160th ANNIVERSARY YEAR
Carrying Out Mary’s Message and Adele’s Mission of Catechetical Encounter at Champion Shrine
Grace and Blessings to you all!

The Shrine, with the help of the prayers of the faithful, is continuing to develop and grow. Our Lady calls more and more people to her Shrine to meet her Son. Those who come experience the gift of Mary’s healing touch. Pope Pius XII, on a pilgrimage to Lourdes beautifully explains: “Go to her, you who are crushed by material misery, defenseless against the hardships of life and the indifference of men. Go to her, you who are assailed by sorrows and moral trials. Go to her, beloved invalids and infirm... Go to her and receive peace of heart, strength for your daily duties, joy for the sacrifice you offer.” Mary never fails those who trust in her to help them; therefore, the name of our new building was blessed by Bishop Ricken as “Mother of Mercy” hall. A name that exemplifies the nature of Mary’s care for her children.

Soon the Shrine will be celebrating the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven. The remembrance of Mary’s Assumption into heaven holds special significance by all those who participate in the life of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. It is always a day marked with special solemnity as it was also one of Adele Brise’s favorite feasts, and when many come to experience the love of Christ through the love of Mary. At the Shrine, Our Blessed Mothers intercession is always known. Mary’s life, words, and example all help mold us into an image of her Son. Please join us this August 15 in the celebration of Mary’s Assumption.

Please join us in our Novena of Masses and prayer in preparation for the celebration of the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into heaven this August 15. Your novena requests and intentions will be remembered each day. Please unite with us in prayer during our Assumption novena this year.

We deeply appreciate your prayers and support of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help; let us always remember one another in prayer.

“Your sins in Christ, Fr. John

“The Immaculate Virgin, who knows the secret ways by which grace operates in souls and the silent work of this supernatural leaven in this world, knows also the great price which God attaches to your sufferings united to those of the Savior. They can greatly contribute. We have no doubt, to this Christian renewal of society which We implore of God through the powerful intercession of His Mother.”

— (Pope Pius XII, on pilgrimage to Lourdes)
ALLOUEZ — Kate and Bob Signorelli love Lourdes, France. They visited the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes there for 16 consecutive years. They went there, even before they became members of the Order of Malta, which was founded in 1058 A.D. in Jerusalem. The order's purpose, Kate explained, is “to take care of the sick and poor and to defend the faith.” The order does just that for sick pilgrims in France. As members of the order, the Signorellis do that at Lourdes.

And while they love their pilgrimages to Lourdes, they always felt it would be nice to follow their Lourdes' pilgrimages with a visit to a local Marian apparition site. However, unlike fellow pilgrims from Ireland, who could visit the shrine at Knock, or those from Mexico, who could visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, there wasn’t a shrine in the United State to visit.

Or so The Signorellis thought until a fellow member of the order told their Houston-based group of pilgrims about the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wis. That was in 2011. A fellow Knight of Malta, who lived in Chicago, immediately planned a visit to let the others know what he found.

“This is nice,” was his verdict.

So the Signorellis made their own visit to Champion on Aug. 15, 2013, the feast of the Assumption. The main celebrant at that Mass was the late Cardinal Francis George of Chicago. They had been with the cardinal at Lourdes that previous May. Cardinal George introduced them to Bishop David Ricken and praised the work of the Knights and Dames of Malta to Bishop Ricken.

Afterwards, the Signorellis spent time alone in the apparition chapel.

“We just knew we had to bring everybody there,” Kate told The Compass about that visit. “We were called to bring people to Our Lady of Good Help.”

The couple returned to Houston — they now live in the San Francisco area — and arranged a pilgrimage for the Houston order. (The full name for the order is “The Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta.”)

Since 2014, the Signorellis have arranged for annual pilgrimages to the Champion shrine for the United States’ Federal Association of Order of Malta. The first group of 30 pilgrims arrived in October 2014, on the anniversary of the apparitions to Adele Brise.

However, Kate said, members decided that October was too late in the year, because they found that they wanted to bring their families. So, since 2015, the pilgrims have come on the first weekend of August. This year, they will be at the shrine Aug. 1 to 4. And they are expecting more than 300 pilgrims this time.

“The biggest thing people speak of (at the shrine) is the peace,” said Kate. “The peace is overwhelming.”

She and Bob also believe that, while Champion and Lourdes are very different in size and location, they are more similar than one might think. They said they believe Champion is “probably much like visiting Lourdes in 1878. It is very simple, but very holy in its simplicity.”

The Signorellis find their visits to Champion a bit less physically demanding than those to Lourdes.
In France, they — like all members of their order — care for the malades (the French term for sick or elderly pilgrims who travel to Lourdes to bathe in its healing waters.) While immensely rewarding, that service can be physically demanding. At Champion, the Knights and Dames of Malta travel with “special pilgrims” who come for healing and who might need some assistance, which is readily offered by the order. But their physical needs — not necessarily their emotional ones — are less at Champion.

Still, the couple loves going to both places. At Lourdes, they find it “a great blessing to care for the sick at such a noble shrine.”

And at Champion, they find an equal blessing — and sometimes on a personal level.

Last year, Kate’s niece came with the group on the Champion pilgrimage. Caroline Fahrenhorst was also pregnant and — a couple of weeks before the pilgrimage — learned that her baby had a severe birth defect. After the rosary procession that day at the shrine, Caroline went down to the apparition chapel to pray before Mary’s statue there.

“I was praying to Mother Mary about my baby’s health and my other worries,” Caroline told The Compass.

As Caroline prayed, she thought she saw Mary’s hands move — first toward her aunt who was just about to sit in the pew in front of Caroline, and then beckoning Caroline to approach and kneel in prayer with her aunt, who was now by the statue.

“So I thought, I guess it was a sign to go up and be with Aunt Kate to kneel before the Blessed Mother and continue praying,” said Caroline.

Kate said she did not see anything happen with the statue, but had, on some impulse, “decided to join Caroline. I put my hand on her back and began praying for the healing of her baby.”

Once the family returned home, Caroline had a follow-up test to the obstetrician. The results showed “radical changes.” For the better. The doctor could not explain it.

Patrick Fintan Fahrenhorst was born in December, “a perfectly healthy child,” Kate said, adding that she feels honored to have been part of what happened at Champion.

“She (Mary) could have healed the baby all by herself,” said Kate. “I feel special that she included me in that scenario.”

In encouraging anyone to make a pilgrimage, Kate notes that people need to realize that it is different from making a simple visit to a shrine.

“Many people have told me they’ve been to Lourdes — but on a two-hour visit,” she said. “That is hardly time to buy a rosary.”

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“When a person goes on pilgrimage,” Kate explained, “the grace begins from the moment the decision is made to attend. The entire process of preparing and traveling is pilgrimage. Then, for the days at the shrine, we are immersed in prayer as members of the pilgrimage. We participate in the sacrament of reconciliation, anointing of the sick and the Mass, as well as Stations of the Cross, the rosary and much more.”

When the Signorellis made their first pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, “everything was very special,” Kate said. “The people were warm, friendly and welcoming. My husband and I both felt that the Blessed Mother was, and is calling us, to bring others to the Shrine.”

Now, after many pilgrimages to Champion, the Knights and Dames of Malta — of which there are three associations in the U.S. — wish to be part of hosting the new welcome center. Mother of Mercy Hall will be dedicated on April 28.

The Western, Federal and American associations of the order plan to serve the welcome center much as they have served the first aid centers at the four major basilicas in Rome. The Signorellis have themselves worked at those first aid centers.

“If someone faints or is overheated. It’s basic care,” Kate explained. “During the Holy Year of Mercy (2015-2016), Pope Francis asked the Order to staff these centers. There were a doctor, a nurse and two runners. We were assigned to a different basilica every day.”

The Signorellis served as one of the two-person runner teams.

Today, they feel they have an ongoing mission to raise awareness of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help.

Why?

“That’s easy,” Kate answered. “If a person wants to feel the presence of heaven on earth and ask for the help of our Blessed Mother, then there is no better place than the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help.”
Calendar of Events

July 2019

Anniversary of the death of Sister Adele Brise
Friday, July 5, 2019
Requiem Mass for Sister Adele Brise followed by gravesite prayer service – 11 a.m.

Biking for Babies
Sunday, July 7, 2019
Northern route missionary kick-off at Champion Shrine. Biking for Babies is an apostolate dedicated to renewing the culture of life and for pregnancy resources centers through a national bike ride across America.

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - Adele Brise Day
Tuesday, July 9, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick – 11 a.m.

Mass with Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service
Saturday, July 27, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Mass – 11 a.m. / Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service – 12 p.m.

August 2019

Knights of Columbus Silver Rose at Champion Shrine
Thursday, August 1 and Friday, August 2
The Silver Rose symbolizes the commitment of the Knights of Columbus to restoring respect for the sanctity of life from conception until death. Mass – 11 a.m. / Veneration of the Silver Rose in the Apparition Chapel – 8 – 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 – 3:30 p.m. each day.

Sovereign Military Order of Malta Pilgrimage
Thursday, August 1 – Sunday, August 4, 2019
The Knights, Dames and Auxiliary members of all three United States associations (American, Federal and Western) of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta hold their annual pilgrimage at Champion Shrine.

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - Adele Brise Day
Friday, August 9, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Mass with Anointing of the Sick – 11 a.m.

Holy Family Presentation
Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Mass with Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service
Saturday, August 31, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Mass – 11 a.m. / Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service – 12 p.m.

September 2019

Feast Day Mass for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Blessing of the Grapes
Sunday, September 8, 2019
Mass – 11 a.m. / Blessing of the Grapes – 12 p.m. / Farm to Table Harvest Family Feast Day Picnic – 12:30 p.m.

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - Adele Brise Day
Monday, September 9, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Mass with Anointing of the Sick – 11 a.m.

Feast Day Retreat / Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday, August 15, 2019
“Hail, Holy Queen” presentation by Scott Hahn – 9:30 a.m. (Event is free, but registration required at https://stpaulcenter.com/champion-2019/)
Assumption Day Mass with Principal Celebrant, the Most Reverend David L. Ricken, Bishop of Green Bay – 11 a.m.
“Silent Knight, Holy Knight: Reflections on St. Joseph” presentation by Scott Hahn – 1 p.m.

Mass with Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service
Saturday, September 28, 2019
Rosary – 10:30 a.m. / Mass – 11 a.m. / Eucharistic Healing Prayer Service – 12 p.m.
Miracles of France
Miracles of France.com
SEPT 12 - 20, 2019
With Stops in France and Belgium

Join Relevant Radio® and EWTN® television host and OSV author “Miracle Hunter” Michael O’Neill and Fr. John Broussard, CPM, rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help (the only approved Marian apparition site in the US) in exploring the miracles of France and Belgium!

We will travel to the famed site of Lourdes with its Marian apparitions and healing waters, the place where St. Margaret Mary Alacoque experienced visions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the location where the popular Miraculous Medal was supernaturally inspired, and the spots of the 20th century Vatican-recognized Marian apparitions of Belgium (Our Lady of Beauraing and Our Lady of Banneux). We will see other major Marian apparition sites like Our Lady of Hope (Fontmain) and Our Lady of the Green Scapular, the Eucharistic Miracles of Douai and Brussels, and the incorruptible bodies of St. Bernadette Soubirous in Nevers and St. Catherine Labouré in Paris.

Daily Mass and spiritual reflections will be offered along the pilgrimage route.
Adele’s Wish List

Adele Brise was a visionary who had an unwavering faith in Jesus to help her carry out the mission entrusted to her by the Queen of Heaven here at Champion.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the countless stories of miraculous last-minute wishes for help and assistance granted to Adele. Be it food for the orphaned children, money to keep the school open for classes or to ensure the Chapel could be kept open and running, Adele would express her wish in the form of a prayer and put her faith in Jesus and his Mother to enlist their foot soldiers in faith here on earth to provide.

In the spirit of that faith and trust, we humbly put forward “Adele’s Wish List” for those items most needed by the Shrine at this time. To sponsor an item through a donation, simply send your check to our mailing address or go to our website and click “Make a Gift”. If you would like to donate anonymously, please call 920-866-2571 ext. 114. Thank you and may God bless you!

For our new Mother of Mercy Hall:
- Set of bells ($100)
- Lectionaries and Sacramentary ($320)
- 6 Vestments ($500 each)
- Deep stainless kitchen sink ($500)
- Outdoor Glass Display Case ($900)
- Chalice and Paten ($3,000)
- Grab-n-go cooler for the Café ($6,800)
- Landscaping (grass, shrubs, pavers & retaining wall) ($18,000)

All donations made to the non-profit National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help are tax deductible, as permitted by law.

Spotlight on the Eucharist

The Feast of Corpus Christi

The feast of Corpus Christi is one time when our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is exposed not just to faithful Catholics but to all the world. It is typically marked by a Eucharistic procession, in which the Blessed Sacrament is brought out to the world. Through an expression of great faith in Our Blessed Lord’s real and abiding presence in the Holy Eucharist, the faithful witness in a public way to their belief in Jesus as the bread of Life. According to Canon Law (Can. 944) “Wherever in the judgment of the diocesan Bishop it can be done, a procession through the streets is to be held, especially on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, as a public witness of veneration of the Blessed Eucharist.” This feast often marks a very special act of faith on the part of believers as a powerful expression of what is held as most assuredly to be true.

The Feast of Corpus Christi originated in 1246 when Robert de Torote, bishop of Liège, ordered the festival celebrated in his diocese. It did not spread, however, until 1261, when Jacques Pantaléon, formerly archdeacon of Liège, became pope as Urban IV. In 1264 he ordered the whole church to observe the feast. From this point the Church has always held this celebration in the highest dignity as an expression of core and fundamental Catholic beliefs.

This feast is traditionally celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, however, in the modern liturgical calendar this celebration has typically been moved to the following Sunday. May we all come to know the loving Mercy of Christ our God through His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist.
This newsletter is published by the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help to provide updates and news on the Shrine; to continue the mission given to Sister Adele by Our Lady; and always to promote the Catholic faith!

Shrine Opportunities and Hours

Apparition Chapel, Apparition Oratory, and the Shrine Grounds
Daily . . . . . . . 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mass
Tuesday & Saturday . . . . 8:30 a.m.
Sunday (May-October) . . . . 8:30 a.m.
Daily . . . . . . . . 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday . . . . . . . . . 9:10 a.m.
Daily . . . . . . . . . 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Devotional Prayer
Rosary . . . . . . . . . . Daily . . . . . . . . . 10:30 a.m.
Rosary for Vocations . . . . Second Friday at 3:30 p.m.
Chaplet of Divine Mercy . . . Daily . . . . . . . . . 3:00 p.m.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament . . Wednesday . . . . . 4:30 p.m.
St. Joseph Devotions and Vespers . . Wednesday . . . . . . 5:15 p.m.
Fatima Devotions . . . . . . . First Saturday after 8:30 a.m. Mass
Healing Service with Anointing of the Sick . . . Last Saturday after 11:00 a.m. Mass
Fatima Holy Hour . . . . . . . Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Adele Brise Day - Ninth of Each Month
Anointing of the Sick . . . . . . Immediately after 11:00 a.m. Mass

Gift Shop and Schoolhouse Café
Monday – Saturday . . . . . . 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Welcome and Education Center
May – October . . . . . . . . . . 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
September – April . . . . . . . . . . 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*Check our website for Holiday Schedules