

Pilgrim notes



Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs

Auriesville, NY
December 27, 2009



Shrine Schedule

Monday 12/28 NO MASS
Goupil Chapel open

Wednesday 12/30 Masss
11:30 am
Goupil Chapel

Friday New Year Mass 1/1: 12:00
Visitor Center

Sunday Mass 1/3: 11:30 am
Visitor Center

Gift Shop: Monday - Saturday
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday 12:30 -3:00 pm



Visit our Website
www.MartyrShrine.org

Call us
518. 853.3033

Email us
graphics@martyrshrine.org

Learn Lessons from the Holy Family

By celebrating the Sunday following Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family, the Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. Jesus brought holiness to the family of Joseph and Mary as Jesus brings us holiness by embracing us in His family. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (2223) gives the following advice to the parents: "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery - the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the 'material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones.' The CCC adds: "Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children." (2223).

Marriage: A Sacrament of Holiness

The feast of the Holy Family reminds us that as the basic unit of the universal Church, each family is called to holiness. In fact, Jesus Christ has instituted two sacraments in His Church to make society holy – the sacrament of priesthood and the sacrament of marriage. Through the sacrament of priesthood, Jesus sanctifies the priest as well as his parish. Similarly, by the sacrament of marriage, Jesus sanctifies not only the spouses but also the entire family. The husband and wife attain holiness when they discharge their duties faithfully, trusting in God, and drawing on the presence and power of the Holy Spirit through personal and family prayer, meditative reading of the Bible, and devout participation in Holy Mass. Families become holy when Christ Jesus is present in them. Jesus becomes truly present in the parish and the Shrine through the sacrifice of the Holy Mass. Similarly, Jesus becomes truly present in a family when all the members live in the Christian spirit of sacrifice. This happens when there is mutual understanding, mutual support and mutual respect. There must be proper care and respect given by children to their parents and grandparents, even after they have grown up and left home.

Fr. Anthony Kadavil

Mini Retreat

John Vianney and the Year for Priests is the topic presented by Theresa Schweigert for the Mini Retreat on Saturday, January 16th. The Year for Priests marks the 150th Anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney, the patron of parish priests. Come find out why St. Vianney said, "A priest is the doorway to the treasures of heaven," and share ideas of how to affirm and encourage our priests in these challenging times. There will also be faith sharing, fellowship, a pot luck lunch, Confessions and Mass. The event begins at 10:00 am in the Visitor Center. Please call Father Peter Murray at 853-3033 ext. 222 for more information.