



# St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

# NEWS

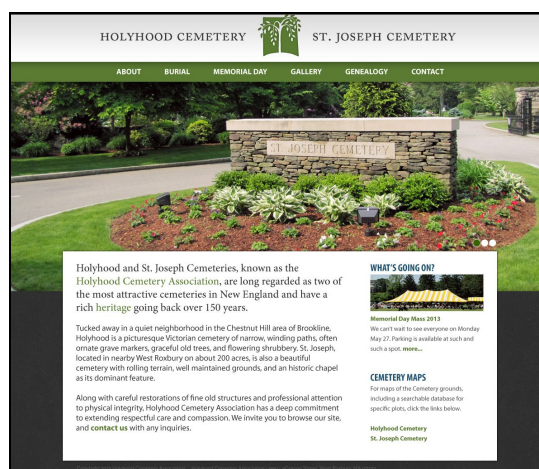
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## Holyhood Turns to Technology to Enhance Experience



Every year, the Holyhood Cemetery Association is committed to finding new ways to enhance the experience of our visitors. This year, one area we are focusing our attention on is technology. Over the coming months, visitors will notice changes in the presentation of certain aspects of our services. The first change will involve a facelift of our web site.

Visitors will see a new look and feel applied to the web site ([www.holyhood.com](http://www.holyhood.com)) beginning this summer. In performing the web site

facelift, we are hoping to create a reference for people in the community to turn to for information regarding upcoming events, discover the history of Holyhood, and learn more about our services and the community as a whole. One of the central focus points of our new site will be our annual Memorial Day Services. The Memorial Day Masses have become a tradition for our communities. The masses, held at both Holyhood as well as St. Joseph's Field of the Sacred Heart, act as a time to honor our fallen heroes who have been laid to rest. We feel that it is important to dedicate a section of the site to highlight this celebration and give visitors a chance to see photos of this great tradition. Another added feature to the site will be the ability to submit genealogy request forms directly through the site. We know that researching genealogy can be a labor-intensive project, and we hope that by offering this service the process will be streamlined and user-friendly.

Along with the online genealogy form, we are currently in the process of developing an option to search for loved ones through the web. Users who know information such as "name" and "date of death" will have the ability to search for people and may be able to find the location of their grave site before stepping foot on the grounds. A visitor will have the ability to print maps from home or open the map on a mobile device such as a smart phone or tablet in order to find where a loved one's grave site is located. In addition to this web-based option, we hope to create a kiosk area where visitors will be able to search for loved ones in our office.

The Association is committed to making the visitors' experiences at Holyhood and St. Joseph better, both in person and online. We hope you enjoy these enhancements as they are unveiled.



## N E W S

## Letter from the President

As noted on the front of our 5th annual Newsletter the Association is setting the stage to move forward into state of the art technology. The compelling goal of this move for future years is to bring families, friends, and loved ones, young and old forward with us. We all agree technology is great but everyone should be able to take advantage of it. The Board of Directors want to secure all our records and maps. This is being done by scanning the records to create a backup. All this information is also being input into a database which will allow our very capable staff to better serve the everyday needs and requests of funeral directors and families.

The first phase of the master plan at Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline has been approved by the Board. Plans and designs were submitted and reviewed resulting in a decision to proceed. The first segment of the construction project will start behind the Fitzpatrick Chapel adjacent to the historic stone staircase. When this is complete it will provide approximately 500 cremation graves. Construction will commence this spring.

Maguire Chapel landscape design plans are under review by the Board. The plans contain replacement of the shrubs and plantings at the front en-

trance. They also display a sitting area, water fountain, stone walls and areas for cremation burials. This project, if approved, will start in the spring of 2014.

The St Vincent section of the cemetery will receive extensive road repair this spring. We have cleared a few areas and have been able to develop approximately 240 new grave sites. Each single grave will accommodate two burials and two cremations. These sites are available for sale.

Morin's Landscape Service purchased Trugreen Landscape this year and provided ground maintenance for the last year of a three year contract. The transition was very smooth and the service was to our satisfaction. A new contract will be advertised for bids this summer.

Tree work throughout the cemeteries has been extensive with the removal of a number of old trees. A tree replacement program has been approved in the Capital Budget. Our own cemetery employees replaced 20 trees this past fall. It is anticipated to replace another 20 trees this spring.

The St. James Landscape screening project is complete. This will benefit the section of cemetery abutting the VFW Parkway. This spring a number of colorful plantings will be added to the beds surrounding the larger trees.

The economic environment continues to be a challenge; however our financial condition remains sound. The financial decline over the past few years seems to have stabilized and shown improvement for 2012. Budget management continues to require diligent oversight.

The annual Memorial Day Observance Mass continues to grow in numbers. This year we estimate 1200 attendees at St. Joseph and another 100 at Holyhood. The increase in the number of young families attending was very noticeable at both cemeteries.

I want to thank the General Manager, Staff and Cemetery Employees for a job well done this year. I also want to thank all of you for your support in 2012 and we look forward to another successful year in 2013.

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](http://www.holyhood.com)**

**Phone 617-327-1010**

**Fax 617-327-0526**

## Maguire Chapel Landscape

Spring 2013



Maguire Chapel landscape is a capital project the Board of Directors are considering for 2014. Design documents have been submitted to the Cemetery Committee for review and discussion. Kattman Corporation, the selected consultant, has surveyed the front area of the chapel and submitted schematic drawings showing new plantings, stonewalls and an area for proposed cremation burials.

## New Kiosk in Davis Administration Building

As a part of this year's focus on technology, Holyhood Association plans to add a Service Kiosk to the Davis Administration Building on the property of St. Joseph Cemetery. We hope the Kiosk will be used as a reference tool for visitors to obtain information about Holyhood and St. Joseph Cemeteries.

The indoor Kiosk will be comprised of a touch screen monitor which will initially allow visitors to view our web site. On the web site, visitors will have the opportunity to see information such as the History of Holyhood, Prominent Figures who are laid to rest, Burial Pricing, and information regarding our Annual Memorial Day Masses. Visitors will also have the option to view maps of both Holyhood Cemetery and St. Joseph Cemetery to aid in navigating the properties.

In the future, Holyhood Association hopes to implement the "Search for a Loved One" option (as talked about in the cover article) as a part of this indoor Kiosk. Another option that the association is looking into is placing a Kiosk outside of the St. Joseph administration building. A conceptual plan shows that the Kiosk would take



into account St. Joseph's architecture and not disrupt the look and feel of St. Joseph, while at the same time providing better service to our visitors through technology. The Kiosk will feature a large screen to access our web site, search tool, and maps of the property. The goal of the outdoor Kiosk will be to provide guests with the same level of service that we strive for during normal business hours, even when our offices are closed.

As always, our staff is always available to assist our visitors on a personal level. Our hopes in adding these new features is to give our visitors another option to assist them in enjoying the property, and make it easier for our guests to locate loved ones on our grounds.

*The gates of the  
cemeteries will be  
open 7 days per  
week from 8:00 am  
to 7:00 pm and in  
winter 8:00 am to  
5:00 pm*



## N E W S

# Memorial Day Mass



**Memorial Day St. Joseph Cemetery 2012**



**Monsignor Helmick and his dedicated staff from St. Theresa of Avila, West Roxbury**



**Sarah Mitchell, Cantor; Patrick Stout, Bugler; Brandon Santini, Organist**

*"Let every nation know,  
whether it wishes us well or  
ill, that we shall pay any  
price, bear any burden,  
meet any hardship, support  
any friend, oppose any foe  
to assure the survival and  
the success of liberty"*

*John F. Kennedy*

Memorial Day is a time for remembering the men and women who died for their Country. The annual Memorial Day Observance Mass continues to grow in attendance numbers with an estimated 1200 at St. Joseph and 100 at Holyhood Cemetery. The increase in family attendance was very noticeable at both cemeteries in 2012. The condition of the cemetery grounds was excellent and volunteers from various schools and veterans organizations did an outstanding job placing flags at all the Veterans graves. This task could not be accomplished without them and the assistance of the very dedicated staff at Holyhood. Monsignor William Helmick and Father Jack Ahern officiated at the services.



**Memorial Day Holyhood Cemetery 2012**



**Father Jack Ahern, St. Ambrose Parish, Dorchester**

## Holyhood Cemetery Employees Retire

Spring 2013



**James McGrath**

James McGrath, our former “jack of all trades” has retired after 36 years of service. Jim could operate all the machines and equipment in the cemetery and do just about anything requested of him. His enjoyment now is to cruise through the cemetery grounds in his hobby cars. His most recent is a white Porsche convertible. He likes this because he does not have to get out to give orders to his fellow workers. We all wish Jim the best!



**Michael Maguire**

Michael Maguire, our former mechanic and water irrigation specialist, has decided to retire after 43 years of dedication. Mike’s historic knowledge of our older irrigation system will be greatly missed. He has agreed to stop in for coffee at times and help us with any unanswered problems. We just hope it is not at 5:00 am which seemed to be his normal schedule. We wish him the best in his retirement.

*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.*

## Holyhood Master plan

The Board of Directors have approved the 2013 First Phase Design for Holyhood. Construction will begin this spring. The location of the selected area is behind Fitzpatrick Chapel on the lower level adjacent to the famous historic staircase. When the Phase is complete it will provide approximately 500 grave sites for cremation burials. The area will be surrounded with historic character and the addition of a waterfall to enhance the beauty of the landscape.



## Burial Options at St. Joseph Cemetery

Traditional burial options at St. Joseph Cemetery include cremation graves, cremation niches, single graves, crypt graves and family lots . If you would like more information on new graves available for purchase at St. Joseph Cemetery please

stop by the office located at the main entrance of the cemetery on LaGrange Street or call 617-327-1010



## St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

990 LaGrange Street  
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Phone: 617-327-1010

Fax: 617-327-0526

Website: [www.holyhood.com](http://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 Holyhood team of employees continues to strengthen. This past year we have had the retirement of two long term employees. We are fortunate to have replaced them with two very qualified employees. Everyone is adjusting to new technology and more efficient ways to conduct daily assignments. The dedicated office staff continues to serve our families and loved ones with compassion and follow through on every request. Our employees are the core of what it takes to provide quality service.

As always our staff and Board of Directors would like to thank our churches, families, monument dealers and funeral directors for their support and understanding throughout the year. We encourage you to call with requests, constructive suggestions or any questions.

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