



**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**  
DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

Preserving Our Beliefs & Traditions

# Revelations

NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES, DIOCESE OF BUFFALO

## MOUNT OLIVET

4000 Elmwood Ave  
Kenmore, N.Y. 14217  
(716) 873-6500

## HOLY CROSS

2900 South Park Ave.  
Lackawanna, N.Y. 14218  
(716) 823-1197

## HOLY SEPULCHRE

3063 Harlem Rd.  
Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225  
(716) 892-3063

## GATE OF HEAVEN

500 Riverdale Ave.  
Lewiston, N.Y. 14092  
(716) 282-5084

## ASSUMPTION

Whitehaven Rd.  
Grand Island, N.Y.  
(716) 873-6500

## QUEEN OF HEAVEN

6843 Tonawanda Creek Rd.  
Lockport, N.Y. 14094  
(716) 433-0941

## SPRING 2013 ISSUE:

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## Year of Faith

### Catholic Cemeteries: Places of Hope

Our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI declared a Year of Faith for Catholics throughout the world. The Year of Faith began with the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council on October 11, 2012. It will end on November 24, 2013 which is the Feast of Christ the King.

The Door of Faith is always open to us, writes the Holy Father. He invites all people “to rediscover the journey of faith” and to share with others the precious gift of faith we have each received from God.

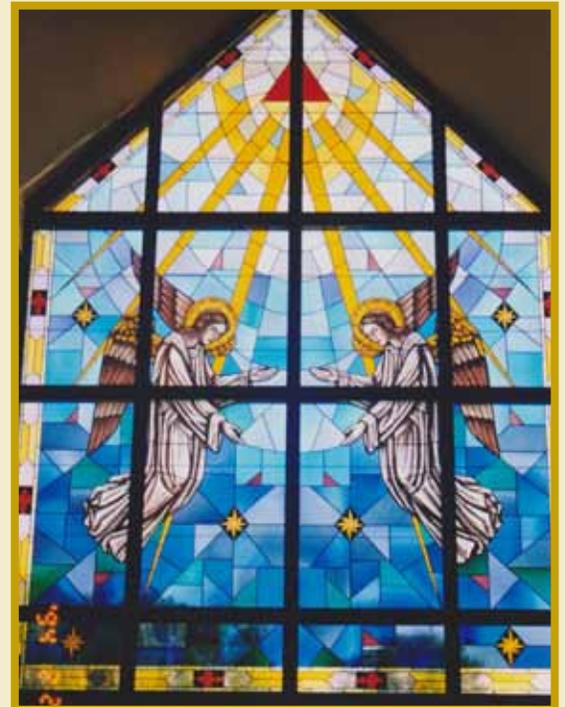
We live in a world dominated by commerce, technology, politics and science that defines both the important issues of our time and offers solutions and a preferred future without any reference to God. In this time of growing secularism and especially in the face of hostility to faith, Pope Benedict XVI opens wide the doorway that leads to the human heart and to an encounter with the living God.

The mystery of death is the invitation to walk through the “Door of Faith” and to let Jesus Christ carry our beloved dead, and we the living, from the sadness of death. Death is a time of crossing over into the fullness of mercy, forgiveness, light and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Funeral practices keep changing, but the mystery of death raises the same questions about the meaning of life in every generation. Even in a secular culture, faith sustains people through the search for what is true about life and death, and the fullness of truth to be found in Jesus Christ.

When a funeral procession arrives at the gates of a Catholic Cemetery or even when a funeral director arrives alone with the cremated remains of a person, the gates of the cemetery are the Door of Faith. A Catholic Cemetery proclaims that every human being is loved by God, and only God knows the human heart. Catholic Cemeteries are places of hope that lift up the human spirit to see the longing of every human heart for God. A Catholic Cemetery, as an extension of the Church, is a holy place that offers hope to the living that one day they will be reunited with their loved ones in Heaven.

*This article was derived from excerpts of a letter by Most Rev. John M. Quinn, Bishop of Winona, Minnesota in Catholic Cemetery Magazine.*



*The Door of Faith is always open to us.*

## Four Myths About Grief Support Programs Dispelled

Still not sure if this is for you? Here is what some of our participants have to say:

*"Overwhelmed by many losses over the last year, grief support with Nancy has helped me to get through it. The tools she teaches and her caring way has really helped."*

*"Following the loss of my wife, attending the various grief support programs has helped me to level out the emotional ups and downs of grief and I have been able to find a life again. I look forward to going to the programs and like that I can also offer support to others."*

*"These programs have shown me that I am not alone. I have made new friends. We support each other and get each other through the grief. I've learned how I can stand on my feet and be my own person again. It has given me the strength to find out who I am."*

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Hope After Heartache :  
Tools for Living with Loss**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Mount Olivet Cemetery Office

Call for dates, locations and details on our other grief support programs:

- 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Potluck Dinner
- Drum 4 Health Drum Circle
- Heavenly Hearts Choir
- Inspired WNY Day Trips
- Men's Cards and Conversation
- Lazarus Lecture Series

### Myth #1

**All you do at grief support is tell your sad story and cry.**

Not at our programs! We laugh, we cry, we share and we feel better! Each grief support session is built around a tool that you can use to help as you heal from your loss. Whether or not you choose to speak, you can hear others share their feelings and discuss their situations so that you leave knowing that you are not alone in your experience. Friendships form, support is given and by the end of the session, you go home uplifted.

### Myth #2

**Support groups are for women.**



Tell that to the many men who attend our support programs regularly. Men are not exempt from the pain of grief. They do, however, have some different needs and that is why we also offer a men's only social program where they can talk and connect.

### Myth #3

**Time heals all grief.**

Although you do feel better over time, time is not the panacea for all. Some people need the support and camaraderie found in grief support programs. Loneliness is a common feeling that people report following the loss of a loved one. By coming to one of our programs, you get the chance to be with others who truly understand.



### Myth #4

**I don't feel comfortable sitting around in a circle sharing, so I can't be a part of a grief support program.**

Sit around? Participants in our programs have the chance to sing in our choir, drum at our drum circle, listen to dynamic speakers, play cards, go to concerts, visit inspiring places in WNY, share a delicious potluck dinner and more.



All programs are open to the public at no charge. For more information, contact Nancy Weil, Director of Grief Support, at 873-6500.

# 100th ANNIVERSARY

This year will mark the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cheektowaga. Bishop Charles Colton consecrated the Cemetery on October 5, 1913.

The Cemetery was started with a purchase of 20 acres of land on Harlem Road with the entrance between what is now Genesee Street and the Kensington Expressway.

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery was founded for the burial of Catholics of Italian background at a time when ethnic cemeteries were the norm. (The United German and French Roman Catholic Cemetery, dating back to 1859, is a stone's throw away and St. Stanislaus Polish Cemetery is just down the street.)

A Mass and re-consecration of the Cemetery will be celebrated to recognize this milestone on October 5, 2013.

More information will be available as we get closer to the event.

## Catholic Cemeteries Mass Schedule

Date	Mass	Time	Location
Saturday, March 23, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00 AM	Mount Olivet Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum
Saturday, April 27, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00 AM	Mount Olivet Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum
Saturday, May 25, 2013	Memorial Day Mass Open House	10:00AM	Mount Olivet Holy Family Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Cross Chapel Mausoleum Gate of Heaven All Saints Chapel Mausoleum Holy Sepulchre St. Francis of Assisi Chapel Mausoleum
Monday, May 27, 2013	Memorial Day Mass Open House	10:00 AM	Queen of Heaven Queen of Heaven Chapel
Saturday, June 29, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00AM	Mount Olivet Cemetery Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Cemetery Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum
Saturday, July 27, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00 AM	Mount Olivet Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum
Saturday, August 31, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00 AM	Mount Olivet Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum
Saturday, September 28, 2013	Monthly Mass	9:00 AM	Mount Olivet Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum Holy Cross Holy Trinity Chapel Mausoleum

# Important Reminders

## Spring Cleanup

Please remove any decorations you wish to keep for next year before March 15th, 2013.

The two week period between March 16th and 31st will be used to prepare for the spring season.

You may place your spring and summer decorations after April 1st.

## Let's Go Paperless

Paperless Newsletters are a great way to stay organized while helping the environment. Instead of receiving a copy of Revelations in the mail, we'll email your copy, along with updates and events, starting with the next issue. You can also read it on our website.

Send an e-mail to [Revelations@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:Revelations@buffalodiocese.org) with your street address and we'll take you off our mailing list and put you on our e-mail list.

## Special Events

### Straight Answers to Cremation Questions

Wednesday April 17th at 6:30 PM

Hear from cemetery and funeral professionals about the trends and options with cremation. This will be a Question and Answer format. RSVP by April 15, 2013 to 892-6600. Sponsored by: Catholic Cemeteries, Mount Calvary Cemetery Group and Dengler Roberts, Perna Funeral Homes. Seminar will be held at Pine Lawn Cemetery 2951 Harlem Rd. Cheektowaga.

### Memorial Day Celebration

Catholic Cemeteries will be holding our annual Memorial Day Mass followed by an Open House at each of our locations. (See page 3 for dates, times and locations.) Refreshments will be provided and Family Service Counselors will be present to answer any of your questions. New this year will be tribute boards offering families an opportunity to write a note of remembrance for their loved ones. Special services will be added to honor our deceased Veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

## Friends of the Cemetery

The Catholic Cemeteries is continuing its successful donation program, "Friends of the Cemetery". With several options to choose from, the donation program is designed to allow families and friends to memorialize a loved one as well as contribute to the continued beautification of the cemetery. For more information, call 873-6500.

**INQUIRE ABOUT THE ADVANTAGES OF PRE-PLANNING.**

**Call 873-6500 today.**

We welcome your comments.

Email us at: [cathcems@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:cathcems@buffalodiocese.org)

Visit our website at:

[www.buffalocatholiccemeteries.org](http://www.buffalocatholiccemeteries.org)

## Bereavement Service

The semi-annual Bereavement Service will be held on Sunday May 5, 2013, at 2:00 pm, at Mount Olivet and Holy Cross Cemeteries.

The Remembrance Services will be held in the Resurrection Chapel Mausoleum at Mount Olivet Cemetery and in the Holy Cross Chapel Mausoleum at Holy Cross Cemetery.

These services provide a spiritually uplifting program for people experiencing the pain of grief and are presented by the Center for Excellence in End of Life Education, in conjunction with the Catholic Cemeteries.

Reservations for this special service will be taken beginning April 1, 2013, by calling Mount Olivet at 873-6500 or Holy Cross Cemeteries, 823-1197.

## Referral Program

For those who have made pre-need arrangements in our Catholic Cemeteries, a referral program has been adopted whereby you can receive a thank you gift for each family member who makes a selection in any of our Cemeteries. It is important to discuss your purchase with family members who may also be interested in selecting burial space near yours. Call 873-6500 for more information.

## Developments

### Ascension Bell Garden Blessed

Bishop Edward M. Grosz presided at the Mass of Blessing and Dedication for the new Ascension Bell Garden at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. The Mass took place on the 100th anniversary of the Ascension Bell's original dedication, Saturday, October 20, 2012. Now, when a funeral procession enters Mt. Olivet Cemetery, it is greeted by the tolling of a bell. Not just any bell, but the bell from Ascension Parish in North Tonawanda, which was closed and merged with St. Albert the Great Church to form the new parish community of St. Jude the Apostle.

The Ascension Bell is the centerpiece of this new ground burial section. Burial spaces are available in the new section and there is already great interest from many of the former Ascension parishioners. The pathway around the bell feature is bordered by engraveable paving stones. Many of these stones have already been engraved with a name, message, prayer or dedication.

This bell holds special significance to Mt. Olivet Cemetery since the bell was originally dedicated by Bishop Charles Colton, the fourth Bishop of Buffalo, and Father James F. Kelly, then pastor of Ascension Parish, on October 20, 1912. Mt. Olivet began with the purchase of 50 acres of land on Delaware Avenue by Fr. Kelly in 1908 and it was consecrated a Catholic Cemetery later that same year by Bishop Colton. Fr. Kelly is buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in the Priest Section near Ascension Chapel which is located by the Delaware Avenue entrance.

Similarly, Holy Cross Cemetery will soon hold a special place in the hearts of parishioners from St. Barbara's Parish in Lackawanna. The bell was removed for safe keeping several years ago before the church was demolished. It was then moved to Holy Cross Cemetery for storage and will be used as an upcoming feature at the cemetery. ■

### New Mausoleum Addition at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

Plans are being finalized to build a new mausoleum addition at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Cheektowaga. The new St. Anthony Chapel Mausoleum will have 385 interior crypt spaces along with 264 niche spaces for the placement of cremated remains.

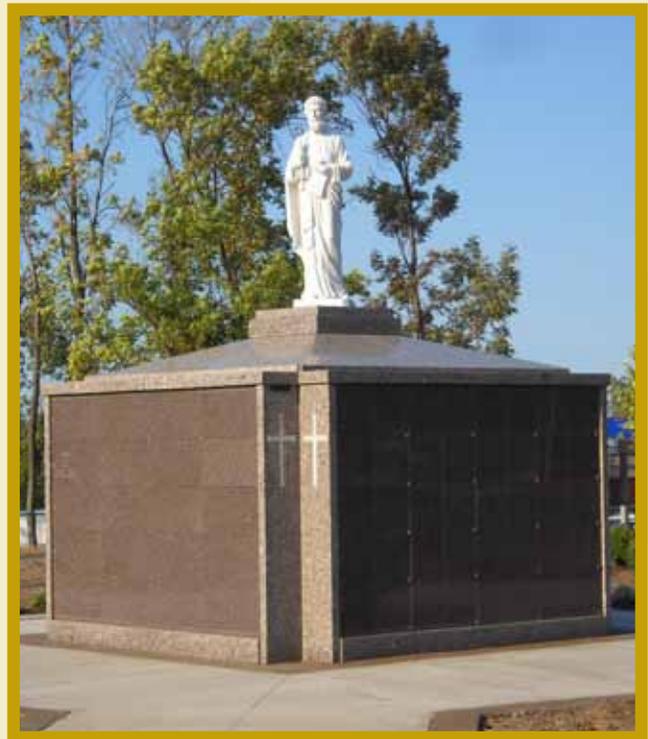
Construction is expected to begin mid to late summer of 2013. **Pre-construction prices will be in effect beginning March 1, 2013.** For more information, please call 873-6500. ■

### All Saints Cremation Garden Now Open

Church teachings insist that cremated human remains should be treated with respect. This includes a worthy container to hold the cremated remains as well as their placement. Mt. Olivet Cemetery's new All Saints Cremation and Estate Garden in the St. Andrew's Hill area will help you fulfill these obligations.

The central columbarium with an inspirational statue of St. Peter is the cornerstone of this new section. It has 320 niche spaces for the placement of cremated remains. Surrounding the new columbarium are the pre-poured foundations for cremation plots. These cremation plots will allow various options for upright memorialization. The garden will also offer unique alternatives, including several additional columbaria and niche walls that will be added in several phases. The perimeter of the garden will consist of Family Estate Lots for standard burial and private family mausoleums. These options are meant to offer attractive pricing for families.

The overall project is scheduled to be completed in multiple phases over several years. ■



*The central columbarium with an inspirational statue of St. Peter is the cornerstone of this new section.*



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**DIOCESE OF BUFFALO**

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4000 Elmwood Avenue  
Kenmore, New York 14217

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# Lazarus Lecture Series

## Join Us For Our Body, Mind & Spirit Series

### Moving Beyond Grief

Speaker: Kevin Auwarter, CPT

Along with the emotional roller coaster comes the equally difficult task of trying to keep your balance following the loss of a loved one. Let your body assist you in feeling better. Knowing simple, gentle ways to move your body can help you find the relief you seek. Through demonstrations, and optional participation, Kevin Auwarter, CPT will guide you to finding better balance in your life. Kevin is the owner of Choice Fit fitness studio in North Tonawanda.

Tues., March 12th

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Mount Olivet Cemetery Office  
4000 Elmwood Avenue, Kenmore

### The Hunt for Happiness

Speaker: Ralph Klicke, Ph.D.

After a loss you may feel like you will never be happy again, yet you know that your loved one would want you to feel joy again. Learn how you can, once again, put happiness back into your life. Dr. Ralph Klicke is a licensed funeral director, author, speaker and teacher. He created and teaches a course on happiness, health and wellbeing at SUNY Canton.

Thurs., April 25th

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist  
Englewood Avenue, Kenmore

### Finding Meaning in Our Grief

Speaker: Day Cummings, LCSW RN

When we lose someone we love it is inevitable to question our faith and spiritual beliefs. Our world is shaken and we find ourselves asking why. We often question God's reasons as we search for meaning. In this program we will explore how grief affects our sense of purpose and discuss practical and helpful ways to find meaning in our loss and hope in our heart. Day Cummings, LCSW RN is the Founder of Circle of Daughters, Inc.

Tues., May 21st

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Mount Olivet Cemetery Office  
4000 Elmwood Avenue, Kenmore

A wide range of support programs are available for those in need. For additional information and a calendar of events, contact Nancy Weil at 873.6500