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# Catholic Cemeteries Association

of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc

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**700 Middletown Avenue  
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[www.ccacem.org](http://www.ccacem.org)**

## *CCA Newsletter* *February 2023*

*Welcome Winter!*



## *From the Desk of the Executive Director...*



### Greetings!

Wednesday, February 22nd is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the Lenten Season for the Catholic Church. This first day of Lent is the precursor to the most important holiday on the Church calendar, Easter. The death of Christ on the cross, followed by His resurrection, was the ultimate sacrifice to humanity for the forgiveness of our sins and conquering death. Traditionally we offer some small sacrifice during Lent to remind us of this great gift and to unite ourselves with Christ on the cross.

The Lenten Season is marked by the faithful by increasing their Prayer, Fasting, and Alms giving. What a great time of the year to concentrate on these three aspects of our faith. Lets all try to bring the joy of His resurrection to our families and others by acting on these in whatever way you see fit and bring us closer to Him. The Lenten season reminds us also of the burial of Christ in the Tomb and the visitation of Mary Magdalene and the other women followers of Jesus. It is an auspicious time for us to visit the resting place of our loved ones and be filled with the hope of the resurrection.

At the Catholic Cemeteries Association (CCA), we have been blessed with a mild winter. We have been busy cutting trees for the safety of the families that visit our parks. At some of our parks you will notice remodeling of our offices occurring. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you but it is important to have adequate work space to better serve the needs of the families of the Archdiocese. Tune in to WDRC and its affiliates on Saturday mornings at 11:00 AM and listen to the Catholic Cemeteries Radio Show and hear more about the goings on with your CCA from host Gary Byron and Chris Radlicz our Family Service Director .

From all of us at the CCA, we wish you and your families a blessed Lenten Season!

**John Pinone**

## *Promo Corner...*



## The Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford, Inc.

Advanced Planning of your Cemetery needs is a loving gift that relieves your family of a difficult decision in the midst of their grief. Whether a Traditional Grave, Mausoleum, or Cremation, let our caring team of Family Service Advisors help you choose your cemetery needs.

***From February 15, 2023 through March 31, 2023 bring this ad to the office and:***

<u>Purchase</u>	<u>Save</u>
<i>Tandem Crypt</i>	<b>\$750.00</b>
<i>Single Crypt</i>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<i>Two Graves</i>	<b>\$150.00</b>

Visit us at [www.ccacem](http://www.ccacem) for the location nearest you or call us at 203-239-2557 to speak to a Family Service Advisor to get more information.

**For your convenience we now sell Granite Flush Markers and Monuments at all our locations!**

Offer applies to Pre Need Sales only. Cannot be combined with other offers

***Tour our Cemeteries with NEW...  
Semi-Private Estates at  
Mt. St. Benedict,  
All Saints and  
Calvary Cemeteries...***



*Catholic Cemeteries Association of the Archdiocese of Hartford is pleased to announce the new Semi-Private Family Estates located around the St Benedict statue in our historic Mt St Benedict Cemetery. These exclusive shrub lined individual Semi-Private Family Estate offers two or four grave lots with a complementary granite memorial bench.*

*A Semi-Private Family Estate provides the opportunity to choose an exceptional resting place with special memorials. It allows your family to maintain a perpetual family bond among multiple generations.*

*To learn more please call (860) 242-0738 and speak with a Family Service Advisor.*

*The better educated you are the better choices you can make!*



Ask us about the  
**Catholic Funeral Plan<sup>®</sup>**  
*Preserving the Catholic Burial Traditions of our families*

***A faith-based, pre-need plan for you and your loved ones***

The Catholic Funeral Plan allows Catholics to make their funeral and cemetery arrangements in advance. The Plan guarantees that, upon your death, the arrangements you've selected will be executed as stated in your Plan, outline and in accordance with the Traditions of the Catholic Faith.

By enrolling in the Catholic Funeral Plan<sup>®</sup> (CFP), you will be developing a program outline for your funeral service that best suits you. You can choose a funeral home, and select specific arrangements at a cost that meets your budget. At the time of need, your funeral home will make and execute the arrangements.

The CFP will oversee the process, ensuring that your wishes are carried out as you directed and within the guidelines of the Catholic Faith Tradition.

Dramatic changes are taking place today in the way we buy goods and services. Locally-owned banks, grocery stores and drugstores are giving way to regional or national chains. The funeral industry is no exception. Large, publicly-held corporations and regional consolidators are beginning to dominate the industry, driving up prices and changing how funerals are delivered. One of the negative results for Catholic families has been a decrease in the observance

of our Church's traditional liturgical rites for the dead, in particular the Mass of Christian Burial at the parish.

The Catholic Funeral Plan has been developed to safeguard the Church's sacred burial traditions against the forces of change and to guarantee Catholic families the right to be buried in accordance with these traditions at an affordable cost.

*What will the CFP offer me and my family?*

- An affordable way to preserve the Traditions of the Catholic Faith
- Assurance that your wishes will be executed according to the plan
- Inflation protection with any excess accumulated paid to your beneficiary

***New at All Saints Cemetery in North Haven***

Queen of the Universe Cremation Garden 18" x 24" Flush Markers



# Queen of the Universe Cremation Garden

ALL SAINTS CEMETERY IN NORTH HAVEN

Our cremation garden is a tranquil area where your loved ones remains are laid to rest surrounding the Queen of the Universe. The Queen of the Universe cremation garden is beautifully landscaped section devoted entirely only to 20 double interment spaces. The focal point is a twelve foot statue of our Blessed Mother offering a unique place for gathering, reflection, and prayer. Each of the 20 spaces is \$3900 and includes

- † 18" x 24" granite marker engraved with one of your loved ones name and date of passing
- † double urn vault
- † perpetual care
- † second rights

Please meet with one of our professional Family Service Advisors to be part of this exclusive final resting garden.

[www.ccacem.org](http://www.ccacem.org) or (203) 239-2557



***CALL TODAY!***

***Our Care Team of***

***Family Service Advisors (FSAs)***

***serve families with care and compassion, educating and guiding them through the process of making informed decisions for Cemetery Advanced Planning, At-Need Cemetery Planning, and Memorialization products and services.***

***Our team of experts are available to assist you with all your cemetery needs like: burials, cremation gardens, mausoleum crypts, niches and much more.***

***Meet Brad...***

**Brad Anderson**-was born and raised in rural Michigan. He owned an excavating business and was a licensed builder for 5 years. Deciding to put all forms of extreme outdoor weather behind him, he found his true passion



and entered into the world of Funeral Services. Brad worked as a licensed Pre-Need Counselor and Final Expense Insurance Agent while living in SWFL.

Upon relocating to Connecticut, Brad recognized the fact that a large number of people did not realize that they were able to plan their end of life wishes once they are 40 or older. So, he expanded his horizons and entered into Cemetery to become more well rounded in the industry so that he could help educate about this. He transferred his License so that he can help families with end of life planning through the Catholic Funeral Plan.

When he isn't working Brad is actively involved in his church or spending time with his Family. He lives in Wallingford and has 4 beautiful daughters and a wife who is also in the industry.

Contact Brad for all your Cemetery needs.

Brad Anderson  
[\(203\) 738-9498](tel:(203)738-9498)  
[banderson@ccacem.org](mailto:banderson@ccacem.org)



**BRAD ANDERSON**

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## *Meet Lisa...*



**Lisa Ouellette** is a Family Service Advisor for the Catholic Cemetery Association at Mt St Benedict Cemetery in Bloomfield. She comes with over 38 years of Customer service and a positive attitude. She always puts families first and helps you with immediate needs or pre planning your arrangements.

She enjoys spending time with her 6 children and 4 grandchildren and resides with her husband Gerry. Her passion is helping St Benedict families, cooking, entertaining, gardening and doing projects with her family.

Lisa can be reached at 203-507-8234 or email at [lhubina@ccacem.org](mailto:lhubina@ccacem.org).

## *Special Thanks...*

*Many thanks to  
all those who  
contributed  
towards the  
Annual Food  
Drive of 2022*



## *Lent Begins February 22nd!*



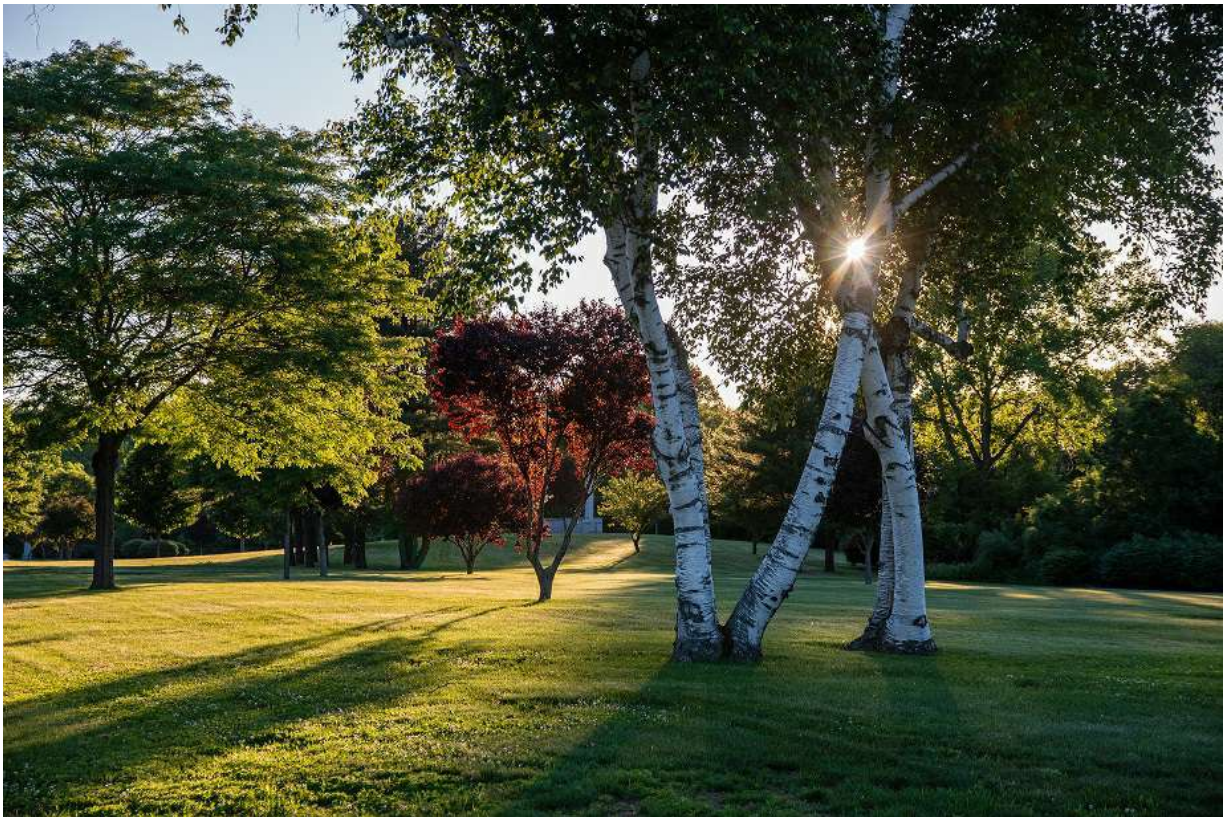
*“Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners” (Luke 5:31–32)*

## *Gentle Reminder!*

*Winter Decorations  
will be removed as of March 1st.*

Winter Rules

*Thank you for helping to keep our  
Cemeteries looking absolutely  
beautiful!*



*Dignity of Life Seminars!  
Register TODAY for a FREE  
Educational Seminar offered in your*



■ This Archdiocesan approved program is successfully assisting parishioners with elder care and end-of-life planning. The goal of the session is to provide

- educational and resource information in the areas of burial, estate planning and information about the Catholic Funeral Plan. Let the experts assist you.

**For your convenience and safety, we will be offering small-sized in-person seminars on the following days or evenings:**

**2023 Schedule:**

**Wednesday, March 1st  
St. Margaret Mary Parish  
So. Windsor, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

**Wednesday, March 15th  
St. Mary's Church  
Simsbury, CT  
Faith Center  
Time: 2:00PM**

**Thursday, March 30th  
St. John Church  
300 Captain Thomas Blvd.**

**West Haven, CT  
Time: 2:00PM**

**Thursday, April 20th  
St. Francis of Assisi Church  
Naugatuck, CT  
Time: 6:00 PM**

**Thursday, May 11th  
St. Louis Church  
West Haven, CT  
Time: 6:00 PM**

**Thursday, May 25th  
St. Leo the Great Hall  
Waterbury, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

**Thursday, June 8th  
Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church  
Meriden, CT  
Time: 6:00PM**

**Thursday, June 22nd  
Church of the Incarnation  
Wethersfield, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

**Wednesday, July 12th  
Holy Rosary Church  
Ansonia, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

**Friday, August 18th  
St. Augustine Church  
Hartford, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

**Thursday, September 21st  
St Pauls Church  
Glastonbury, CT  
Time: 2:00 PM**

For more information about our Seminars and to register,

please visit

our website [www.ccacem.org](http://www.ccacem.org) or call

our Outreach Coordinator,

Barbara Gode (203) 780-8418 or  
email her at [bgode@ccacem.org](mailto:bgode@ccacem.org)

**If you are interested in offering a seminar in your area,  
please ask your pastor to reach out to us.**

***To register for a seminar...***

**Visit our  
website**

## ***Words to Ponder...***



### ***Great Lent***

*Lent, like Advent, is a time of penitence. Here we identify ourselves with the Lord's fast and ordeal in the wilderness, which He bore for us.*

*This raises a point worth noting in passing. There are some varieties of Protestant theology and spirituality that so stress "the finished work of Christ" and the fact that He accomplished everything, that they leave no room at all for any participation on our part. Such participation, encouraged by the ancient Church, does not mean that we mortals claim any of the merit that attaches to Christ's work, much less that we can by one thousandth particle add to His work. Nevertheless, the gospel teaches us that Christians are more than mere followers of Christ. We are His Body and are drawn, somehow, into His own sufferings. We are even "crucified" with Him.*

*My own tradition stressed this, but it was taught as a metaphor that meant only the putting to death of sin in our members. There was very little said about the sense in which Christ draws His Body into His very self-giving for the life of the world and makes them part of this mystery. Saint Paul uses extravagant language about his own filling up "that which is*

*behind of the afflictions of Christ.” We had succinct enough explanations as to what he might have meant here, but these explanations allowed no room for any notion of our participating in Christ’s offering. This was looked upon as heresy, violating the doctrine of grace in which all is done by God and nothing by us. We are recipients only. That the gracious donation of salvation by God could in any manner include His making us a part of it all, as He made the Virgin Mary an actual part of the process, and as Saint Paul seems to teach, was not the note struck.*

*The ancient Church, in its observance of Lent, once more asks us to move through the gospel with Christ Himself. The most obvious mark of Lent to a newcomer is the matter of fasting. I had known about this practice all my life. My Catholic playmates would give up chocolates or Coke or ice cream for Lent. I also knew that a few devout people in my own tradition of evangelicalism practiced fasting now and again for special purposes—a time of especially concentrated prayer, for example.*

*I myself thought of Lenten fasting and also of the old Catholic practice of refusing meat on Fridays as being legalistic, and perhaps even heretical, since it seemed to entail some notion of accruing merit. Since Christ had done all, why should we flagellate ourselves this way? Was it not a return to the weak and beggarly elements condemned by Saint Paul? Was it not to be guilty of the very thing that the apostle had assailed the Galatian Christians for?*

*I discovered that the ancient Church teaches just what the New Testament teaches on the point, namely, that fasting is a salutary thing for us to undertake. Jesus fasted and assumed that His followers would. “When ye fast,” He said, not “if.” Saint Paul both practiced it and taught it. It seems to constitute a reminder to us that our appetites are not all and that man shall not live by bread alone. Furthermore, if we may believe the universal testimony of Christians who do practice it, it also clarifies our spiritual vision somehow. Lastly, it is a token of the Christian’s renunciation of the world. There is nothing that a Christian will insist he must have at all costs. Fasting supplies an elementary lesson here.*

*Lent asks us to ponder Christ’s self-denial for us in the wilderness. It draws us near to the mystery of Christ’s bearing temptation for us in His flesh, and of how in this Second Adam our flesh, which failed in Adam, now triumphs.*

*Lent also leads us slowly toward that most holy and dread of all events, the Passion of Christ. What Christian will want to arrive at Holy Week with his heart unexamined, full of foolishness, levity, and egoism? To those for whom any special observances hint of legalism or superstition one can only bear witness that the solemn sequence of Lent turns out to be something very different from one’s private attempts at meditating on the Passion. To move through the disciplines in company with millions and millions of other believers all over the world is a profoundly instructive thing.*

*Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. The first time ashes were imposed on my forehead, I*

*found a cacophony of voices inside me: "Come! Now you have betrayed your background! This is straight back to the Dark Ages. Fancy Saint Paul's doing this!"*

*I knew it was not so when the priest came along with the little pot of damp ashes and with his thumb smudged my forehead—my forehead, the very frontal and crown of my dignity as a human being!—and aid, "Remember, O man, that dust thou art and unto dust thou shalt return."*

*I knew it was true. I would return to dust, like all men, but never before had mortality come home to me in this way. Oh, I had believed it spiritually. But surely we need not dramatize it this way....*

*Perhaps we should, says the Church. Perhaps it is good for our souls' health to recall that our salvation, far from papering over the grave, leads us through it and raises our very mortality to glory. We, like all men, must die. I felt the strongest inclination to wave the priest past as he approached me in the line of people kneeling at the rail. Not me—not me—like Agag coming forth delicately, hoping that the bitterness of death was past. Yes, you. Remember, O man....*

*I was beginning to learn that when we encounter some "spiritual" truth in our bodies, it is brought home to us. We can meditate on suffering all day long, for example, but let us have migraines, and we know something we could not have known through merely mulling over the doctrine of suffering. We can meditate on love all day long, but let us kiss the one we long for, and we know immediately something we could not have known if we had thought about love for a thousand years. Nay—our very salvation came to us in the body of the incarnate God. "O generous love! that He who smote/In Man for man the foe,/The double agony in Man/For man should undergo," says Cardinal Newman's hymn. The ashes effected something in me more than a smudge on my forehead. I had felt, if only for a moment, the thing that I wished most earnestly to be exempted from: death.*

**2019- March (Note: This is an excerpt from Dr. Howard's book *Evangelical Is Not Enough: Worship of God in Liturgy and Sacrament*, published by Ignatius Press.)**



*Dr. Thomas Howard* was raised in a prominent Evangelical home, became Episcopalian in his mid-twenties, then entered the Catholic

Church in 1985, at the age of fifty. He is an acclaimed writer and

scholar, and the author of numerous books about theology, literature, culture, and

apologetics.

***Make this Lent GREAT...***





*Stay connected...*

*Corporate Office: (203) 239-2557*

*We are here to  
help*

Contact us