

# CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

## ALL SOULS DAY FIELD MASS

NOVEMBER 2, 2016



*"We cannot do great things on this Earth, only small things with great love."*

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on August 26, 1910 to an ethnic Albanian family living in Skopje, Macedonia, her commitment to charity was instilled at an early age by her devout Catholic family. The words attributed to her mother Drana, "Never eat a single mouthful unless you are sharing it with others", clearly resounded and became the focus of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta's life.

She left home at age 18 to join the Sisters of Loreto, in Ireland, where she received the name Sister Mary Teresa, after St. Therese of Lisieux. Years later having been sent to Calcutta, she dedicated herself to teaching girls from the city's poorest families.

However, in 1946, she received a "call within a call" to establish the Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the

poorest of the poor, receiving canonical approval for this new congregation in 1950.

This new congregation grew exponentially and internationally, and she opened her first American-based house of charity in 1971. Mother Teresa was awarded the Noble Peace Prize in 1979 in recognition of her work in bringing help to suffering humanity.

In 1985, on the occasion of the United Nations 40th Anniversary, she spoke to the General Assembly, "let us carry in our hearts one strong resolution: I will love. I will be a carrier of God's love." Let us all carry on and put her words into action.

In recognition of her great works and the miracles attributed to her, Pope Francis canonized her as Saint Teresa of Calcutta on September 4, 2016.

## Frequently Asked Q&A

It is understandable that families have questions concerning the care rules covering gravesites and community mausoleums. As part of a Catholic community, our cemeteries are maintained in consideration of all. Something seen as small may actually have larger impact when considering the overall community. Listed below are a few of the more common questions that our staff are asked-

Why are vigil lights, small statues, or other similar decorations not permitted? Our staff cares for nearly 1,000 acres, and such decorations can impede maintenance or cause safety concerns. Plastic/metal objects hit by a trimmer can become airborne risking injury to other workers or visitors. As part of a community, our desires need to be balanced in consideration of others.

When we visited our gravesite, it appeared that the site was disturbed since fresh soil is now where grass had previously been established. Some natural settling may have required that our staff add new soil to the area, or a nearby interment has occurred and the turf layer of your and neighboring sites may have been disturbed. Please note that only the uppermost turf layer is disturbed and will be fully restored as soon as weather conditions permit.

What does endowed care cover? Endowed care covers the care of the grave/crypt/niche. For gravesites, this includes mowing, trimming, adding new soil/seed as necessary, while for community mausoleums, it provides care and maintenance of the community mausoleum in which your crypt/niche is located. It does not cover the memorial.

Is it necessary to bury/entomb the cremated remains of a loved one? Yes! Doing so not only helps with the grief process, but treats the cremated body with the same respect and dignity that should be given to the human body. Ultimately, other family will be left with the responsibility of deciding on a final place of rest, and the Church teaches that the cremated body should not be scattered or otherwise discarded.

Why can't artificial flowers be used all year long? Unlike artificial decorations, planted flower beds help restrict the growth of weeds, which may grow during the warmer months. Artificial flowers impede maintenance because weeds tend to grow through the artificial decoration, making it extremely difficult to maintain the site.

*Additional information regarding 'Frequently Asked Questions and Answers', and 'Catholic Teaching on Cremation' can be obtained from our website or at any of our cemetery offices.*

*Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord. Psalms 31:25*

## *Prayer for the Deceased*

Remember, Lord, those who have died and have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially those for whom we now pray.

May these, and all who sleep in Christ, find in your presence light, happiness and peace.

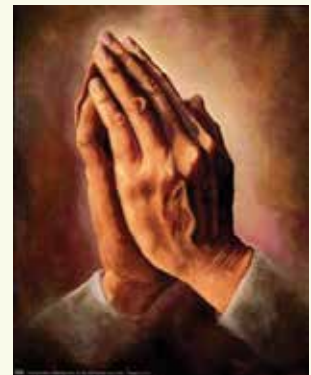
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



## *A Catholic Cemetery*

It is a holy and sacred place, a place of prayer, a place that preserves beliefs and traditions.

When it comes to your final rest, you surely will want your devotion to the Church to guide the decisions you make.

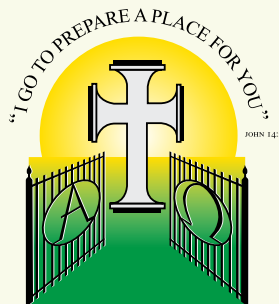


### **St. John Cemetery**

Middle Village, NY 11379  
(718) 894-4888

### **St. Charles/Resurrection Cemeteries**

Farmingdale, NY 11735  
(631) 249-8700



### **Mt. St. Mary Cemetery**

Flushing, NY 11365  
(718) 353-1560

### **Holy Cross Cemetery**

Brooklyn NY 11203  
(718) 284-4520



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