



THE GOOD NEWS

News and Events from the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help

July-September 2022 Issue #64



Image taken from the Shrine's first Marian Conference this past May.



RECTOR'S WINDOW

By Fr. John Broussard, C.P.M. & Fr. Joseph Aytona, C.P.M

God's Grace and Blessings to you all!

I hope this message finds you all doing well. It is with excitement and, at the same time, a bit of sadness that I write to notify you that my superior of the Fathers of Mercy informed me recently that he has decided to re-assign me from the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. I ask for your prayers as I begin a new phase in my vocation. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help moves into the next stage of development with a new rector, Fr. Joseph Aytona of the Fathers of Mercy. Please remember Father Joseph and his new ministry here in your prayers. God will provide His grace, and with the help of your prayers, this next chapter will be blessed for all.

My time here at the Shrine has truly been a blessed and grace-filled experience. I have come to learn much about our Blessed Mother and just how much she loves her children and her Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states: *"What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ."* (CCC, 487). This reality of our faith helps us to recognize Mary's role in our spiritual journey.

She teaches us how to know God, and in knowing God, one can find freedom. Now, more than ever, this relationship to God needs to be established and

strengthened. Mary has changed my life and my priesthood through this Shrine; she continues to make God known to all who trust her with their lives.

Please pray for the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, Fr. Joseph, and for me as we all continue toward Jesus through Mary.

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

"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)

*yours in christ,
Fr. John*



*"And a great sign
appeared in heaven,
a woman clothed
with the sun,
with the moon
under her feet,
and on her head
a crown of twelve stars"*

REV 121 RSVCE





WELCOME FR. JOSEPH AYTONA!

Greetings in Christ!

With a grateful and humble heart, I write to you as the new rector at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. As Fr. John Broussard and I transition into our new assignments, I ask for your continued prayers for our new respective ministries within our vocations. Fr. John Broussard has nobly led the Shrine as rector for the past seven years, and he will surely be missed by many here. With your prayers and through the grace of Our Lord, I hope to model Fr. John's patient, wise, and generous spirit within my leadership as rector of this beautiful refuge for peace.

I want to take this opportunity to briefly introduce myself in the hopes of, one day, meeting and getting to know each of you more. I grew up in the suburbs of Southern California. In 2003, I joined the Congregation of the Fathers of Mercy and was ordained to the Priesthood in May of 2010, graduating from the Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut. While there, I received my Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, a Master of Divinity Degree, and a Master of Arts in Theology. My younger brother, Fr. Jewel Aytona, C.P.M., is also a priest within the Fathers of Mercy and has previously served at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. Some of you may know him well.

Along with serving in the Fathers of Mercy for the past 19 years, I am the founder of the Spiritual Motherhood Sodality as well as the Family Vocation Ministries, an apostolate that promotes the gift of vocations through the sanctification of families. Some of my deepest ministry passions include proclaiming the importance of the Eucharist, the Priesthood, and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Another priest has arrived with me from the Fathers of Mercy. Fr. Michael French, ordained this past June, will assist Fr. Thomas Reagan and me in ministering to all pilgrims visiting this holy place. I hope that you can all join me in not only wel-

coming him to the priesthood but also to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help.

As the rector at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, my role is to be an advocate for our Blessed Mother and to fully submit to her will here at her Shrine. She is a good and faithful mother, both for the Church Universal and for each and every one of us. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states: *"Mary's function as mother of men in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. But the Blessed Virgin's salutary influence on men flows forth from the superabundance of the merits of Christ, rests on his mediation, depends entirely on it, and draws all its power from it."* (CCC, 970). When we place our work and trust in her loving arms, we can have confidence that she will orient our efforts straight toward her Son, Jesus. He is never too far from the loving gaze of His Mother.

I'm looking forward to learning from our pilgrims, ministering to the Shrine's ever-growing community, praying for you all, and sharing in the grace of our Blessed Mother here on the grounds where she appeared.

I appreciate your continued support of the Shrine and its mission. May Our Lady of Good Help lead us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ.

Fr. Joseph Aytona, CPM



PILGRIMAGE CORNER

By Kathy Ciha, Pilgrimage Coordinator

Spring was a very blessed and busy time for the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help! Over 5,000 pilgrims visited the first weekend in May for the Ninth Annual Walk to Mary. The weather was beautiful and enjoyed by the 3,400+ walkers who took part in this 21-mile spiritual journey! On May 20-21, the Shrine hosted the first-annual Marian Conference with Cardinal Raymond Burke as one of the guest speakers. The conference enriched the spiritual lives of many who attended, and planning has already begun for next year on May 19-20, 2023. In June, the National Shrine welcomed the relics of St. Bernadette. Over 4,000 pil-

grims from around the country came to venerate the relics and learn more about St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes.

In addition to the past May and June events, students from 25 area schools made a pilgrimage field trip to the Shrine. Over 600 students learned about the apparition of our Blessed Mother to Adele Brice and experienced the peacefulness and sacredness of the Shrine grounds.

We are also thrilled to have many exciting events taking place this August, September, and October. See our upcoming events section on pg. 5 for more details!



Photos from the St. Bernadette Relic Tour

DEVOTIONAL SPOTLIGHT

The Feast of Corpus Christi

By Fr. John Broussard

The Feast of Corpus Christi is a time in which 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 for all to witness. Through an expression of great faith in Our Blessed Lord's real and abiding presence in the Holy Eu-

charist, 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 Church has always held the reverence for the Eucharist. The Feast of Corpus Christi originated in 1246 when Bishop Robert de Torres of Liège ordered the festival celebrated in his diocese. It did not spread, however, until 1261 when former Archdeacon Jacques Pantaléon of Liège became Pop Urban IV. In 1264, he ordered the whole Church to observe the feast. To this day, the Church holds 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.



GIFT SHOP AND CAFÉ

Find Your Spiritual Refuge at the Shrine

By Jim Janssen, Operations Manager

As a nation and world, we are experiencing a period of increasing cultural conflict, political chaos, and economic uncertainty. From physical safety, religious persecution, and financial insecurity to, in some cases, concern over basic survival, people are unsure about what lies ahead.

At the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, we are witnessing an unprecedented resurgence of spiritual reconnection. The faithful are flocking to the Shrine to commit themselves to our Lord and His Blessed Mother. Our Lady of Good Help aids pilgrims in finding solace, strengthening their faith,

and protecting them from the anxiety of an uncertain future.

The Shrine Gift Shop offers everything you need to embrace an awakening of faith, deep devotion, and true peace during these troubling times. *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding”* (Proverbs 3:5).

*Beautiful Statuary for
Gardens, Grottos,
and Home Altars.*

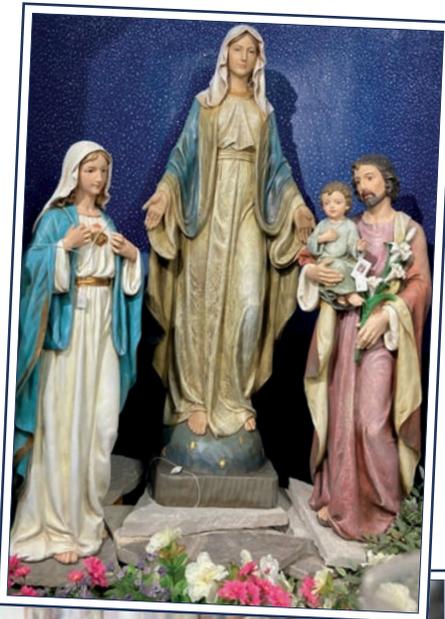


Image taken from 2022 Walk To Mary



**The Gift Shop and Café is open
Mon.-Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sundays 12:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Call us anytime at
920-866-2571.**

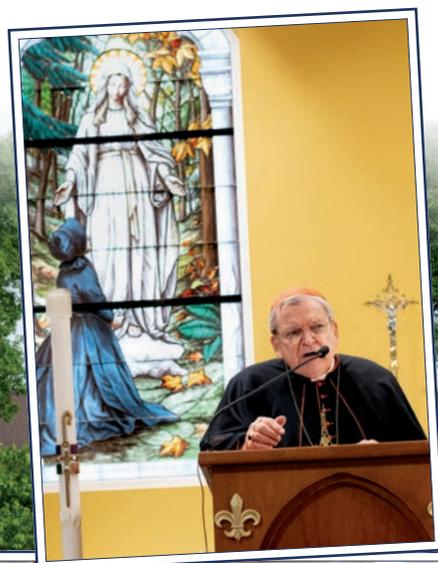
Our Extensive Selection Includes:

- Bibles, Books & DVDs
- Blessed Salt
- Candles
- Catholic Lifestyle – Apparel, Garden, Giftware, Greeting Cards, Jewelry, Religious Wall Art
- Crucifixes – Wall, Tabletop, Pocket Crosses
- Holy Oil & Water Bottles
- Holy & Prayer Cards
- Holy Water Fonts
- Icon Images
- Children's Section – Toys, Games, Learning Aids
- Medals & Pocket Coins
- Our Lady of Good Help Specialty Branded Items
- Rosaries – Adult, Children, Chaplet, Wide Variety
- Scapulars – Adult, Children, Various Styles
- A Spanish Section
- Special Occasion – Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion, Memorial, Wedding
- Statuary – Concrete & Resin, Indoor-Outdoor

LOOKING BACK

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help Marian Conference | May 20-21

Champion Shrine welcomed 250 people from 18 states to its grounds for its inaugural Marian Conference in May. The conference was filled with joy and peaceful prayer as pilgrims heard from speakers such as Cardinal Raymond Burke, Bishop David Ricken, Fr. Edward Looney, and Fr. Thomas Reagan. Save the date for the next Marian Conference on May 19-20, 2023! To learn more, please visit championshrine.org/marian-conference.



St. Bernadette Relic Tour at Champion Shrine | June 15-16

For the first time ever, the relics of St. Bernadette visited the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help and were present for two full days on the grounds where the Blessed Mother appeared to Adele in 1859. Over 4,000 pilgrims visited the National Shrine on June 15 and 16 to venerate the relics of St. Bernadette and participate in the events offered.



Feasts of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary Novena | June 16-24

Thank you to all who participated in our June novena for the Feasts of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary! We had thousands participate by sending in petitions and praying throughout the nine days. Our next novena will start on August 7 for the Feast of the Assumption!



St. Bernadette Relic Tour

JOIN US IN PRAYER THIS SEASON:

- ✝ For our country's bishops included in Champion Shrine's Shepherd Project. May our Church's leaders receive the grace needed to heroically guide our communities to the truth and love of Jesus Christ.
- ✝ For all pilgrims encountering our Blessed Mother on the grounds of Champion Shrine this year. May they be called to a deeper conversion of heart, mind, and prayer.
- ✝ For our new rector, Fr. Joseph Aytona. May Our Lady of Good Help keep him close to her arms as he leads the Shrine in its mission given to by our Blessed Mother in 1859.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Eucharistic Healing Service

At the conclusion of the 11 a.m. Mass on every last Saturday of the Month, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and processed among the faithful. This is then followed by the Anointing of the Sick for those needing the Sacrament. The upcoming Eucharistic Healing Services will be held on July 30, August 27, and September 24.

THE 9TH OF EVERY MONTH

Anniversary Day of the Apparition

Every 9th of the Month, the Shrine celebrates the day that Mary appeared to Adele with an Anointing of the Sick blessing for those who need it following Mass. Mass begins at 11 a.m.

AUGUST 7-15, 2022

Novena for the Feast of the Assumption

Join the Shrine in praying its annual Novena for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Enclosed in this newsletter, you will find the prayers and a card in which you can include your prayer intentions for this Novena. For those interested in receiving a daily novena prayer reminder via email, visit championshrine.org/novenas.

PLEASE NOTE

Before making any plans to visit, please check the "Latest News" Section of our website at www.championshrine.org for the most up-to-date schedule and current guidelines.

Stay up to date on all upcoming events by signing up for our Under Her Mantle e-newsletter! Visit championshrine.org/stay-in-touch.



AUGUST 15, 2022

Historic Observance of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

One of Champion Shrine's longest-standing traditions! Pilgrims from all over the country come to celebrate the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother. Bring your lawn chair for Mass at 11 a.m! The historic rosary procession led by a statue of our Blessed Mother will follow Mass. Confessions and Enrollment in the Brown Scapular are also included in the day's events. Spend time in prayer with your loved ones, encountering the presence of Our Lady of Good Help.



SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

Nativity of Mary

Celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the grounds where she appeared in 1859. Mass will begin at 11 a.m. with cake following!

SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

Belgian Harvest Festival

Join the Shrine as it welcomes in the fall season on Saturday, September 17! The Belgian Harvest Festival celebrates the history of the National Shrine in Champion and the rich Belgian heritage within the surrounding community. The festival includes special blessings of the fall harvest crops and the area's farming tractors. Pilgrims will also be able to experience traditional Belgian booyah and enjoy fall harvest desserts!

OCTOBER 8-9, 2022

Anniversary of the Apparition and Miracle of the Great Peshtigo Fire

This year, the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help will celebrate its 163rd anniversary of our Blessed Mother's apparition to Adele Brise in 1859, and the 151st anniversary of the miracle of the Great Peshtigo Fire in 1871. On the evening of October 8, the Shrine will hold all-night adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Apparition Chapel and hourly rosary processions around the Shrine's grounds. Mass will be held the next day to commemorate Our Lady's appearance to Adele.



AUGUST 15

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

AT THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP

One of Champion Shrine's longest-standing traditions! Pilgrims from all over the country come to these holy grounds to celebrate the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother.

The Shrine will celebrate the Feast of the Assumption Mass at 11 a.m. with its historic rosary procession led by a statue of our Blessed Mother immediately following Mass. A picnic lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, dessert, and bottled water will be available for those attending for a small fee. Confessions and Enrollment in the Brown Scapular are also included in the day's events.

Mass in Mother of Mercy Hall

11 a.m.

Eucharistic Rosary Procession

Following 11 a.m. Mass

What to Bring

Please bring lawn chair or blanket to sit on while outside!

For more information, please visit championshrine.org

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Hearing From Our Volunteers

By Debbie Mercier, Pilgrimage/Volunteer Coordinator

As we approach the late summer months at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, may we reflect on the words of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, “We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love.”

It is important to remember that small things done with love can make a big difference!

The Shrine is graciously served by the many kind, caring, and selfless volunteers; those who serve daily, weekly, monthly or annually. These acts of generosity do not go unnoticed. The love for our Heavenly Father and our Blessed Mother shines through all the wonderful volunteers who serve here at the Shrine. May this love continue to grow as we carry out the message and mission given to Adele by the Queen of Heaven.

We return to our Volunteer Spotlight with more insight given when asked the question **“What inspired or motivated you to become a volunteer at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help?”**:

“A friend from Holy Cross Parish told me about the “Chapel” many, many years ago. I went and found it to be a wonderful place. As I listened to the readers on Tuesday morning, I thought that I would love to do that too. I learned that they wanted to step down, so I stepped up. I am an entertainer by trade, so speaking in public has always been an easy thing for me to do. I love reading the scriptures and letting the Holy Spirit guide how I should read them. I love doing the Stations of the Cross after the Tuesday mornings in Lent. Someday I would love to be an interpreter in the visitor center. I would love to tell the story of Adele to others.”

– Marcianne

“While in the gift shop one day, Lisa asked me if I would like to volunteer. I said yes without giving it another thought. That was 6 years ago. It has been a blessing.”

– Pat



Learn how you can support the Shrine and its mission through volunteering.

Visit our website at championshrine.org/volunteer

Or contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 920-866-2571x123 or via email at volunteer@championshrine.org

“My friend Marcianne invited me to the Shrine about 5 years ago. We both belong to Holy Cross Parish Bay Settlement and are very active in the Koinonia Community, serving as officers on the Board and as lay directors of the retreats. I had been a lector at Holy Cross for a while. It just so happened that there was no lector on Wednesday at the Shrine so she invited me to give it a try and showed me the ropes. I have found balance in my life and on my journey as a Catholic and at 70 years of age, I find peace and help to navigate through life and marriage and the world’s problems. At the Shrine the midweek lecturing and sometimes leading the rosary give me a balance each week that keeps me going. And the availability of confession, and the sermons by the Fathers of Mercy are just too valuable to miss.”

– Louise



Pat folding t-shirts in the Café



Jackie spending time in the gift shop

FUND DEVELOPMENT

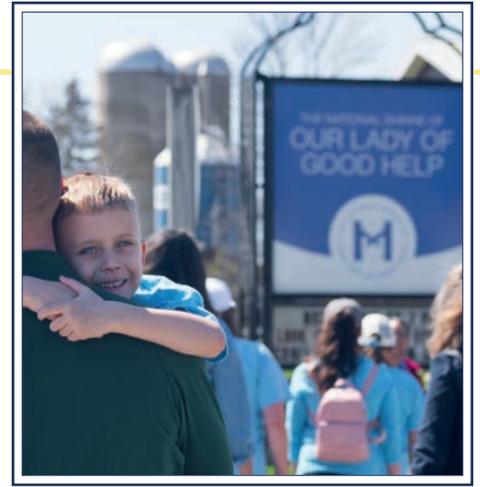
Making an Impact Through Annual Giving

By: Kelsey Dorner, Development Director

This past June, the Shrine mailed its Annual Appeal, a yearly letter asking for support for the Shrine's general operating expenses, to thousands of individuals, businesses, and organizations. When you support the Annual Appeal, you are sending a powerful message that you believe in the mission of the Shrine. Your Annual Appeal gift ensures that the day-to-day needs of the Shrine are met. This support is vital to the Shrine because donations fund 80% of the Shrine's operating budget. The remainder comes from Gift Shop and Cafe sales.

From keeping the lights on to purchasing office supplies to ensuring there is gas to plow the parking lots during the winter and cut grass during the summer months, the Annual Appeal funds it all! The Annual Appeal also supports smaller maintenance projects, such as waxing the Apparition Chapel floor each year and painting the Apparition Chapel walls. Gifts to the Annual Appeal have a significant impact by ensuring the Shrine is ready to welcome pilgrims 365 days a year.

Thank you to those who have already supported the Annual Appeal this year!



Thank you for joining our mission; to continue the gospel mission of Jesus Christ by responding to Mary's call to Adele Brise to foster conversion, teach the children, and minister to the sick and old.

If you would like to support the Annual Appeal, please visit www.championshrine.org to donate online or mail a donation to the Shrine.

Any level of support is greatly appreciated and has a lasting impact here at the Shrine!



The Shrine is again offering a special Miracle of the Fire candle that will be placed on the Rosary Pathway to help light the way for those joining us throughout the night to pray the rosary.

We invite you to visit our website, www.championshrine.org, to order your special Miracle of the Fire candle and submit your prayer intention, which will be prayed for throughout the night.





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. 125.

Thank you and may God bless you!

ITEMS NEEDED

- Liturgical Candles - \$250
- Lane Bottle Organizer for the Schoolhouse Café - \$760
- Entrance Flower Garden Project - \$1,000
- Two Golf Cart Rentals to Assist Pilgrims with Mobility Issues \$2,000
- New Refrigerator for the Schoolhouse Café - \$2,600

All donations made to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help are tax deductible, as permitted by law. Donations will be used, at the discretion of the organization, to further the purpose indicated by the donor.



DONATION FORM

Please fill out the following form and mail along with your check to:

The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help
Attention: _____
4047 Chapel Drive
New Franken, WI 54229

Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Phone Number

Email

Donation Amount \$ _____

General Donation

Adele's Wish List

Please contact me about including The Shrine in my will or estate plan, listing the The Shrine as a life insurance beneficiary or the sale of stock

How do you want to be acknowledged?



THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF
OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP

The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, Inc.
4047 Chapel Drive, New Franken, WI 54229

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This newsletter is published by the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help to provide updates and news on the Shrine, continue the mission given to Sister Adele by Our Lady, and share the Catholic faith!

HOURS FOR SHRINE SPIRITUAL LIFE, GIFT SHOP, CAFE AND GROUNDS

Apparition Chapel, Apparition Oratory, and the Shrine Grounds

Daily 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mass

Sunday & Daily 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday & Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Sunday (May-Oct) 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Daily 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:15 a.m.

Devotional Prayer

Rosary Daily 10:30 a.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy Daily 3:00 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Daily Noon – 3:00 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 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 Center

May – October 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

November – April 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Check our website for Holiday Schedules*