

Catholic Shrines and Holy Places

Presented by Deacon Patrick Goin

What Is a Shrine?

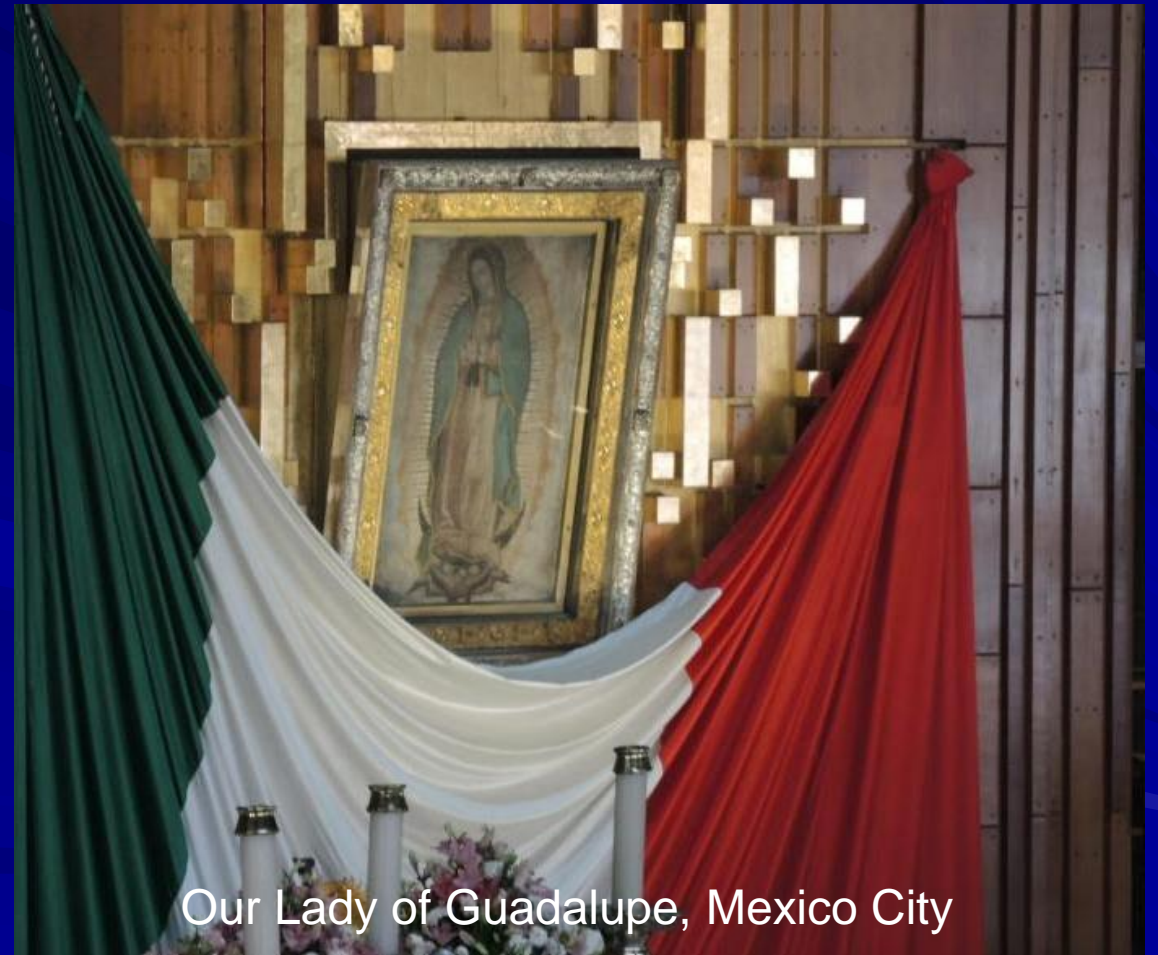
Pope Francis in the 2017 *Motu Proprio* “Sanctuarium in Ecclesia” describes a *Shrine* as a place of evangelization where pilgrims experience deeply God’s closeness, the tenderness of the Virgin Mary and the company of the Saints...”



National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche, St. Augustine

...What Is a Shrine?

“...Shrines are places that...are still perceived as sacred spaces to which pilgrims go to find a moment of rest, silence and contemplation in today’s often hectic life...particularly through the Mass and especially through Reconciliation and the Eucharist. (SE, 2, 4)”



Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico City

Shrines and Holy Places in the Diocese of St. Augustine

National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche

- The National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche at Mission *Nombre de Dios* in St. Augustine, is America's First Marian Shrine.
- Designated a national shrine by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2019, the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche has served as a sanctuary of prayer and devotion for pilgrims from around the world.



National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche

In the early 1600s, the Spanish settlers of St. Augustine established the first Shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary in the United States.



Inside Mission Chapel

Today, more than 450 years later, an image of Our Lady of La Leche – Our Lady of the Milk and Happy Delivery – graces a small mission chapel in the heart of what is lovingly referred to as the “sacred acre.”



Statue of Our Lady of La Leche

- Jesus is dressed in white for purity
- Crown denotes royalty
- Bare feet denote humility
- Burgundy is the color of the Holy Spirit
- Blue is the color always associated with Mary



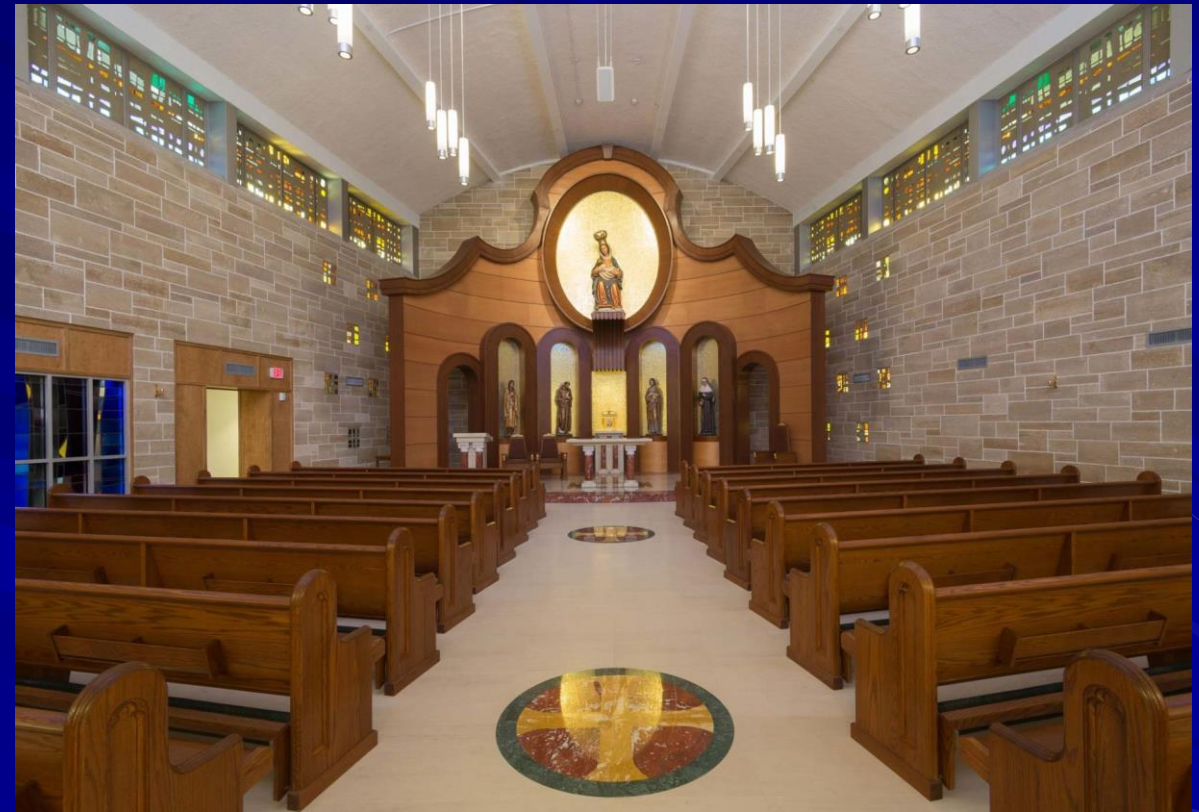
The Great Cross

- The Great Cross was dedicated by Archbishop of Madrid through collaboration of Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Mission Nombre de Dios.
- It is made of stainless steel and towers 208 feet above the Matanzas marshes.



National Shrine Church

- Daily Mass at 12:00 pm Monday through Saturday and at 1:30 pm on Saturday in Spanish
- Confessions 11:00 – 11:55 Monday through Saturday
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 1:00 – 3:00 pm Monday Through Friday



Gift Shop and Museum

- Monday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Sunday 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM



Papal Crowning of Our Lady of La Leche

- A canonical coronation is a formal act of the pope, as supreme pontiff of the church, to crown in his name an image of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary or St. Joseph in the name of the Holy Father.
- The crowning acknowledges that the specific image, while having local significance, also has a universal importance for the Catholic Church as it pertains to the Salvation Christ won for us by the Paschal Mystery of his death and resurrection.

Papal Crowning of Our Lady of La Leche



- The statue of Our Lady in the Cathedral was crowned on October 11, 2021, by Cardinal Cardinal Carlos Osoro Sierra, the Pope's representative, at a Mass at the Cathedral. Bishop Estévez concelebrated.
- There were additional events at the Shrine in St. Augustine and the Shrine in Santa Fe.
- October 11 is the Feast of Our Lady of La Leche in the Diocese of St. Augustine.

Cathedral Basilica of St Augustine

- Founded on September 8, 1565, the present church building dates from its construction in the 1790's.
- The church became a cathedral when the Diocese of St. Augustine was established in 1870.
- Pope Paul VI designated the church as a minor basilica in December 1976 because of its historical and spiritual significance.



Inside the Cathedral



St. Benedict the Moor

- Named for the patron saint of African-Americans, St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church was built and dedicated in 1911. This church serves the historic Lincolnville district of St. Augustine
- St. Benedict was beatified by Pope Benedict XIV in 1743 and canonized in 1807 by Pope Pius VII. He is remembered for his patience and understanding.



St. Benedict the Moor

- The first rector of St. Benedict was Father James B. Albert, SSJ, whose work still bears fruit in St. Augustine.
- St. Benedict the Moor church has recently been undergoing renovations and now has a handicap accessible ramp.
- For Mass times see the Cathedral website: <https://thefirstparish.org>



(Photo ca 1922)

Santa Fe Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche

- ❖ The 18-acre shrine provides people living in the western counties of the diocese a place for pilgrimage and spiritual renewal.
- ❖ It includes the Emmaus Walking Trail with unique devotional opportunities for pilgrims, a Marian grotto, outdoor Stations of the Cross, and a Memorial Garden and Cemetery.



Santa Fe Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche



- ❖ The shrine is located at St. Madeleine Sophie Catholic Church in High Springs, Fla.
- ❖ lalecheshrinehs@windstream.net
- ❖ Hours of Operation
- ❖ Daily 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Basilica of Immaculate Conception



- First constructed in 1847
- Became a parish of the Diocese of Savannah in 1854
- Destroyed in 1868 by the Union forces in the Civil War
- Rebuilt in 1874 as a parish of Diocese of St. Augustine

Basilica of Immaculate Conception

- ❖ Destroyed again in the Great Fire of 1901.
- ❖ Finally rebuilt as it is today in 1910
- ❖ On June 21st, 2013, declared by the Vatican as a Minor Basilica.



Inside the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception



Select Florida and Southeast U.S. Shrines and Holy Places

Mary Queen of Universe Shrine Orlando, FL

Completion of the Shrine's first phase in 1986 brought a visit from Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Pio Laghi, who offered the Holy Father's personal blessing on the new ministry.



Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando



Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando

- A 650-lb. sculpture of the Crucified Christ which, against an architectural glass backdrop symbolizing the shadow of the Cross, hangs above the Main Altar.
- This dominant image leads the faithful to dwell upon the suffering and sacrifice that was Our Lord's gift to humankind.



Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando



Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando

The Rising Christ sculpture is suspended at the rear of the nave. This striking piece of sacred art is carved from linden wood and weighs nearly 800 pounds - here is Jesus seeming to emerge from a shroud with - in the words of artist Jerry Kenar, "one hand reaching down to us and the other, raising upward to the Father."



Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine, Orlando

- Looking down from the upper reaches of the Shrine Church are a series of 16 clerestory windows - "The Rosary Windows" – which bath the area below with a soft translucence and help focus worshippers on the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.
- More more striking are the series of 14 Magnificent windows that unfold the Gospels and celebrate the Christian message.



Our Lady of Charity Miami, FL

- This Shrine was built by the Cuban people to honor their patroness.
- The statue of Our Lady holding out Jesus in her hands is an invitation for the faithful to enter into communion with Him through the sacraments of penance and Eucharist.



Our Lady of Charity Miami, FL



Inside the church is “The Wall,” a painting depicting the religious history of Cuba.

Immaculate Conception Church Atlanta, GA

- Atlanta, founded in 1837 and first called "Terminus" because it was the end of the railroad line.
- Many of the railroad workers were Irish Catholics.
- To serve them, in 1848 a wooden church, the Church of The Immaculate Conception was built.
- Father O'Reilly was its first pastor and a Confederate Chaplain. He persuaded Union General Slocum to spare the church.



Immaculate Conception Church Atlanta, GA

- It is the second oldest structure in downtown Atlanta, Georgia.
- The cornerstone was laid September 1, 1869, by poet Abram Joseph Ryan.
- It was completed and dedicated in 1873 and is still in use.



St. Josephs Catholic Church Macon, GA

- Conceptualized in 1841 by 50 Catholic parishioners
- Construction began in 1892 with the completion of the basement.
- The edifice of this building was not completed until 1903.
- Listed in the National Register of Historical Places



St. Josephs Catholic Church Macon, GA



Cathedral of Christ the King Atlanta GA

- The mother-church for the one-million members of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.
- The parish is one of the ten largest congregations in the United States with over 5,500 families.



Cathedral of Christ the King Atlanta GA



Cathedral of Christ the King Atlanta GA



Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament Birmingham, AL

- In 1962 Mother Angelica founded Our Lady of the Angels Monastery of Poor Clare Nuns of Perpetual Adoration.
- In 1980 saw the launching of EWTN the worldwide Catholic television station and in 1991 the chapel of Our Lady of Angels Monastery was declared the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament.



Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament Birmingham, AL



EWTVN



Worldwide

Most Popular Shrines Worldwide

- Most visited shrine is that of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of all America, in Mexico City.
- San Giovanni Rotondo in the south of Italy, where Padre Pio of Pietrelcina's body lies
- In third place is the shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida in Brazil, where a black image of the Virgin, found on the shores of the Sao Paulo river in 1717, is venerated.

...Most Popular Shrines Worldwide

- The basilica dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, built on a hill in Montmartre, Paris, between 1876 and 1919.
- Czestochowa in Poland
- Lourdes in France
- Luján in Argentina
- Fatima in Portugal
- The basilica of Saint Anthony in Padua, Italy
- Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

...Most Popular Shrines Worldwide

- Rome (St. Peters, etc.), Assisi, Pompeii, and Loreto in Italy
- Mariatzell in Austria
- Knock in Ireland
- Saint John of the Valley in Texas
- The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington
- Yamaoussoukro in the Ivory Coast.

Source: <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/most-popular-catholic-shrines-6006>

Questions?