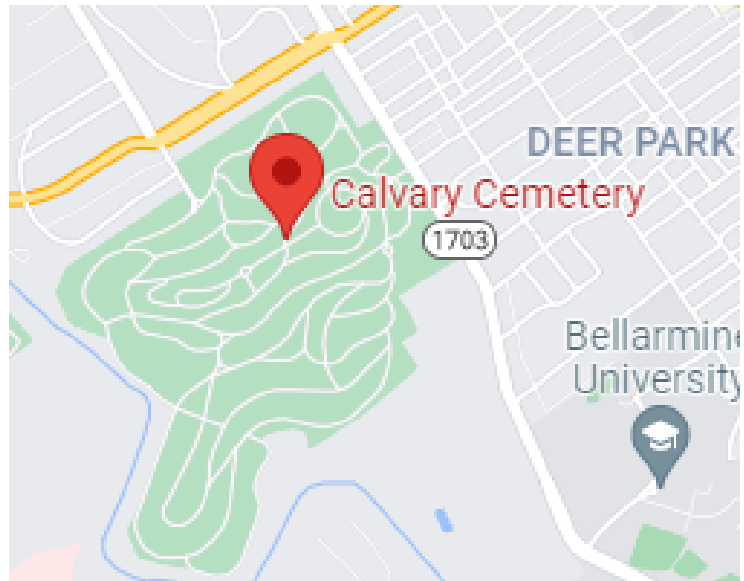
Open April-September: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
October-March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

# 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

