



Diocese of Manchester



*“The Catholic cemetery is consecrated to mark that history, that presence, the very person God will always know, but others often forget,” said Bishop Peter A. Libasci, D.D. “When we visit, look, read, and pause to pray, one who is beloved of God tells his or her story once again.”*

## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES - DID YOU KNOW?

- There are **66 Catholic cemeteries in New Hampshire** (please see reverse side for one near you).
- Catholics are entitled to the three-part Funeral Rite: Vigil (Wake), Funeral Mass, and Committal.
- Catholic cemeteries provide locations for both full body burials and burial of cremains.

## WITNESSES TO EVERLASTING LIFE

- Death is not the end! Respect for the person necessarily includes respect for the body.
- The Church prefers Catholics be buried and memorialized in a Catholic cemetery or on sacred ground **and recommends that the pious custom of full body burial be retained.**
- Cremation is not forbidden, but out of respect for the dignity of the body, cremains are to be **buried intact**; memorialized, and **without scattering, separating, combining, dividing, or encasing in jewelry.**

## MONUMENTS OF HOPE AND PEACE

- Catholic cemeteries represent our shared hope in the resurrection of the body.
- Burying the dead fulfills a **Corporal Work of Mercy**, while Catholic cemeteries provide a place to pray for the dead and fulfill the **Spiritual Work of Mercy.**

**RESOURCES:** Diocese of Manchester - [www.catholicnh.org/catholic-cemeteries](http://www.catholicnh.org/catholic-cemeteries)

Catholic Guide to End-of-Life Decisions – Three Beliefs: [www.catholicnh.org/threebeliefs](http://www.catholicnh.org/threebeliefs)

Contact David A. Gabert, Director of Cemetery Operations, [dgabert@rcbm.org](mailto:dgabert@rcbm.org), (603) 663-0191

*For purchasing lots or pre-need planning, volunteering, and other questions, contact a local cemetery listed on the reverse side.*