

RESTING PLACE

FALL 2010

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

FEATURING HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CEMETERY

To say Bill Templeton is hands-on at Holy Cross Cemetery in Brantford would be an understatement. The district cemeterian, who has worked for The Catholic Cemeteries since starting as a groundskeeper at age 15, does it all, from helping families make their arrangements to landscaping the expansive Holy Cross property.

Bill spent five years developing the site before Holy Cross opened in 1995 and the ensuing years have seen near-constant growth and development of the cemetery. In 1998 a mausoleum was added and is already slated for expansion. In 2003 the Diocese of Hamilton chose Holy Cross as the location of its first cremation centre, enabling Catholic families to arrange all their services within their community of faith. "The cremation centre is consecrated by the Bishop and people know they can trust our professionalism," Bill says.

With Sacred Heart Cemetery in Paris full, and St. Joseph's in Brantford with very limited space left, Holy Cross allows families to start a new tradition and purchase space where there is room for generations to come. Its location on Governor's Road is an easy drive for people from Brant County, Cambridge and Norfolk County. The hilly site commands a sweeping view over neighbouring fields and farms, and the relaxed, rural flavour is complemented by the cemetery's gardens of brown-eyed susans, sedum and perennial grasses. The cemetery even has its own nursery, where Bill grows seedlings of trees that will one day be planted there – native species such as butternut and chestnut.

"It's like a little community here," says Bill, who does his part to foster that sentiment by continuously adding new points of interest. A recent addition is the colourful butterfly bushes that surround the children's section – a circular area centred by a bronze statue of the Holy Family. Stepping inside the circle of the bushes on a warm day brings a heady fragrance and the sight of monarch butterflies flitting from flower to flower. "I think it creates a relaxing atmosphere," Bill observes.

Meanwhile, the large pond is a haven for passing ducks and other water birds. Bill stocks the water with yellow perch and smallmouth bass and hands out fish food to visiting children. "No fishing though," he warns with a smile.

– see back for more about Holy Cross



District Cemeterian Bill Templeton



Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery at a Glance



- Governor's Road, Brantford
- Single and double lots
- Outdoor columbarium
- Our Lady of the Assumption Mausoleum on-site
- Cremation centre on-site
- Outdoor Mass in spring
- Office on-site
- Pre-need purchase program
- Memorial trees and benches
- Price list available at www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca

UPDATE ON NEW CEMETERIES

- **Holy Redeemer Cemetery in Georgetown** will be opening soon. This new cemetery will be owned and managed by The Catholic Cemeteries but will include a municipal section for use by the general public.
- **Holy Family Cemetery in Milton** is under development and expected to open in 2011. "We are applying for a rezoning and Official Plan amendment but the municipality has been very supportive to date," says John O'Brien, director, The Catholic Cemeteries.

QUESTION & ANSWER WITH BISHOP TONNOS

August 1st not only marked Bishop Tonnos' 75th birthday, but also the date Canon law required him to submit his letter of resignation to the Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI.

In late September it was announced that the Most Reverend David Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., currently Bishop of Corner Brook and Labrador, Newfoundland, would become the new Bishop of Hamilton.

Bishop Tonnos recently offered the following reflections about The Catholic Cemeteries and their growth during his term as Bishop of Hamilton:



Bishop Anthony Tonnos

Q. In your 26 years as Bishop of Hamilton, what changes have you seen in The Catholic Cemeteries?

A. Our Catholic cemeteries have indeed significantly changed during my term as Bishop. Several new cemeteries have opened and the mausolea program has expanded tremendously. The most recent construction project, Our Lady of Hope Mausoleum at Resurrection Cemetery in Ancaster, is set to begin this fall.

Perhaps the most significant societal change has been the acceptance of cremation among Catholic families. I want to ensure families understand they can participate fully in the liturgical prayers for the deceased even if they choose cremation as the final disposition.

Q. What part do the traditions of Catholic burial play in the expression of the faith?

A. Catholic cemeteries are very powerful places where people can connect with their faith. Even if a person has been away from the Church for a long time, do not hesitate to contact one of our parishes in the event a death has occurred in your family.

Our cemeteries provide places of prayer and reflection to those who have lost a loved one. They are a tangible link between the community of the living and the community of Saints. They are the places where even in death the Catholic community gathers as united people to await the resurrection on the last day.

Wreath Reminder

Wreaths can be placed on gravesites from October 1 to April 1. To purchase wreaths, visit the Online Services section of our web site, or call the main office at 905-522-7727. Families are responsible for removing wreaths by April 1 to allow for spring cleanup.

MEMORIAL MASS SCHEDULE Fall 2010

Saturday October 30 • 11 a.m.
**Marymount Catholic Cemetery,
Guelph.**

Celebrant: Bishop Emeritus Matthew Ustrzycki, D.D.

Sunday October 31 • 2 p.m.
**Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery,
Burlington.**

Celebrant: Most Reverend Anthony F. Tonnos, D.D., Bishop of Hamilton

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