

PILGRIMAGE PASSPORT



The Shrine of St. Anthony

A MINISTRY OF THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS CONVENTUAL

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Seek, Learn, and Pray

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

The Shrine of St. Anthony Pilgrimage Passport is a self-guided tour and activity guide. Discover the many ways you can encounter Christ and our Franciscan saints in and around the Shrine. Each  includes information about a unique feature of our site as well as a suggested activity in each location.

Shrine Courtyard & Fountain

The fountain in the courtyard reminds us of the Trinity, and that God's love for us is overflowing. As water is used to quench one's thirst, the fountain also reminds us that our needs are met by Christ when we allow him into our hearts and lives.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Standing in the center of the courtyard, look around the fountain as you reflect on the promises made by your godparents at baptism. What other significant symbols do you notice?

Can you find the Franciscan coat of arms? The statues of St. Francis and St. Anthony?

After your period of quiet, go introduce yourself to Sts. Francis and Anthony.

This building was constructed under patronage of St. Joseph Cupertino, the patron saint of students, in 1930. The upper level of the building remains the St. Joseph Cupertino Friary today.



Chapel

The Chapel was originally designed for use by students in the novitiate. Student friars would sing and recite the Liturgy of the Hours each day facing each other. There are 72 choir stalls to represent the number of disciples Jesus sent out in the Gospel of Luke.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Find the St. Clare statue in the Chapel.

St. Clare of Assisi, following the example of Jesus's disciples and Francis, left a life of wealth behind to live the Gospel life and founded the women's branch of the Order of Francis. The mirror in her hands represents her belief that mirroring the image of Christ was essential to a Christian identity.

The Shrine of St. Anthony Chapel includes several symbols of Franciscan spirituality and history. The San Damiano Crucifix above the altar is an example of the crucifix St. Francis was praying in front of when he was charged by God to "rebuild my Church." The altar, tabernacle, and ambo evoke trees and nature, reminding us of Jesus's teaching: "I am the vine; you are the branches" (John 15:1-8). The mural behind the altar behind depicts St. Francis receiving the stigmata (wounds of Jesus) late in his life.



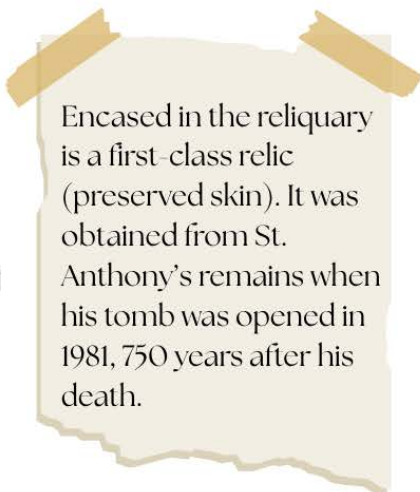


Reliquary

St. Anthony of Padua, the Miracle Worker and Finder of the Lost, made the Gospels come to life for all he preached to. He enflamed their hearts with faith. He remains today a magnet of love, drawing respect from people of all nationalities and religions.

Our reliquary represents St. Anthony's purity (the lily), commitment to spreading the Word of God (the book of Gospels), and ability to ignite the fire of faith (the flame for the Holy Spirit). The reliquary rests in a treehouse, a sign of St. Anthony's desire to grow closer to God, especially in the final days of his life.

The veneration of relics, most strictly the material remains of a saint or holy person after his death, has a long tradition in the Catholic Church. As Christians, we do not "worship" a relic, for worship is given to God alone. Veneration is honoring the saint, and the relic assists in giving honor through a visible sign and physical link with the saint.



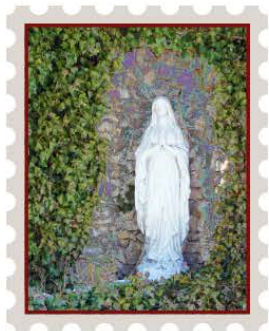
SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Pray before the relic

O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms. The gratitude of my heart will ever be yours.



Grotto to Our Lady & Shrine to St. Maximilian Kolbe



The grounds of the Shrine of St. Anthony include many opportunities to pray in the peace of the outdoors, including the Grotto to Our Lady and an Outdoor Shrine to St. Maximilian Kolbe, a Franciscan Friar Conventual who died during WWII..

Our Grotto is modeled after the Grotto in Lourdes, where St. Bernadette had 18 visions of the Virgin Mary in 1858. The rock alcove symbolizes a place of healing.

St. Maximilian Kolbe was a Franciscan Friar Conventual, missionary, and martyr. Kolbe's devotion to the Blessed Mother was characterized by an intense, total, and unreserved consecration to the Immaculate Conception, viewing her as the quickest, surest way to Jesus. He founded the "Militia of the Immaculata" (Army of the Immaculate) to bring people to Jesus through her intercession.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Pray the rosary looking at the Grotto or statue of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

St. Maximilian Kolbe died in Auschwitz during WWII, sacrificing his life for that of another man. The other man survived the war and was present for the saint's canonization in 1982.



St. Anthony Garden of Eternity

St. Anthony of Padua is known as a great miracle worker and the finder of lost things. Pilgrims at the Shrine often share stories of times when St. Anthony has interceded for them in the finding of something that has been lost (an item, health, etc.).



There are many miracles associated with St. Anthony's ministry, but they should not distract our attention from the fact that most of his ministry was performed in simple everyday ways. It was his fervent lifestyle, prayer, gentleness, and humble use of his great learning that brought people to conversion. St. Anthony also ministered to those who were ministering to others, for he taught theology to other friars as the first named scholar of the Franciscan Order. His work and writings have earned him recognition as one of 36 Doctors of the Church.

St. Anthony taught us by word and example that love is truly capable of doing great things. He was canonized in 1232, less than a year after he died, because of a real recognition of his spiritual powers while he lived and preached God's Word among the people.



To learn more about St. Anthony's life and ministry, see the murals that line the hallways of the Shrine building.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Walk through the garden on the winding pathway, read the 13 quotes from St. Anthony, stop to offer a prayer of gratitude at the St. Anthony statue. Visitors to the Garden will experience the path to eternity based on where they are in their life journey.

Little Portion Farm

The mission of Little Portion Farm is to provide fresh food to those in need while using sustainable farming practices to support the health of the land. The farm is a place of gathering, service, reflection, and education for the community. Tens of thousands of pounds of fresh produce are harvested from the farm each year and donated to organizations serving people in need in our region.

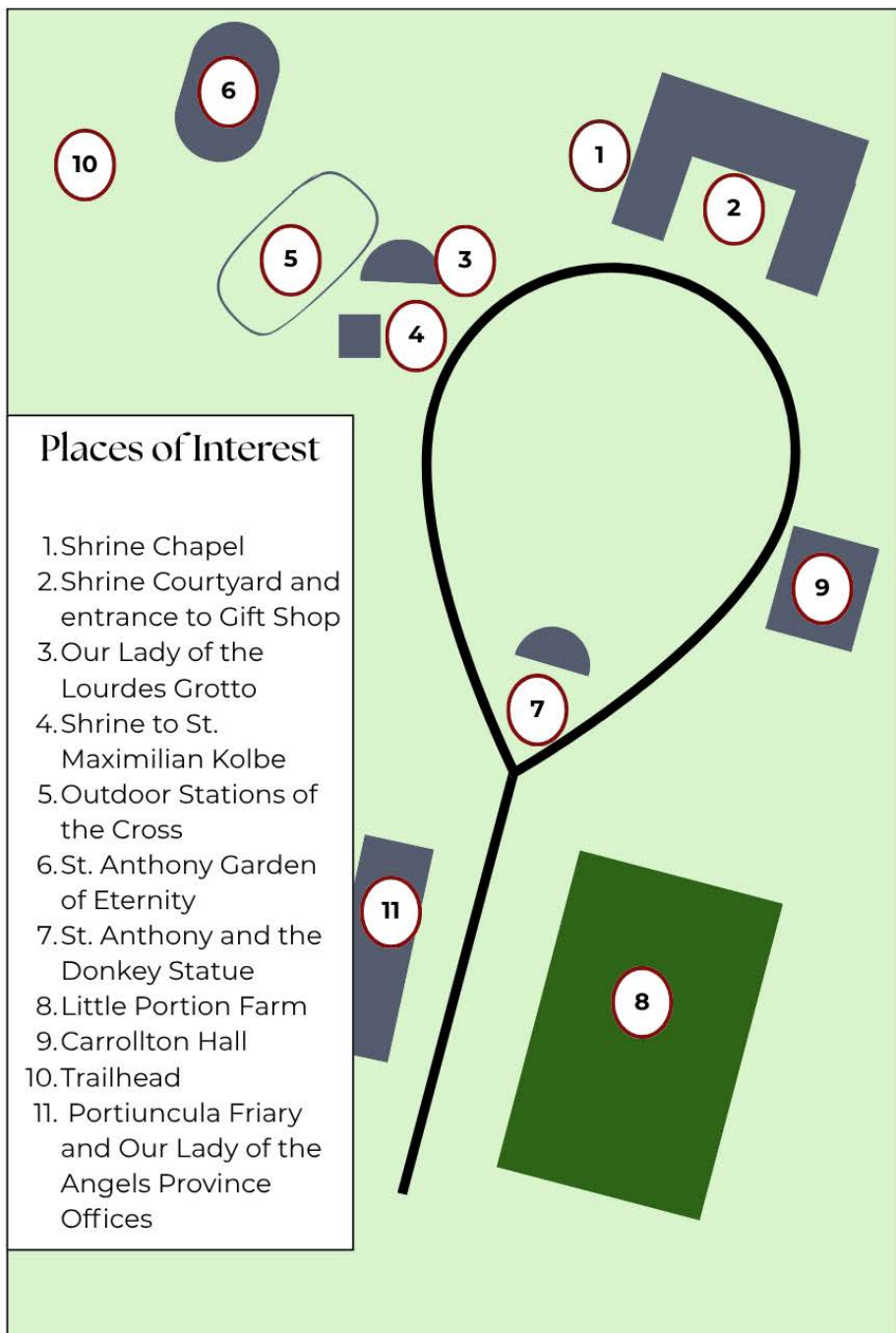
SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

Pray a portion of St. Francis's Canticle of Creatures:

"Most High, all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and all blessing, To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no human is worthy to mention Your name. Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures, especially Sir Brother Sun, Who is the day and through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of You, Most High One. Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars, in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful."



The name "Little Portion" comes from the Portiuncola, a small chapel in Assisi rebuilt by St. Francis and his early companions that became their home and that of Franciscans throughout the centuries. The farm carries this name both to call to mind this spiritual refuge, and to reflect the modesty of our work in caring for this "little portion" of creation.



The Shrine of St. Anthony

Mass: Monday-Sunday, 12 p.m.

Confession: Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Adoration: Tuesday and Saturday, 11 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.