

Holy Hill Self Guided Tour



Holy Hill National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians
A Roman Catholic shrine in the north central United States
Dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary
The shrine is a minor basilica

This self-guided tour is courtesy of St. Mary of the Hill please do not duplicate



Holy Hill & St. Mary of the Hill: A symbiotic relationship

- CARMELITE'S PRESIDE AT ALL MASSES WITHIN BOTH FACILITIES
- MARRIAGES AT THE BASILICA
- FUNERALS EITHER FACILITY
- CONFIRMATION , RCIA & FIRST COMMUNION TAKE PLACE AT THE BASILICA
- FUNDRAISING AT ST. MARY OF THE HILL



Holy Hill

Regardless of what brings people to Holy Hill, they are bound to be touched by its peaceful environment and to be renewed in body, mind and spirit. The Basilica does not function as a parish, they do not keep sacramental records, or have a cemetery, or formal committees.

St. Mary of the Hill Parish

In the spirit of faith, service, and community, we strive to bring people closer together and closer to God.

- ~Building our lives in the image of Christ through worship and prayer.
- ~Contributing to the growth of our parish by spreading the Gospel by word, witness, and action.
- ~Inviting everyone to serve, in this way meeting the needs of our parishioners and the broader community.
- ~Being faithful stewards of God and St. Mary of the Hill by sharing our time, talents and treasures.
- ~Lending support to the parish leadership and working together to fulfill the mission which was given to us in Matthew 28:19: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

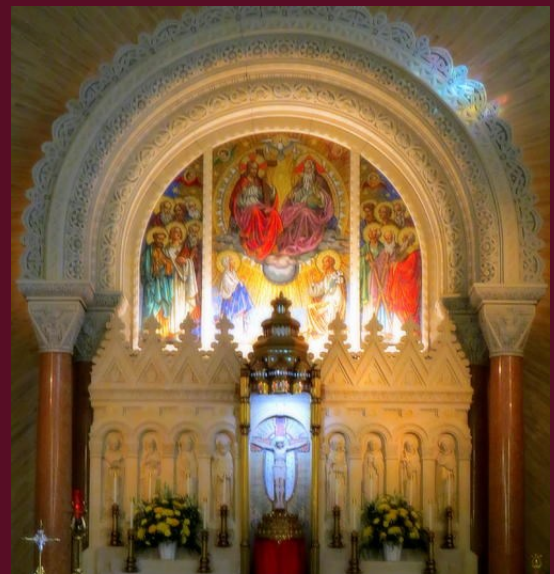
St. Mary of the Hill thrives on the support of the Carmelite Priests.

Entrance Door Design



- ◆ Lilies represent virtue of purity and incarnation
- ◆ Passion flowers represent the Passion of Christ
- ◆ Pomegranates represent the Victory and the New Church

Entrance door design is the same design as the Altar and on the Tabernacle.



Choir Loft:

Stained glass rose window:
Lady of the Americas

MARY IS SURROUNDED BY ANGELS

Half of the angels have their hands on their chest; praying in the Eastern Rite

Half of the angels have their hands folded praying in the Western Rite.

Bottom 3 Stained Glass Pieces:
Middle: Adam & Eve Cast out of Eden
Right: Nativity
Left: Annunciation



Side Pillars

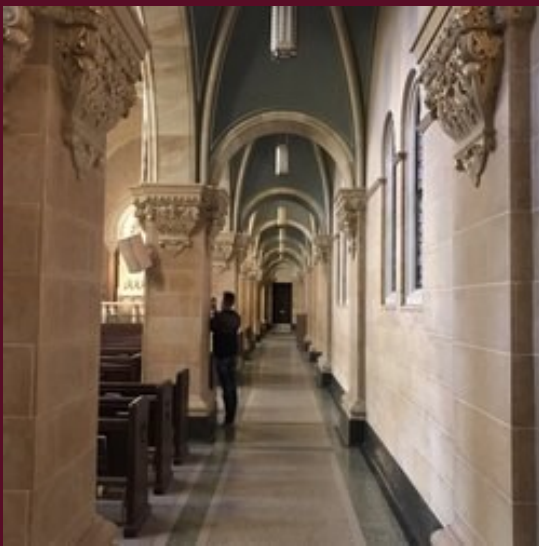
Beginning of Psychology

Sanquine (Happy)

Choleric (Aggressive)

Melancholic (Sad)

Phlegmatic (unemotional)



Altar is made of marble and weighs 40 tons.
Tabernacle weighs 500 pounds.

DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH & COAT OF ARMS OF ORDER

St. Alphonus—Congregation of Holy Redeemer

St. Bonaventure—Franciscan

St. Augustine—Augustinian

St. Cyril—Franciscan

St. Thomas Aquinas—Dominican

St. Bernard—Cistercian

St. Peter Canisius—Jesuit

St. John of the Cross—Discalced Carmelite

For more information go to Holy Hill Book Store for guide books.

Court of Heaven



**Designed in Germany representing an endless mystery
of a timeless God**

90,000 pieces of ceramic and cut glass
St. Peter in green holding keys
St. John holding a book
St. Andrew holding a Cross

More information "*Inside Holy Hill*" by Cornel Rosario



THE FOUR PILLARS

The Old Testament is the foundation of the New Testament

Top of the pillars are the Gospel writers

- ◆ Matthew—human with 6 wings
- ◆ Luke—bull with 6 wings
- ◆ Mark—Lion with 6 wings
- ◆ John—Eagle with 6 wings

Bottom of the pillars are the 6 Old Testament Prophets

- ◆ Abel, Isaac, Melchisadech (left)
- ◆ Moses, David, Elijah (right)

WINDOWS ABOVE AND TO THE SIDES OF THE ALTAR

LEFT OF THE ALTAR

Jesus is the Alfa & the Omega (the beginning and the end)

RIGHT SIDE OF THE ALTAR

The Pelican is the only bird that feeds its young with her own blood when food is scarce. Representing Jesus in the Eucharist.

TABERNACLE/CROSS

BLUE: 33 Blue stones

represents 33 years on earth

RED: Jesus Passion

FOUNTAIN—7 streams

representing the 7 sacraments

DEER—As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul longs



MAIN ALTAR: Left Panel

“When a priest celebrates he honors God, he brings joy to the angels, he edifies the church, he helps the living, he obtains rest for the departed and makes himself partaker of all good things.”

MAIN ALTAR: Right Panel

“What then are you, O priest take care lest what was said to Christ on the Cross be said to you, “He saved others, He cannot save Himself” ~Mark 15:31

Altar Rail



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Altar rail is made of brass and black Steel

Translation of left side:

Elijah; ate, drank and walked in the strength of that food
unto the mount of God

Translation of right side:

“I have brought you into the land of Carmel to eat its fruit
and the best things thereof.”

St. John of the Cross OCD

The story behind the picture:

St. John of the Cross was in ecstasy before Christ carrying the cross. Jesus Christ asked St. John for whatever he wanted and St. John of the Cross replied, “to suffer and be despised like you O Lord.”

The face of St. John of the Cross is Fr. Godfrey Hersburg OCD

Altar foundation depicts Mary with Jesus in the Pieta. Our Lady of Sorrows (Bavarian Devotion)



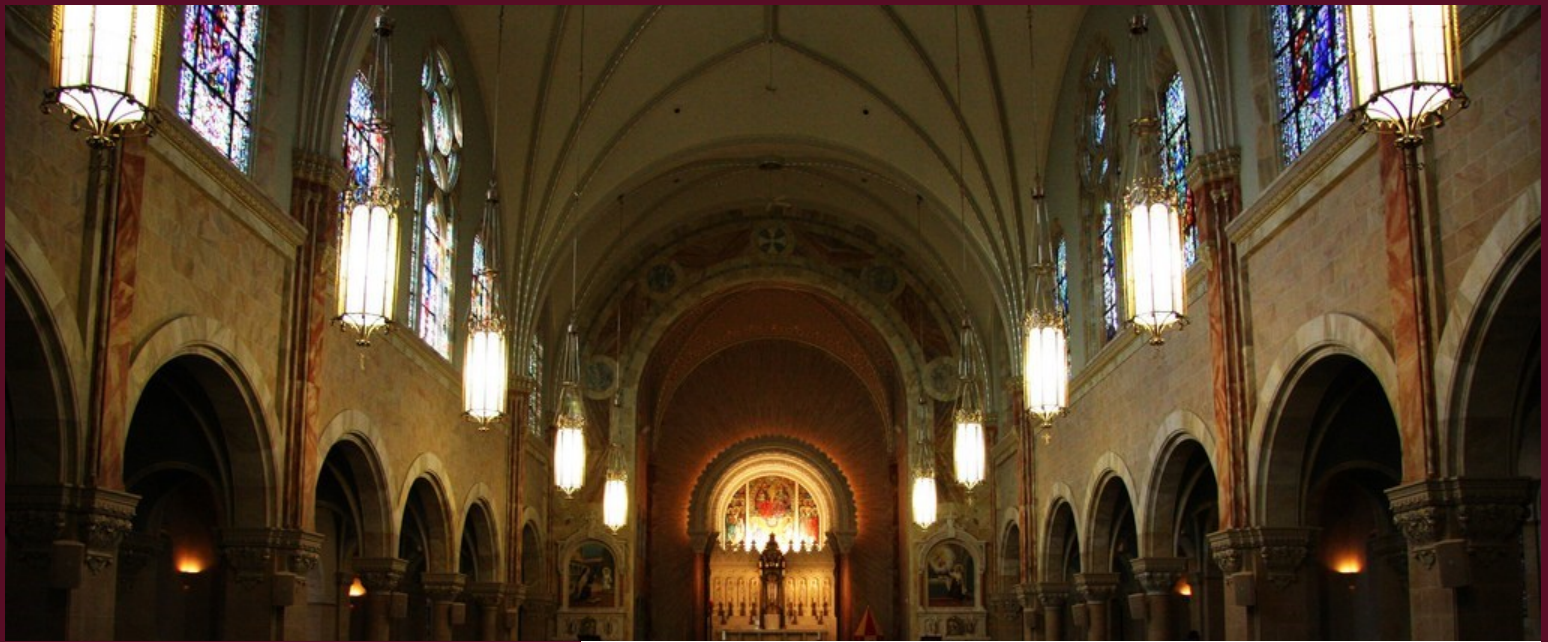
ST. TERESA OF AVILA

The story behind the picture:

St. Teresa was in the portico of the convent when she saw a little boy. The little boy asked her what her name was. St. Teresa told him she was Teresa of Jesus. She asked him what his name was. He responded, “I am Jesus of Teresa.”

Altar foundation depicts St. Joseph dying, the folded arms indicate the eastern rite for prayer.





TOP OF HANGING LIGHTS

- ◆ Circle represents eternity
- ◆ Letters on each fixture spell out HODEGETRIA which means, Mary leads us to Jesus—who is the way, the truth and the life.

SMALL WINDOWS

- ◆ 18 small window—Mary’s personality—to encourage prayer.
- ◆ 10 small windows—Latin, sorrowful and glorious mysteries
- ◆ Blue: Litany of Loreto
- ◆ Red: mysteries of Mary

UPPER STAINED GLASS: DEPICTS THE LIFE OF MARY

1. Birth of Mary: St. Ann & Joachim (feast day July 26) and midwife.
2. Grandparents of Mary
3. Beginning of Scapular
4. Marriage of Mary & Joseph
(Lily indicates God chose Joseph)
5. Holy Spirit; the Incarnation—the Word made flesh
6. Visitation; Elizabeth & Zachariah
7. The Nativity
8. The Presentation; 2 turtle doves in basket
9. Journey into Egypt
10. Holy Family in Israel
11. Pentecost
12. “Behold my Brother”(round window above; death of Jesus)
13. Assumption

Notice a difference in the brightness of the first 3 windows?

When the 1st stained glass window arrived, the Carmelites decided it was too dark. The 2nd was lighter but still too dark, the 3rd was the color they wanted. If they would have gone with the 1st the sun would not have illumed the space as you see it today.

Shrine Chapel: dedicated in 1956



The statue of Mary presenting her Son to the world was made in Germany and displayed at the Philadelphia World's Fair in 1876. It's made of polychrome and sat in St. Hubert's Church in Hubertus for 2 years because the Archdiocese didn't have the deed to the Holy Hill property. Once they acquired the deed to the property the statue was carried in procession and solemnly enshrined at Holy Hill.

Stained glass windows depict the titles of Mary and Hail,
Holy Queen Prayer.