

5/25/25

Happy Memorial Day Weekend as we honor those who lost their lives and made the ultimate sacrifice while defending their country. Our faith adds another dimension to our remembrance, that they would enjoy in a full and eternal way, the peace they sacrificed for here on earth; indeed, we pray that they might rest in the peace of Christ. The ritual for the committal at a cemetery tells us that Jesus “made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal bodies. Grant that your servant may rest here in peace until you awaken them to glory.”

Within our family of parishes, we continue to maintain and expand St. Bernard's cemetery that it may be a fitting resting place for our loved ones and a sign of hope for us all. As you may know, a few years ago, a columbarium was added as a final resting place for cremains. Last year, an eagle scout project allowed us to beautify the grounds with flowering trees and place a garden around the sign. This year, we are adding the Stations of the Cross and Pieta statue from St. Raphaels. We are here to serve you in life and in death, nurturing our hope until that day when we all meet again in heaven. If our cemetery can be of service to you or your family as we lay our loved ones to rest, please reach out to us.

On this Memorial Day Weekend, we will continue the tradition of having an Outdoor Mass, held Monday morning, May 26th at 9:00am at our own St. Bernard's cemetery to give thanks to God for their lives and participate in Jesus' own sacrifice for our salvation. May we never take for granted their heroism and take seriously the responsibility enjoined on us today to live in freedom the life that God calls us to.

Peace,

~Fr. Luke