

## ST. JEAN BAPTISTE CEMETERY

SEP 08 2016

Lil and I are here to make a presentation on behalf of St. Jean Baptiste Parish.

The Graveyard in Morinville is located north of the Public School Property on 100 COUNTY street. It was moved from the original church site which was located two miles west of Morinville back in the early 1900's Our Parish is celebrating 125 years this year and the graveyard is showing its age. The site is maintained by the parish along with some volunteers but is used not only by our parishioners but also by the public community both Morinville and Sturgeon. There is a special section in the graveyard designated for public non catholic burials for both coffins and urns. Some of you may have noticed that the oldest section of the graveyard had a lot of spruce trees removed last fall. This was not only because of old age but a disease was drying out the needles and killing the trees. We had 40 and 50 foot trees toppling which could cause personal injury and liability. Removing the trees took away our natural arbor fence and exposed the grave sites to highway traffic and an invitation for off highway vehicles to wander through. This is why we are here. We must put up a fence, as well as, replace some of the trees. Unfortunately a graveyard is our last stop and final resting grounds. But it should be a beautiful serene place as many people visit the site of their loved ones or come looking for relatives or friends. We should be proud of it and it should be a show case, as it is in a lot of European and other countries in the world.

As I previously stated, we need fencing, we need trees and landscaping, we need gates, more signage and lighting. We had vandal problems in the past and lighting seems to deter some of that. It makes you a little angry when people want to test their strength and push over some of the old and larger marble monuments causing them to crack and break apart.

It is an extensive list and it may not all be accomplished this year, but as with all our parks and beautiful things in the town and the County, its an ongoing process. The parish charges a nominal fee for perpetual care of the grave sites which helps pay the ongoing maintenance charges like grass cutting, weed control, grave site leveling and maintenance. We would appreciate an annual contribution from the County to help with the maintenance and that it be a budget item each year, but right now we need assistance for capital funding to re-establish a beautiful resting place for our loved ones and like my wife says, we want it to be a "Garden of Promise"

We are looking at a joint venture with the County, Town & Parish. We are working on a fund raising project for our share and hope you may have a little left in the budget for your share.

We have a proposed budget attached and prepared to answer any questions. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Gib & Lil Boddez

## **Proposed Budget**

Old Graveyard Lawn Landscape Dirt Seed Leveling, Etc.	3000.00 2000.00
Fence – Front 750 feet @ \$35.00 per foot	26,500.00
3 Driveways (6 Posts) Brick Pillars (Bricks Cement pad on piles Masonary)	3000.00
Gates (3) 24 feet	3000.00
Trees & Shrubs 40 @ 200.00 average	10,000.00
Benches (existing ones granite) (5)	5000.00
Lighting (4) (4000-6000)	5000.00
Total	57,500.00
Contigency 15%	9000.00
	66,500.00

This proposal does not include the in kind contributions.