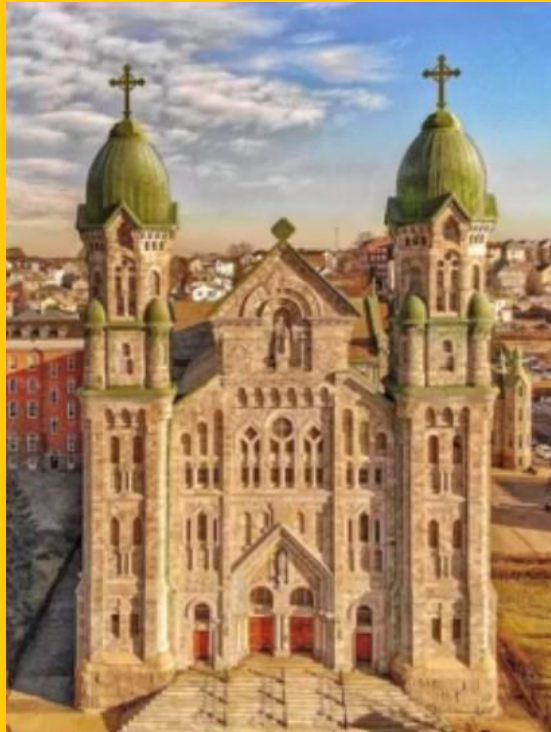


St. Anne Shrine News

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Temporary Hours due to Covid-19

St. Anne's Shrine is open daily for private prayer and devotion.

Monday- Saturday: 8:00am-1:00pm

Sunday
12:00pm -4:00pm

Gift Shop

The gift shop is now open during our normal operating hours. We have a variety of statues, rosaries, medals, booklets, and prayer cards that are available for purchase.

Please consider stopping in during your next visit!

Website

The Saint Anne Shrine website is now live.

www.st-anne-shrine.org

Mailing Address

818 Middle Street
Fall River, MA 02721



CELEBRATING 125 YEARS!

Of faith, healing and devotion.

JUBILEE YEAR 2020-2021

On January 7, 2021, we celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Lower Church. Completed in 1895, the lower church served as the “new” church for the parish of Saint Anne that had outgrown their small wooden structure located at the corner of Hope and Hunter Streets. Father Charles Marie Bernard Sauval, O.P., pastor of the parish, purchased the plot of land on the corner of South Main and Middle Streets, and hoped to build a grand basilica-style church that would one day become a center of pilgrimages and would rival the famous Sainte Anne de Beaupre in Quebec.

On Christmas Day 1895, the lower church was solemnly dedicated and held its first Mass. For the eleven years that followed, the lower church served as the parish church while the magnificent and great upper church was under construction. That being said, evidence has suggested that the Dominican fathers wasted no time in promoting Saint Anne as a shrine worthy of pilgrimages.

Early documentation that was recently discovered indicates that a large pilgrimage from New Bedford visited the shrine on July 28, 1902. The group consisted of approximately 200 persons, which at that time was a very large group. These early pilgrimages visited the lower shrine because the upper church was still under construction.

In the years that followed, the shrine became increasingly more popular. Busloads of pilgrims from all over the region began to make pilgrimages to Saint Anne. Father Vincent Marchildon became the shrine’s official director in 1928. With the introduction of perpetual novenas to Saint Anne on both Sundays and Tuesdays, the faithful could choose which days they wanted to come and make devotions.

Despite the beauty of the magnificent upper church, the lower church has always been the place where pilgrims have come to pray. It is a unique atmosphere of faith, prayer, and devotion and has been hallowed with the faith and prayers of the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims through the years. It has been hallowed by the wonderful favors that God has bestowed upon those who have come to seek His help through the intercession of Good Saint Anne.

Such a celebration of this magnitude requires a festival year of celebration. We hope that you will be able to participate in this jubilee year with us at the shrine, at our Masses, novenas, and other events that are announced in the coming weeks and months ahead.

We hope that this shrine continues to be a beacon of hope for everyone for many years to come!

WHO IS FATHER VINCENT MARCHILDON?

Very Reverend Vincent Marchildon, O.P. was born in 1877 in Bastican, Quebec, Canada. He entered the Order of Friars Preachers (Dominicans) and was invested into the habit in 1898 and made his perpetual vows in 1902. He was ordained to the priesthood in Notre Dame Cathedral in Ottawa, Canada on January 1, 1903.

Father Marchildon arrived at Saint Anne on October 27, 1905 and spent 60 years of his priestly life here. Throughout those many years he served in various roles including curate, assistant pastor, and director of the well-known shrine. In 1923 he was excused from all parish duties and was permitted to devote all his time to the apostolate of the shrine.

Named the first official Director of the Shrine in 1928, he was instrumental in establishing the perpetual novenas in honor of Saint Anne on Sundays and Tuesdays, and he even established a choir to provide music for these services. In 1939 he established the Sunday afternoon processions of pilgrims around the shrine of Saint Anne that was a popular custom. Also in 1939, he was awarded the title of Preacher General by the Master General of the Dominican Order.

In June of 1956, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his work here at Saint Anne, Pope Pius XII bestowed on Father Marchildon a Papal Decoration Benemerenti for his outstanding work and devotion to the faithful.

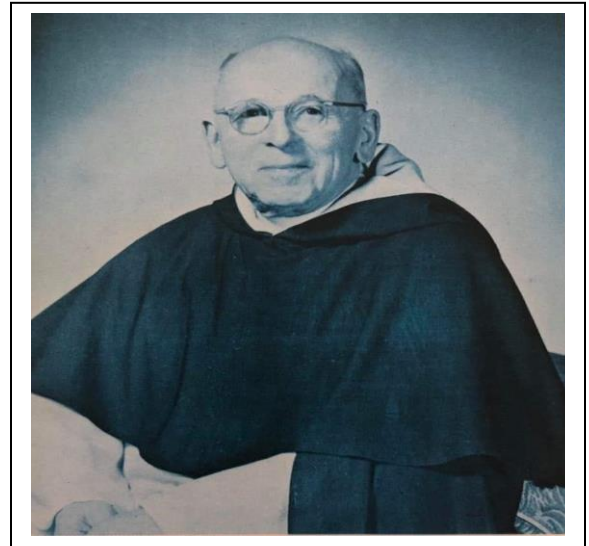
He organized the Saint Anne Parish Conference of the Saint Vincent De Paul Society, was a member of the Greater Fall River Chamber of Commerce, and held a deep interest in community affairs. He was also a notary public, the bursar of the Dominican priory on Middle Street, and the administrator of *La Semaine Paroissiale*, a weekly newsletter of the Dominican Fathers.

Father Marchildon was revered for his special love and devotion to the poor and suffering. He is remembered for being both a man of action and a humble and zealous priest. He had a special gift for encouraging and comforting the afflicted. He always lived poorly, content with minimal necessities, willingly wearing old clothes, traveling economically, and shunning luxuries. He counseled several generations of pilgrims and his spiritual influence was widespread.

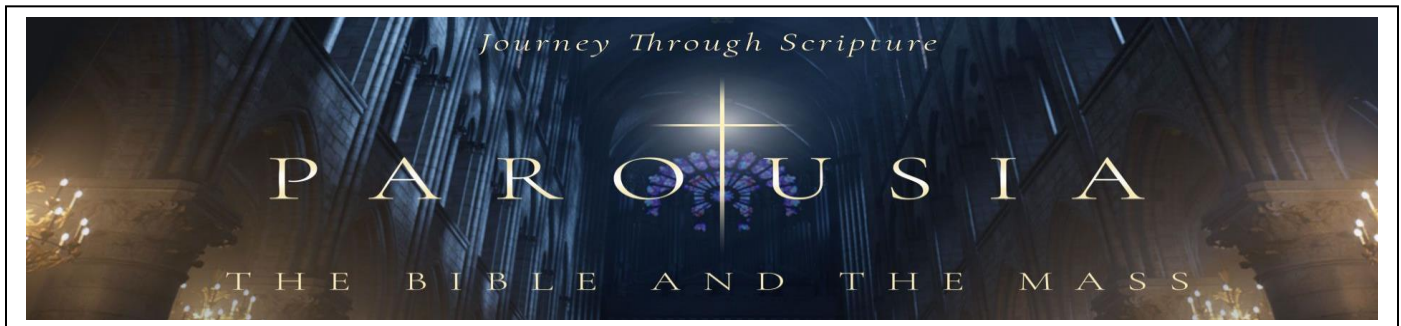
Many were unaware of his handicaps, which he bore with a spirit of acceptance. One of his eyes was totally blind for almost 25 years, and his remaining vision was very weak. In 1955 he was involved in a serious automobile accident near Quebec, Canada. The accident caused a progressive deterioration of his memory and he was forced to give up saying Mass. Nevertheless, he bore his infirmities with extraordinary patience and abandonment to the will of God.

Father Vincent Marchildon was truly the pioneer in the development of Saint Anne Shrine. He entered into eternal rest on January 15, 1972 and he is buried in the crypt at the shrine.

Requiescat in Pace



BIBLE STUDY



Where do we find the Mass in the Bible? What is the relationship between the two? In ten beautifully produced lessons, *Parousia: The Bible and the Mass* answers these questions and more.

In the latest video Bible study from the St. Paul Center, discover why the liturgy is a major theme that runs through the entire Bible, from Genesis to the Book of Revelation. We will not only look to the Law, the Prophets, and life and teachings of Jesus, we'll also lean on the Doctors of the Church to enhance our understanding of the Mass. We'll see how the New Testament is concealed in the Old, the Old is revealed in the New, and why both point directly to the Mass, the sign of the New Covenant.

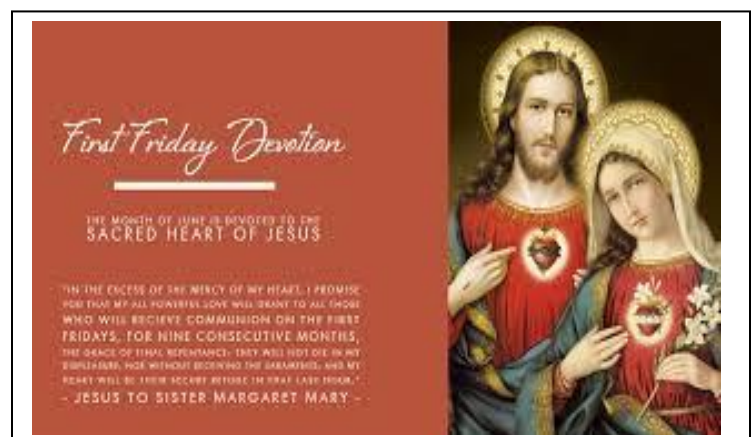
Join host Scott Hahn to uncover how and why all of God's action, in creation and redemption, is ordered to the Mass.

Saint Anne Shrine will be facilitating this 10-week Bible Study course which will include both video presentations and group study and discussions. This will be starting in Lent, so pay attention for further announcements.

First Friday Mass

The First Friday Mass will begin again on February 5, 2021 at 6:00pm. The celebrant will be Very Reverend Jeffrey Cabral, JCL. He is the Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Fall River and also the Pastor of Santo Christo Parish in Fall River.

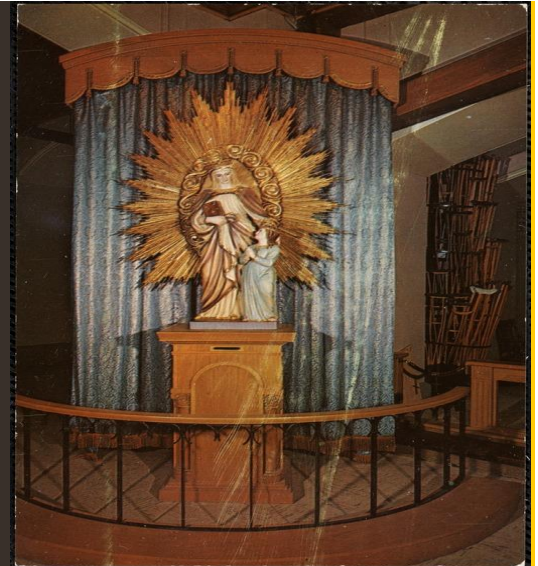
Welcome Father Jeff!



Perpetual Novenas

Since August of 1928 St. Anne Shrine has held perpetual novenas in honor of our patron Good Saint Anne on Sunday afternoons. We are honored to continue this tradition. The novena takes place every Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm (unless otherwise noted).

PLEASE PLAN ON JOINING US IN PRAYER!



Let us pray for you and your loved ones!

Saint Anne's Shrine is a living place of prayer and worship. The prayers that we offer for you, your family, and your friends are one of the many ways that fulfill our important mission as a sanctuary of prayer and pilgrimage.

Each day we pray for people from across the Diocese of Fall River and the entire country and present their needs to the confidence and loving intercession of Good Saint Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin and Grandmother to Jesus.

www.st-anne-shrine.org

VISIT US

The Shrine is open year round, tours are available for individuals and groups. Please contact us for more information and we'll gladly accommodate.

508-678-1510 Phone

HEALING MASSES

Saint Anne's Preservation Society is pleased to announce that we continue to offer a monthly healing Mass at the shrine. We are sincerely grateful to Father Edward Murphy, Shrine Chaplain, for taking time out of his busy schedule to offer these Masses on a monthly basis.

Holy Rosary begins at 6:00pm (*At this time the Sacrament of Confession is available*)

Holy Mass is at 6:30pm *followed by healing prayers and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.*

DATES: January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, 2021.

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE HEALING POWER OF GOD'S LOVE!