



**For Immediate Release**

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**From Lourdes, France to Champion, WI: The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help to Welcome Relics of St. Bernadette in June**

*The Shrine, along with two parishes in the Diocese of Green Bay, will be the only stops for the internationally recognized Catholic Saint within Wisconsin and surrounding States*

**(Champion, Wis.)** – For the first time in history, the relics of St. Bernadette have left Lourdes, France to tour the United States from April to August 2022, visiting select churches and parishes around the country. As part of its tour, the relics of the famous Catholic saint will make a stop in the Diocese of Green Bay from June 12-16 to visit the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, WI, in addition to two parishes, St. Bernadette Parish in Appleton and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in De Pere. The Diocese of Green Bay will be the only stop for the relic within Wisconsin and its surrounding states for visitors to learn about the Saint and venerate the relics.

“The veneration of relics is a beautiful tradition in the Catholic Church that allows the faithful to better contemplate and appreciate the life and witness of the Saints to whom the relic belongs,” said Rev. John Broussard, C.P.M. and Rector of [The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help](#). “The veneration of a Saint’s relic is always oriented back to God and His love for us, shown brightly through the life and mission of that Saint.”

An internationally recognized Catholic Saint, St. Bernadette is most known for experiencing Marian apparitions in Lourdes, France in 1858. After much review, her reporters were eventually approved by the authority of the Catholic Church to which the apparition became known as Our Lady of Lourdes. The spot where the apparitions took place is now a Marian Shrine that welcomes more than five million pilgrims each year.

“For pilgrims to visit these three churches in the Diocese of Green Bay and venerate the relics of St. Bernadette is a great blessing, especially for those who may not be able to visit Lourdes,” said Broussard. “[As the only approved Marian Apparition site within the United States](#), The National Shrine in Champion is enthusiastically awaiting St. Bernadette’s arrival and the unique opportunity to venerate Our Lady through St. Bernadette and Adele in the same location for a couple of days.”

The relic of St. Bernadette will first make its stop in the Diocese of Green Bay to St. Bernadette Parish in Appleton on June 12-13. Following its time in Appleton, it will make a one-day stop to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in De Pere on June 14. From there, it will make its final stop at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion where it will be available for veneration from June 15-16.

Each location will have its own events associated with the arrival of the relic. For more information on each church’s activities, please visit [championshrine.org/relic-tour](http://championshrine.org/relic-tour). For information regarding St. Bernadette’s national tour, please visit <https://www.stbernadetteusa.org>.

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### **About the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help**

Located in Champion, Wisconsin, the [National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help](#) is the first and only Marian Apparition Site in the United States approved by the authority of the Catholic Church. The Shrine covers the peace-filled holy ground where Mary, the mother of Jesus, appeared to a Belgian immigrant woman named Adele Brise on October 9, 1859, identifying herself as "The Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners." Six years after the [2010 decree of authenticity was made](#), the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops designated the site in Champion as a National Shrine.

For more information on the Shrine, its history and events, visit [www.championshrine.org](http://www.championshrine.org) or follow along on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). To sign up for its newsletter, click [here](#).

### **About St. Bernadette USA**

#### **Media Contact**

Chelsey Hare

Director of Communications

[National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help](#)

[chare@championshrine.org](mailto:chare@championshrine.org)

920-866-2571 ext. 111