

VIII. Dealing with a Loss

Life goes on, but is altered, for those who survive the death of a loved one. After the dying and the death, the gatherings and the rituals, the loss is real and the changes permanent for those who loved the deceased most.

The Catholic Cemeteries support **Parish Bereavement Ministry** through the parishes of the Archdiocese. A Parish Bereavement Committee or Bereavement Minister may be in place ready to help after a death. Do not let fear, pride or embarrassment keep you from asking for and making use of that gentle ministry.

In addition, the Catholic Cemeteries provide direct **grief education** and **grief support** opportunities, primarily through the expertise and experience of Patrick V. Dean, MEd., our Director of Grief Education Services (414 438 4420 x302 or patrickdean@griefwork.com). [See our Catholic Cemeteries brochure: **LAUGH, CRY, SMILE, LOVE...** Visit our web site (www.cemeteries.org) for a comprehensive listing of **Grief Support Resources** in the ten-county Archdiocese.]

The grief journey is uniquely yours. Accept its pace...as it is. It will take longer, go in surprising directions, bring new people into your life and come out at an unknown destination. Grief has its individual and solitary aspects, but it also has its shared and communal dimensions. The passage of time alone and the quest to stay busy or distracted will not bring about the healing, insight, understanding and acceptance you need in your grief. Capable and sufficient help is around.

Jesus said, "I came that you may have life and have it to the full."

— John 10:10

Reflections: On Preparing for Death

Jesus said: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life span?



"If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will God not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? But seek first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself." — *Matthew 6:19-21, 25, 26b-27, 30, 33-34*

We prepare to die by pushing ourselves to love less narrowly. In that sense, readying ourselves for death is really an ever-widening entry into life.

— Rev. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI

OUR MISSION

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee remain committed to our mission. We will provide:

- reverent burial of the deceased,
- compassionate care to the living and
- prudent operation of these sacred burial grounds.

The Catholic Cemeteries will continue to preserve an environment in which **LIFE** is remembered, **HOPE** is rekindled, and **FAITH** awakened and strengthened.

*Our daily work is the ministry of consolation...
in the name of Christ.*

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Cemeteries

NOTES —

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- **All Saints Cemetery**
3300 Springbrook Road, Pleasant Prairie WI 53158
262 694 2040
 - **Calvary Cemetery** *(office at Holy Cross)*
5503 West Bluemound Road, Milwaukee WI 53208
414 438 4430
 - **Holy Cross Cemetery**
7301 West Nash Street, Milwaukee WI 53216
414 438 4420
 - **Holy Trinity Cemetery** *(office at Saint Adalbert)*
3564 South 13th Street, Milwaukee WI 53221
414 483 3663
 - **Mount Olivet Cemetery**
3801 West Morgan Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53221
414 645 0611
 - **Resurrection Cemetery**
9401 West Donges Bay Road, Mequon WI 53092
262 242 3850
 - **Saint Adalbert Cemetery**
3801 South 6th Street, Milwaukee WI 53221
414 483 3663
 - **Saint Joseph Cemetery**
S22 W22890 East Broadway, Waukesha WI 53186
262 547 4927

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AT HOLY CROSS CEMETERY

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.CEMETERIES.ORG.

- **Select a Parish Cemetery**

Choose a cemetery and contact the office to arrange in advance for Catholic burial. They will listen to your questions & concerns, then to assist with the process that will turn your burial preferences into reality

