

St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

N E W S

Spring 2015

Volume Seven



Inside this issue:

- Cover
- Letter from the President
- “Find a Loved One”
- Director of Cemetery Services
- Bridge Repair
- Memorial Day
- Bishop Maguire
- Roque Abalsamo
- John C Hanlon

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. It has been a long hard winter the beauty displayed in this picture hides the extensive work ahead for the spring of 2015. Looking back at our success in 2014 we can only give a great deal of the credit to the Holyhood staff and work crews for an outstanding work performance.

Technology improvements took the forefront of effort in 2014. The “Find a Loved One” program became available for St. Joseph Cemetery allowing families and loved ones to find grave sites and information remotely from their iPhones, iPads and home computers. This technology brought the Association to the forefront of services cemeteries offer. Programs such as this will provide a great service to families in years to come. The next phase of the program will be to incorporate maps and records dating back to the 1800’s from Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline.

In addition to the standard information it is planned to expand the technology to allow families to submit a short biography or picture of their loved one.

A Master Plan has been developed for St. Josephs Chapel Hill section. Engineering and preliminary designs were submitted to the Board of Directors for review. The plan focuses on the open hill area behind Maguire Chapel. This project will provide additional cremation and full burial graves in phased sections of the hill.

Beautification of our grounds is always an ongoing process. This year a tremendous amount of clearing was accomplished along the borders of all sections of the Cemetery. The work enhanced the appearance of the grounds and provided easier accessibility for visitors.

The Master Plan for Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline was reviewed by the Board and an area near the Fitzpatrick Chapel has been identified for the installation of 50 new grave sites. Plans will be submitted to the Board for review this year. Road work and irrigation repairs were accomplished throughout Holyhood in 2014.

As always the Association strives to make a visitors experience pleasant, safe and memorable.

N E W S

Letter from the President

The 2015 long winter is now a thing of the past. We can take time to reflect on our successful year of 2014. The capital project budget continues to be strong and is moving the Association in a planned productive direction.

The administration building had a much needed uplift with the replacement of office furniture for our staff. This furniture complimented and accommodated our new computers. Maguire Chapel was waterproofed along with roof repairs and all the windows being resealed.

St. Josephs main cemetery received some road paving as part of an ongoing program. The perimeter areas along the walls were cleared and landscaped. Additional grave sites were identified and are available for sale.

The first phase approach for development to a portion of the hill behind the Maguire Chapel is being considered by the Board. Preliminary plans have been reviewed and are under review by a subcommittee appointed by the Board.

St. James the Apostle section of the cemetery received some extensive irrigation improvement and the repair of a well system. The Board has voted a major project for St. James in the upcoming year with the installation of

140 new crypt graves.

St. Vincent section received upgrades to the landscape including tree removals and the pruning and clearing of overgrown shrubs at the front entrance and along the perimeter.

Holyhood Cemetery continues to be the focus of the Board relative to the Master Plan. Roadways are being repaired as specified in the plan and additional new burial areas are being contemplated. Fitzpatrick Chapel improvements included a new heating system in an effort to keep energy costs at a minimum. The front entrance was improved with the pruning and clearing of shrubs and overgrowth.

Technology improvements to our web page have continued and the task of computerizing all our old records and maps dating back to the 1800's is ongoing. When this is complete the ability to locate loved ones from an iPhone, iPad or computer will be available in Holyhood as it is now for St. Josephs Cemetery.

Budgets will continue to be monitored closely to assure everyone the best effort is being made to keep operation costs stable. The Associations financial status remains solid.

Memorial Day continues to be a great tribute to our veterans and families. The Mass at St. Josephs celebrated by Monsignor Helmick with the assistance of his staff makes this event very special. The dedication of the newly renovated Veterans area and granite bench in honor of Brigadier General William J. Gormley, III added to the 2014 observances.

I want to thank all of you including our competent staff for your support and a great year. We look forward to another productive and successful 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

Find a Loved One Technology

Spring 2015

Search by Name (Last, First)

Deceased:

Owner:

Enter a Deceased or Owner to find your target record

The find a loved one technology is accessed through the website (www.holyhood.com). Once the web page has loaded you can then click on the link for find a loved one. A screen like the one pictured above will open and allow you to enter a deceased name to search.

A list of names will populate like the one pictured to the right and allow you to choose more detailed information if available. This feature is now available for St Josephs Cemetery and we hope to make this

Search by Name (Last, First)

Deceased:

king

Owner:

Results Summary

More Info	KING, CLARA W.	KING, JOHN H.
More Info	KING, PETER	KING, BRIDGET
More Info	KINGSTON, STANL	KINGSTON, MARGA
More Info	KING, ANNE C.	KING, ANNE C.
More Info	KING, JOHN F.	KING, MARY
More Info	PILKINGTON, HERE	PILKINGTON, HERE
More Info	STOKINGER, MARI	STOKINGER, JAME
More Info	STOKINGER, MARI	STOKINGER, JAME
More Info	KING, JOHN F.	KING, JOHN F.
More Info	PILKINGTON, HERE	PILKINGTON, EDITH
More Info	KING, MARY	KING, MARY A.
More Info	STOKINGER, MADE	STOKINGER, CHAR
More Info	KING, MARY A. T.	KING, MARY A.T.
More Info	KING, MARY A. T.	KING, JOHN W.
More Info	KING, MARY A. T.	KING, MARY FRAN

Detail Information [Zoom To](#)

available for Holyhood Cemetery in the near future.

“Find a Loved One”

feature is now

available for St.

Joseph Cemetery

at

www.holyhood.com

Richard Sacca/Director of Cemetery Services



Richard has assumed a new title with the retirement of a superintendent this year. This transition has increased his responsibilities and daily work schedule.

Richard also experienced a successful knee replacement this year which he claims will help keep the pace. We all wish Rich success in his new role.

Bridge Repair

The bridge which spans approximately 20' over the Sawmill Brook was damaged in several rain storms last fall. The cemetery received approval from the Boston Conservation Commission to proceed with emergency repair of the bridge. This timely repair helped avoid additional cost for the project. The bridge is now secure and any additional flooding should not cause further damage. Our goal in repairing the bridge was to make every attempt to use some of the existing stone in an effort to keep the rustic appearance of the structure. The bridge was kept closed until the project was completed this Spring.



Sawmill Brook Bridge

N E W S

Memorial Day Mass



Memorial Day St. Joseph Cemetery 2014

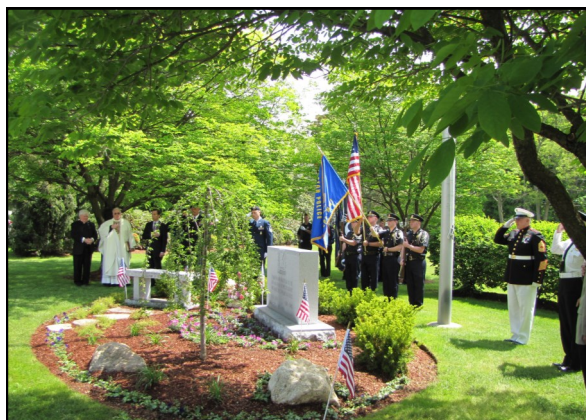
The annual 10 am Mass celebration was attended by 1,000 participants from the Boston area and surrounding communities. Monsignor William Helmick, pastor of St. Theresa's Parish was the celebrant along with his wonderful staff of ten dedicated individuals.

Immediately following the Mass a dedication ceremony was held at the Veterans Memorial. The memorial was recently renovated and a granite bench was added to the landscape.

"Freedom is Never

Free"

Author Unknown



Dedication Ceremony at newly renovated Veterans Memorial



Father John Healy, St. Pius, Lynn, MA

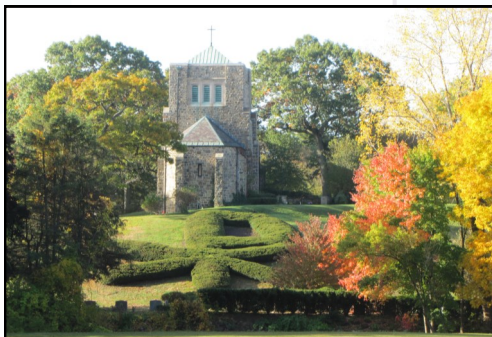
The bench was the generous donation of the Gormley family in honor of Brigadier General William Gormley who passed away last year and is interred at St. Joseph Cemetery. The dedication was very well attended by the community, city counselors, clergy and State Treasurer, Steven Grossman. The event was a great tribute to all veterans.

In Holyhood Cemetery the 9 am annual Mass celebration brought participants from a number of surrounding communities. Father John Healy of St. Pius in Lynn was the celebrant. The Mass recognizes and honors veterans, families, loved ones, and especially remembers those military personnel who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our beautiful Country. Again the weather cooperated with a little light rain in the morning and clearing in time for the Dedication Ceremony.

Bishop Joseph F. Maguire 1919—2014

Spring 2015

Bishop Joseph F. Maguire passed away at his home in Springfield on November 23, 2014. Bishop Maguire's Funeral was celebrated on December 1st at St. Michael Cathedral, Springfield. Boston's Cardinal Sean P. O'Malley presided at the Mass and celebrated the Final Commendation after which Bishop Maguire was entombed in the Mausoleum of St. Michael Cemetery, Springfield. Maguire Chapel, the dominant feature of St. Joseph Cemetery was named after the Reverend Joseph F. Maguire. He was a former member of the Association's Board of Directors.



The chapel was reopened in 2002, following substantial exterior and interior improvements. The Board of Directors marked the reopening with a program of celebration at the beautifully restored chapel.

Roque Abalsamo 1916—2014

Roque Abalsamo passed away on January 22, 2014 at the age of 97. For many years after the death of his wife in 1993, he arrived at the cemetery every morning and stayed at her graveside all day. In 2000 the Boston Globe told the story of his unwavering devotion and he became well known to many visitors who came to the cemetery to visit loved ones. After a simple graveside service Roque was buried in the plot next to his beloved wife Julia where they will rest side by side, forever.



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.

John C. Hanlon 1938—2015



Board of Directors 2008

John C. Hanlon of West Harwich, MA, formerly of West Roxbury, passed away on January 16, 2015. Jack was a member of the Board of Directors of Holyhood Cemetery Association for nearly 40 years, serving as Treasurer for most of that time.

Front Row: Jack Hanlon, Jane Reardon, Richard Driscoll, Peggy Goode, Mike Collins

Back Row: Al Sexton, Chris Haughey, Jere Doyle, Fred Davis, George McLaughlin, Richard Leary

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 plans 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 un-

derstanding throughout the year. We encourage you to follow our web page, 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

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



Holyhood Cemetery Association

990 LaGrange Street

West Roxbury, MA 02132