

MARTYRS' SHRINE MESSAGE

The Martyrs' Shrine Message, Midland, Ontario

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1982 Shrine Season

Opening — May 23, 1982

Closing — September 30, 1982

Daily Schedule

Masses: 9.00 a.m. 10.30 a.m. 12.00 noon 7.30 p.m.

Devotions: 3.00 p.m.

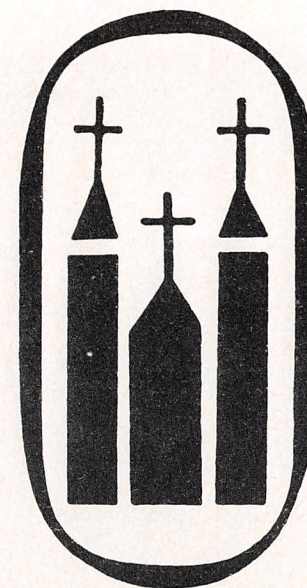
Confessions: before Masses, after devotions, on request

Celebration

Feast of Martyrs

Saturday, September 25

Mass 2.00 p.m.



See Particularly Pages 10 + 12

VOLUME 46, NUMBER 1

Spring 1982



Martyrs' Shrine in Midland, Ont., countryside



We invite you to join us in a Novena to the Canadian Martyrs ending on the feast of their patron, St. Joseph, March 19, 1982.

The Novena will be March 11-19, 1982.

St. John de Brebeuf was martyred on March 16th and St. Gabriel Lalemant on March 17th both within the Novena time. The Martyrs had a strong devotion to St. Joseph and named the Indian Chapel at Ste-Marie after him.

The Novena of Masses and prayers will be offered at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 520 Sherbourne St., Toronto. Father J. Farrell, S.J., Director of the Martyrs' Shrine, will preach the Novena. Masses are daily 12.10 noon and 5.15 p.m. (Sunday 1.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.)

We invite you to join us either at home or at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in these nine days of prayer, through the intercession of the Martyrs, to ask God's blessing on ourselves and others.

PRAYER TO THE MARTYRS

Holy Martyrs and patrons, protect this land which you have blessed by the shedding of your blood. Renew in these days our Catholic faith which you helped to establish in this new land. Bring all our fellow citizens to a knowledge and love of the truth. Make us zealous in the profession of our faith so that we may continue and perfect the work which you have begun with so much labor and suffering. Pray for our homes, our schools, our missions, for vocations, for the conversion of sinners, the return of those who have

wandered from the fold, and the perseverance of all the Faithful. And foster a deeper and increasing unity among all Christians. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

(Patron of the Martyrs and of Canada)

O God, who in your special Providence deigned to choose blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your holy Mother, grant, we beseech you, that we may deserve to have him as our intercessor in heaven whom we venerate on earth as our protector; You who live and reign world without end. Amen.

PRAYER TO OUR LADY

Glorious Queen of Martyrs, to whom the early missionaries of this country were so devoted and from whom they received so many favors, graciously listen to my petition. Ask your Divine Son to remember all they did for his glory. Remind him that they preached the Gospel and made his holy name known to thousands who had never heard of him, and then for him had their apostolic labors crowned by shedding their blood. Exercise your motherly influence as you did at Cana, and implore him to grant me what I ask in this novena, if it be according to his holy will. Amen.

NOVENA PRAYER

O God, who by the preaching and the blood of your blessed Martyrs, John and Isaac and their companions, consecrated the first fruits of the faith in the vast regions of North America, graciously grant that by their intercession the flourishing harvest of Christians may be everywhere and always increased. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Shrine Renovations 1982

The Church — the sanctuary, picture of the Martyrs, the relics of the Martyrs, altar of the Blessed Sacrament, confessional area, display area, etc.

Basement under the Church to accommodate crowds, to provide place for liturgy in inclement weather, presentations, displays, etc.

Our Lady of Huronia Shrine showing Our Lady watching over the evangelization work of the missionaries.

New statues of St. Isaac Jogues, St. Noel Chabanel, Blessed Kateri, Joseph Chiwatenhwa.

Rosary Walk

Gardens.

Parking areas.

Dedication 1982

Statue of Joseph Chiwatenhwa
"an apostle with the apostles"
Bl. M. de L'Incarnation

Shrine to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
"Lily of the Mohawks"

Blessing of Shrine of Our Lady of Huronia
Ground Rosary



Letter from the Director:

Dear Friends of Martyrs' Shrine:

This spring issue of the Martyrs' Shrine Message is a reminder that the 1982 Shrine season is not far away. This issue brings a lot of information about the coming season. With it comes an invitation to you to make a pilgrimage to the Martyrs' Shrine this year.

There were no pilgrims at the Shrine during the winter months. There was a lot of stirrings on all winter. The Church renovations are nearly completed; new statues, new literature, new programs are starting to emerge. A basement under the Church, full length of the Church, is being excavated and will be completed by May. Such space has been desired for a long time and is important for the work of the Shrine. We feel the 1982 pilgrims will like what they see.

As a centennial project, the Knights of Columbus of the Archdiocese of Toronto have pledged to finance the church renovations. A devotee of the Martyrs and the Shrine has financed the renovation of the Shrine to Our Lady of Huronia. The basement work is expensive, so are the new statues. We welcome any help people feel able to give to this project.

The Shrine honors Blessed Kateri Tekawitha with a Shrine in the Church and a cairn on the hill. Father Henri Bechard, S.J. vice-postulator of Blessed Kateri's cause begs prayers (one Our Father and one Hail Mary daily) for the speedy canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekawitha. He would like to know of such pledges (Box 70, Caughnawaga, Que. J0L 1B0).

St. Ignace, six miles from the Shrine is a very sacred spot. Two archeologists have identified it as the place of martyrdom of John deBrebeuf and Gabriel Lalement. A cross and a plaque mark the location. During July and August we plan a liturgy on the spot each Wednesday.

This year too, we plan to use each first Saturday of the month (June, July, August, September) as a retreat day linking the theology of suffering, pain, the cross, the Martyrs and ending with a Mass of healing in the Shrine Church.

We look forward to the new season, the pilgrimages, large and small. We hope you will be among the pilgrims. We are grateful for your continued support of the Shrine — your prayers, your donations, your presence. We commend all our works and all of you to the intercession of the Martyrs. In a very special way we do this during the March Novena to the Martyrs being held at Lourdes Parish in Toronto.

Blessings,

Sincerely in Our Lord,

James J. Farrell, S.J.,
Director,

WHERE MARTYRS LIVED AND WALKED

by Father J.S. McGivern

Reproduced from A Saga of the Church in Canada

THE CANADIAN SHRINE of the Martyrs is known to all as a place where Saints Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and their fellow missionaries lived and walked, and also as a part of the storied beginning of our country.

It is a home of beauty — Its gardens in summer are widely known and its colourful panorama of golds and reds in autumn make it an attraction drawing untold thousands of curiosity seekers.

But when I first saw the Shrine many years ago in company with our Novice Master Father Arthur McCaffery and my fellow Jesuits of the Guelph Novitiate — it seems strange to me now — my first impressions were not of its beauty nor of its surroundings. In fact I can only remember the church and prayer, the ruins of the old residence and the thrill of knowing this was hallowed ground where saints lived and prayed, talked and walked, worked and studied.

Here St. Anthony Daniel had made his last retreat before his death in July, 1648; here St. Isaac Jogues had looked after the welfare of his companions (he died 1646); to this place St. Rene Goupil was coming (on the way he was martyred 1642); Saint Jean de Brébeuf here had his visions of the cross and of Our Lady (he was martyred 1649). His companion in death Saint Gabriel Lalemant here received his introduction to a missionary life in 1649. Saints Charles Garnier and Noël Chabanel had here before their Lord in the Blessed Sacrament received strength

for their ordeal and martyrdom later that same year. My memories are of devotion and of prayer.

In the mid-17th century the Indian Chapel, dedicated to St. Joseph, was made a place of pilgrimage and a plenary indulgence was granted to all who should visit this Shrine church.

And we do know that the prayers of the Martyrs and their fellow missionaries hallowed the spot that had been made by papal decree — for it was the Holy Father of the time who called upon the new Christians of the Huron tongue to go visiting the church of St. Joseph at Ste. Marie — the first Shrine Church of St. Joseph in the entire Christian world.

The church on the hill, the actual Martyrs' Shrine, is also in continuation of the ancient Shrine, the church of St. Joseph.

In June, 1925, the year of the beatification of Our Martyrs. His Grace Neil MacNeil, then Archbishop of Toronto, celebrated the Mass of the Martyrs on the site of Ste. Marie. Thus begins the story of the Shrine on the Hill, for within two years the present Shrine Church was completed. Thousands came to that opening Mass, and year by year, summer by summer, the men and women and children in their hundreds and in their thousands have come to pray on the site where Martyrs lived and walked.

From the time of the destruction of the Huron Mission in 1650 to the beginning of the present Shrine there never was a church or place of pilgrim-

Special Events — 1982

Days of Retreat

First Saturday of June, July, August, September
10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. — Orientation Centre

Mass of Healing

First Saturday of June, July, August, September
4.00 p.m. in Shrine Church

Penance Service of Reconciliation

Saturday, June 26, 8.00 p.m., on hill

Mass of Thanksgiving

for Dr. W. Jury's work at the Shrine
Sunday, June 6, 7.30 p.m.

Novena to the Martyrs

September 16-24
Devotions 7.30 p.m.

Feast Day of the Martyrs

Saturday, September 25
Mass 2.00 p.m.

At St. Ignace, sight of Martyrdom of Brebeuf and Lalemant

Each Wednesday of July and August

Liturgy 3.00 p.m.

The Shrine Offers:

- “Home of Peace” – then and now, to reflect on our roots of Christianity in Ontario.
- Store with religious articles and books. Open 10.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.
- Cafeteria – Open 10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.
- Office for blessings, Masses, counselling, information.
- Church Services – Masses, Devotions, Confessions.
- Mass at St. Ignace, sight of the martyrdom of Brebeuf and Lalement, Wednesday, 3.00 p.m. (July and August).
- Orientation Centre for retreat days, meetings.
- Tours of the Shrine Church – relics of Martyrs, their picture, architecture, shrine to Blessed Kateri, devotion to St. Joseph, patron of Canada. Tours of the Grounds – lookout to see some of the route the missionaries took, Gardens to rest and pray, areas for picnics.
- Reminders of the apostolate of the missionaries to the native people – cairns honoring their faith, Blessed Kateri, Joseph Chiwatenhwa.
- Facilities for pilgrimages, outdoor altar on hill, parking, picnic area.

age connected with Ste. Marie. But there was a place of pilgrimage and devotion – perhaps we might say two places in the neighboring countryside. The first in time is the memorial church at Penetanguishene. As an early account puts it:

“It was decided therefore to erect at Penetanguishene a Memorial Church in memory of Fathers de Brébeuf and Lalemant and their companions and Father Laboureau gladly undertook the oversight of the work, being heartily in sympathy with the idea. As the memory and glory of these devout men were the property of the nation, an appeal was made to the people of the Dominion for assistance in the erection of the church, thus giving it a semblance of national character. Subscriptions were received from some of the most noted ecclesiastical and civil dignitaries of the Dominion and, during a visit to France in 1885, Father Laboureau received substantial assistance from several distinguished personages, including among others the Bishops of Normandy, the country of the martyred missionaries for whom the monument was to be erected.

“September 5, 1886, saw the commencement of the work of building as on that day the cornerstone was laid, His Grace, the late Archbishop Lynch, performing the ceremony. A vast assemblage of people witnessed this important function and among the noted men of the day present was the Hon. John Beverley Robinson, Lt. Governor of Ontario. The site chosen for the memorial is situated in the most prominent position in this old historic town. Standing on an eminence at the

head of the inlet, the Church overlooks the picturesque bay and the town, nestling on the sides of the hill which gradually slopes towards its waters.

“The year 1886 saw the commencement of this splendid edifice, erected to the memory of the early missionaries, but it is for this year, 1902, to see its completion. For a number of years, the work progressed but slowly owing to lack of funds, the congregation using the basement which had been completed and fitted up for service. This year operations were again commenced and the result is the formal opening and blessing today, December 11, 1902, of Ste. Anne’s Memorial”. (The Herald, Penetanguishene, Dec. 11, 1902).

The second was in the parish of Waubauskene, Father Arthur Jones, SJ, after rather exhaustive studies had concluded that a certain place was the actual site of the martyrdom of Jean de Brébeuf and Gabriel Lalemant. The parish priest, therefore, with the consent of the Jesuit Superiors and of His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, erected a chapel and an inn to the memory of the Martyrs. It became a place of pilgrimage. This was on the site then known as Martyrs’ Hill.

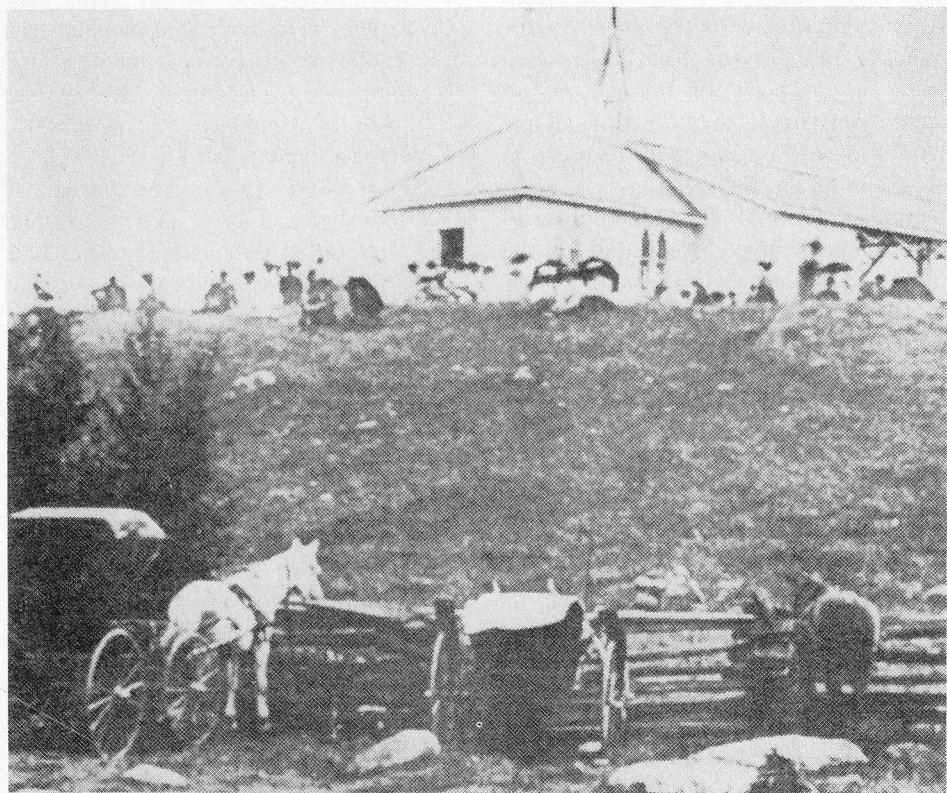
But it had two difficulties militating against it as a Shrine: the hardship of getting there and the doubts concerning its being on the actual ground of Martyrdom. Even Father Jones had his doubts. It is not surprising then that Father John Milway Filion, SJ, changed locale of the old Shrine and built the new.

I should here tell the story of excavation and rebuilding of Ste. Marie: of how Father Lally had Professor Kidd

of the Royal Ontario Museum start the first real scientific exploration and excavation of the site of the old residence. This is not forgetting the work of Father Felix Martin, SJ, and of others in the 19th Century; of how Wilfrid Jury undertook the continuation of the work and later, under the

auspices of the Ontario government, rebuilt Ste. Marie as it now stands.

Here the pilgrim is renewed in spirit. Miracles of Grace do occur – the sick and the lame, the weary and the sad, even the strong of spirit, receive grace and healing strength and reconciliation as they need.



The first Martyrs' Shrine at Waubaushene, 1907

*Plan A Pilgrimage to Martyrs' Shrine
family, group, parish, diocese, individual*

TO DEEPEN ONE'S FAITH

Do you believe?

Why did you doubt?

TO WITNESS TO ONE'S FAITH

"Every Christian must stand before the world as a person of faith, hope and charity."

Vatican II

TO HONOR THE MARTYRS

"When we look at the lives of those who have faithfully followed Christ, we are inspired . . . In the lives of those who shared our humanity and yet were transformed into especially successful images of Christ, God vividly manifests to men His presence, His face. He speaks to us in them."

Vatican II Church #50

"Very many martyrs have given luminous witness to a living and mature faith, seeing difficulties and mastering them, and they continue to do so."

Vatican II Church To-day #21

Write to: The director
Martyrs' Shrine,
Midland, Ont.
L4R 4K5