



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
305 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48226
www.AODcommunications.org
TEL 313-237-5943
FAX 313-237-4644

Contact: Jan DeFour at 313-237-5839

Will Visit 12 Sites from January 11-15, 2006

Monstrance Blessed by Pope John Paul II Coming to Detroit

A monstrance blessed by the late Pope John Paul II to encourage prayers for vocations to the priesthood and religious life will be visiting the Archdiocese of Detroit from January 11-15 as part of a tour of the U.S. and Canada.

The monstrance, which is an exposition case and stand used to display the Eucharist for adoration, will arrive on Wednesday, January 11, at the National Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak. It will be available for viewing at twelve locations throughout the archdiocese until Sunday evening, January 15 (see touring schedule).

"The archdiocese is privileged to have this special monstrance blessed by our late and much beloved Holy Father," said Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit. "His intention was that we would use this monstrance as an impetus for special prayer for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. There is an obvious vital link between the Holy Eucharist and the priesthood."

Given by the Vatican to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the monstrance is traveling to different United States and Canadian dioceses at the request of local bishops. The U.S.A. Council of Serra International, a Catholic organization of laymen and women dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life, is handling the logistics of the tour schedule.

The Detroit-Oakland Serra Club is overseeing the shipment of the monstrance to and from Detroit. The Serrans, along with local chapters of the Knights of Columbus, will assist in the movement of the monstrance between the twelve different sites in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The monstrance is one of six blessed by the Holy Father to promote Eucharistic adoration during the 2004-2005 Year of the Eucharist. In the U.S., the traveling monstrance program proved so popular the tour was extended well beyond its original end date of October 2005. In addition to the U.S. and Canada, monstrances were also given to Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa and the Pacific as a symbol of the connection between the sacrament of the Eucharist and priestly vocations.

The monstrance touring schedule in the Archdiocese of Detroit follows. For a downloadable image of the monstrance and a printable version of the schedule, go to www.aodonline.org. For additional details, go to www.serraus.org and type in the word monstrance.

Jan. 11-12: National Shrine of the Little Flower, Royal Oak. Exposition from 7 p.m. on Jan. 11 to 11 a.m. on Jan. 12. Holy Hour at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 11 and 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 12. Call 248-541-4122.

Jan. 12: Divine Child, Dearborn. Exposition from noon to 6 p.m. Holy Hour at 5 p.m. Call 313-277-3110.

Jan. 12-13: Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit. Exposition from 8 p.m. on Jan. 12 to 8 a.m. on Jan. 13. Holy Hour at 8 p.m. on Jan. 12. Call 313-883-8500.

Jan. 13: St. Hugo of the Hills, Bloomfield Hills. Exposition from 10 a.m. to noon. Mass at 9 a.m. Call 248-644-5460. St. Joan of Arc, St. Clair Shores. Exposition from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Holy Hour at 1:30 p.m. Call 586-777-3670.

Jan. 13-14: St. Joseph, Port Huron. Exposition from 7 p.m. on Jan. 13 to 7 a.m. on Jan. 14. Holy Hour at 8 p.m. on Jan. 13. Call 810-985-9616.

Jan. 14: SS. Cyril & Methodius, Sterling Hgts. Exposition from 9 a.m. to noon. Holy Hour at 9 a.m. Call 586-726-6911. IHM Motherhouse, Monroe. Exposition from 2 to 6 p.m. Common prayer at 3 p.m. Call 734-241-3660.

Jan. 14-15: St. Frances Cabrini, Allen Park. Exposition from 7 p.m. on Jan. 14 to 7:30 a.m. on Jan. 15. Holy Hour at 8 p.m. on Jan. 14. Call 313-381-5601.

Jan. 15: Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Detroit. Exposition from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Holy Hour at 1 p.m. Call 313-865-6300. Holy Redeemer, Detroit. Exposition from 3 to 6 p.m. Holy Hour at 4 p.m. Call 313-842-3450. The Retreat Center at St. John's, Plymouth. Exposition from 8 to 11 p.m. Holy Hour after 7 p.m. Mass. Call 734-414-1111.

###