

## About the Program

Martyrs' Shrine is a welcome destination for nearly 100,000 visitors from around the world every year. It is why it is an important mandate for the Shrine to ensure that its parklands remain enjoyable and accessible to everyone while balancing the need to preserve and develop the natural landscape around us. The Commemorative Tree and Bench Program is one way that the Shrine aims to fulfill this mandate.

Through this program, relatives and friends can provide a unique dedication to honour a loved one by supporting a tree or bench in one of the Shrine's many parks and greenspaces.

These gifts are lasting tributes that benefit the community by enhancing the natural environment and will be appreciated by visitors for decades to come.

## Your Gift

Martyrs' Shrine is responsible for the installation and ongoing maintenance of your gift. Specific selection and placement of the trees and benches are at the sole discretion of Martyrs' Shrine, but the general location will be determined in collaboration with the donor.

Lead time may vary to suit the acquisition or installation schedule of trees or benches. Donors may opt to adopt or dedicate existing trees or benches, subject to approval.

- All gifts come with a Certificate and plaque that is to be mounted either at the base of the tree or on the bench.
- All gifts are blessed by one of our Jesuit fathers in the spring of each year, with a free invitation for you .
- All gifts are eligible for a Charitable Tax Receipt, issued in February of each year.
- All donated trees and benches become the property of the Martyrs' Shrine and can be subject to removal or relocation subject to land planning and development.

# MARTYRS' SHRINE COMMEMORATIVE TREE & BENCH PROGRAM

*Book Your Gift Today*

An online form is available at:  
[www.martyrs-shrine.com/parks](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com/parks)

or request by email:  
[info@martyrs-shrine.com](mailto:info@martyrs-shrine.com)

MIDLAND, ONTARIO  
1-855-526-3788 | [info@martyrs-shrine.com](mailto:info@martyrs-shrine.com)  
[www.martyrs-shrine.com](http://www.martyrs-shrine.com)



## TREES

At times of loss or celebration, the stability of living trees can provide a sense of permanence and comfort to family and friends.

Knowing that trees will go on provide clean water, clean air, improved soil, wildlife habitat and reflective spaces of peace and quiet for the next 80+ years is rather comforting too - a legacy both to the family and the community that will enjoy the benefits in the decades to come.

The Shrine will prioritize strong, long-living native Canadian varieties that thrive in our Wye Valley landscape. Higher-end trees can be considered for an additional fee, subject to approval.

### Costs

There is a cost of \$2,000 for each tree planted. This cost reflects materials, planting, dedication label and ongoing maintenance.

### Environmental Benefits

- Trees ensure quality air by removing excess carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere. Trees then turn this carbon dioxide into the oxygen we breathe.
- Removing harmful greenhouse gases contributes to a lower carbon economy. This helps reduce the harmful effects of climate change.
- Trees increase groundwater recharge and reduce the number of potentially harmful chemicals transported to our waterways which purifies our water.
- Trees are a major part of a healthy ecosystem, providing habitat and food for a variety of wildlife.
- The root systems of trees help stabilize soil and can significantly reduce soil erosion.

## BENCHES

A tribute of a memorial bench is a great way to create a lasting, reflective space within Martyrs' Shrine's picturesque, natural settings and public squares.

Both benches measure 1.8 metres (6 feet) in length and are made of strong durable materials that will weather well under the Canadian climate and be impervious to pests.

### Costs

There is a cost of \$3,000-3,500 for each bench installed. This cost reflects materials, installation, dedication label and ongoing maintenance.

### *Victorian Bench*

The Martyrs' Shrine custom Victorian bench can be found throughout our main public squares including the Shrine Church and St. Joseph's Square. This bench features a Martyrs' Shrine logo cast into each end.

This bench is made of 100% recycled plastic lumber and elegant powder-coated cast metal bench ends.

### *Hyde Park Bench*

The Hyde Park memorial bench can be found in our general park areas of the Martyrs' Shrine property. This bench is made of exceptionally strong and durable teak wood that blends into the natural environment as it ages.

### Community Benefits

- Benches help to create more accessible parks across the Shrine property, allowing people to enjoy the greenspaces or provide rest stops for the mobility-challenged.
- Benches can help facilitate prayerful discernment and reflection spaces for visitors, giving them an opportunity to further enrich their faith lives.



Memorial Tree (\$2,000)



Victorian Bench (\$3,000)



Hyde Park Bench (\$3,500)