



**ARCHDIOCESE OF SANTA FE
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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PRESS RELEASE

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**Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan Announces
New Annual Cremated Remains Committal Services**
Bring Your Loved One Home

All Souls' Day, Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan, Presider
Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 11:00 A.M.
Rosario Cemetery
499 N. Guadalupe St. Santa Fe, NM 87501
505.983.2322

Very Rev. John Cannon, Presider
Wednesday, November 2, 2011, 2:00 P.M.
Mt. Calvary Cemetery
1900 Edith Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87120
505.243.0218

ALBUQUERQUE – Monday, October 17, 2011 – IMMEDIATE RELEASE-- Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan and the Catholic Cemetery Association have announced a new program that gives families, who have kept their loved one's cremated remains at home, an opportunity to "bring their loved one home." The program is intended to assist families in burying their loved one as instructed by the Catholic Church. (To access Archbishop Sheehan's Pastoral Letter, *Honor We Must Give the Deceased – All Souls' Day*, please visit our website www.tinyurl.com/3v8b8py.)

Program Details:

- A **committal service**¹ will be scheduled annually by the Archbishop's office. Notification of the service's dates and times will be communicated through *People of God*, the Archdiocesan newspaper, parish bulletins and Catholic Radio.
- Prior to the service families can visit either Mt. Calvary Cemetery, in Albuquerque, or Rosario Cemetery, in Santa Fe, to arrange **enichement**² preparations for their loved one.
- The cremated remains should be received at least two days prior to the committal service date in a container that does not exceed 8 ¼" in height, 6 ¼" wide and 4 ¼" deep.
- If the cremated remains are received in a container that surpasses the required dimensions, Catholic Cemetery personnel will transfer the remains to a liner that meets the size requirement.
- The cremated remains will be properly secured until the date of the service.
- On the day of the committal service families are encouraged to attend the services, at which time the cremated remains will be placed in the crypt by the staff. Once all the remains have been eniched the staff will secure the crypt front.
- A plaque commemorating the burials will be placed on the crypt front; however, there will be no individual **memorialization**³.

Contact: Leah DeTommaso 505.248.1532--END

¹ **Committal Service** is a brief prayer service at the gravesite

² **Enichement** is the placement of the cremated remains in a wall enclosure referred to as a niche.

³ **Memorialization** is an inscription, on a plaque or headstone, of a prayer or details about the deceased, i.e. name, date of birth and death, etc.

