

**1. The Bell Tower.** This Bell Tower, 48 feet tall, was built during the 25th Anniversary Year, 1981. The statuary group of Our Lady of Fatima and the three children is the original Fatima group which has attracted thousands of pilgrims since the Shrine's beginning.

**2. Site of a Future Project**

**3a & 3b. The Stations of the Cross.** For the Centennial Year, new panels depicting Jesus' passion and death are located along the sidewalks through the middle of the lawns on either side of the Avenue of Saints.

**4. Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa.** Czestochowa is that tiny village in Poland which grew to be the spiritual center of the nation and the spiritual joy of the Polish people - all because of the intervention of the Mother of God. This statue was donated to the Shrine by Our Lady of the Rosary Guild of Buffalo, N.Y.

**5. Shrine of St. Jude.** St. Jude Thaddaeus is the patron Saint of impossible causes.

**6. Shrine of Mother Cabrini.** Mother Frances Cabrini was born in 1850 in Italy. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to aid Italian immigrants in the New World. She taught at St. Anthony's Church in Buffalo, N.Y. St. Frances Cabrini is the first American citizen to be canonized.

**7. Shrine of the Sacred Heart.** In our devotion to Jesus, our Redeemer, we focus our attention on the physical heart of Jesus as the symbol of His infinite merciful love for us.

**8. Little Chapel of Fatima.** This is a replica of the first chapel built at Fatima, Portugal, on the site where Our Lady appeared to the three little shepherds. Our Lady of Fatima asked for prayer and penance "for the conversion of sinners, and to repair the offenses offered to the Immaculate Heart of Mary". Our Lady also requested that we "Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world".

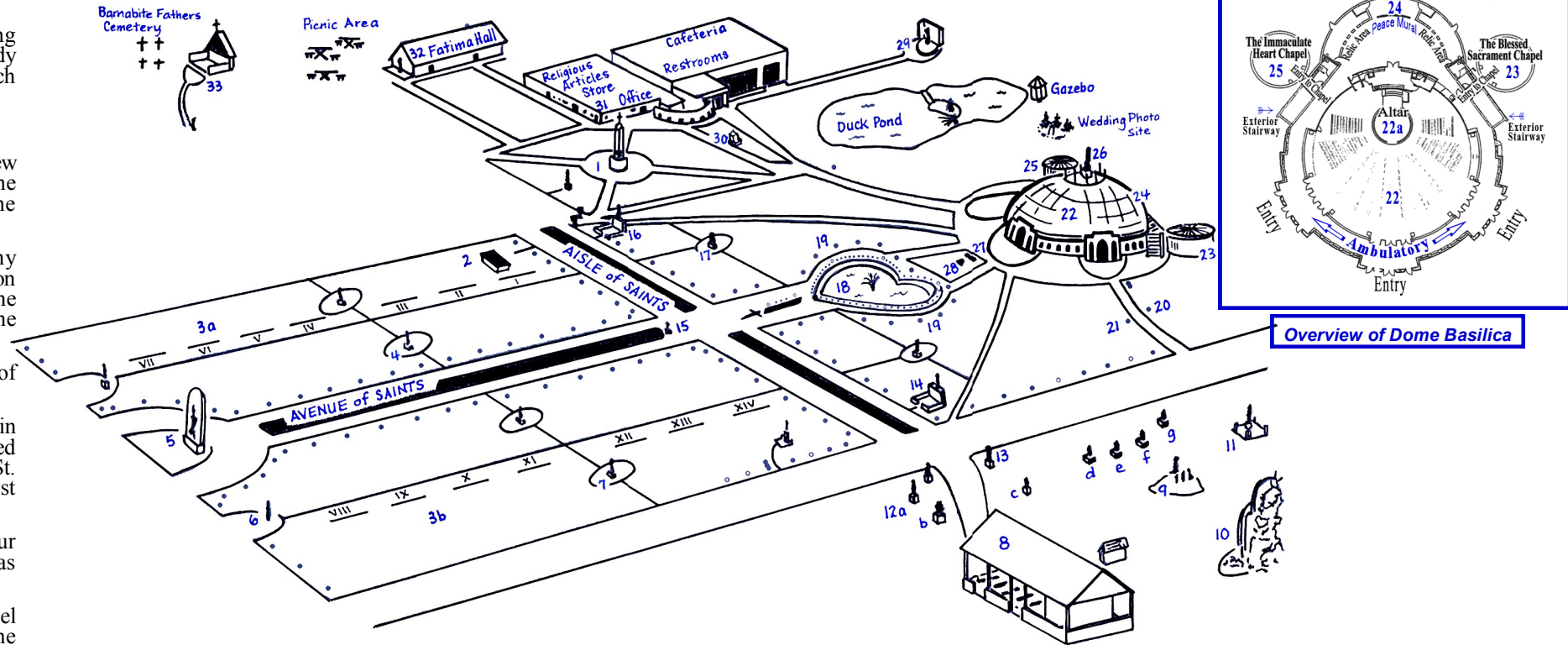
**9. Angel of Fatima.** This statuary group represents the appearance of the Angel to the three shepherd children, prior to the apparition of Our Lady. The Angel is holding the Eucharist.

**10. Waterfall.** "Like a deer longs for running water, so does my soul long for You, O my God". Psalm 41.

**11. Our Lady of Peace.** A very popular image of our times, to remind us that the many apparitions of Our Lady, were to call us to the message of the Gospel.

**12. Meditation Area.** Area includes statues of:

- a) **St. Lorenzo Ruiz (1600-1637).** The first Filipino saint, martyred in Japan.
- b) **Vietnamese Martyrs.** Statue honors the 117 canonized martyrs who died between 1745 and 1862.
- c) **St. Andrew Kim (1821-1846).** Korean Martyr.
- d) **St. Rafqa (1832-1914).** "The Little Flower of Lebanon" - Maronite nun and mystic.
- e) **St. Sharbel (1828-1898).** Lebanese Maronite monk.
- f) **St. Takla (16-106 AD).** Virgin and Protomartyr.
- g) **St. Hardini (1808-1858).** Lebanese Maronite monk.



**13. St. Kateri Tekakwitha- "Lily of the Mohawks"** 1656-1680 Patroness of ecology. Born in Iroquois Territory (now Auriesville, NY) of a Mohawk warrior and Catholic Algonquin woman. She was baptized at 20, taking the name "Kateri", a Mohawk pronunciation of "Catherine." She lived a life dedicated to prayer, penance, and care for the sick in Kahnawake, Canada. She was beatified June 22, 1980 and her Feast day is July 14. Canonized October 21, 2012.

**14. Shrine of St. Anne.** St. Anne, and St. Joachim (facing St. Anne), the grandparents of Jesus, deserve a special corner in this Shrine, dedicated to the Blessed Mother. Pause now and pray for your own grandparents, both living and deceased.

**15. The Avenue and Aisle of Saints.** Over one hundred thirty life-size marble statues represent saints from every race and walk of life. They remind the visitors of men and women prominent in Christian life, who excelled in their love for God and neighbor.

**16. Shrine of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria.** In 1533, St. Anthony M. Zaccaria founded the Order of the Clerics Regular of St. Paul, known as the Barnabite Fathers, who minister at this Shrine in honor of Our Lady, as well as in many other locations around the world. St. Anthony, during the Reformation, promoted the devotion to the Holy Eucharist. He also founded the Angelic Sisters of St. Paul. We invite you to pause here and pray for an increase of vocations to the Religious Life.

**17. Shrine of the Holy Family.** The Holy Family of Nazareth is a beautiful example and model for our families. Through the Sacrament of Marriage God's grace is granted to husbands and wives so that they, like Mary and Joseph, will provide an atmosphere conducive to their children responding to the will of God. We invite you to pray here for all the families of the world.

**18. Giant Rosary.** In front of the Basilica, a giant Rosary, believed to be one of the largest outdoor rosaries in the world, consists of 59 lights ending with a beautiful marble Corpus of the Lord Jesus nailed to a cross. The Rosary pool is shaped in the form of a heart to symbolize Mary's Immaculate Heart and her concern for our salvation. A Plenary indulgence may be gained by those who recite the rosary here at the Shrine.

**19. Statues of the Apostles.** Around the giant Rosary are life size statues of the Apostles. We call your attention to the special place occupied by St. Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles and the Patron of the Barnabite Fathers.

**20. St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina (1887-1968).** Padre Pio was born in Southern Italy. He became a Capuchin friar, spending most of his life in a remote mountain friary. He received the gift of stigmata, bearing the wounds of Christ and many other charismatic gifts including reading the hearts of the penitents. He obtained many temporal and spiritual favors for the needy.

**21. St. Faustina.** Her notebooks are known today as the *Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*, and the words contained within are God's loving message of Divine Mercy.

**22. The Basilica.** The construction of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima Basilica was started in 1959. This unique church measures 100 feet in diameter and is 55 feet high. The Dome is covered with two layers of glass and plexiglass depicting a contour of the Northern Hemisphere, upon which rests a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady is very much in the midst of the world helping humanity to reach the Lord. This Church was dedicated in 1965 and consecrated on October 5, 1974. On October 7, 1975, his Holiness Pope Paul VI, conferred the title of Basilica upon this Church. A Basilica is a church associated with the Holy See. One of the privileges accorded to a Basilica is the Plenary Indulgence to all those who gather here for prayer, according to the intentions of the Holy Father.

**a) The Main Altar.** The focal point in the Basilica is the impressive Altar made of Italian Carrara marble. The Altar, symbol of Jesus Christ, is the center of liturgical life. God's Word is proclaimed from the white marble pulpit to the right of the Altar.

**b) The Rosary Panels.** Circling the Altar are 14 panels in copper bas-relief, representing the mysteries of the Rosary.

**c) The Stations of the Cross.** Cast in bronze, they were designed exclusively for this Basilica by Russell Vacanti. They are flanked by woodcarvings representing symbols of the Passion of Our Lord, and other symbols of the Church's liturgical year. These were carved by Mr. Leonard Bryniarski.

**23. The Blessed Sacrament Chapel.** On the right side of the Dome, as you face the Altar, is the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament. The marble Altar is from Carrara, Italy. The wood carvings behind the Altar are Filipino. *Silence* is requested in this holy place.

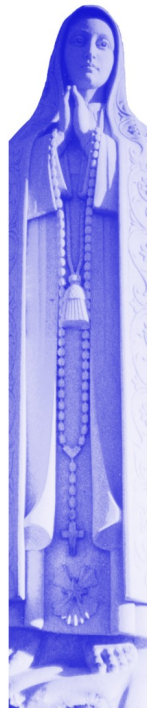
**a) Stained Glass Window.** "Angel's Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament".

**24. The Peace Mural.** Upon entering the Relic area of the Dome Basilica's ambulatory, our attention is caught by the 24 by 7 1/2 foot mural. For further information read the "Peace Mural" brochure.

**25. The Immaculate Heart Chapel.** On the left side of the Dome, is the Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The beautiful staturary group of Our Lady of Fatima and the three children is made of Brazilian cedar wood and was hand-carved in Fatima, Portugal. Donated in 1964, it was blessed at the site of the original apparitions by the Most Rev. João Pereira Venancio, former Bishop of Fatima, who presided at the blessing of this Chapel.

**a) Stained Glass Window.** "Miracle of the Sun".

**26. Top of the Dome.** Two flights of stairs, consisting of 63 steps each, lead to the top of the Dome, from where one enjoys a beautiful view of the Shrine grounds and surrounding hills. The large statue of Our Lady of Fatima is 13 feet high and weighs 10 tons. It was sculptured in Vermont granite. The grayish color of the stone disappears at night under the spotlights, and the statue seems to beam as a star for all people.



**27. The Three Children of Fatima.** This bronze statue is modeled after the well-known photograph of Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto to whom Our Lady appeared in the Cova da Iria, in Fatima, Portugal in 1917. The statue was sculpted by the Demetz Studio in Italy and blessed by the V. Rev. Richard Malone, Bishop of Buffalo, on May 13, 2017, the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary at Fatima, Portugal.

**28. Monument to the Unborn.** This unique monument formed by the scroll of the Old Testament and the book of the New Testament, which envelop the form of the unborn child, honors God's love for the tiniest and most defenseless members of the human family.

**29. Our Lady of the World.** Mary's image of holding the world in her hands signifies her love and concern for the world she embraces in her heart.

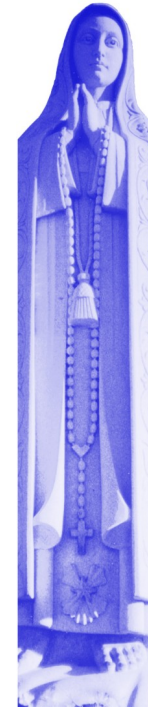
**30. The Immaculate Conception Shrine.** While serving in the military in the Korean War, William H. Tront was the sole survivor of one deadly battle. Having sustained serious head injuries, he pleaded for our Blessed Mother's intercession and promised that if he should return home safely to his family, he would build a Shrine to Mary in the back yard of his home. The shrine, containing a life size white Carrara marble statue sculpted in Italy, was completed in 1985. Mr. Tront died in 1997. His wife, Mary J. (Sacco) Tront, before moving from their Buffalo home, donated the family shrine to Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in 2005. It was the ultimate will of William and Mary that their shrine would be placed at Fatima Shrine. The Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States of America.

**31. The First Chapel.** Located on the left in the Fatima Store building, we find the original Chapel of Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, beautiful and inspiring in its simplicity. A treasure chest from the Middle Ages with sculptured biblical scenes serves as an altar for the original statue of Our Lady of Fatima Shrine.

**32. Fatima Hall.** Pilgrims gather in this hall to view audio-visual presentations. The hall is also used for days of recollection and for spiritual conferences.

**33. Our Lady of Constantinople.** An ancient devotion to Our Lady, as the Mother of Jesus.

**Barnabite Fathers Seminary.** This Seminary is the Mother House of the Barnabite Fathers in North America. The Fathers, whose official name is Clerics Regular of St. Paul, (C.R.S.P.), are a religious Order of Priests and Brothers founded in Milan, Italy, in 1533. They are committed to teaching, missions, and parishes in Europe, Africa, Asia, and North and South America. *Closed to the public.* For more information on vocations to the Barnabite Order, please stop by the Shrine office.



## National Shrine Basilica OUR LADY OF FATIMA Lewiston, New York

# Self Guided Tour

### *The Meaning of Fatima*

Fatima is the name of a small town north of Lisbon, Portugal. There, in 1917, Our Lady appeared to three little shepherds: Lucia, and her two cousins, Jacinta and Francisco (now St. Jacinta and St. Francisco) - then, seven and eight years old. The "Beautiful Lady dressed in white and more brilliant than the sun", asked for prayers and sacrifice, so that "Our Lord may save humanity from all calamities and bring peace to the world..."

A prayerful life consists of doing everything in God, with God, and for God. She emphasized a daily simple formula of praying called the Rosary, during which one reflects upon God's personal love for us. She stressed the fulfillment of one's daily duty according to the Gospel principles. This is the Fatima message and makes Fatima one of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century's most pressing heavenly invitations to an authentic Christian life.

### *Fatima, New York*

In the early 1950's, the Barnabite Fathers came from Italy to WNY hoping to establish a Seminary. In 1954, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Ciurczak heard that the Fathers were looking for land. They offered 15 acres of their farmland, with their only request being that a small grotto in honor of Our Lady be built behind the Seminary. About the same time, one of the Barnabite priests saying Italian mass at St. Joseph Parish in Niagara Falls, was offered by a parishioner a complete set of statues; Our Lady of Fatima, the 3 children and 3 sheep. When efforts to raise funds for the Seminary were failing, yet another friend of the Fathers suggested promoting the Shrine and the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, which had gathered much attention in 1960 because of the release of the secrets. After that a simple grotto was not going to be sufficient for the number of pilgrims visiting the Shrine. In 1959 construction of the Basilica began, dedicated in 1965, conferred with the title of Basilica in 1975 by Pope Paul VI, the National Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Fatima welcomes thousands of people, who are the beneficiaries of the peaceful and sacred surroundings of this shrine. As a result of the great number of pilgrims coming to the Shrine, in 2008 a renovation expansion project was put into motion. With prayers, time and donations, a great deal more is hoped to be achieved.

05/15/19

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