

**Mother Joseph's Grave, Mother Joseph Catholic Cemetery,
Vancouver, Washington**



Mother Joseph Catholic Cemetery is located about three blocks east of I-5, just north of Fourth Plain Boulevard and the Military Post Cemetery; entry is from the north, at East 29th and N Streets. The Sisters of Providence section is located on the west side of the cemetery, where a sidewalk flanked by roses leads to a small memorial garden. Mother Joseph's grave is just south of the sidewalk, close to the cross. For years, members of the local Catholic community have lovingly cared for the sisters' graves. A granite bench honoring Mother Joseph was donated in 1999 by sixth grade students in the Evergreen School District Excel Program.

Many pioneer families and clergy are buried in Mother Joseph Catholic Cemetery. Originally called St. James Acres, it was founded in 1871 as a cemetery for the Catholic Diocese of Nesqually. In 1989, as part of the Washington State Centennial, an historical marker was dedicated at the cemetery. It reads: "Historic Cemetery - St. James Acres - Consecrated May 20, 1882 by Bishop A. Junger, Diocese of Nisqually - Final resting place of Mother Joseph, Sister of Providence, 1826[sic]-1902, Washington Representative to Statuary Hall, Washington, D.C." The marker stands in the southeast corner of the cemetery, at the old entrance from Fourth Plain Boulevard. On May 28, 2007, the cemetery was renamed Mother Joseph Catholic Cemetery of Vancouver.