



# *Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Community*

*August 2022*

Dear Friends:

Some years ago I did a newsletter on the Sulpician cemetery here on Charlestown's campus since some folks wanted some information about it. Recently I have been asked about it by some new residents so here is the newsletter from 2018.

Before you enter the cemetery on the right of the gate there is a Latin phrase which has defined the life of the Sulpicians since they were founded in 1641 in Paris by Jean Jacques Olier. It is translated, to live supremely for God in Christ Jesus. Immediately inside the cemetery on the left is a mass grave. This is the reason that the crosses are so close to each other. These are the remains that were moved here from Paca Street in downtown Baltimore, the original site of St Mary's Seminary which was founded in 1791. The Paca Street site closed in 1969. Some of these priests were here from the beginning of the seminary and were refugees from the French Revolution. Some sisters who worked at the seminary are also buried there. Several early Sulpicians were called upon by Bishop Carroll to be bishops in new dioceses and so are not buried in the cemetery. Archbishops Marechal and Eccleston of Baltimore were Sulpicians but are entombed in the Baltimore Basilica which was completed by Marechal in 1818. As you walk down the path you walk past the graves of Sulpicians who served in our seminaries in the United States and around the world. Some of them are remembered by Charlestown residents as they helped out in parishes in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. After you pass the graves of the priests you will come to the statue of Sedes Sapientiae, the Seat of Wisdom. She is the patroness of the Sulpicians and quietly but faithfully watches over her sons. To her right is the only white marble gravestone. This is the grave of Father Oliver Jenkins who was the first rector of St. Charles College in Ellicott City founded in 1848. St. Charles burned to the ground in 1911 and he, along with the college, was moved to Catonsville. Behind the statue on the right are the graves of various people who worked at St. Charles as chauffeurs, secretaries or housekeepers. On the left you will find a solitary grave with a most interesting story. This is the grave of Archbishop-elect Vladimir Alexandrof. He came to this country from Russia to be the Russian Orthodox Archbishop of the West Coast and Alaska. Before he was installed he decided to enter the Roman Catholic Church. He ended up in Baltimore, moved into St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and spent the rest of his life there. One of the priests at the Villa remembers him. He died in 1945 and requested to be buried in the Sulpician cemetery. The Archbishop of Baltimore had allowed him to keep his title when he entered the Roman Church. In the back of the cemetery are the graves of the Daughters of the Eucharist. The life of the order was short, and their number was only 13, mostly from the same Dietz family. The convent was on the site of Villa Olier and was torn down in the 1960's... Just a little information. Have a great August, I think it will be a hot one.

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