



# Pastor's Message

May 12, 2020

Last Sunday morning, I visited a local cemetery. I did so to pay respect to the deceased members of my family, especially my grandmothers.

While there, I noticed many others had come to do the same thing. They were present to pay respect to the deceased members of their beloved families, as well as dearly missed friends.

Never in my life did I witness so many people in a cemetery! Obviously, there were specific reasons for the extraordinary number of people I witnessed. It was a Sunday of nice spring weather. The holiday was Mother's Day. Churches still remain locked. The cemetery was closed to the public for several weeks prior to last Sunday. And, the COVID-19 pandemic still forces us to greatly limit our freedom to go wherever we wish, when we are outside of our safe homes.

Even so, I was inspired so many people remembered their beloved deceased mothers and others who have died. As a Roman Catholic, to remember and pray for the deceased is a just and holy thing for all of us to do.

If you have not had an opportunity to visit a cemetery where you beloved family member or friend is interned, I recommend you schedule a time to do so. Although sorrow may come due to missing him or her, after spending some time there, it will bring you inner peace.

A recommendation: Try to make your visitation to the site of the beloved deceased an act of thanks, even though it may be one of some grief.

Keep this quote in mind during your visit, as you recall the wonderful times you had with your beloved, before he/she has passed into God's loving embrace.

“Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.” (Theodor “Dr.” Seuss)

Peace,  
Fr. Marc