

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 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](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org)

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

### Mass Times

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

### Confessions

**Monday-Friday**  
1:00pm - 2:00pm  
**Saturday-Sunday**  
1:00pm-4:00pm

### Healing Services

**Spanish:**  
February 1 at 2:30pm  
**Portuguese:**  
February 15, 2026 at 2:00pm  
**English:**  
February 22, 2026 at 2:00pm



### Weekend Women's Retreat Freedom to Be Free:

*Discovering the Freedom Christ Gives*

February 13-15, 2026

[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org)



### Lent 2026: "Freedom to Be Free"

*The Grace of Letting Go and Learning to Live*

Freedom is one of the deepest longings of the human heart, and yet so often, we discover how easily it slips from our grasp. We carry habits, fears, regrets, and expectations that quietly bind us, even as we desire a fuller life in Christ. This Lent, the theme "*Freedom to Be Free*" invites us into a gentler, truer way: not striving harder, but learning to let go; not clinging tightly, but opening our hands to grace. Lent becomes a sacred season where God patiently loosens what confines us and restores what has grown weary within. It is not about perfection, but about honesty, humility, and trust.

Our Lenten Season begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026**. For that occasion, you are cordially invited to join a morning mini-retreat at *La Salette Retreat Center*, or one of the two Masses in the Shrine Church with distribution of the Ashes (12:10 & 6:30 p.m.).

### LA SALETTE SHRINE

508-222-5410

[www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org)  
[lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com](mailto:lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com)

### LA SALETTE RETREAT CENTER

508-222-8530

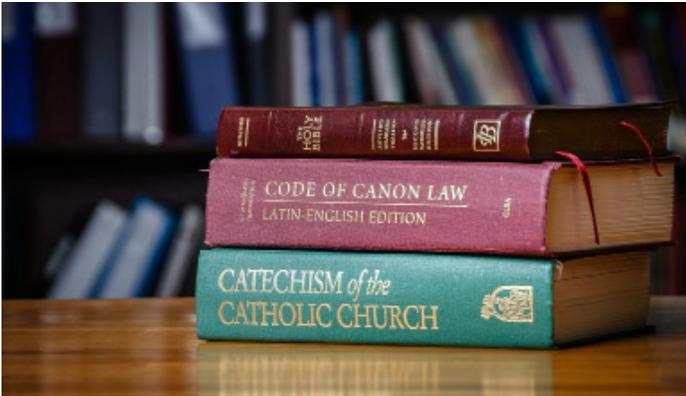
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org)  
[office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com](mailto:office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com)

### RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE

508-236-9090

[www.lasalettereligiousas.org](http://www.lasalettereligiousas.org)  
[giftshoplasalette@gmail.com](mailto:giftshoplasalette@gmail.com)

## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH So, What's With All The Rules?



Well, that depends on which church organization you're talking about. Churches need rules for order, unity, and legal compliance, preventing chaos by defining leadership, membership, finances, and decision-making processes. They serve to guide spiritual life beyond specific scriptural commands for practical, day-to-day functioning, ensuring they remain accountable and focused on their mission while clarifying expectations for their members and protecting everyone involved. Most rules for churches are based on strict codes of conduct, intricate liturgical laws, and belief systems.

Amish communities are widely considered among the strictest in terms of lifestyle and can vary by congregation, dictating everything from the use of electricity and cars to specific styles of clothing and hair. Jehovah's Witnesses have strict rules of behavior and extensive disciplinary protocols. Its rules extend to specific choices in entertainment, personal grooming, and political neutrality. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) are expected to adhere to a detailed health code (Word of Wisdom) which prohibits the use of alcohol, tobacco, coffee, and tea. Members must also adhere to the law of chastity outside of marriage and are required to pay a tithe of 10% of their income to the church.

Today, the Catholic Church is considered the most organized and legally structured religious institution in the world, with a clear chain of command. The Western Church, the largest part of the Catholic Church, is governed by the Code of Canon Law, which evolved over centuries. In 1983, it replaced the earlier 1917 Code. It is a massive compilation of 1,752 individual "canons" or laws, which has seen more doctrinal diversity and evolution over centuries.

On the other hand, the Eastern Church is governed by 1,540 canons, which took effect in 1991, and is parallel to the Western Churches' Code of Cannon Law. However, it is considered more theologically and liturgically conservative than the Western Church because it strongly emphasizes adhering to the ancient traditions and teachings of the early Church Fathers.



### SHRINE CHURCH SANCTUARY LAMP

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

**JOSEPH  
SQUEO**

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.

**Come and See: Walking with Jesus This Lent**  
*More than Learning: Encounter Christ*



This season, step into the Gospel in a way that feels immediate, human, and deeply prayerful through **The Chosen: Season 5**. Far more than a viewing series, each gathering is shaped as a shared Lenten journey. Sessions open with insight into the biblical, theological, and cultural world of the episode, helping the story unfold with greater depth and meaning. After the viewing, participants are invited into thoughtful conversation, connecting the lives of Jesus and His disciples with the questions, hopes, and struggles we carry today.

The **opening session on February 16, 2026**, features special guest **Karla Cameron**, who participated in the production of *The Chosen* and offers a unique behind-the-scenes perspective on bringing the Gospel to life on screen. Come ready to listen, reflect, and walk more intentionally with Christ this Lent, together. More information at:

[www.lsaletteretreatcenter.org/thechosenseason5](http://www.lsaletteretreatcenter.org/thechosenseason5)

**“And the Word Became Flesh” (John 1:14)**  
*Pilgrimage to Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt*



There are places where faith stops being abstract and becomes tangible. This **12-day pilgrimage**, from **June 7–18, 2026**, is an invitation to enter those places with reverence, and openness of heart. Traveling through **Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt**, you will walk the landscapes where God’s promises were spoken, tested, and fulfilled. Not as a spectator, but as a pilgrim shaped by prayer and encounter. The journey begins with departure from the United States and arrival in Amman, Jordan. From there, you will stand on Mount Nebo, where Moses gazed toward the Promised Land, and walk through the ancient city of Petra, carved from living rock. Crossing into Israel, you will renew your baptismal memory at the Jordan River, explore Capernaum, Tabgha, and the shores of the Sea of Galilee, and pray in Nazareth, Cana, Mount Tabor, and Mount Carmel, places where ordinary lives were deeply transformed.

In Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the pilgrimage deepens. You will walk the Via Dolorosa, pray at the Western Wall, visit the Mount of Olives and Gethsemane, and stand before the Nativity Church and visit the Shepherds’ Field. Time is given not only to see, but to linger, to listen to Scripture where it was first proclaimed and allow silence to speak.

The pilgrimage then continues through Bethel, Samaria, Jericho, and the Dead Sea, before crossing into Egypt. At Sinai, you will encounter the site of the Burning Bush and the mountain where the covenant was sealed. In Cairo, history widens its lens with visits to the pyramids, the Sphinx, and the Egyptian Museum, all reminders of the world into which God entered human history.

This pilgrimage includes full-board accommodations, tour guide, entrance fees, a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, and the Dead Sea experience. Organized by **Best-IN Travels & Tours**, every detail is meant to offer you a transformative experience. For information and reservations **call 401-867-1936**, visit <https://bestintravels.org> or scan the QR code here below.



**From Mary’s Tears to the Heart of the Church**  
*Pilgrimage to La Salette, Turin, Ravenna, Florence, Rome*



Faith is not only something we believe. It is something we inherit, carry, and learn to live. This **10 day pilgrimage**, from **September 2–12, 2026**, invites you to walk that living tradition, beginning at La Salette and unfolding across Italy, where the Gospel took root through saints, beauty, suffering, and apostolic witness.

The journey opens in La Salette, where the Virgin Mary appeared in 1846 to Mélanie Calvat and Maximin Giraud. In this place of beauty, silence and wide horizons, pilgrims are invited to hear anew Mary’s call to reconciliation, conversion, and hope, a call that quietly will shape the entire pilgrimage.

From that prophetic mountain, the journey continues into Italy, beginning in Turin, a city marked by the Holy Shroud at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and the saints the city has given the Church: St. John Bosco, St. Joseph Cafasso, St. Dominic Savio, and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.

As the pilgrimage moves on, the early Church comes vividly alive in Ravenna. There, the luminous mosaics of the basilicas speak a visual language of faith, revealing how the first Christian communities proclaimed Christ through light, color, and sacred beauty.

That dialogue between faith, art and culture continues in Florence, a city that has been drawing human heart toward God through beauty and creativity.

The pilgrimage finds its center in Rome and nearby Ostia. In Rome, pilgrims enter the heart of the universal Church by visiting the Vatican, St. Peter’s Basilica, and the great basilicas, places sanctified by apostles and martyrs. Ostia Antica, closely linked to the missionary journeys of St. Paul, reminds pilgrims that the Gospel spread through ordinary roads and human encounters.

Brought to you by **Best-IN Travel & Tours**, this pilgrimage brings together prayer, history, and spirituality in a way that invites the heart to be renewed and faith to be lived more fully: a pilgrimage that offers not just memories, but renewal. For more information call **401-867-1936** or write to [travelsbestin@gmail.com](mailto:travelsbestin@gmail.com) or visit our dedicated page at: [www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/lasalettepilgrimage](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/lasalettepilgrimage)

**Hope Begins With An Open Door**  
*And Continues Through Your Generosity*



The generosity of friends like you is carrying our Winter Appeal forward as gifts continue to arrive. This steady response is a powerful sign of what we can achieve together as we work toward our \$200,000 goal. Thanks to the remarkable generosity of our supporters, this new appeal has been met with an encouraging response, and we are eager to build on this progress.

**YOUR SUPPORT** of the *National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette* and the *La Salette Retreat Center* does more than sustain buildings or programs: it **OPENS DOORS**. **YOUR GENEROSITY OPENS THE DOORS** for clearer worship through the replacement of a 20-year-old audio/visual system, especially helping seniors fully hear prayer, music, and reflection. **YOUR SUPPORT OPENS THE DOORS** for compassion at our Monday Soup Kitchen, where more than 100 neighbors receive a hot meal each week. **YOUR SUPPORT OPENS THE DOORS** for families, pilgrims, and seekers of every background to encounter Christ in a place that remains welcoming and accessible.

We have already seen what is possible when this community steps forward in faith. Over the past year, your generosity helped renovate the cafeteria, upgrade the church's air conditioning, restore the Holy Stairs, and provide more than 5,000 meals to those in need.

Now, we hope to build on this strong beginning to extend this opportunity to even more people who come to *La Salette* seeking hope, healing, and reconciliation. The Winter Appeal continues through March 15, 2026. Please prayerfully consider supporting this important initiative. Will you help us continue **OPENING OUR DOORS WIDE**, so that faith may be heard, mercy shared, and hope renewed for all who enter? You may give online NOW at:

[www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/give](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/give)

or you can use the envelope you found in the bulletin you received. Thank you for standing with us, ***"Together in Hope, Partners in Mission."***

**Hands That Choose Mercy**  
*Lent Lived Through Deliberate Compassion.*



From Ash **Wednesday, February 18**, through **Wednesday, April 1, 2026**, the *National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette* invites the community to take part in its 6<sup>th</sup> annual ***Corporal Works of Mercy Lenten Challenge***, a simple and meaningful way to live Lent through compassion.

Donation boxes will be available in the *Welcome Center*, each clearly labeled with a partner organization and suggested items. Through *feeding the hungry* and *giving drink to the thirsty*, we support the La Salette Soup Kitchen, which serves more than 100 guests each Monday. To *shelter the homeless*, we partner with Spirit of Hope and the Cumberland Hotel for Homeless Dogs. Donations to *comfort the sick* assist Madonna Manor, and gifts to *visit the imprisoned* support Bethany House. Memorial options, available at the Welcome Center, honor *burying the dead*, and monetary gifts support *giving alms to the poor*.

***Thank you for helping mercy take flesh this Lent.***

**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**

January 10 - 11:	\$ 1,780.00
January 11 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 138.00
January 11 (Spanish Mass):	\$ 178.80
January 17 - 18:	\$ 1,366.00
January 18 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 123.10
January 18 (Port. Healing Service):	\$ 152.00
January 24 - 25:	\$ 501.00
January 25 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 134.00

**DONATION BOXES**

January 5 - January 11:	\$ 588.00
January 12 - January 18:	\$ 869.00
January 19 - January 25:	\$ 830.00

**Heavenly Humor**

*The principle of separation of church and state is clear  
when the church teaches us that money isn't everything, but the government keeps telling us it is.*