Dear Friends of Holy Cross Cemetery,

After missing 2019, this is the newest edition of our annual update letter for Holy Cross Cemetery. We know it has been a very disruptive year for most of you. We are starting to inch our way back to something closer to normal here.

**New Work:** Marie Leier has chipped in to help with our windrow on the west side of the cemetery. We had hoped to add a second line of trees, but unfortunately we are too close to the boundary. So on to plan B: lilacs! The department of soil conservation is able to assist us in planting them at a reasonable rate. We hope over the years this will make an effective windbreak, and a pretty hedge row in the spring. The picture at right shows the cleared area ready to be tilled for planting.

![A Minnesota Prairie Sunset Oak was planted by two members of the Washek family and filled a hole in a tree row on the east side. Thank you!](image)

**Possible plans:**

We may need to replace one of the eight pines we planted a number of years ago down the center driveway. We are trying to baby it a little this year and will see if it springs back.

There is a suggestion about extending the driveway east and west in front of the altar. Gravel or blacktop are possibilities. But nothing definite has been decided yet.

Next year’s letter will be the responsibility of Fr. Matthew Kraemer, who is taking my place as pastor here in Velva and Karlsruhe. Bishop Folda has assigned me to the parishes of Steele, Tappen and Medina. I am grateful for my seven and a half years here. I wish all of you the best.

We realize these are challenging times financially. We are grateful for your past generosity. If you are able to help this year, please consider a gift or memorial to the cemetery. Thank you and God bless!

Sincerely,

Fr. Peter Sharpe
Pastor, on behalf of the Holy Cross Cemetery Board

P.S. Plot map and cemetery regulations are available online at stceciliavelvand.org/holy_cross_cemetery