

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY OF MODERN CATHOLIC BELIEFS: Proof that Mandatory ISN't Always A bad thing.

…ways to better educate and serve (the) families regarding the importance of rights of Christian burial…

Written By: Aurora Conti

Published In: Catholic Cemetery Conference Magazine, August 2022

In returning to Notre Dame, after a 2 year COVID hiatus, I had many mixed feelings. Excitement to see my fellow cemeterian friends again, as well as meeting some new ones, mixed with some anxiety of feeling disconnected for so long. This was met almost immediately with a positive calming once I saw so many smiling faces.

Let's be honest, no good Catholic is going to say that they don't want to take a class in theology. I myself am not saying I didn't want to take a class in theology, however when you have to make a selection based on the other "schools" offered it does sound a bit less desirable. So I will be honest and admit that I began to question my course selection. Although this is a required class to graduate from Notre Dame I still had another year to squeeze it in. I was so pleased with my previous classes (Sales and Marketing and Leadership), I was concerned it would pale in comparison. I am happy to report that I was wrong. Day one we were greeted with a beautiful overview of Understanding the Eucharist Importance of the Funeral Mass from Monsignor Baver. From there Father Steve Wilbricht took off and for the next several sessions dove into interactive discussions regarding the Catholic Funeral today, Cremation and the Catholic Church. We strongly reference his book, Baptismal Ecclesiology and the Order of Christian Burials. Although these discussions at times were abstruse, I was able to remain engaged with the interactive and thought provoking conversations.

The final day of class was by far my favorite. We began with a walk to the Basilica of the Sacred Heart led by Father Larry Sullivan. He provided us with general knowledge, facts and history of the building. We had time to take in the awe of the building itself and the sacred relics housed there. We were given more information from the many tour guides, toured the museum and listened to the magnificent organ. Following the tour, Father Larry also took us to walk the Admissions building and upon our return to McKenna Hall we discussed Funeral Liturgy and Committal Service. We concluded the class with Father Steve Wilbricht discussing Issues of Pastoral Care and Bereavement where many members of the group shared their own experiences with loss. This was a very emotional discussion and I truly appreciated the vulnerability they showed and allowing us to share in those memories and experiences.

Although those of you who know me are aware how much I enjoy all of the socializing and laughs, this year's class brought on new meaning. It provoked new questions and ideas of ways to better educate and serve the families regarding the importance of rights of Christian burial. We must remind ourselves that what we might feel or think we want in the moment of high emotions may not align with our true beliefs as Catholics. To remember that all who are baptized into Christ are now a part of the body and each of us plays an important role.



ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

St. Therese was born on January 2, 1873 and was given the name, Marie-Francoise-Therese Martin. Her mother died when Therese was 4 years old and shortly thereafter her father moved his family of five girls (ranging in ages from four to seventeen) to Lisieux. Therese maintained the first word she learned to read was "heaven." From her childhood she interpreted all her world as only the beginning, only a glimpse of a glorious future.

At the time that her sister Pauline entered into the Carmelite monastery, Therese became seriously ill. Her sickness was diagnosed as everything from a nervous breakdown to a kidney infection. Whatever it was, doctors of her time were unable to either diagnose or treat it. She suffered intensely during this time from constant headaches and insomnia. The illness took quite a toll on her body. Then, on May 13, 1883, Therese turned her head to a statue of the Virgin Mary near her bed, and prayed for a cure. "Suddenly, Mary's face radiated kindness and love." Therese was cured. The statue has since been called "Our Lady of the Smile."

Therese tried to join the Carmelite Convent at 9 years old. She was told to return when she grew up. When Therese was 13, her other sister, Marie, also entered Lisieux Carmel. A determined Therese tried again at age 15 to enter, but again she was refused. She then went to Bishop Hugonin, who stated that he would write to her and her father regarding his decision. Therese had a back-up plan that should the Bishop say no, she was prepared to go to the Pope and that she did! In November 1887, Therese was in the audience to celebrate Pope Leo XIII's Golden Jubilee as a priest. Despite the audience being told not to speak, Therese did and cried out "Most Holy Father, I have a favor to ask of you, permit me to enter Carmel at the age of fifteen." Then on April 9, 1888, Therese left her home and was received into the Lisieux Carmel. After their father passed in 1894, her sister Celine also entered Carmel.

Therese is known for her "little way", which is her simple approach of doing ordinary things of life with extraordinary love. Therese teaches us that Jesus is everywhere and is the power for love and goodness operating within us. To many, even in the convent, she seemed like such an average, ordinary person. Her greatness showed in the constancy of her love for others in the most simple ways.

She explained: "After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses. I will spend my heaven doing good upon earth. My mission is to make God loved..." Shortly after her death, the rain of roses began. Sometimes roses actually appeared, and sometimes just the fragrance of them. Cures of painful and fatal diseases and many other miraculous experiences have been attributed to her intercession. People have also found inner peace and regained confidence by appealing to St. Therese.

AREA DEDICATED TO ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX IN ASCENSION GARDEN MAUSOLEUM

The Roman Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St. Therese, the Little Flower, on October 1st each year. Therese died on September 30, 1897, after having tuberculosis. Her final words were "Oh my God, I love you!"

Prior to her passing, she was asked to write out her life story, which eventually became part of her book, "Story of a Soul", which was published in 1898. In 1925 she was canonized and in 1997 she was declared a Doctor of the Church.



AREA DEDICATED TO ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX IN ALL SAINTS MAUSOLEUM



A MONTH DEDICATED TO THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

On October 7, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in honor of the Blessed Mother.

The Battle of Lepanto, the famous naval victory of the 16th century, is attributed to Saint Pope Pius V asking faithful Catholics to pray the Rosary and seek the intercession of the Blessed Mother to defeat the Muslim Navy. Despite being outnumbered, Catholic fleets crushed the Muslim fleet—a huge victory that changed the course of history! Accordingly, Pope Pius established October 7th as a feast day of Our Lady of Victory, perpetually bringing honor to the Blessed Mother for her assistance. In 1573, Pope Gregory XIII, changed the name of the feast to Our Lady of the Rosary, a feast the Church continues to celebrate. After the feast day was established, the entire month of October was then dedicated to the Rosary in 1884 by Pope Leo XIII.

When we pray the Rosary, we are asking Mary to pray for us as we seek to grow closer to her son Jesus by meditating and reflecting on the events of His life. There are four Rosary mysteries (Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, Luminous) and five parts of each mystery which correspond to the five decades of the Rosary. The Mysteries of the Rosary are designed to help focus our prayer on the life, ministry, and Passion of Our Lord.



HOLY ROSARY CREMATION GARDEN AT HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

The Joyful Mysteries focus on the joyful events related to the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. The Sorrowful Mysteries focus on the sorrowful events related to the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ. The Glorious Mysteries focus on the glorious events related to the Resurrection and the reigning of Christ in heaven with Our Lady. The Luminous Mysteries or mysteries of light (added by Pope St. John Paul II) focus on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. It is recommended that you meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary based on which day of the week it is.



At Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, we offer above ground and in-ground cremation in our Holy Rosary Garden. The pathway surrounding this garden is an actual walking Rosary path. It is a quiet, peaceful place to sit and meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary, while listening to the calming fountain and admiring the beautiful landscaping.

If you would like more information on our Holy Rosary Garden, please call one of our knowledgeable Family Service Counselors at (585) 458-4110.

BUTTERFLY 🎍 🛁 Release events

On September 10th, we hosted two very special butterfly release events- one at Holy Sepulchre and another at Ascension Garden Cemetery. After a two year hiatus, we were once again able to gather with the community to pay tribute to the lives of First Responders and those who have gone before us. Beautiful performances were offered by Gates Keystone Club Police Pipes and Drums and a moving prayer service was celebrated by Father Peter Bayer.

We were fortunate to host members of Rochester City Council, the Henrietta Town Board and our Board of Trustees during the ceremonies. Thank you to all who offered support as we honored the sacrifices made by all First Responders in our community and beyond. Additionally, we want to extend our deep appreciation to all those who attended and to our entire staff who assisted in hosting this heartwarming event.



Prayer to Saint Luke Feast Day October 18

Most wonderful St. Luke you are animated by the Heavenly Spirit of Love. In faithfully detailing the humanity of Jesus, you also showed His Divinity and His genuine compassion for all human beings.

May the Holy Spirit, instructor of the faithful, help me to understand Christ's words and faithfully apply them in my life. Amen.



IN LOVING MEMORY of ROBERT MOORE 1967 - 2022

On September 5th, our organization suffered an enormous loss with the passing of Robert Moore. Robert was a pillar in our organization who managed information technology and security at both of our locations. Robert was a dedicated member of our team who served at Holy Sepulchre & Ascension Garden Cemeteries for over 30 years.

Robert was always there to support his coworkers and happily assisted with all special events. He was the foundation that many of us looked to for guidance in our technological systems. Robert was an integral part in implementing new procedures and programs that benefited the families we serve.

Robert frequently talked about his family and their camping adventures. Robert was married to his best friend, Kim, for 32 years and was incredibly proud of his two children, Eric and Brittany. He often shared stories of their regular family trips and all the fun they had together. Our most heartfelt condolences to his family.

We will long remember Robert's faithful devotion to our cemeteries. for his commitment to the mission of Catholic burial and for his steadfast assistance to all of his coworkers. Robert was a good friend to us all.

In loving memory of our beloved colleague, Robert Moore. He will be dearly missed.

EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10: Columbus Day Offices closed.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15: October Mass of Remembrance (8:30 am)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5: Annual Mass of Remembrance at Ascension Garden & St. Joseph of Arimathea Committal (9:00 am)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10: Wreath Orders Due

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11: Veterans Day Offices closed.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19: November Mass of Remembrance & St. Joseph of Arimathea Committal (8:30 am)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19: Luminary Drive Event at Ascension Garden Cemetery (5:00 - 6:00 pm)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24: Thanksgiving Day Offices closed.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3: Luminary Drive Event at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (5:00 - 6:00 pm)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17: December Mass of Remembrance & Candle Lighting (8:30 am)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25: Christmas Day Offices closed on Monday, December 26th.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve Offices open from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1: New Year's Day Offices closed on Monday, January 2nd.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the calendar of events on our website, sign up for our email list and follow us on Facebook, Instragram and Twitter!

FEAST & HOLY DAYS

OCTOBER 1: St. Therese of Lisieux OCTOBER 4: St. Francis of Assisi OCTOBER 7: Our Lady of the Rosary OCTOBER 15: St. Theresa of Avila OCTOBER 18: St. Luke NOVEMBER 1: All Saints' Day NOVEMBER 2: All Souls' Day NOVEMBER 16: St. Margaret of Scotland NOVEMBER 22: St.Cecilia NOVEMBER 27: Advent Begins DECEMBER 24: Advent Ends DECEMBER 25: Christmas DECEMBER 27: Feast of the Holy Family DECEMBER 27: St. John the Evangelist

ON SALE NOW Orders Due: November 10, 2022

Order online at **holysepulchre.org** or by calling our office at (585) 458-4110.

Quantities are very limited. We place wreaths section-by-section and weather permitting, all wreaths will be placed by December 16, 2022.



HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY

2461 Lake Avenue, Rochester NY 14612 P 585-458-4110 F 585-458-3059

CEMETERY Celebrate Life Everlasting

HOLYSEPULCHRE.ORG

Ascension Garden V

HOLY SEPULCHRE

ASCENSION GARDEN

1900 Pinnacle Road, Henrietta NY 14467 P 585-697-1122 F 585-444-5841