

## Administration

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The Pastor and Parish Cemetery Committee shall be responsible to perform the following duties:

- Prepare an annual Cemetery budget for approval by Parish Finance Council
- Supervise investments and transfer funds as necessary to pay Cemetery expenses
- Maintain records and maps of Cemetery
- Schedule and supervise maintenance of Cemetery property and buildings
- Plan improvements to the Cemetery for approval by Parish Finance and Pastoral Councils
- Prepare reports for the Diocese
- Establish and amend Rules and Regulations pertaining to the Parish Cemeteries.

## Purchase Process

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To receive additional information on the process to purchase a burial plot, or to answer any additional questions you might have, please contact a representative of the Parish Cemetery Committee by calling the Mercy Center Offices at (804) 843-3125.

They will be happy to provide a copy of the Handbook for the Parish Cemeteries of St. Theresa and St. John of Kanti.

## Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

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## The Catholic Cemeteries of

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## Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

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West Point, Virginia

## Catholic Cemeteries

The purpose of any Catholic Cemetery is to provide for the burial of those persons who are entitled to Christian Burial according to the rules and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church. Any questions will be resolved in accordance with the provisions of the OLBS Cemetery Handbook, Rules and Regulations, the canons of the Catholic Church, its rules and discipline as applied by the Pastor of the parish.

The Saint Theresa and Saint John of Kanti Cemetery's Committee shall specify the terms of purchase of all burial privileges and to fix the number of internments allocated to a plot.

The Committee shall have a perpetual right of access over any and all lots in the Cemetery for the purpose of passage to and from other lots and other parts of the Cemetery.

The Committee shall have the right to prohibit the installation of any memorial which because of design, content, workmanship, material or faults of any kind is, in its opinion, unsatisfactory, in violation of the Rules and Regulation of the Cemetery or is offensive to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.



### *Saint Theresa Cemetery*

Saint Theresa Cemetery is the main Catholic cemetery maintained by Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. It is located on King William Ave next to the Town of West Point's cemetery—Sunny Slope.

This cemetery was established in 1921 to serve the burial needs of Catholic parishioners of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Saint Theresa and Saint John of Kanti Churches.



One of the prominent features located in the center of Saint Theresa's Cemetery is a large stone crucifix which marks the final resting place of Reverend Ceslaus J. Jakubowski, (Father Jack), first pastor of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Also laid to rest in this circle is another beloved priest who served the parish over the years. Reverend John Brieffies (Father John) of the Missionaries of the Holy Family



### *St John of Kanti Cemetery*

Saint John of Kanti Cemetery is a much smaller Catholic cemetery located on the grounds of an early mission church of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. This mission church was established in 1918 on land donated by Tidewater Lime and Fertilizer Company. It is located in the 1800 block of Polish Town Rd in New Kent County.

In May 1924, with the death of a parishioner, Alek Sulewski, Father Ceslaus Jakubowski (the pastor lovingly referred to as Father Jack) designated the area just west of the church as the congregation's cemetery.

Alek's grave would be marked with a wooden crucifix. As the oldest members of the Polish community, his parents—Josef and Kementyna Sulewski's graves would also be outlined with a stone border.

On July 11, 1935, a lightning strike destroyed the mission church. Father Jack decided not to rebuild the church and the parishioners then began to attend services at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in West Point located 5 miles away.