

## St. Mary's Cemetery, Dunkirk, N.Y. 14048

*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)*

May 2020

Dear Friends of St. Mary's Cemetery,

The peace of the Risen Lord be with you and your loved ones.

Many of you know by now that I had to cancel the annual Memorial Day Mass held at the cemetery due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the current physical distancing guidelines now in place. I will make every attempt to reschedule the Memorial Day mass at the earliest possible date. Notification of the Memorial Day Mass will be posted in the weekly bulletin and on the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton website.

You may have also noticed that mowing and other necessary maintenance at the cemetery have been delayed. The reasons for the delay include the weather and the fact that we had to lay off the part-time cemetery employees. The staff layoffs are the direct result of the lack of a steady weekly collection. As of May 18, 2020, however, the part-time staff was rehired and mowing and other maintenance projects will begin in earnest. Please know that we are doing everything that we can during this critical time in our church.

St. Mary's Cemetery has been a trusted place for burials since 1851. It is a serene place to visit to spend time with loved ones who have died and to remember in prayer significant events and anniversaries. A Catholic cemetery reminds us that the grave is not the end for we believe that those who belong to Christ will rise to live with him forever.

Given the cemetery's financial situation, this year's fundraising drive is all the more important. Therefore, I am hoping and praying that you will want to be part of a yearly fund drive to assist with the cemetery's maintenance. Please consider making a generous contribution to the annual Cemetery Maintenance Fund. If you are financially able to make a \$50 donation, it will significantly help. But if not, please contribute any amount you can, using the enclosed envelope.

On this letter is a listing of cemetery needs and equipment that your donations will help to fund.

- Sell Big Mower for new riding Mower (xt3)
- Possibly get a newer used Gator to replace old one
- Sign at Mausoleum
- Chapel Roof
- Road needs Repair/Sealed

Thank you in advance for your assistance and continued support of St. Mary's Cemetery.

Peace and blessings,

Deacon Mike Lemieux

Temporary Administrator

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton