

Resting Place



Spring/Summer 2016

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

A plan for eternal rest and peace of mind

The many plans that Patricia and her husband John McAdam had for their shared retirement did not include it ending so soon. In November 2015, five short years after retiring from his job with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, John passed away and was interred at Resurrection Cemetery in Ancaster. "You never know how much time you have," says Patricia. "You are in an incredibly rough emotional state when a loved one passes, and I felt so fortunate that John and I had pre-planned the arrangements.

Otherwise it would have been even more overwhelming. I don't know how people can leave it to the last minute!"



Patricia McAdam with a photo of her husband, John.

Patricia and John had started giving more thought to pre-arranging funeral arrangements after seeing many of their friends lose family members. The couple had gone to a number of funerals at Resurrection Cemetery, and been impressed at how expansive and well-maintained the grounds were. Patricia and John were also drawn to the serenity and quiet of the cemetery, and the two soon decided this was where they wanted to have their final resting places. Shortly after that, the McAdams began the pre-planning process.

"I didn't realize how much work was involved in pre-planning, but staff were so patient," says Patricia. "We changed the monument design so many times before we finally decided on one, but the staff never complained once." Patricia remembers that the process was even somewhat soothing, as she and her husband were able to make choices together about arrangements instead of one of them having to make all the decisions alone during a difficult time. She felt even more confident in the couple's choice of resting place at her husband's funeral, when many friends commented on the beauty of the cemetery and that they wanted to make arrangements to be interred there as well. Patricia says that she dearly misses her husband, but feels at peace knowing that the resting place they chose is in the beauty of Resurrection Cemetery.

The importance of pre-planning

Pre-planning a funeral and burial or cremation is something that not everyone thinks about. But leaving arrangements until a time of loss can make a difficult circumstance even more overwhelming for you or your family. You can start planning ahead now by taking one of the following steps:

- Taking a look at the complimentary Family Records Guide to help organize your wishes, which is available for download on our website: thecatholiccemeteries.ca
- Talking with your loved ones about preferences for a final resting place
- Contacting our Catholic Cemeteries staff for guidance on funeral pre-planning, including cremation and/or burial in a Catholic cemetery. Call 905-522-7727 or 1-800-661-5985 for more information.

LIFE STORIES

Tell us your loved one's life story. Life Stories is a special feature on our website that offers a unique opportunity to celebrate the life of your loved one. Visit the Catholic Cemeteries website – www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca, go to the link from the home page and follow the simple steps to commemorate a special person by telling us their story.

For the respectful and dignified treatment of cremated remains

It is important to make the time to ensure that your loved one has been provided with a dignified resting place. No matter how long ago your loss, The Catholic Cemeteries can assist in finding a respectful place of rest for the cremated remains of your loved one.



With cemeteries offering both in-ground interment and above-ground entombment, our trusted team will work alongside you to provide your loved one with a resting place that is appropriate and honours their memory.

Memorial Masses

Masses are held on Saturday and begin at 11 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

- April 30** • Mount View Cemetery, Cambridge
- May 14** • Holy Cross Cemetery, Paris
- May 28** • Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Burlington
- June 11** • Resurrection Cemetery, Ancaster
- June 11** • Marymount Cemetery, Guelph
- June 18** • Our Lady of the Angels Cemetery, Stoney Creek
- June 25** • Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Burlington

Wreath reminder – Families are responsible for removing wreaths and other winter decorations by April 1 to allow for spring cleanup. Items left after this date will be discarded by cemetery staff.



Construction continues at Our Lady of the Assumption Mausoleum in Brantford.

News and updates

• Renovations near completion at Catholic Cemeteries' main office

The expansion and renovation work at the Catholic Cemeteries' main office is nearing completion. This expansion adds 2,800 square feet, solving an issue of overcrowding within the office following the addition of new staff members over the past two years. Renovations include connecting the office to the sanitary sewer system, and upgrades to various electrical and mechanical systems in the building. Both the expansion and renovations are scheduled to be fully completed by the end of April.

• Work continues at Our Lady of the Assumption Mausoleum in Brantford

Extensive expansion work continues in Holy Cross Cemetery at the Our Lady of the Assumption Mausoleum. Construction began in fall 2015, and is estimated to be completed in April, with a dedication ceremony to be held in May. The expansion adds 420 crypts and 534 niches to the mausoleum. For more information, or to pre-arrange space in the new expansion area, please call Bill Templeton, cemeterian, Holy Cross Cemetery at 519-442-2608.

• New gates installed at Holy Redeemer Cemetery, Georgetown

The new front entrance gates have been installed at Holy Redeemer Cemetery. Featuring precisely-cut stone and fine craftsmanship, the gates are an impressive addition to the serene country beauty of Holy Redeemer Cemetery. Located on 17th Side Road, just west of Trafalgar, the cemetery serves the growing Catholic community in Halton Hills and the nearby area.

CONTACT US



The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Hamilton
600 Spring Gardens Road, Burlington, ON L7T 1J1
905-522-7727 • 1-800-661-5985 • www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca