

## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

MEMORIAL DAY FIELD MASS MAY 27, 2013

## Why a Catholic Cemetery?



Our Catholic faith teaches us that our bodies are a sacred part of God's Creation, and therefore the human body is worthy of great reverence. The Church has always taught that the living human body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. In keeping with this belief, the Church has directed that sacred and blessed places be provided for the burial of the faithful departed, including the cremated body. Our choice of a final resting place should reflect our life and devotions, our journey toward eternal salvation.

Two sacred places are set aside in Canon Law, those destined for divine worship and those set apart for the burial of the faithful. The Catholic Cemetery is an outward sign to all that here is a religious place, unique and sacred, protected and cared for, and designated especially for those who recognize they will have eternal life. Our cemeteries reflect the deep religious significance of the corporal work of mercy involved in the burial and our reverence for the deceased. Even more than a work of mercy, the care we give to the final resting place recognizes that the Catholic Cemetery lets us live, die and rest in Christ together in a shared community, no matter how varied and diverse our

lives may be. Our cemeteries provide reverence for the dignity of the body by serving all Catholics in our family of faith.

Mass intentions are offered on weekdays for all those resting in our Catholic Cemeteries, and within these sacred grounds the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered on Memorial Day, when we pay particular tribute to those heroes who served God and Country, and on All Souls Day, the Commemoration of all the faithful departed. These special Field Masses allow relatives and friends who are present to unite their intentions for the souls of their beloved, and gives them the opportunity as the faithful to gather in prayer, praise and loving support.

The statuary, shrines and symbolism troughout our beautiful grounds serve as constant reminders of the sacredness of this holy place, providing faith, hope and comfort. The preference of the Church is that every Catholic be buried in a Catholic Cemetery characterized by these evident signs of faith. A Catholic Cemetery reflects the doctrine and liturgy of the Church and is forever a consolation to the bereaved and an inspiration to the living.

### MEMORIAL DAY Remembering America's Heros



Today is a special day to remember and honor all those brave men and women who sacrificed their lives serving God and Country to ensure our freedom. Let us pause and reflect, with pride and reverence, on the heroic sacrifice made by so many in the service to our nation, preserving for us a land of liberty that we are not only grateful for, but proud of.

As we pray together this Memorial Day, we give thanks to these dedicated men and women. May their example open our hearts and minds to how we may be of service to others, and may our observance of Memorial Day ensure that their memory and spirit will live on forever.







MAY THE LORD BLESS AND GUIDE
OUR NEWLY ELECTED
POPE FRANCIS

#### PEACE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

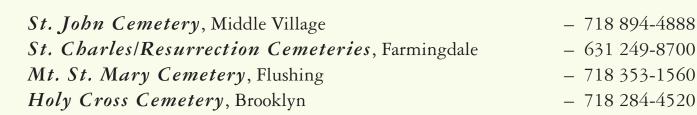
Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

# We are confident in God's love for us and in the promise of eternal life

#### Catholic Cemeteries

- Sacred and holy places
- Places of faith, hope & comfort
- A continuation of family traditions
- An extension of our faith



Catholic traditions have guided you throughout your life. Be at rest with the family of your faith.

When arranging your cemetery needs with your funeral director, be sure to ask for a <u>Catholic Cemetery</u>.

Visit our website www.ccbklyn.org

