



A Humble Place of Peace

Lourdes, Fatima, Guadalupe and Champion are all part of a select group of places worldwide where the Blessed Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared.

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is the first and only approved Marian Apparition site in the United States and Canada. Located in Champion, Wisconsin, it covers and preserves the peace-filled grounds where Mary, the mother of Jesus, appeared to Adele Brise in 1859, identifying herself as “The Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners.”

The Mysterious Woman in White Said to Adele...

“Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they need to know for their salvation.

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.

In a spirit of humility and simplicity, the Shrine is:

A welcoming sanctuary of peace inviting all to grow in their relationship with Her Son, Jesus

A destination for pilgrims who seek healing of mind, body, and soul

An environment that fosters the teaching of the Catholic faith to children and adults

A place to encounter Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick, for the salvation of all throughout the world

At shrines, the means of salvation are to be supplied more abundantly to the faithful by diligent proclamation of the word of God, the suitable promotion of liturgical life especially through the celebration of Eucharist and of penance, and the cultivation of approved forms of popular piety. –Canon 1234

Encounter Jesus Through the Blessed Mother

To go on a pilgrimage is to evoke our earthly journey towards heaven (CC 2691), and to go on a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is to encounter the Lord through the closeness of our Blessed Mother in Heaven.

The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is an internationally recognized holy site where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared. All are welcome to experience this humble and peaceful place of prayer and refuge – no appointment necessary.

Open 365 days a year, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m., the Shrine offers daily opportunities for the faithful to receive the Sacraments and pray.

A pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion is an unforgettable experience for parishes, schools, and community groups.

If you need to know more before deciding if you will be going on the pilgrimage, go to the website to find out more.

[The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion - in Champion WI \(championshrine.org\)](http://championshrine.org)

National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion: Manners, Conduct, & Attire

We ask that all who come to pray here do so with respect, attire, manners, and conduct oriented toward Our Lord, Our Blessed Mother, and all those visiting.

All children on-site must be accompanied and attended to by an adult.

All pets on-site must be on leashes, Therapy animals are allowed on all grounds and in buildings and the Apparition Chapel.

There is no overnight parking or camping on site.

Respect others when photos are taken on site.

Large group pilgrimages should be planned in advance and scheduled with a pilgrimage plan coordinator.

Clergy from outside the Diocese of Green Bay who are planning on celebrating Mass on-site or hearing confessions must have a letter of good standing from their diocese or order submitted

Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill

Approximately half a million people from all over the world visit the Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill each year.



Some make the pilgrimage to Holy Hill to worship, to meditate or to pray for healing. Some come to admire the beautiful architecture of the neo-Romanesque church built in 1926. Others come as sightseers or hikers. Families frequently come to participate in Sunday liturgy and remain to picnic on the wooded grounds. Many ethnic groups continue a tradition of yearly pilgrimages that can be traced to Holy Hill's earliest beginnings. Regardless of what brings people to Holy Hill, they are bound to be touched by its peaceful environment and to be renewed in body, mind and spirit.

Holy Hill was declared a Shrine with "Portiuncula privilege" by Pope Leo XIII in 1903. As a result of the increasing number of pilgrims, the Discalced Carmelites of Bavaria were invited to staff the Shrine in 1906. On November 19, 2006, the Shrine was elevated to the status of minor Basilica.

Holy Hill is an easy drive from several urban and suburban areas and yet is very isolated (especially in winter). This makes it an ideal place for a private or group retreat. If making an overnight retreat is not possible, just to come and spend the day at rest in the presence of the Lord can be a very healing experience.

We welcome you to come and visit Holy Hill's 435 beautiful acres and experience peace, beauty, and prayer.

Chapel of St. Thérèse

Also called the Lower Church, this Chapel, located one level below the Main Church, is dedicated to St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, popularly known as the Little Flower. Considered possibly the most popular saint of recent centuries, she was a Discalced Carmelite nun from Lisieux, France who died in 1897. Although her life itself displayed little that was remarkable to the eyes of the world, the rich inner life revealed in her autobiographical writings showed a remarkable grasp of the core of the Gospel of grace and mercy. She was canonized in 1925.

St. Thérèse Chapel was dedicated on July 15, 1928. Masses were celebrated here during the two years that the Main Church was being built. Today the Chapel is used for liturgies for special groups, and during the winter when the number of visitors to the Shrine is smaller. The Sacrament of Reconciliation, an important part of Shrine ministry, is carried on here in the confessionals on either side of the chapel. Catholic pilgrims are welcome to receive the sacrament here during scheduled times.

To learn more about the shrine, go to their website:

Holy Hill Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians www.holyhill.com