



St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

NEWS

Spring 2019
Volume Eleven



Storage Barn

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The old stone foundation barn has been replaced. The structure is located at the Baker Street entrance to St. Joseph's main cemetery behind the adjacent caretaker cottage. The Sawmill Brook runs under a small portion of the lower building. The stone foundation to the barn was in excellent shape and dates back to the 1600's. The Association has not been able to insure the building due to the structural deterioration over the years. The Board of Directors reviewed the analysis and decided the only alternative and most affordable option would be to demolish the structure.

The permitting process for Boston approval took the age of the structure into consideration and the agreed plan was developed and implemented. The process included the Boston Landmarks Commission, Boston Conservation Commission, and meetings with the neighbors over a period of 18 months. The Association retained a structural engineer and consulted with an architect to insure the pro-

ject was completed as designed. This barn will be used for storage of materials and equipment.

The Environmental aspect of the project will include a series of enhanced plantings along the brook side of the project and decorative stone walls. The stone for the walls was salvaged as part of the barn demolition and will retain the historic aesthetics of the cemetery. Three planting areas will be developed along the brook portion of the project. Planting tables will be spotted along the banks of the brook with specific native plantings and where appropriate flowered plantings.



N E W S

Letter from the President

The 2019 Newsletter moves us forward with another productive year. This is our 11th edition and improvements and changes in daily assignments and capital projects continue to be a priority for the Board of Directors. These improvements are a positive benefit for families, loved ones and our funeral directors. They stabilize cost for services we provide and allows us to retain the beauty of our grounds throughout all locations of the cemetery.

St. Joseph Cemetery continued upgrades and improvements including road repair, tree removal and replacement, and new full burial graves in the Gethsemane section. Our tree planting program consisted of approximately 25 new trees being added to various locations. The Chapel Hill IV capital project is complete providing an additional 200 cremation graves and niches. These

areas are ready for purchase. The stone barn project is almost complete and will be functional by June. This facility will be used for storage of equipment and ground supplies.

St James the Apostle continued landscape and irrigation improvements. Road paving and drainage structure repairs were extensive throughout this section of our cemetery. The plan for 2019 will include extensive road resurfacing and tree plantings.

St Vincent received mostly landscape improvements. Tree work was necessary along the perimeter of the cemetery due to heavy windstorms this winter. In some cases these downed trees destroyed neighbors fencing which required costly replacement.

Holyhood Cemetery continues to require irrigation up-

grades and extensive tree work. We are currently exploring the expansion of new grave areas. Plans for these areas will be developed for Board review this summer.

Our fee schedule for 2019 remains stable and is reviewed by the Board annually.

On behalf of the Board I extend our personal thank you for your support and help throughout the year.

Sincerely,



George A. McLaughlin, III
President

Web Site

Information regarding our history, services, regulations, hours of operation, lot sales, genealogy, and directions, is available at

www.holyhood.com

Phone 617-327-1010

Fax 617-327-0526

Vandalism at St. Joseph's

The vandalism reported at St. Joseph Cemetery last February was greatly exaggerated by the news media. The monuments were isolated to one small area of the cemetery. St Joseph's personnel reset the monuments that were affected within a couple of days. Unfortunately the news spread very quickly and upset many families and friends of the deceased buried at St. Joseph's Cemetery. There are instances in the cemetery that require us to remove the headstones and lay them down flat to prevent damage to the stone. Holy-



hood Cemetery is committed to keeping our cemeteries beautiful and well maintained.

Cemetery Decoration Guidelines

Decorating a loved one's gravesite is part of personalizing their memorial and remembering them. It provides many families comfort and makes the grieving process easier for them. Christmas and Holiday decorations placed on graves shall be removed beginning January 15th. Veterans flags placed on the grave for Memorial Day will be removed after July 4th weekend. The Cemetery cannot assume any liability for damage due to weather or items that interfere with the cemetery's lawn care or other maintenance procedures.



Holyhood Cemetery Development

Holyhood Cemetery located in Brookline is the Association's oldest and most historic cemetery. At one point in time there was a separate office at this location which was later consolidated with the office at St. Joseph's. However there has always been inquiries and requests to purchase full burial graves at this location. As part of the Capital Program in 2012 cremation graves areas were developed with the vision of finding suitable areas for full casket burials. The Board of Directors has appropriated funds to evaluate and design areas for full burials. The designs will be reviewed for approval in 2019.



"Find a Loved One"

feature is now

available for St.

Joseph Cemetery

at

www.holyhood.com

Holyhood Board of Directors



Holyhood Cemetery Association was established in 1857 and incorporated in 1872. We are fortunate to have a first-rate Board of Directors which in the past has included distinguished members like Cardinal Cushing and Rev. Joseph Maguire. Today's Board of Directors consists of Architects, Lawyers, Restaurant Owners and Financial Experts who are committed to serve families and loved ones.

NEWS

Memorial Day Mass



Memorial Day St. Joseph Cemetery 2018



Monsignor Helmick, St. Theresa of Avila, A. Thomas DeMaio, General Manager and granddaughter, Alison Foley



Patrick Stout, Bugler; Brandon Santini, Organist; Katherine Merwin, Cantor

Memorial Day
masses are
longstanding
traditions at both St
Joseph Cemetery
and Holyhood
Cemetery

The origins of Memorial Day date back to the Civil War when many cities and towns would set aside a day to remember those who died in the war. St Joseph and Holyhood Cemeteries continue that tradition with annual outdoor masses at each of the cemeteries. The weather was cold and rainy but the larger tent at St. Joseph's accommodated the growing number of families that attend each year.

Monsignor Helmick of St. Theresa of Avila celebrated the 10 am Mass at St. Joseph Cemetery. Father Jack Ahern of St. Patrick Parish celebrated the 9 am Mass at Holyhood Cemetery.



**A. Thomas DeMaio, General Manager
Father Jack Ahern, St Patrick Parish**



Taps at Holyhood signals the end of Mass

Hector R. Torres

Hector Torres is an employee who never stops working. Hector has been with the Association for 32 years. His work ethic sets an example for other employees.

Hector is a family man and with his wife has brought up 6 children. He now has 9 grandchildren and like many of us enjoys them to the fullest. When you ask Hector for his hobbies and favorite things to do his reply is family, grandkids, sometimes fishing and work. We all thank him for his dedication.



Cremation Options at St. Joseph's

Cremation is becoming more acceptable, is less expensive, and for some, is simpler, less emotional, and more convenient. Religious restrictions on cremation are diminishing and ties to tradition are declining. As a result a new cremation area has been developed at St. Joseph's. This area can accommodate in ground cremation burials and cremation niches. The Maguire Chapel offers glass niches which can accommodate one, two or three cremation urns.

Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline has a new section behind the Fitzpatrick Chapel that can accommodate in ground cremation burials and includes a granite marker which can be inscribed.

St. Joseph's has available a new section in the Field of Gethsemane which offers traditional burial space. St. James the Apostle has many options for traditional burial including crypt graves which include the liner with the purchase of the grave. These graves can accommodate two cremations in addition to the two casket burials.

If you would like more information, please contact a staff member to arrange an appointment at your convenience.



Chapel Hill IV Cremation Wall



Chapel Hill IV Cremation Niches



Maguire Chapel Glass Niches

The cemetery is a place for meditation and prayer, hallowed by symbols of our faith and our devotion in the memory of those who rest in eternal peace.



St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

990 LaGrange Street
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Phone: 617-327-1010

Fax: 617-327-0526

Website: www.holyhood.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

The gates of the cemeteries are open

7 days per week from 8:00 am to

7:00 pm and in winter 8:00 am to

5:00 pm

The Association continues to be financially strong and makes every attempt to provide families and loved ones with everyday quality service. The Board approved master plans and strategic plan, create a clear vision for years to come. Cost effective procedures stabilize operational costs. This is very important but cannot be accomplished without the cooperation of a very dedicated staff and work force.

Our staff and Board of Directors thank our churches, families, monument dealers and funeral directors for their support and understanding throughout the year. We encourage you to follow our web page, and call with requests or constructive suggestions.

Sincerely,

A. Thomas DeMaio,
General Manager



"The A-Team should consist of every employee of the cemetery, because we are only as strong as our weakest link" - John Toule



Holyhood Cemetery Association

990 LaGrange Street

West Roxbury, MA 02132