

Catholic Cemeteries and Churchyards

There are three common types of Catholic cemeteries in the St. Louis region - Parish Cemeteries or Churchyards, Small Cemeteries belonging to specific parishes or orders, and large Archdiocese cemeteries built in the Rural Cemetery Movement tradition.

Parish Churchyards and Cemeteries

In the early years of St. Louis, it was commonplace for a Catholic Parish to have a neighboring parish churchyard or cemetery. These cemeteries were installed in geometric rows, close to one another, with little plans for what city growth would mean for their future. As the city expanded and the land increased in value, bodies were exhumed and transferred and the land sold off. As example, over 2000 persons were buried next to the Old Cathedral at 2nd and Market before the cemetery was closed due to city ordinance. These burials were later transferred to a Catholic Cemetery at the intersection of Franklin-Pratte which bordered on Methodist and Presbyterian Burial Grounds. Ultimately, the burials at Franklin-Pratte were removed to Calvary, Rock Spring, or the vault at Bridget of Erin church.

Other Parish Cemeteries - particularly in St. Louis County remain in their original location. For example, the earliest burials at Our Lady of Assumption parish' cemetery date to 1796.

Small Cemeteries

In the 1820s, as land became scarce, the Catholics began the process of opening new cemeteries further from the city center. A French Burial Ground was opened in 1824 at 7th and Washington. The same year, a Catholic cemetery was opened at the intersection of Franklin and Pratte streets. These early small cemeteries only lasted a few years before bodies were exhumed and transferred to new plots further out. The record keeping of such transfers was very poor. In the case of Franklin-Pratte: Methodists from the adjoining cemetery found their way into the vault in Bridget of Erin church.

Transfer errors and poor record-keeping were not limited to city cemeteries. For example: Old St. Ferdinand Cemetery in Florissant filled up in 1876. A New St. Ferdinand Cemetery was opened and the bodies were transferred - but not the headstones.

Archdiocesan Cemeteries

The Archdiocese opened two cemeteries: Calvary (1867) in the north and Resurrection (1928) in the south. These cemeteries were constructed to have elements of rural cemeteries: locations outside the city, rolling hills, winding roadways, and planned landscapes.

List of Catholic Cemeteries in St. Louis and St. Louis County

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| • Assumption Parish | 4725 Mattis School Road |
| • Calvary | 5239 W Florissant Rd. |
| • Central | 125 Creve Coeur Ave. |
| • Daughters of Charity | 7662 Natural Bridge Rd. Normandy. |
| • French Burial Ground | 7th - Washington - 8th - Locust |
| • Glencoe | Old State Rd at Highway 109, Wildwood |
| • Holy Cross | 16200 Manchester Rd, Wildwood |
| • Holy Family Fathers | Ashby and Midland, Overland |
| • Holy Trinity | Taylor & North Broadway, St. Louis City |
| • La Salle Institute | 3270 Highway 109, Wildwood |
| • Mound Cemetery | 700 Howdershell Rd, Florissant |
| • Mount Olive | 3906 Mt. Olive Rd Lemay |
| • Notre Dame | 320 East Ripa Rd, Lemay |
| • Old Bonhomme Township | Old Bonhomme Rd, west of Price. |
| • Old Catholic | Market St between Broadway and 2nd (3rd and Walnut) |
| • Resurrection | 7301 Watson Rd, Affton |

- Rock Springs Duncan near Sarah and Franklin
- Rose Hill 520 Monroe Rd. at Geyer Rd., Kirkwood
- Sacred Heart 980 Graham Rd, Florissant
- Sacred Heart 122 Main St. Valley Park
- Society of Mary 1311 S Kirkwood Rd, Sunset Hills
- St. Ann 7530 Natural Bridge Rd, Normandy
- St. Bridget of Erin 1100 N. Jefferson
- St. Ferdinand de Florissant (New) 205 Manion Road,, Florissant
- St. Ferdinand de Florissant (Old) St Ferdinand St., Florissant
- St. Joseph 1220 N. 11th St.
- St. Joseph 125 Creve Coeur Ave., Manchester
- St. Joseph Clayton
- St. Louis King of France Market St between Broadway and 2nd (3rd and Walnut)
- St. Martin 125 Creve Coeur Ave.
- St. Mary's 5200 Fee Fee Road, Hazelwood
- St. Monica 12136 Olive Boulevard, Creve Coeur
- St. Patrick's Franklin Ave. at Broadway
- St. Paul 15 Forest Knoll Road (741 Gravois Rd), Fenton
- St. Peter 520 W Monroe, Kirkwood
- St. Stanislaus 700 Howdershell Rd, Florissant
- St. Vincent Jefferson - Eads - Ohio - Park
- Sts. Mary and Joseph 6304 Minnesota Ave, Carondelet
- Sts. Peter and Paul 7030 Gravois Rd.
- Carondelet 1215 Lemay Ferry Rd.
- Franklin - Pratt Cemetery Franklin (MLK) and Pratte (Jefferson)
- New Catholic Franklin (MLK) and Pratte (Jefferson)
- Old Catholic 7th - Washington - 8th - Locust
- Second Catholic Franklin (MLK) and Pratte (Jefferson)