

St. Mary Church

524 Sixth Street

Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

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February 28, 2007

Dear Mr. Baughman and City Council,

St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish and Parish Council are very concerned with the recent destruction inside Greenlawn Cemetery. We feel something needs to be done now to prevent this from happening again.

Our proposal to the City Council is this:

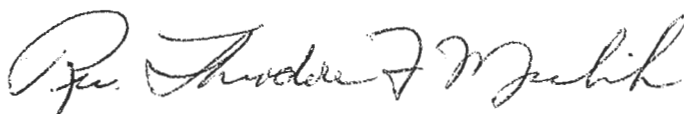
1. Install security lights on the utility poles around the perimeter of the cemetery. If the would-be vandals thought they might be seen, it may deter them.
2. Repair/replace the gates on the driveways into the cemetery. Have the gates locked when the cemetery workers leave for the day and have the workers open them in the mornings. This would be a minor inconvenience to those who walk through the cemetery if the cemetery is kept secure. A police officer could perform the task on weekends and holidays. All officers could be given the key.

St. Mary has a vested interest in keeping the cemetery safe and secure for our own section and for all who have loved ones interred at Greenlawn. We don't feel the citizens of Portsmouth have to accept damage to the cemetery every three to five years as acceptable.

Sincerely,

St. Mary Parish Council members


Lottie J. McHugh, President of Parish Council


Rev. Theodore F. Machnik, pastor