



Catholic Community of St. Odilia

3495 N. Victoria • Shoreview, MN 55126-3895

May 9, 2014

Dear Parishioners,

I have wonderful news to share! We have received all of the permissions necessary to establish the St. Odilia Prayer Garden on our St. Odilia campus. A dream has now become a reality for our community.

We will be developing the outdoor space on the west side of our campus into a prayer garden and cemetery that will overlook the pond that is there. This prayer garden will include columbaria as well as space for in-ground burial of bodies and cremains. A columbarium is a structure where cremated remains are interred in small niches (vaults) designed for urns containing ashes. The St. Odilia Prayer Garden will also include walkways, benches, a possible grotto area, trees, shrubs, flower beds, signage and a Memorial Pillar designed for those who will be buried elsewhere but wish to be remembered by the St. Odilia community. All of these things will be designed to enhance the natural beauty of the garden. For this reason all grave markers will be flush to the ground (flat) and there will be no fencing other than shrubbery and other landscaping.

The enclosed brochure will give you more specifics about the St. Odilia Prayer Garden including pricing for niches and graves. We are ready now to begin selling niches and graves. I know many of you have expressed an interest in purchasing a niche or grave in our prayer garden right away. We will give priority to those families who have been sheltering the cremains of their loved ones waiting for our prayer garden to become a reality. They will have the first option for selecting and purchasing niches.

Please join me on **Thursday May 22, 2014 at 7:00pm** in the school cafeteria for an informational meeting about our prayer garden. You will see architectural drawings, have your questions answered and be able to reserve burial space that evening. If you are unable to attend the May 22 meeting and are interested in purchasing, a member of our staff will be able to assist you in our Parish Office during regular business hours beginning May 27, 2014. Feel free to contact Lynne Schriver-Sheedy or Kevin Scroggins at prayergarden@stodilia.org with any questions or for more information. Lynne may also be reached at (H) 651-653-3777 or (c) 651-307-5315.

I am confident that this new ministry of the Catholic Community of St. Odilia will be a source of comfort, peace and hope for our community for generations to come. We embrace our new members at baptism and now we will be able to cradle their remains until the great day of resurrection.

Sincerely,

Fr. Phillip Rask
Pastor

Catholic Community of St. Odilia

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www.stodilia.org