



# St. Joseph Cemetery & Holyhood Cemetery

## NEWS

Spring  
2020/2021

Volume Twelve



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The Spanish Influenza swept thru the world in 1918 much like the Covid 19 Pandemic swept thru the world in 2020. The monument of two victims of the 1918 flu pandemic is seen in Holyhood Cemetery in Brookline, MA (pictured above). Edward Martin, a legendary sportswriter for the Boston Globe and his wife Delia Martin were two victims of the 1918 pandemic. Shortly after Martin reported the Red Sox won the World Series his wife Delia started to run a fever. Delia was 31 years old and perfectly healthy until now. Her condition grew worse. Edward attended to her every minute of every day until he fell seriously ill with the same horrible, relentless symptoms. Delia was one of 202 people killed in Boston by influenza on October 1st. Edward took his last breath on October 3rd and joined Delia only 30 hours later. A double funeral was arranged for Saturday, October 5th and burial followed at Holyhood Cemetery. By mid-October Delia

and Edward were two of more than 3,500 killed in Boston during the epidemic, the majority of whom were healthy people between 20 and 40 years old.

The Covid 19 Pandemic has impacted the cemeteries, families of loved ones and funeral directors as they scheduled burials throughout the past year. Families of loved ones not able to schedule a Mass or gather indoors because of the Pandemic could find peace at a small graveside service. The Holyhood Cemetery Association has taken every precaution to limit exposure to employees, families and funeral directors while maintaining a full burial schedule six days per week.

Visitors to the cemetery has increased dramatically as families find the cemeteries a safe place to walk, jog and bike ride. With the availability of vaccines we look forward to moving past this challenging time in the year ahead.

## N E W S

## Letter from the President

This year and last year 2020/2021 have presented a challenge for everyone. Families and loved ones have experienced devastating losses due to Covid and the national pandemic. The Board of Directors have taken every step possible to provide safe everyday graveside services and protect our employees and attendees. I can't help but recognize the compassion and commitment our staff and workforce has provided over this past year.

Capital Programs for the Association continued but at a slower pace than previous years. However we managed to install 42 new grave sites at Holyhood in Brookline. These are available for sale.

St Joseph's Cemetery received upgrades at the front entrance and the paving of several roadways. Our tree replacement program continued along with a permit from

Boston Conservation to perform more maintenance along the brook which flows through our property. Two new areas were developed which provided an additional 50 grave sites. Plans are being developed for repair to the roof of Maguire Chapel.

St James section of the cemetery had upgrades to the well pumphouse to provide more irrigation to the area.

Road paving was accomplished in needed areas and the development of 140 new crypt grave sites. These are available for sale.

St Vincent section received landscape improvements, road paving, and tree removal and replacement.

This is our 12th edition newsletter combining the last 2 years. The financial condition of the Association remains sound. On behalf of the Board of Directors and

employees we thank you for your support. We hope 2021 keeps everyone healthy.

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

## Keith Chute/Director of Operations

Keith has assumed a new title with the retirement of a superintendent this past year. Holyhood/St Joseph's Cemeteries are very fortunate to have exceptional employees who have the ability to advance as older employees retire. Keith is a solid individual with exceptional talent. He brings a new approach to serving families at a time of great need. His compassion and thoughtfulness will be the foundation of serving families in future years.





## 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 a cremation grave area was developed with the vision of finding suitable areas for full casket burials. We are happy to announce that Holyhood Cemetery now has 2 grave lots for sale. The lots are located on Phunon Ave and can accommodate 4 casket burials and 4 cremation burials. These 2



grave lots are \$16,000 and include a liner. A newly developed cobblestone drop off area was created to assist families accessing the site. If you would like more information, please contact a staff member to arrange an appointment at your convenience.

*"Find a Loved One"*

*feature is now*

*available for St.*

*Joseph Cemetery*

*at*

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

## Entrance Signs

Entrance Signs were installed at St. Joseph's Cemetery and Holyhood Cemetery. The entrance signs include a map of each of the cemeteries. These maps will be helpful for visitors trying to locate a section of the cemeteries.



## N E W S

## Memorial Day Mass

**Memorial Day St. Joseph Cemetery 2019****Reverend John Connolly, St. Theresa of Avila, A. Thomas DeMaio, General Manager and Board Member, Richard Stinson****Brandon Santini, Organist; Stephanie Beatrice, Cantor***Memorial Day**masses are**longstanding**traditions at both St**Joseph Cemetery**and Holyhood**Cemetery*

Memorial Day Mass has been a successful tradition at St. Joseph Cemetery for many years due to the dedication of Monsignor Helmick (now retired). This year the 10 am Mass was celebrated by Reverend John Connolly and his staff of St. Theresa of Avila. Father Jack Ahern of St. Gregory Parish celebrated the 9 am Mass at Holyhood Cemetery. The Pandemic caused cancellation of the Memorial Day Mass in 2020 and 2021. We look forward to continuing this tradition in 2022.

**Memorial Day Holyhood Cemetery 2019**



## Memorial Dedication

A Memorial Bench Dedication took place on Thursday, September 19th to honor Richard Driscoll and Richard Leary.

Richard Driscoll served on the Holyhood Cemetery Association Board of Directors for over 50 years. His financial expertise and guidance proved invaluable to the Holyhood Cemetery Association.

Richard T. Leary served on the Holyhood Cemetery Association Board of Directors and as General Manager of St. Joseph Cemetery and Holyhood Cemetery.



The dedication was led by Fr. Connolly of St. Theresa of Avila Parish. The dedication was attended by family, board members, cemetery staff and local funeral directors.

## Burial Options at St. Joseph's

Cremation burials have been gaining in popularity in recent years. The Covid-19 Pandemic has created and even higher increase in demand for cremation burials. St. Joseph's has developed an area behind the Maguire Chapel which can accommodate in ground cremation burials and cremation niches. The Maguire Chapel offers glass niches which can accommodate one, two or three cremation urns.

St. Joseph's has traditional burial sites available throughout the main cemetery. These sites can accommodate two casket burials and two cremation burials. St. James the Apostle has many options for traditional burial including a newly developed section of crypt graves which include the liner with the purchase of the grave. These crypt graves can accommodate two cremations in addition to the two casket burials.

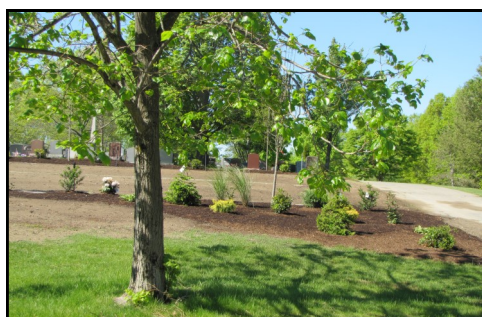
If you would like more information, please contact a staff member to arrange an appointment at your convenience.



**Chapel Hill IV Cremation Wall**



**Chapel Hill IV Cremation Niches**



**St James the Apostle Crypts**

*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](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 Association continues to be financially strong. This past year has been extremely difficult for families, loved ones, and the Holyhood workforce and staff. As we reflect back on a year that has changed the lives for so many I can't help but think of the sacrifices the Holyhood team has made in providing daily services. Their commitment, dedication, and compassion has been above and beyond during a very difficult and demanding time. Thank you.

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