



CHRISTMAS SEASON

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE



SHRINE - RETREAT CENTER - WELCOME CENTER
 947 Park St. Attleboro, MA - 508-222-5410 - www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org

Shrine Director - Fr. Flavio Gillio, MS Retreat Center Director - Fr. Ted Brown, MS Superior - Fr. Brian Schloth, MS

Mass Times (Christmas Season)

Monday - Thursday
 12:10pm
Friday-Saturday
 12:10 & 4:00pm
Sunday
 9:30am (French), 12:10 & 4:00pm

Confessions (Christmas Season)

Monday-Friday
 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Saturday-Sunday
 1:00pm-4:00pm
NO CONFESSIONS:
 January 1, 2026

Healing Services

Portuguese:
 January 18, 2026 at 2:00pm
English:
 January 25, 2026 at 2:00pm
Spanish:
 February 1 at 2:30pm



**Attleboro
 Indoor Market**
 Saturday, January 3, 2026
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Welcome Center



Have a Blessed New Year!

Thank you for being part of our 2025 Christmas Festival of Lights and for all the ways you continue to walk with us throughout the year, in prayer, worship, community, and faith.

Whether you visited for the first time or you join us often at the Shrine, your presence helped fill this holy season with beauty, reverence, and shared joy. Together, we rejoice in the hope that Christ's light brings into every heart and every home. As we step into a new year, we hold you in prayer and wish you a blessed, grace-filled beginning, one rooted in the promise of our Christmas theme, *Rejoice in Hope*. May the light of Christ, the hope we celebrate in this season, strengthen your spirit, guide your days, and inspire us all to grow together in faith, compassion, and joyful hope. We look forward to continuing this journey with you in the year ahead. Have a blessed New Year!

The Missionaries and Sisters of Our Lady of La Salette

LA SALETTE SHRINE

508-222-5410
www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org
lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com

LA SALETTE RETREAT CENTER

508-222-8530
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org
office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE

508-236-9090
www.lasalettereligiousas.org
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THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Liturgy - You Get What You Put Into It



For many of us, Mass can be more of a chore than a source of spiritual strength and joy of being in communion with God. We may attend with a good will and make certain that we “fulfill our Sunday obligation.” That can leave us troubled and wondering what is wrong. So, we ask ourselves: Maybe God is boring? Maybe I am boring? Maybe I am unholy, and that’s why I don’t find Mass interesting? Maybe the people who put the Mass together are boring? Maybe if the ceremony were perked up and made more lively and entertaining, it would fix the problem?

As Catholics we have a disadvantage compared to other Christian denominations when it comes to our worship services. We seem a bit boring. Other churches have laser lights, live bands, motivational preachers, and you can even take your latte into worship with you.

Setting aside the obvious problems that plague the liturgy when it is badly or unfaithfully celebrated, it can be said that the Mass is inevitably and even purposely uninteresting for those who don’t participate in it. The Mass was never meant to be entertaining, that is something to be watched. When we attend Mass, we are not members of an audience. Rather, we must be busy and engaged as active participants. As Christians, we know that we need to pray to be in contact with God, and the Mass is the most important prayer that there is. Granted, we have not been given the special privilege by God to see His true nature in the Holy Mass as Saint Gertrude the Great, but in faith, we know that this lifting up of man to the heavenly liturgy does occur at each and every Holy Mass.

Mass can become more engaging for ourselves when we focus on the divine aspects rather than the human ones. Educate yourself. Spend some time studying the rituals, gestures, prayers and the readings. Look at the Mass as a participation in heavenly worship, a re-enactment of Christ’s sacrifice and a moment of communion with God. Since our minds can wander easily, truly listen to the words of the readings and the songs.

Remember, you’ll only get out of something what you put into it.



SHRINE CHURCH SANCTUARY LAMP

During the month of **JANUARY 2026**, the Shrine Church Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of:

**STEVE
ANDREOZZI**

Anyone wishing to have a loved one or special intention remembered should call the Shrine Secretary at 508-222-5410 and place their request. The monthly offering is \$75.

Upcoming Events You Don't Want to Miss!



 **Jan. 2, 2026** — *Sacred Heart Friday*, 9:30 a.m.
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/sacredheart

 **Jan. 6, 2026** — *Meet the Artist: An Evening with Nacy Marek Cote*. Welcome Center, 6:30 p.m.

 **Jan. 16-18, 2026** — *Weekend Men's Retreat*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood

 **Jan. 20, 2026** — *Bible Study Group*, 6:00 p.m.
<https://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/biblestudy>

 **Jan. 27, 2026** — *Bible Study Group*, 6:00 p.m.
<https://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/biblestudy>

 **Jan. 28, 2026** — *Walking Through Grief*, 2:00 p.m.
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/griefsupportprogram

 **Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2026** — *Weekend Ignatian Retreat*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens

 **Feb. 13-15, 2026** — *Weekend Women's Retreat*. For more information call 508-222-8530

Events designed for connection, and made to matter.

Schedule New Year Masses

New Year's Eve Mass

(December 31)

6:00 p.m. (English) & 10:00 p.m. (French)

New Year's Day Mass

(January 1, 2026)

12:10 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.

The Christmas Season:

A Call to Learn to Live with Joy



During this holy season of Christmas, the Church proclaims the wondrous mystery of our faith: *“Today is born for us a Savior, Christ the Lord”* (Lk 2:11). Throughout these days of celebration, the angels’ message resounds as a *“good news of great JOY for all people.”* The word JOY echoes through the liturgy of Christmas, not as a passing emotion, but as a profound truth: God has become Emmanuel, God-with-us, and His coming should fill our lives with hope and reJOICING.

The birth of any child stirs JOY and hope. But the birth of Christ fills the world with a JOY that does not fade, because Jesus is not only someone born long ago: He remains Gift to us today. As St. Leo the Great wrote, *“Christian, remember your dignity!”* In the Incarnation, God becomes visible, tangible, close enough to love, to trust, to follow.

Christmas reminds us that God did not remain distant. He entered our world, shared our human condition, and allowed Himself to be seen and held. That is why the Church places the manger scene before our eyes.

Whether the Christ Child is depicted with African, Asian, Latin American, or European features, as in our *International Creche Museum*, the message remains the same: the Savior is born for all peoples.

Heaven reJOICES because God’s love has embraced the whole human family.

We often say that Jesus came to save us from our sins, and this is true, yet the saints and Pope Francis remind us that **He also came to show us how to live:** with compassion, mercy, justice, and hope. The years Jesus spent among us were not only a path toward the Cross, but **a witness to a life in its fullness**, a life that brings peace and fullness of heart.

To follow Christ is to choose life over fear, hope over despair, generosity over selfishness, healing over harm. With every act of kindness, every effort toward justice, every gesture of reconciliation, we share in the JOY the angels announced.

Christmas is a call to reJOICE, not only because a Child was born, but because His birth continues to shape the way we live, love, and bring hope to our world.

May the JOY of this liturgical season fill your heart, today, tomorrow, and always.

Root Your New Year in Faith

A new year offers more than a fresh calendar: it offers a fresh spirit. If your heart desires clarity, renewal, or a deeper encounter with God, these upcoming programs are your invitation to begin the year grounded in faith rather than hurry.

Weekend Men's Retreat

January 16-18, 2026

This January, *La Salette Retreat Center* invites men to a transformative weekend forming hearts, restoring dignity, and building brotherhood. Inspired by Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., the retreat gathers men from every background to explore a mission-driven manhood that heals, serves, and stands at the margins. A great opportunity to grow, to heal, and to walk with one another in faith.

Reserve your place now, and share this invitation with a friend or family member who would benefit from a faith-centered men’s retreat. More information at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood

Weekend Ignatian Retreat

January 29 - February 1, 2026

Sometimes God invites us to tend the places within us that still long for healing. This retreat brings together Internal Family Systems (IFS) and Ignatian Spirituality to foster compassion, inner freedom, and renewed trust in God’s love. Designed for those carrying wounds from past religious experiences, it offers reflective prayer, guided IFS meditations, Gospel contemplation, the Examen, Daily Mass, and quiet time for journaling and rest. Join us at *La Salette Retreat Center* for a grace-filled weekend of healing and renewal. Reserve your place today before spaces fill up. More information at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens

A Season to Give.
A Mission Sustained by You.



As we come to the close of this year and look with hope toward 2026, our Winter Appeal *“Together in Hope. Partners in Mission.”* remains an urgent invitation to strengthen the ministries that touch countless lives here at the *National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette* and the *La Salette Retreat Center*.

If you have not yet made a gift, we respectfully invite you to do so now. Your support is especially meaningful to sustain our ministries and fully fund the projects that will expand hospitality, improve accessibility, and strengthen our mission in 2026.

This year’s Winter Appeal will help us replace our 20-year-old A/V system in the Welcome Center and Shrine Church so that everyone, especially seniors, can hear clearly and participate fully. Your generosity will also **sustain** accessible and affordable programs and gathering spaces for pilgrims and groups from many cultures, while continuing to **provide** more than 100 hot meals each week through our Monday Soup Kitchen.

Your gift truly matters, and your past generosity has already made an extraordinary difference. Because of donors like you, this past year we were able to **renovate the Shrine Cafeteria; upgrade the church A/C**, improving comfort and participation at liturgies; **serve more than 5,000 meals; strengthen our multicultural ministries; welcome 15,000+ people to the Sacrament of Reconciliation;** and **fully restore the Holy Stairs** beside the Garden of the Apparition.

The Winter Appeal continues through March 15, 2026. A first-time gift, in any amount, will help us continue opening our doors to all who come here seeking hope, healing, and reconciliation. You may give online NOW at:

www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/give

or by using an Appeal envelope available in the Foyer of the Church beginning December 31. Thank you for standing with us, *Together in Hope, Partners in Mission.*

Meet the Artist: An Evening with Nancy Marek Cote
January 6, 2026 - 6:30 p.m. - Welcome Center



A single brushstroke can hold a story, and on this special evening, we’ll step inside the beauty, faith, and imagination behind the sacred paintings of **Nancy Marek Cote**, award-winning artist and illustrator. Her luminous depictions of the saints invite us to encounter them not as distant figures from history, but as companions who walk beside us on our own journeys of faith.

Nancy will share the spirit behind her work during an *engaging question-and-answer conversation*, offering insight into how art, prayer, and vocation meet on canvas. Her current exhibit at the Shrine, first opened on the Feast of All Saints and displayed in the Welcome Center’s Great Hall, reflects years of creative exploration, spiritual study, and professional achievement across the United States and Europe. Come, discover the lives of the saints through color, light, and story, and be inspired to see holiness with new eyes. **ENTRANCE IS FREE.**

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

All of our ministries here at the Shrine are only possible thanks to generous donations from people like you! With gratitude - Thank you!

MASS COLLECTIONS

December 13 - 14:	\$ 2,973.00
December 14 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 301.40
December 20 - 21:	\$ 2,947.00
December 20 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 161.35

DONATION BOXES

December 8 – December 14:	\$ 1,654.00
December 15 – December 21:	\$ 2,309.00

Heavenly Thought

“It’s important to remember that the church is a workshop and not a dormitory.”