

**OUR LADY OF THE WOODS SHRINE
ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Our Lady of the Woods Shrine
St. Mary Catholic Church
100 S. Deyarmond Street
PO Box 189
Mio MI 48647

Phone: (989) 826-5509

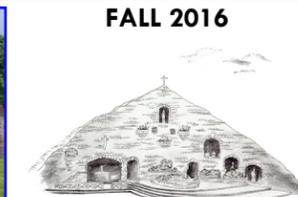
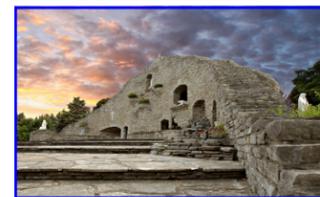
Fax: (989) 826-1333

Email: ourladyofthewoodsshinemio@hotmail.com

Web: ourladyofthewoodsshine.org

Facebook: Our Lady of the Woods Shrine Restoration

**PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #42
MIO, MICHIGAN**



FALL 2016

Rejoicing in Faith

A Pilgrimage with Mary



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Diocese of Gaylord Holy Doors

For those wishing to make a pilgrimage to the other Holy Doors located in the Diocese of Gaylord, here is a list. Please contact the parish or visit the Diocese website, www.dioceseofgaylord.org, for directions and times of operation.

- ▶ St. Mary Cathedral in Gaylord
- ▶ Holy Cross in Cross Village
- ▶ Mother Teresa Shrine in Hale
- ▶ St. Francis Solanus Shrine in Petoskey
- ▶ Holy Cross in Beaver Island
- ▶ St. Bernard Church on Alpena
- ▶ Cross in the Woods in Indian River



If you are planning on making a pilgrimage to the Holy Doors, you will soon! With November 20, 2016 being the end of the Year of Mercy, all Holy Doors will be closed.

need to do it

Thank you to all who visited the Holy Door located at Our Lady of the Woods Shrine!!

Inside this issue:

Legacy Pavers

Relics

Restoration Update

Lewiston's Garden Winner

Holy Doors

Our Lady of La Salette

Also referred to as Our Lady of Tears, Our Lady appeared in 1846, near the small French town of LaSalette to young shepherds. The French Revolution and the Revolution of 1830 were over, but mid-19th century France was still in turmoil.

The Lady appeared in a large circle of brilliant light. She was weeping when Melanie Mathieu, age 11, and Maximin Geiraud, age 15, saw her. Both simple and uneducated, they hardly knew each other but shared the task of taking care of sheep. Our Lady of LaSalette was dressed in a long white dress with an apron, a peasant shawl trimmed with roses, slippers covered with pearls, a crown with beautiful light emanating from a ring of various colored roses around the crown, and a luminous crucifix on a chain about her neck. On either side of the crucifix were hammer and pincers, symbols of the passion. Speaking in French, she told them that she was sad that many

people did not respect Sundays nor her Son's name and asked for prayer and penance. The Lady warned them about the chastisement that would afflict the world in the form of grain failures and famine because her people fail to submit to God. She told them that no matter how much reparation and prayer they make, they would never recompense the pain she has taken for us.

She urged them to pray well, morning and evening and told each child a secret. Constant prayer and faith will lead us to a closer relationship to God was Our Lady's plea as she directed us to her Son. Her message continues to be pertinent for our time where the lack of faithfulness to the Commandments erodes our religious faith.

After the Lady conversed with them, the children were not able to identify her. When they told their story, they simply called her

the "beautiful Lady." Maxim described the Lady as a mama whose own children had beaten her and she escaped to the mountain to weep. Their parish priest sent them back up the mountain with some trusted adults; a spring had appeared where the beautiful Lady had appeared. Within a year, 23 miraculous cures were reported to have occurred at the spring.

In 1851, the Bishop issued a formal declaration authorizing public devotion to Our Lady of LaSalette. The children agreed to send Pope Pius IX the secrets revealed to them. The children in separate locations with two witnesses wrote down the secrets which were sent by the Bishop to the Pope. Pope Pius IX approved the public devotion the same year but never publically disclosed the secrets.



Upcoming Events

- **October 9th—Year of Mercy Mass with Most Reverend Bishop Raica**
- **November 20th—Holy Doors closing. The end of the Year of Mercy**

For Many Generations to Come?

In May of this year, Linda Whaley sat, watching her granddaughter, Mia, receive her First Communion. To Linda, Mia was taking part in a long line of family members celebrating sacraments at St. Mary Parish.

Linda grew up in Mio and went to St. Mary even before there was a "church". She took part in the very first class of children to receive first communion at our Shrine in 1956. She was also the first person to crown Mary in the May Crowning. She crowned the Our Lady of Fatima statue. Linda then married Richard Whaley in June 1966 at St.

Mary. Even though they did not always live in Mio and attend St. Mary, they always attended and raised their children, James and Kristi, in the Catholic church.

Kristi did her First Communion at St. Michael in Pinconning in 1983 and her Confirmation at St. Mary in 1987.

Mia is now the third generation to do her sacraments at St. Mary.

Thanks to Linda and her family, in honor of her husband, Richard and her parents, Walt and Agnes Lixey, the Our Lady of Fatima apparition located on

the backside of the Shrine has been restored! We are grateful to have your family as parishioners.



Linda, Kristi, Mia



Linda-1956



Mia-2016

