

*Sacred Heart Cemetery
P.O. Box 37
Bushwood, MD 20618*

Easter 2021

Dear Friends of Sacred Heart Cemetery,

I write to you with best wishes for a joyful and blessed Easter. This season of our Lord's Resurrection is especially meaningful to those mourning the loss of a loved one. We celebrate in these days the great promise of Jesus Christ: that death is not the end, but a doorway to eternal life for those who believe in Him.

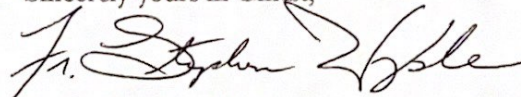
As Pastor of Sacred Heart & Holy Angels parishes, one of the duties entrusted to me is the stewardship of our beautiful Sacred Heart Cemetery. Since my arrival one year ago, a number of concerns have been brought to my attention from Catholic Cemeteries and the Archdiocese of Washington, as well as from our Cemetery Council members and our landscaping crew, regarding the regulation of cemetery plot decorations. While I have the greatest respect for and sympathy towards those who are mourning, I must also agree with the above-mentioned individuals in their concern for our cemetery.

Therefore, at the promptings of Catholic Cemeteries and the Archdiocese, I am kindly asking all friends of our cemetery to please review the policies that were agreed to upon purchasing of burial rights. These can be found in your original agreement forms, or on the Catholic Cemeteries website (www.ccaw.org). We have also posted the most relevant policies on two signs recently installed in the cemetery. An image of the new sign is printed on the back of this letter for your convenience.

Please understand that certain artificial decorations are potentially hazardous to the landscaping machines and to the persons operating them. The safety of workers is a primary reason why Catholic Cemeteries must prohibit anything glass, metal, plastic, etc. at *all* cemeteries in the Archdiocese. This policy must be especially enforced during mowing season. If there are currently any such materials on the plot of your loved one, I respectfully ask you to consider removing them **before April 30th**. On April 30th we will have a "spring cleaning" of Sacred Heart Cemetery, and any remaining prohibited items will be discarded.

Thank you for helping to preserve the safety and beauty of our cemetery. It is a blessing for me to be your priest and steward. Please know of my prayers for you and for all those who are buried in these sacred grounds.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Father Stephen Wyble

Pastor, Sacred Heart & Holy Angels