



# Pathways

to Our Lady of Consolation

*Your Journey to Faith, Hope and Healing*

## Our Lady of Consolation Welcomes New Rector:

**Fr. John Stowe, O.F.M. Conv.**

Father John Stowe, a Conventual Franciscan Friar, was elected Vicar Provincial of the Conventual Franciscan Province of Our Lady of Consolation on March 18, 2010. He will serve as Rector and Pastor of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, a position that has been held for the past five years by Fr. John Raphael Hadnagy, O.F.M. Conv.



Father John Raphael is moving on to other ministries within the Conventual Franciscan Community. He will continue to live at the Basilica while serving in a nearby parish and continuing his ministries of prayer and healing.

Father John Stowe previously served as Chancellor, Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General of the Diocese of El Paso since December 2002. For most of that time he also served as Administrator of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in El Paso. Before his appointment to the Chancery he was pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, which includes the Ysleta Mission, founded in 1680, the oldest church in Texas.

A native of Lorain, Ohio, Father John came to El Paso in June 1995 after finishing a Licentiate in Sacred Theology, in Church History, at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California. He has BA's from Saint Louis University in Philosophy and in History. He has served previously as a definator of Our Lady of Consolation Province, as Chair of the Finance Commission and Chair of the Social Justice Commission.

During his time in El Paso, Father John was active in ministries and programs dealing with job creation and training, immigration reform, social justice, and education. He participated in several inter-faith initiatives.

Please join all the members of the Conventual Franciscan Community in welcoming Father John to his new position and wishing him many blessings and the best of luck. Also join us in thanking Father John Raphael for his many years of faithful and fruitful service, in the past and in the future.

## A Message From Father John Stowe, O.F.M. Conv.

Dear Friend of Our Lady of Consolation's Shrine,

I am happy to introduce myself as the new Rector of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation. I am an Ohio native myself and look forward to being back in the Buckeye State after many years away. For the last fifteen years I have worked on the US-Mexico border in El Paso, Texas, in parish work and as the Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General for the Diocese of El Paso.

It will be a real blessing to live and work at the Shrine. I have been in Carey for the Feast of the Assumption almost every year that I have been in the Franciscan Order, and have been coming to the Shrine long before that. My mother has a picture of me in a stroller at the Shrine before I was a year old!

I certainly look forward to meeting all of you who are so devoted to Our Lady of Consolation—those who visit the Shrine on pilgrimage and those who contact us through the mail.

Peace and all good,



Father John Stowe, O.F.M. Conv.

## Visit the Our Lady of Consolation Gift Shop... In person, or on the Web!

Whether you visit the Basilica and National Shrine in person or on the Internet, you can shop for a variety of beautiful and high-quality devotional items at our Gift Shop!

**We have...**

*Books... Jewelry... Statues... Rosaries...  
Crosses and Crucifixes... Holiday Items...  
Gifts for Weddings, Baptisms, First  
Communions, Confirmations, Anniversaries  
and New Babies... Patron Saint items...  
and much more!*



Visit us online at: <http://www.olcshrine.com/online-store>

Or in person every day of the week from **10 AM to 4:30 PM (5 PM on Saturdays)**.  
(Closed on Sundays for 2:30 PM Devotions) Phone **(419) 396-6080**

## From Our Pilgrims



*May 6, 2010, via e-mail...*

My family have been devout followers and givers to the Shrine for many years. I am writing this because we are desperate for a miracle prayer. We have a 2-month-old niece in the hospital right now. Sophia is on life support due to an RSV infection in her lungs, along with pneumonia. If her body can fight off the RSV infection which has been getting the best of her so far, then she will be fine.

If whoever is reading this can please have Sophia prayed for to fight and win, her life will be saved. I hope that this request falls on the ears of the right people to ask for God's grace. Please please please pray for Sophia.

—K.D.

*May 7, 2010, via e-mail...*

Dear K.D.,

Please be assured that Sophia's name will be placed on the altar of Our Lady of Consolation, and your prayer request given to Brother Angelo to pray for her. For over 135 years there has been an endless stream of blessings, healings and miracles through the wonderful prayers of Our Lady of Consolation. God bless Sophia, you and your family.

*May 17, 2010, via e-mail...*

I am writing this e-mail as I watch my niece sleep peacefully. The miracle came the same day I asked for the prayer...

After making my prayer request, I went to the hospital to be with Sophia. Her oxygen had fallen dangerously low and she was completely purple. As the hospital staff was getting ready to override the ventilator with an oxygen bag, the oxygen climbed all the way from around 12 to the normal healthy 95, all by Sophia's doing.

I told my sisters about the prayer and we cried uncontrollably as we all realized that not even an hour later, and after 7 days of worst-case scenarios, something positive had happened. After that prayer, Sophia's lungs were able to bring her oxygen levels back up to normal all by themselves, without the oxygen bag. IT IS TRULY A MIRACLE.

She is out of the ICU and in the general care unit, with no more tubes or even IV's. She is doing great and eating, breathing and being back to the normal healthy infant she was before this happened. Please tell everyone there WE THANK YOU ALL for helping this prayer reach up to the heavens.




—K.D.

# Christmas Nativity Scene Pin

Celebrate Christmas with this beautiful silver-toned Pin, depicting the Christmas Stable with the Holy Family and the Star of Bethlehem. This Pin is made in the U.S.A. of genuine pewter. It goes with any outfit and makes an appropriate and thoughtful Christmas gift!



The Pin is available with your gift of \$12 or more. It comes fastened to a gift card, and is blessed by the Conventual Franciscan Friars.

- I am enclosing a gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in support of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation.
- My gift is \$12 or more. Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas Nativity Scene Pin(s).  
(The suggested offering is \$12 for each Pin requested.)
- My check is enclosed. Please charge my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my:      

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (please print) Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



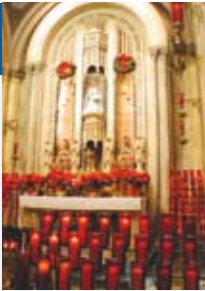
**Basilica and National Shrine of  
Our Lady of Consolation**  
Conventual Franciscan Friars  
315 Clay Street  
Carey, OH 43316-1498

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Your gift is tax deductible to the extent of the law.*

PW1P-11






## VIGIL LIGHT REQUEST

A Vigil Light Remembrance is a very popular and effective way to share your prayer needs with the Conventual Franciscan Friars. Request your Vigil Light today and we will place it on one of the Altars at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation.

**Please Remember My Special Intentions with a Vigil Light Remembrance**

Enclosed is my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in support of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation. Please use my offering for:

- General donation. (Please use my gift wherever the need is greatest.)
- Vigil Light Remembrance. (I understand the suggested offering is \$5 for each Vigil Light requested.)

My check is enclosed. Please charge my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to my:       Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (please print) Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



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PW1VL-11



## FROM THE PILGRIMAGE DIRECTOR

The time has come for a change in the leadership of the office of the Pilgrimage Director here at the Shrine. After nine years as Pilgrimage Director, Brother Jeffrey Hines will leave the Shrine and begin his new duties at Saint Bonaventure Friary in Bloomington, Minnesota. Brother Jeffrey has served on two previous assignments at the Shrine, in the 1960's and 1980's, for a total of over 20 years of service in Carey.

The new Pilgrimage Director is Brother Randy Kin, a native of Carey, Ohio. Brother Randy professed Solemn Vows at the Shrine in 1984. For the past six years he has served as Director of Retreats at Our Lady of Consolation Retreat House here at the

Shrine. Brother Randy will continue in his position as Retreat Director as he accepts the additional assignment as Pilgrimage Director.

We ask for your prayers for both Brother Jeffrey and Brother Randy, as they continue their journey as Franciscan Brothers. Both have been deeply touched and enriched by the faith and devotion of Mary's devoted pilgrims to the Shrine.



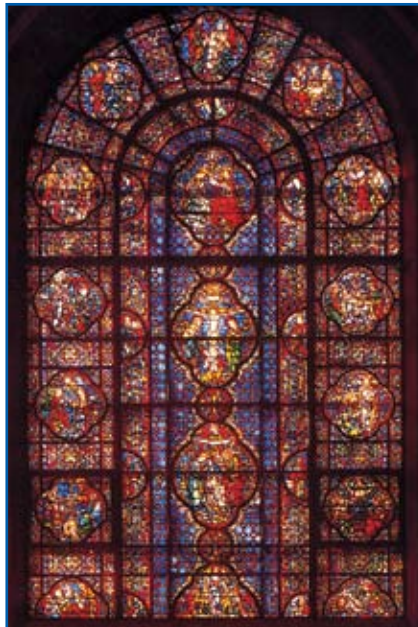
*Brother Randy Kin,  
O.F.M. Conv.*

## Update on the Re-Leading of the Stained Glass Windows in the Shrine Basilica

The restoration and re-leading of the stained glass windows in the Basilica is an enormous undertaking and has been in progress for a year already. Pilgrims and parishioners were delighted to see the return of the East Window or "Christ Window" more resplendent than ever in late September. During the August pilgrimages, many of the faithful pilgrims who come year after year were shocked to see that huge window missing and white cardboard in its place. They were comforted to know that the window had not been damaged or destroyed but was being restored.

Tom Cullen and his associates at the Cullen Art and Glass Studio of Lima, Ohio are painstakingly removing all of the old lead, cleaning and in some cases restoring the pieces of stained glass, and replacing all of the lead which holds the glass and the entire window in place. Mr. Cullen discovered so many interesting facets of these windows, and it has been a rare privilege to view them up close. The original artist was a true master who could convey great detail and emotion with very few lines in the figures represented in the windows. Cullen and his co-workers approach the

windows with reverence and fascination.



These wonderful windows, fired in Frieburg, Switzerland and installed in the Basilica in the late 1920's, were at that time among the largest church windows in the United States. The windows, made up of thousands of pieces of stained glass, are truly stunning works of art as well as important images of inspiration. In the high Middle Ages, when stained glass was coming into use in the major Cathedrals of Europe, they functioned as a catechism in pictures when many of the faithful were illiterate. The Basilica's windows are truly a catechism in pictures and are relevant in our times when images attract far more attention than words.

This major project is an expression of stewardship as we protect and preserve what an earlier generation of parishioners and pilgrims provided. Thanks to the great generosity of pilgrims and parishioners alike, all of the Basilica's stained glass windows will be re-leded, be protected by new outer storm windows which allow ventilation, and will be as radiantly brilliant as they were when they were originally placed in the Basilica.

# MARY'S SONG



Each evening, Christians who celebrate the Liturgy of the Hours recite or sing Mary's song from the Gospel of Luke, commonly known as the "Magnificat." "Magnificat" is the first word of this song in Latin. It means "magnifies" or "glorifies," and Mary proclaims that her soul is glorifying the Lord and her spirit rejoices in God. Mary's whole being proclaims God's goodness, because she gave herself completely over to God and allowed Him to work through her for our salvation.

Clearly Mary is a very significant figure in the New Testament, but she has surprisingly few words in the Gospels. We marvel at her acceptance of God's plan for her with her "fiat," that is, "let it be done to me according to your word." In our humanity we can identify with Mary as the humble maiden of Nazareth who first questions the angel's message, "how can this be?" Mary learns through this and many other events in her life that God's ways are not what we expect and that God is anything but predictable—except in His love and mercy. When Jesus performed His first sign at the wedding in Cana, it was through Mary's intercession; although Jesus seemed to indicate to Mary that He was not going to do anything about the wine, which had run out, Mary instructed the servants to "do whatever He tells you." That remains Mary's advice

to us when we come to seek her assistance in our many needs.

More often than not, Mary is present in a silent way. During Jesus' public ministry, He was reminded that His mother and brothers were nearby. At the foot of the cross, she witnessed her son tortured and put to death. She was given to us as mother through the beloved disciple at the foot of the cross. There are no words of Mary recorded in Scripture as she encounters her son risen from the dead. Again at Pentecost, we only hear that Mary was with the disciples as the Holy Spirit came upon them.

Since Mary's words in scripture are so few, we should pay close attention to them. Her song of praise describes the Reign of God that Jesus came to proclaim. "God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty." [Luke 2:52-53]. Mary knew firsthand how God lifts up the little ones; it happened to her! Mary identifies with the hungry, poor and lowly with special love and offers them the hope of God's plan coming to pass.

## MASS AND DEVOTIONS SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY MASSES:

**Winter Schedule (November 1 through Palm Sunday):**  
5:30 pm (Sat. Eve); 9:00 & 11:00 am

**Summer Schedule (Easter Sunday through October 31):**  
5:30 pm (Sat. Eve); 8:00 & 10:00 am, 12:00 noon

### WEEKDAY MASSES:

7:00 am & 11:00 am

### FRIDAYS DURING LENT:

Lenten Seafood Dinner—4:30 - 7:00 pm  
Stations of the Cross—7:00 pm  
Lenten Service—7:30 pm

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday, 4—5 pm

### DEVOTIONS:

**Rosary, Benediction & Healing Prayers:**  
Every Sunday, 2:30 pm

For a complete schedule of Masses and events for the year, please visit us online at:  
<http://www.olcshrine.com/calendar-of-events>

For information on scheduling a group pilgrimage, see our site at:  
<http://www.olcshrine.com/visit/pilgrimage-groups/group-information->

For information about Retreat House events, see our web site at:  
<http://www.olcshrine.com/visit/retreat-house>  
or call us at (419) 396-7970.

**You are always welcome!**

### Pathways to Our Lady of Consolation

*is published by the Conventual Franciscan Friars of the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation. Please direct suggestions and comments to the address, web site or phone number indicated here.*



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