



# CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary

1921

St. Louis

1867

St. Michael

1851

St. John

1849



# A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #23, FEBRUARY 2026

## 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

**February 20, February 27, March 6, March 13, March 20, and March 27**

*Stations of the Cross taking place in Saint Michael Cemetery.*



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 at 1:00 PM.

On the first Friday of Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place on February 20 at Calvary Cemetery and Deacon Scott Haner will lead. We will gather in Section 37 at 1:00 PM. Here is the full schedule:

- February 20 in Calvary Cemetery - Deacon Scott Haner will lead.
- February 27 in Saint Louis Cemetery - Students from Saint Martha will lead.
- March 6 in Saint Michael Cemetery - School leading to be announced.
- March 13 in Saint John Cemetery - School leading to be announced.
- March 20 in Calvary Cemetery - School leading to be announced.
- March 27 in Saint Michael Cemetery - Students from Holy Trinity will lead.

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. Severe weather will cancel.

# **Upcoming Events (cont.)**

**February 25, March  
25, and April 29**

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.**



# The Importance of Cemetery Rules and Regulations

One of the many important aspects of managing four different cemeteries is the implementation and enforcement of rules and regulations. Families are provided with a copy of the Catholic Cemeteries Rules and Regulations when they purchase a grave, crypt, or niche. This comprehensive 34-page document contains a wide variety of important information. Decoration rules, disinterment procedures, memorial regulations, and guidelines regarding conduct and permitted activities within our cemeteries are all clearly outlined within this document.

While some may brush them aside as arbitrary, they are most certainly not. Rules offer protection to owners of burial rights, help maintain respect for the deceased, ensure safety for both visitors and staff, maintain cleanliness, and ensure proper lawful operations.

Clear and consistent rules ensure fairness and uniformity across all four of our cemeteries. By adhering to these guidelines that have been developed over decades of experience, we are able to promote the common good.

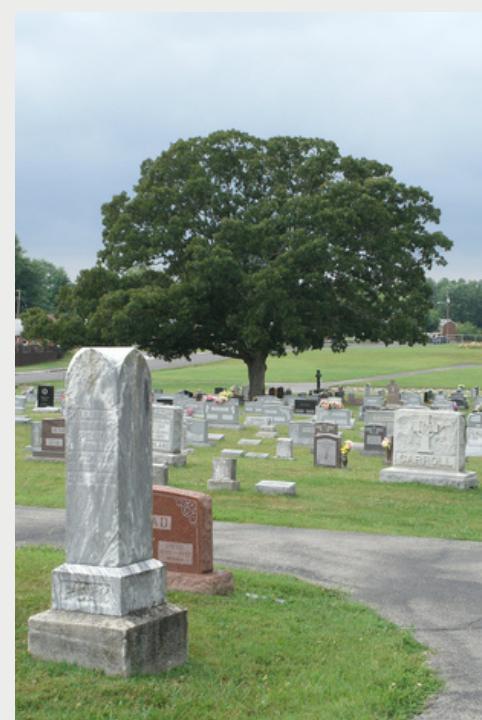
We encourage families and visitors to review the Rules and Regulations carefully. We are always available to provide clarification. When these rules are respected and upheld, they allow us to preserve the beauty, order, and reverence of our Catholic cemeteries for future generations.



*Link to our current Rules and Regulations:*  
<https://catholiccemeterieslouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Rules-Regulations-2024.pdf>

# OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

## Saint James Cemetery (Elizabethtown)



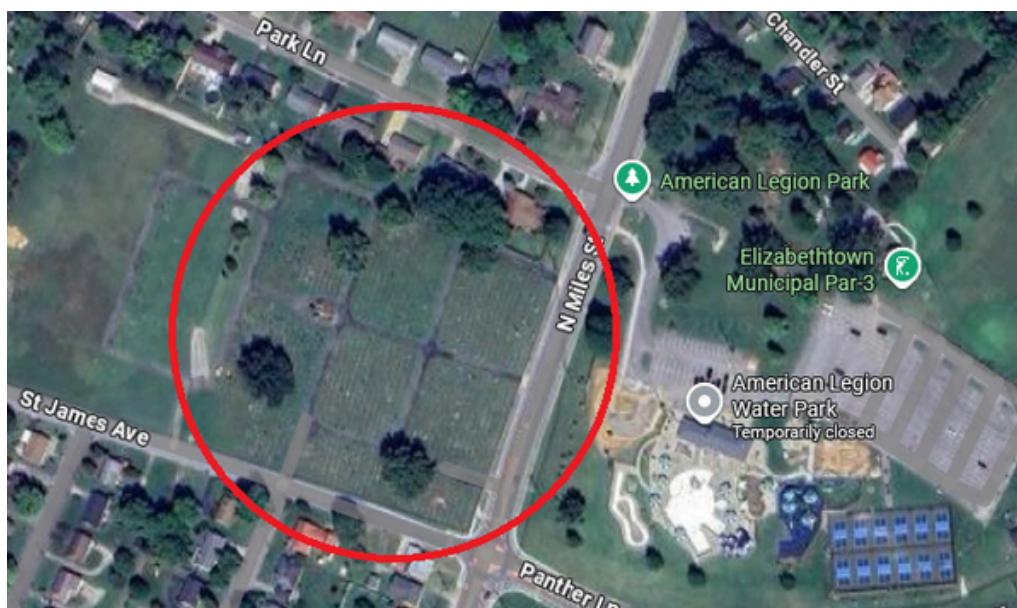
*Above: Interior of cemetery*

*Right: Satellite view of Saint James Cemetery*

The cemetery featured in this issue is Saint James Cemetery in Elizabethtown. The parish was founded in 1851 “as Catholic pioneers from Maryland branched out to Hardin County.” The Sisters of Loretto opened a school in 1870 which was called Saint Mary’s Academy before being renamed Saint James School. The cemetery was opened one year later and is located four miles southeast of the school on North Miles Street.

Their website (<https://stjames-etown.org/about-us/saint-james-cemetery/>) includes rules and regulations regarding burial procedures, rules for gravesites, memorials, and purchase of graves. There are graves available to purchase that can accommodate casket and/or cremation burials. You do not need to be a Catholic in order to purchase graves. In order to begin this process, you are required to call the Parish Office at 270.765.6268. They will then notify the cemetery management who will reach out to you.

Just like the four Archdiocesan cemeteries that the office of Catholic Cemeteries manages, Saint James is an old cemetery containing a variety of headstones and family history. There are certainly multiple generations of families buried here and more will be in the future.



## GINNY REID - RECEPTIONIST

## OUR STAFF

In this edition, we're excited to feature our Receptionist, Ginny Reid. Ginny has been with Catholic Cemeteries for over ten years. Her typical day consists of answering phone calls, assisting customers with finding grave locations, and helping the Burial Coordinator ensure all paperwork is accurate.

People who call our office are often overwhelmed with dealing with a death. Ginny is the first contact that families have with us. She says that the "most rewarding aspect of her job is helping families in their time of need when they are mourning the loss of a loved one and need compassion and empathy." She is able to answer questions they have before transferring them to the appropriate co-worker.

She is close with all of her co-workers and considers them family. In her family life, she is proud to be "Grandma Ginny" or "Gigi." Her son and daughter-in-law, Sam and Nikki, have three children (Thomas, Cleo, and Sienna) who Ginny absolutely adores. She "cherishes spending time with them and spoils them with surprises." She is also a loving owner of three cats: Freckles, Ricky, and Roxie.

Ginny may own three cats, but she is an avid Louisville Cardinal supporter. She enjoys watching both basketball and football games. Her other hobbies include exploring restaurants with her friends, spending time at the Kentucky State Fair, and attending live blues bands.

Catholic Cemeteries is grateful for everything that Ginny has contributed to our agency and the families we serve. We are proud to celebrate her and look forward to cheering her on in all of her future endeavors!



*Ginny "Grandma Ginny/GiGi" Reid*

## Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

Bald Eagles are found throughout North America, including in Calvary Cemetery! The photo you see to the left was taken by the Executive Director, Javier Fajardo, on the cemetery grounds. In the late 1960s and 1970s, these birds were critically endangered due to the pesticide DDT and illegal hunting. DDT was banned in 1972 and the population flourished from 417 nesting pairs to over 70,000 pairs in 2007.



Their name is a bit misleading because they are not actually bald. Early colonists used the word “balde” to describe them. This word meant “shining white”, not a lack of hair. Male and female bald eagles are mostly brown except for their “balde” head, neck, and tail.

The Bald Eagle is an iconic U.S. emblem, but Benjamin Franklin had this to say about the bird: “I wish the Bald Eagle had not been chosen the Representative of our Country. He is a Bird of bad moral Character. He does not get his Living honestly.” He said this due to their tendency to harass other bird’s for their food. There are also videos online of anglers reeling in their catch only for a Bald Eagle to swoop down and snatch their fish from the line.

Their population continues to increase in Kentucky, especially near large bodies of water like the Ohio River and Land Between the Lakes. The next time you are near a body of water, look up at the large trees and you might see one of these majestic creatures.

*Bald Eagles prefer a diet of fish but are flexible foragers.*

**Learn more about burial options  
at any of our cemeteries**

**Call (502) 451-7710**

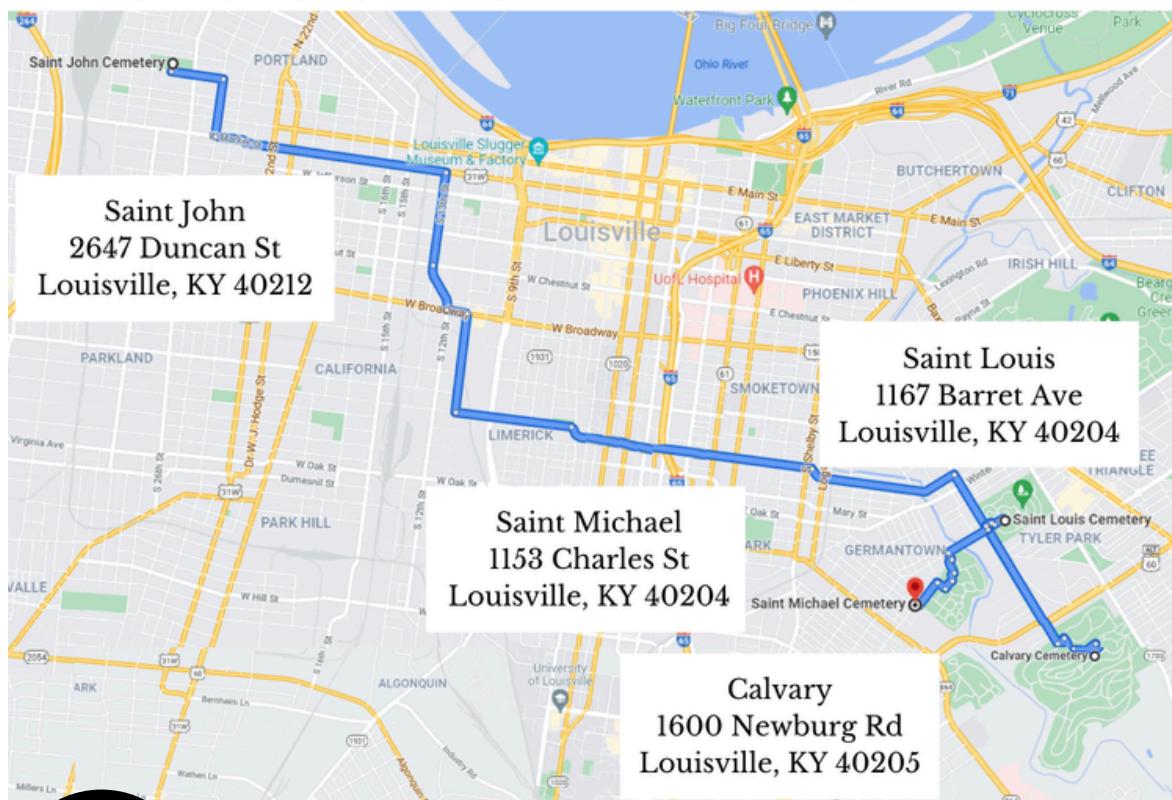
**or visit**

**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



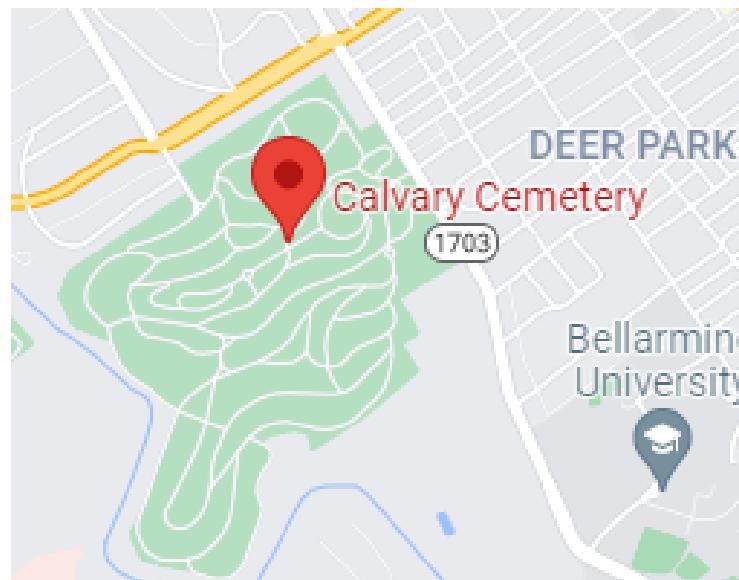
**Open April-September: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
October-March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

# 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

