

# CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

ALL SOULS DAY FIELD MASS NOVEMBER 2, 2014

# The Feasts of All Saints Day, All Souls Day & Catholic Cemetery Sunday

Originally celebrated in mid-May, the Feast of All Saints now celebrated on November 1st dates back to the early centuries of the Church. First established to honor and commemorate the lives of the many martyrs of the early Church, we now remember all the saints and martyrs of the Church on All Saints Day.

This year, the Feast of All Souls falls on a Sunday, and as we gather today to remember and pray for our loved ones, we are also coming together to celebrate Catholic Cemetery Sunday.

The Feast of All Souls developed along with the Feast of All Saints. The Church has always encouraged the offering of prayers and the Mass to help the faithful departed obtain final purification necessary to live in eternal happiness with God in heaven. While they may not have been solemnly declared saints, our faith guides us to give special reverence

to those who have lived a life of faith and are now in the place Jesus has promised that He has prepared for each of us. We believe that one day too, our souls will also join with them where our joy will last forever.

Christians have been praying for their departed brothers and sisters since the earliest days, as well as visiting their final places of rest. These early Christians visited the catacombs to pay their respects and pray for their loved ones, as we now do the same by our visits to the cemetery. Realizing that visiting the cemetery on a weekday is difficult for many families, the Sunday closest to All Souls Day was chosen by the Catholic Cemetery Conference as Catholic Cemetery Sunday. We are asked not only to remember our loved ones in a special way this day, but to be also mindful of our belief as Catholic Christians in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Let us always remember our Lord's words:

"But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you." John 16:22



#### ALL SOULS PRAYER OF HOPE

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
in Your compassion and Your love
we entrust to Your merciful Heart the souls of
our beloved departed
who have gone before us in faith.

We hope in Your promise
that all who seek You will find eternal life a place of refreshment, light and peace,
forever and ever.

Amen.

### VETERANS DAY – NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

# HOME OF THE FREE . . . BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE



Veterans Day is the official United States holiday observed on November 11<sup>th</sup> to honor those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Veterans Day coincides with other holidays such as Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, which are celebrated in other parts of the world, and which also mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I ended at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, of the 11<sup>th</sup> day, of the 11<sup>th</sup> month in 1918.

President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed Armistice Day for November 11, 1919. In proclaiming the holiday, he said:

"To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us, and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of nations."

## Catholic Cemeteries Diocese of Brooklyn

When you think about your final earthly resting place, choose a Catholic Cemetery. We can faithfully and compassionately guide the decisions that need to be made concerning Catholic burial/entombment, including options for the cremated body.



St. John Cemetery Middle Village, NY 11379 (718) 894-4888

Mt. St. Mary Cemetery Flushing, NY 11365 (718) 353-1560 Holy Cross Cemetery Brooklyn, NY 11203 (718) 284-4520

St. Charles / Resurrection Cemeteries
Farmingdale, NY 11735
(631) 249-8700



Making a Catholic Cemetery your choice is one final and lasting way to affirm your devotion to the church and to your loved ones.

It is an eternal place of rest with your spiritual family.

Catholic Cemeteries serving Catholic families for generations

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