



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

Calvary
1921

St. Louis
1867

St. Michael
1851

St. John
1849



A Guiding Light

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #24, APRIL 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.

News

Join us in welcoming Kelsey Holmes as our Burial Coordinator



Please join Catholic Cemeteries in welcoming Kelsey Holmes to our agency as our new Burial Coordinator. We look forward to the great contributions they'll bring to the families we serve and our team. We are excited to have her on board!

**April 29, May 27, and
June 24**

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.



Who can be buried in a vacant grave on a lot?

At Catholic Cemeteries, one of the most common questions we receive is families inquiring about who can be buried in a vacant grave on a lot. The first step we take in this process is to figure out who the individual owner(s) are of the lot in question. This will determine who is allowed to be buried on the lot. Unless specific directions have been left in writing by the owner(s) of the burial rights, anyone who is a direct descendant of the lot owner is allowed to have their remains buried on the lot, space permitting. This includes not only children of the lot owner, but grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and on down.

Here is an example of a common situation:

John Smith has passed away and his spouse, Melissa Smith, wants to have his cremated remains buried in the same grave as John's father, James Smith Junior. James is buried in a large lot that was originally purchased and owned by his father, James Smith Senior. Since John is a great-grandchild of the lot owner and there is enough space in his father's grave, his cremated remains are allowed to be buried there.

The example above highlights two crucial aspects:

- the lot owner remains the owner, even in their passing
- the next-of-kin still has to sign the proper documentation to move forward with burial, even if they themselves are not a direct descendant of the lot owner

If you have any questions about situations like this, please feel free to contact our office.



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

OUR ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Saint Joseph Cemetery (Bardstown)

The cemetery featured in this issue is Saint Joseph Cemetery in Bardstown. It was established in 1802 and is located near the intersection of North Third Street (US 31E) and East John Rowan Boulevard (KY 245). The City of Bardstown maintains the adjacent cemetery, which is called the City Cemetery.

Saint Joseph Cemetery is laid out into six sections. Each section has a variety of headstones and there are multiple obelisks as well. There is also an outdoor chapel in the northeast corner of the cemetery, across from Section C. There are graves available in each section for purchase.

Below is a screenshot from a drone video (<https://shorturl.at/tzzfG>) of the cemetery. You can see the entrance off of US 31E, the large cross monument in the middle of the cemetery, and the multiple trees on the property.

There are still lots available for purchase in each section. Feel free to visit their website (<https://stjosephbasilica.org/cemetery>) for more details.



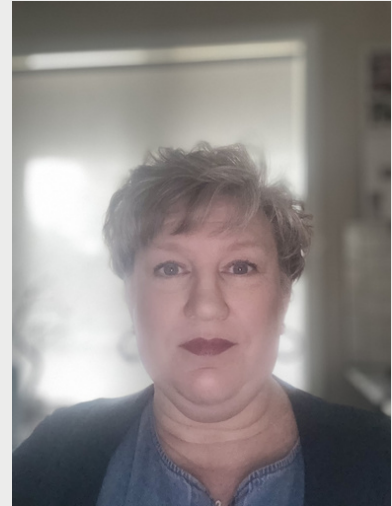
*Above: Central feature of
Saint Joseph Cemetery*

*Right: Drone view of
Saint Joseph Cemetery*



LORIE RAMEY-HENDRIX (FAMILY COUNSELOR)

OUR STAFF



In this edition, we're excited to feature one of our Family Service Counselors. Lorie Ramey-Hendrix has been a part of Catholic Cemeteries since February 2025. She began working as the Burial Coordinator and recently transitioned to her current position.

Losing a loved one, whether it is expected or not, can be extremely overwhelming. Lorie says that the most rewarding aspect of her job is "being of service to families in their time of need." Her typical days includes assisting families with selecting cemetery lots on both an at-need and pre-need basis, vases for memorials, and inscription orders just to name a few tasks.

When she is not in the office, Lorie loves to travel. Her ideal vacation spot is a beach. She is currently planning a trip this summer with her children and grandchildren to celebrate her 30th wedding anniversary. She is quite excited for this trip and says she "may need another vacation to recuperate from that trip!"

As we wrap up this month's spotlight, we are grateful for the dedication and passion that Lorie brings to Catholic Cemeteries. She says that she is "very appreciative of her fellow co-workers" and that feeling is certainly mutual. We look forward to seeing all she continues to accomplish in the future!

“Springing” to life

Spring brings changes to our life... the weather gets warmer, flowers emerge from the winter frost, and trees begin to bloom. Many people say that spring is their favorite season because of the warmer weather and plant blossoms. It seems that the world is “springing” back to life after enduring frosty winter. This is especially true in a cemetery.

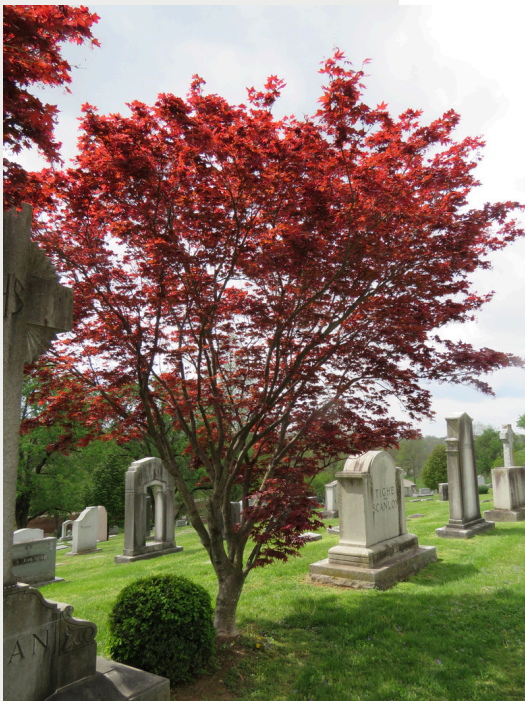
A cemetery in the winter can feel devoid of life - there are less visitors, wildlife, and barren plants. Spring arriving brings more visitors to the cemetery, an uptick in wildlife sightings, and blooming plants. While you may not associate a cemetery with life, this is far from the case. The people who are buried in our cemeteries are no longer with us but that does not mean that cemeteries are lifeless. It can be quite the juxtaposition to see a bird feeding its nestlings in a blooming tree located in a cemetery.

On the following page, we have included some photos that highlight the beauty of spring. Want to have your photo featured in an upcoming newsletter or social media post? Feel free to share them with us!



NATURE & WILDLIFE

“Springing” to life (cont.)



Learn more about burial options
at any of our cemeteries

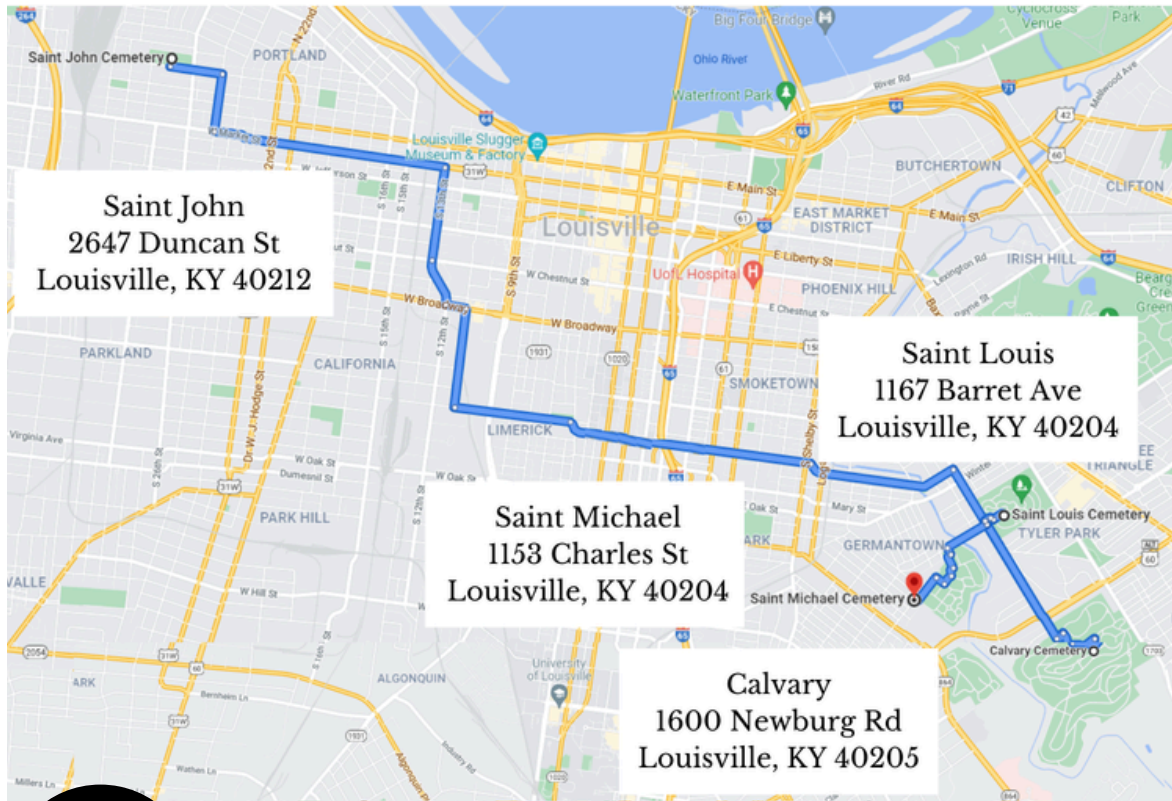
Call (502) 451-7710

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



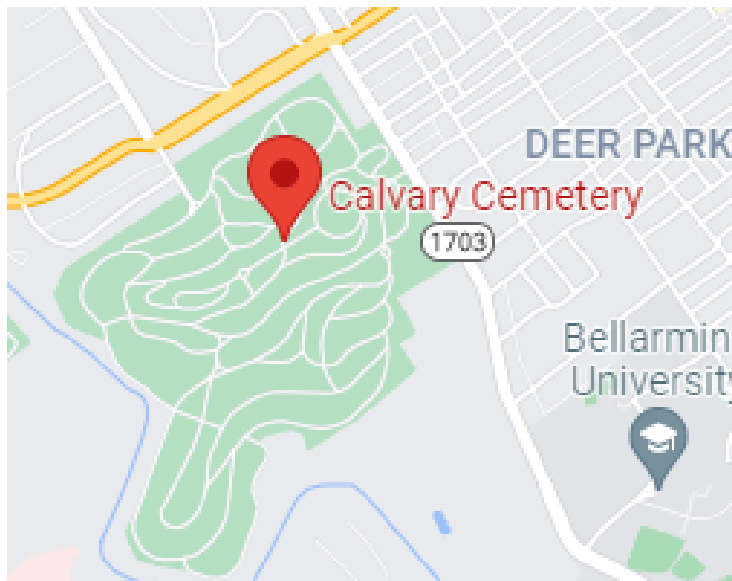
Open April-September: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM
October-March: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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

