



MARTYRS' SHRINE

SHRINE MESSAGE

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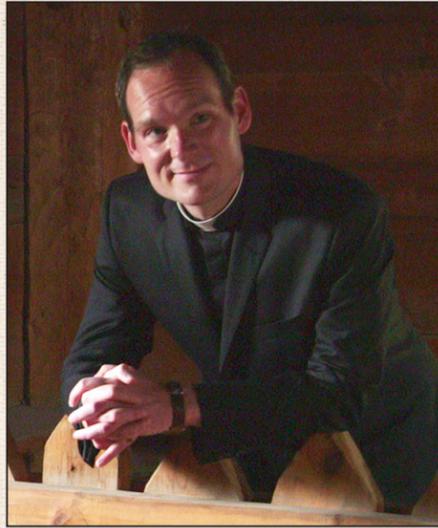
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THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear members of the Martyrs' Shrine Association, pilgrims, and friends,

As you will read in these pages, our continued labours have been filled with profound moments of Sacrament and healing, artistic expression, construction, restoration, and expanding pastoral service to the various communities of North Simcoe, as the Jesuits, with the assistance of our dedicated staff, welcomed some 120,000 pilgrims, from over thirty different cultural communities.

Always striving to build upon the graces of community life that we share in North Simcoe, we inaugurated an annual spring concert series, entitled: Expressions of Divine Mystery, and welcomed the Narrows Ensemble on the 7th of June. We also co-hosted the revived annual Christian Community Breakfast series, welcoming some 200 faith-filled participants to a stirring reflection on the face of Jesus Christ in our neighbour.

The Magis Guest House for Rest and Renewal hosted over 200 priests and religious from across North America. Hundreds of Masses were said for the intentions of our pilgrims and benefactors. And, continuing our collaboration with Waypoint Catholic Mental Health Centre, we initiated an on-site garden project, offering a portion of our land to their clients, so that they might share in the beauty of God's creation as they tend the soil. This season, we also continued to work hard at restoring the buildings and grounds of Martyrs' Shrine, completing a long-over-due renovation of our workshop, building a new foundation wall along-side our beautiful Stations of the Cross, securing the re-opening of our Café,

and beginning a very important fundraising drive for the replacement of the fire suppression system in the Church of St. Joseph.

Finally, I am very happy to announce the creation of our new online store, providing all pilgrims the chance to, as it were, 'shop at home', throughout the year.

Throughout this edition, you will read of our efforts to serve you, and each pilgrim, as we hope that in walking with St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions, all will grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ our King. These efforts, of course, are only possible by God's continued grace and your very generous support. A mission, that relies substantially on your benefaction, I thank-you most sincerely for your aid, and continue to beg your prayers for our labours, as you can always count on ours.

Fr. Michael Knox, SJ
Director of Martyrs' Shrine



OUR GIFT SHOP - NOW ONLINE!

For many years, Martyrs' Shrine has operated a Gift Shop on our premises connecting pilgrims with devotional items, so as to support them on their journey of faith. One major challenge for pilgrims who wish to purchase these devotional goods from the shrine is the seasonality of our site.

As with many facilities on our estate, the Gift Shop was not built for winter use, and so it cannot support operation during the colder months of the year.

That is why the Pilgrim Services team has been working to overcome this challenge by modernising our Gift Shop through the expansion of e-commerce, or otherwise said, by creating an online website where pilgrims can purchase these products, and have them shipped to their homes.

With this, we not only do we hope to help overcome the seasonal challenges of the Gift Shop, but we also hope to now be able to reach pilgrims who due to mobility restrictions or otherwise, are unable to make the physical journey to Martyrs' Shrine. This new platform, will allow these pilgrims the opportunity to purchase items, otherwise unavailable to them, so that they might still Journey with St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions towards a deeper relationship with Christ.

As we launch our website, and continue to improve it, we invite you to visit our online gift shop at www.martyrs-shrine.com/giftshop. As a thank-you for being a member of the Martyrs' Shrine Association, we would like to extend a **10% discount off your purchase until the end of October. Use promocode MSA2019** when you 'Check Out'.



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WALL PROJECT



Before picture of the retaining wall.



After the project has been completed.

In 1984, Martyrs' Shrine welcomed Pope (St.) John Paul II and, in doing so, made many changes and additions to its buildings, grounds, and infrastructure. Thirty-nine years later, this infrastructure has aged, and now requires great attention; recent examples including the restored sanctuary of the Church of St. Joseph, our renovated main washroom, new signage, and Fire Suppression System project.

Among these is the retaining wall that holds tons of earth back from our office building, pilgrim's bungalow, and Magis Guest House. For years, it has been cracking, leaking, and even exposing water to our buildings.

This past winter, the director decided that it required replacement, and sought benefaction for the project; costing \$84,000.00. A great expense for us who have only humble means, with much effort, the project was completed in the early summer, and brings Martyrs' Shrine one step closer towards solid foundations.

AN UPDATE ON OUR CAFÉ

At the beginning of our 2018 season, following the re-design of our onsite café, our operator informed us that they were unable to continue operating the facility and providing food services to the pilgrims and visitors of our Shrine. As it was too near the season to complete a fair and competitive request for proposals (RFP) process, the difficult decision was made to close the café until a suitable operator could be found.

A fair RFP process was then conducted to invite qualified local food operators to submit a proposal for the provision of food services onsite. It is with great pleasure that we announce that Martyrs' Shrine has entered into a contractual agreement with a local businessman, Mr. Harold Lucas. Mr. Lucas has been operating a variety of businesses in the local area, for many years, including the Hungry Voyageur food truck at the corner of Highway 12 and Rosemount Rd - near St. Ignace II. His daughter Christina will also be playing an integral role in the future of the Café, as an educator who focuses on wellness and nutrition.

Our new operator will be making some upgrades to the Café building before opening shortly. Please join us in welcoming Mr. Lucas and, his family, to Martyrs' Shrine, as we look forward to this new partnership!

FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM



When the Church of St. Joseph was completed in 1926, its principle architect, and first director, Fr. John M. Fillion, SJ, had successfully, in wood and stone, glass and gold, built a structure that, in its very design, expresses the mission of St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions. Its exterior adorned with stone quarried from the same area as that used to build the original 17th century Jesuit mission of Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, its interior sanctuary top shaped like a turned-over canoe, and its nave eluding to the indigenous long-house used by 17th century Wendat (Huron), the Church stands as a testament to the extraordinary relationship between missionary and Christian Wendat, marked by faith, trial, and loving sacrifice.

Over the years, whenever possible, and with the support of benefactors, work has been done to care for this beautiful space of prayer. Since the year 2000, the roof has been replaced, its wood floors restored, and water pipes replaced. Since, 2016, as a part of our on-going care for Martyrs' Shrine, also built the Chapel of St. Ignatius underneath the Church, restored the high altar and sanctuary and, with the help of the Knights of Columbus, restored and protected all of its windows.

Recently, it has been concluded that our beautiful Church of St. Joseph requires a new fire suppression system that, in the case of fire, channels water to sprinklers throughout the building. The current system having been installed in 1980, this is a project of great importance, that costs \$225,000.00. To pay for it all, we have begun a 'toonie-drive' – inviting each pilgrim who visits us to donate \$2.00 to the project. Picking up momentum, many have contributed; some even deciding to give larger amounts of support.

With no other means of financial support, Martyrs' Shrine relies on the generosity of pilgrims and benefactors who find here peace, renewal in faith, and healing through the intercession of the martyrs. It is our hope that, perhaps, those who participate in our Novena to the Canadian Martyrs, and those who donate to our mission, might consider offering an extra couple of dollars to help us in these efforts.

FIRST LIGHT 2019

Martyrs' Shrine will once again join Sainte-Marie among the Hurons in hosting the First Light Festival. Please join us for this family-friendly event during the festive season.
Tickets & Info: www.martyrs-shrine.com/firstlight

November 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, & 30
December 5, 6, & 7
5:30 PM to 9:00 PM

A SPECIAL FAVOUR GRANTED AT MARTYRS' SHRINE



Pictured: Mrs. Rosella Kinoshameg.

For many years I've lived with pain in my knees. At times, it was a great effort to walk. I often stopped to pray at the Martyrs' relics to ask for healing of my knees. Over the years, I also persevered with many requests to Saint Kateri, Rose Prince, Bishop Frederic Baraga, St. Francis Xavier and others. Sometimes my knees would be pain free for two weeks.

At the end of March, I was at Martyrs' Shrine for a meeting. My knees were aching. I walked in through the back of the chapel, noticed the reliquary by the tabernacle, thinking it was just too far, so did not go that way. After my meeting, as I walked across and directly opposite the reliquary, I felt a tiny "zap" on the lateral side of my left knee - totally unexpected.

Not thinking what this might be, I kept on walking, got into my car and then realized the pain was gone. With the assistance of my Traditional Healer, I know now I should not have rushed off but sat down to draw in this new energy, to take the time to process the experience, to trust and believe in this gift of healing and give thanks.

Mrs. Rosella Kinoshameg,
Member of the Board of Trustees



Do you have a story of a favour granted at Martyrs' Shrine?

If you are comfortable sharing this special experience, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our Director's Office at 705-526-3788 x221 OR, email director@martyrs-shrine.com.

NOVENA PRAYERS TO THE CANADIAN MARTYRS

We invite you to join the Novena to the Canadian Martyrs and St. Joseph, September 20-28, 2019. During these nine days we honour all the Martyrs, and commemorate the martyrdoms of St. Jean de Brébeuf and St. Gabriel Lalemant and their companions. A Novena of Masses and the Novena Prayers to the Martyrs will be offered for the intentions of all making the Novena. During the Novena, intentions that are sent to Martyrs' Shrine will be left on the private altar of the Jesuit Fathers beside the relics of Sts. Jean de Brébeuf, Gabriel Lallement, and Charles Garnier. May the Martyrs, co-patrons of Canada, St. Joseph, and Mary, Queen of Martyrs, intercede for all of us and our country.

O God, who inflamed the hearts of your blessed Martyrs with great zeal for the salvation of all people, I pray that, through their intercession, you answer my petition (*here mention it*), so that the favours obtained through their intercession may witness to the whole world the power and glory of your name. Amen.

St. Jean de Brébeuf, pray for us
St. Isaac Jogues, pray for us
St. Gabriel Lalemant, pray for us
St. Antoine Daniel, pray for us
St. Charles Garnier, pray for us
St. Noël Chabanel, pray for us
St. René Goupil, pray for us
St. Jean de Lalande, pray for us

Prayer to the Martyrs

Holy Martyrs and patrons, watch over this land consecrated by the shedding of your blood. By your prayer, renew the Catholic faith that you helped to establish here, foster a deeper unity among Christians, and bring all our fellow citizens to a deeper knowledge and love of the truth. May we be zealous in bearing witness to Christ, so that we may continue and perfect your labours. Pray with us for our homes, our schools, our missions, for vocations, for the conversion of sinners, for a warm welcome in our communities to those who are rediscovering their faith, and for the perseverance of all the faithful. Amen.

Prayer to our Lady

Glorious Queen of Martyrs, the early missionaries of this country were devoted to you, and through your help they received many graces. I know that your Divine Son lovingly remembers all they did for His greater service and praise: that they preached the gospel and made His holy name known to thousands who had never heard of Him, and then for love of Him, had their apostolic labours crowned by shedding their blood. Exercise your motherly influence as you did at Cana, and pray with me now, asking Him to grant me what I ask in this Novena, if it be according to His holy will. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph

Dear Saint Joseph, chosen by God to be the husband of Mary and protector of Jesus, the martyrs saw in you a model of quiet courage and charity, and chose you as their patron. Pray with me now, and ask Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, to grant me what I ask in this Novena, if it be according to His holy will. Amen.

Please use the enclosed donation sheet to:

1. Submit a prayer petition for the Novena along with a donation (Side A)
2. Join the Martyrs' Shrine Association (Side B)

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

Martyrs' Shrine is not a parish with regular committed financial support from parishioners. The gate fees, and other shrine revenue, do not cover all of its operating costs nor the ongoing capital upgrades necessary to keep it operating. We need your financial support to offset our expenses so that generations to come may be with our Lord in this holy place. We rely entirely on your generosity. Donations over \$25 will be issued a Charitable Donation Receipt for income tax purposes. Place your donation sheet into the provided postage-paid return envelope included in your Shrine Message, and deposit it into your Canada Post mailbox for the easy delivery of your donation.

Send us your personal prayer petitions along with a donation

Through the ministry of prayer at Martyrs' Shrine, we join you in praying for the intentions dear to your heart.

Join the Martyrs' Shrine Association

Share in:

- 100 Masses each year
- Daily prayers of intercession
- Prayers during two annual novenas
- The Shrine Message sent twice annually

Include Martyrs' Shrine in your Planned Giving

Make a bequest in your will to Martyrs' Shrine, Midland, Ontario to thank God for blessings received in your lifetime through the intercession of the Canadian Martyrs. For more information please contact the director of Martyrs' Shrine, Fr Michael Knox, SJ.

EXPRESSIONS OF DIVINE MYSTERY: CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE SHRINE CHURCH



The Church of St. Joseph candlelit



The Narrows Ensemble performs a piece during the concert.

Martyrs' Shrine held its very first annual concert for the public this past June. Expressions of Divine Mystery: Classical Music in the Shrine Church, is a brand-new endeavour led by our Advancement Committee.

The first of its kind for Martyrs' Shrine, the first year proved to be a very successful run. Over 200 people attended in the shrine Church during the evening.

This year's concert featured chamber music performed by The Narrows Ensemble, a newly-formed collective, based out of the Orillia area, comprised of Peter Voisey, oboe; Christian Sharpe, bassoon; Corey Gemmell, violin; Valerie Selander Voisey, violin; Jonathan Craig, viola; Sharon Prater, cello; and Dan McCoy, harpsichord.

It is no exaggeration to say that, in the history of western culture, the single largest supporter of the Fine Arts is the

Roman Catholic Church, and that, from the late 16th century to the present, a key contributor to this effort is the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits).

At their roots, wanting to evangelise in a manner that was 'expedient to the glory of God and the common good', Jesuits developed and encouraged a form of Christian humanism, rooted in the spirituality of their founder, St. Ignatius Loyola, which brought the arts into their classrooms, parishes, and missions throughout the known world.

Experts in their fields, Jesuit priests and brothers, staged theatrical productions, invented ballet, supported the development of baroque music and architecture, commissioned painters and, as missionaries, used the arts as a means of inspiring aspirants to the Christian life. Indeed, here, on these very lands, at the Jesuit mission of Sainte-Marie among the Hurons (1639-49), visual arts, music, literature, and pageantry, infused with various elements of Wendat (Huron) culture, were employed.

Expressions of Divine Mystery: Classical Music at Martyrs' Shrine is representative of the Jesuit's continued efforts to support and promote the arts in the greater region of North Simcoe.

The success of the evening's event was in no small measure thanks to the Advancement Committee's efforts in creating a new initiative that both enhances the experience offered to pilgrims, and generates modest revenues that can be reinvested into the programmes and operations required to welcome all those who journey to our National Shrine.

A big thank-you is also extended to the Cultural Alliance in the Heart of Georgian Bay for their kind support of the concert

Watch our website and Facebook page, and certainly, the next edition of the Shrine Message, for the 2020 concert date.

ALHFAM CONFERENCE



Nancy Keller-Scholz (left), ALHFAM participant next to interpretive staff.

This past June, Martyrs' Shrine, in partnership with Huronia Historical Parks (the division of the Ontario government that operates Sainte-Marie among the Hurons and Discovery Harbour), hosted the annual National Association of Living History Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) conference.

Participants at the conference learn various skills and techniques that are used at these living museums, like Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, through interactive workshops, keynotes, and hands-on experiences.

Unique to this year's conference was its location on a National Historic Site that is adjoined to a National Shrine where the living history illustrated at Sainte-Marie

among the Hurons is then carried on and lived at the shrine just across the road. Participants were invited to see not only how the practices at the historic site are used to educate visitors, but also to experience how the story interpreted is continuing to be lived-out today by the thousands of pilgrims who journey to our sacred lands at Martyrs' Shrine.

"Meeting the local people and hearing their stories of their home was also a highlight. Some of my favorite moments of the trip were conversing with the Historic Interpreters who worked at Sainte Marie Among The Hurons historic site and their partner site, Martyrs' Shrine. Hearing the region's history from those who live there and care about their heritage gave me new insights into the ever-present struggles of human history." - Nancy Keller-Scholz (pictured above with interpretive staff from Sainte-Marie among the Hurons.

This conference brought to life the importance of maintaining a living history so that individuals can learn about the realities that shaped the world as we know it today. Stories such as the lives of St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions that shaped Canada's founding history.



2019 TIAWENK FUNDRAISING DINNER

Help us upgrade the Fire Suppression System
and protect 93 years of heritage!

Join Us Saturday, September 28th at 5:00 pm at the Quality Inn, Midland
Tickets \$95.00 each, \$45.00 of which is eligible for an income tax receipt.
Get your tickets online at www.martyrs-shrine.com/tix.

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



Nearly 200 faith-filled Christians gathered at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre on 5 March, 2019 for the return of the 'Christian Community Breakfast'.

Originally conceived in the late eighties, by a group of Christian business men from Covenant Christian Community Church and Knox Presbyterian, the event brought Christians of all denominations together for an annual event. After more than 25 years, the event

was retired in the Fall of 2017. In early 2018, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care and the Martyrs' Shrine partnered to resurrect the event; focused on the original vision.

Attendees joined in fellowship, learning and coming together in faith. With support from many staff, in both organizations, this year's breakfast was held on Shrove (pancake) Tuesday. Keynote speakers included Glenn Robitaille and Fr. Michael Knox, who spoke on the theme "And who is my neighbor?" with music by Bob Bruer. While not intended to be a fundraising event, at the end of the day, \$2,200 in proceeds were donated to The Guesthouse Shelter thanks to the ticket sales, donations and, support of sponsors and partners.

Laurene Hilderley,
Director, Communications and Fund Development
Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care

SEWING SEEDS FOR A BLOOMING COMMUNITY



Waypoint's HERO Centre in Midland and the Martyrs' Shrine continue to develop a wonderful and ever growing partnership. Over the last two years, a community garden has been created on the Shrine property by the Jesuit Fathers and tended to by a combination of dedicated individuals comprised of Martyrs' Shrine Staff and HERO Centre volunteers. Tamara Burke, Recreation Therapist at the HERO Centre, has partnered with the Shrine to allow for clients to take part in all aspects of vegetable gardening - from preparing the garden beds to harvesting the produce.

More recently, two youth clients of the HERO Centre, who successfully completed the YMCA Employment Services Youth Job Connection Program, have been hired on as part-time seasonal staff by the Martyrs' Shrine in order to provide consistent maintenance and overseeing of the community garden. The job creation for these two young men was attainable through a collaboration of all involved as well as the youth's interest and dedication to their new place of employment. The vegetables that will be harvested throughout the season include lettuce, tomatoes, and onions to name a few, and will be provided to both Jesuit Community, and the Guesthouse Homless Shelter

Anna McFadyen,
Employment Specialist
Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Martyrs' Shrine, I am pleased to provide you with a few updates on our 2019 season, which is well underway. There are so many wonderful events, activities, and pilgrimages planned for this

season, please be sure to check them out at our website; www.martyrs-shrine.com. Whether you are able to join us for one of these events or prefer to join us for a quiet day of peace, prayer, and reflection -- know that you are always welcome. We know you will leave at the end of your day refreshed, and spiritually nourished.

As a Board we have been continuing to work on our Long-Range plans and have been reviewing our mission and vision statements. These are important conversations, especially because we are so blessed to have a permanent Jesuit Community at Martyrs' Shrine. This has allowed us to be transformed from an important yet seasonal place of pilgrimage, to a year-round enterprise where we can engage in community outreach in addition to the amazing experiences, we provide on our Shrine grounds.

I would like to highlight a couple of significant events. Our Annual Tiawenk Fundraising Dinner is taking place on Saturday, September 28th, 2019. This will be a sold-out event again, so please contact the Martyrs' Shrine office or martyrs-shrine.com/tiawenk-tix for more information and to purchase your tickets. We are holding the Dinner on the same day as our Feast Day for the Canadian Martyrs -- so we really hope that you will be able to join us for our noon Mass celebration and the Tiawenk Dinner at 5:00pm.

When you visit Martyrs' Shrine you will also discover that we are having a Toonie Challenge -- we are asking you to donate your toonies (and all other donations gratefully accepted!), as we need to replace the fire suppression system in our beautiful Church. You will notice the plastic replica of the church at the back of the Church, placed there to receive your donations. I thank you in advance.

In closing, I sincerely hope that you will be able to visit us at least once during our 2019 season. We are open until Monday, October 14, 2019. If you are not able to join us, I ask you to please keep us in your daily prayers. Please know that you will be kept in our prayers as well.

Sincerely,

Brian Beal
Chair, Board of Trustees
Martyrs' Shrine

MISSION

Martyrs' Shrine invigorates pilgrims through the story of the Martyrs and their companions, who lived the mission of Jesus Christ.

VISION

At Martyrs' Shrine pilgrims of all faiths and cultures will be renewed in faith, hope and love, and inspired to continue the mission of this sacred place where saints walked.

VALUES

Peace, Prayer, Solidarity, Hospitality, Justice, Pilgrimage, Thanksgiving, Leadership, Healing, Contemplation, Reconciliation

THE HOLY CRUCIFIXION ASSOCIATION COMMEMORATES 25 YEARS



The Holy Crucifix Association is a religious congregation whose members in the Toronto region have been organizing pilgrimages to Martyrs' Shrine in commemoration of the procession held annually in their native town of San Nicola da Crissa, Italy: honouring the Holy Crucifixion.

2019 marked an important year for the association, as it represents a quarter-century since the erection of their altar on the sacred grounds where St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions once walked.

Built in the early 90s, the Holy Crucifix Association Altar is nestled in the field next to the Lookout Tower and features solid bronze statues that are exact replicas of the ones located in the parish of San Nicola.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary since the altar was built, Stations of the Cross, casted in bronze, were added to the altar, and blessed at this year's pilgrimage. The funds for the initiative, like when the altar was first built, were raised by the Association through various fundraisers including their annual dinner & dance.

With this symbolic milestone behind us, we look ahead to the next 25 years of pilgrimages and processions held on our holy site to honour the Holy Crucifixion.

SUPPORTING OUR MISSION

Please Donate

Consider a monthly donation to Martyrs' Shrine.

Martyrs' Shrine is not a parish with regular committed financial support from parishioners. The Gate Fees and other Shrine revenues do not cover all of the operating costs and capital projects necessary to keep Martyrs' Shrine operating. We need your financial support to balance our budget and complete these projects.

Give online at www.martyrs-shrine.com/givemonthly.