



JOIN THE CIRCLE

We invite you to join the Shrine Circle.

The logo features a dark red circle on the left. Inside the circle, the word "The" is written in a white, elegant script font, and the word "SHRINE" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the circle, the word "CIRCLE" is written in a large, dark red, bold, sans-serif font.

The SHRINE CIRCLE

To Know the Shrine... Is to love the Shrine

We are thankful that the Sisters of the Precious Blood established the Shrine as a place of peace, prayer and hospitality so many years ago. They have prayed for and have touched so many generations of families who frequent the Shrine. The Shrine Circle was established to support the funding needed to keep this place of Spiritual Nourishment going for generations to come.

There are 5 levels of giving, each depicted by one of the five stained glass windows in the Relic Chapel. The quatrefoil, which was the inspiration for the Circle, may be found throughout the Shrine building, architecture and symbolically connects a number of the values associated with the Shrine. Always at the center is the Eucharist – the Blessed Sacrament. Emanating from that are four lobes. The lobes may be seen to represent our Precious Blood Spirituality, our connection to the Saints, our hospitality extended to pilgrims and visitors and a fourth lobe representing spiritual renewal & prayer.

Through your ongoing, annual gift to the Shrine Circle, you will help preserve the mission and ministry that you know and love.



An annual gift of
\$10,000 or more

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit window in the domed ceiling of the Relic Chapel depicts the third member of the Holy Trinity. This depiction, a dove, is indicative of baptism as the Holy Spirit took the form of a dove when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The Holy Spirit, which every Christian receives at baptism, is God alive and at work in the faithful's hearts. This third member of the Trinity is a font of grace that pours out God's love on Christians throughout their lives.

The window, which was once lit by gas lamp, serves as an important reminder to visitors and pilgrims. Many churches built in a similar style have a Holy Spirit window in the sanctuary ceiling as a reminder that the Holy Spirit is called down to transform the gifts offered at Mass. Here at the Shrine, the dome with the Holy Spirit window is over both the sanctuary and the people. It calls to mind the Saints, whose relics are in the sanctuary, generous response to their baptismal call while also reminding pilgrims that they too are called by their baptisms to lay down their lives and follow God's will.



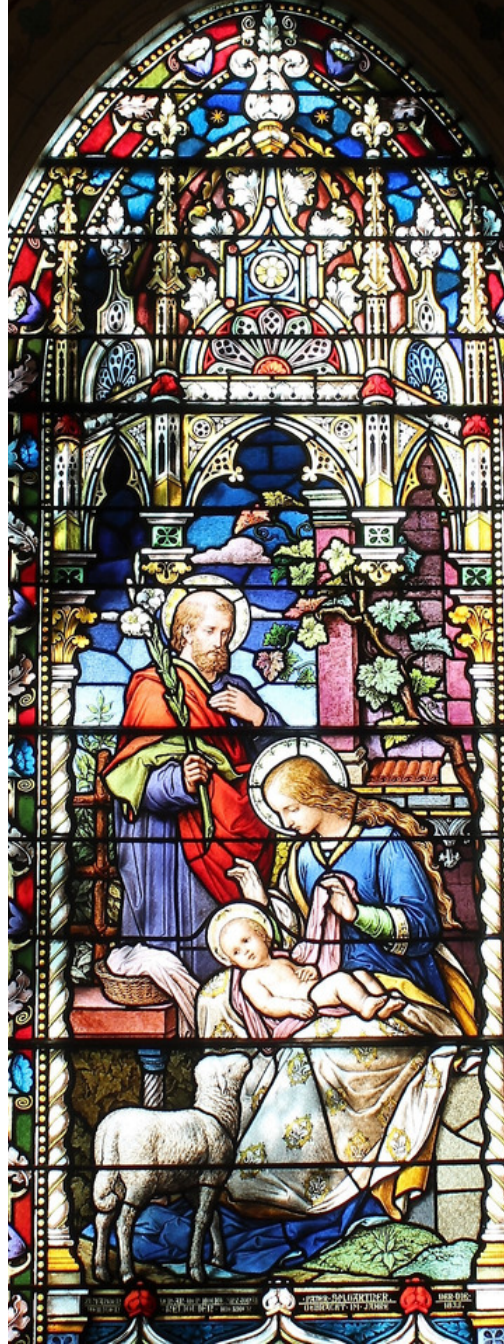


An annual gift of
\$5,000 - \$9,999

The Holy Family

The Incarnation window depicts the Word that become Flesh; the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem. His mother Mary tenderly wraps her Son in swaddling while Joseph looks down loving at the miracle he will now care for. The lamb reminds us that the first people to adore God on earth were the simple shepherds and that Christ, the Lamb of God, would be the lasting sacrifice for our sins. Jesus's birth allows humanity to rejoice because God loves His creation in its weakness and offers the gift of redemption.

The dedication of this window is to Fr. J.M. Gartner. Fr. Gartner was a priest for the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and worked for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1872 he went to Rome on business and collected a number of holy relics. These relics were placed at the Motherhouse in Maria Stein in 1875 and with that simple generous act a Shrine was established to welcome pilgrims wanting to venerate the relics. Jesus was a gift to humanity; these relics, gifted to the local church here in northwestern Ohio, remind us of God's gracious generosity.





An annual gift of
\$2,500 - \$4,999

St. Francis Xavier

St. Francis Xavier was one of the first members of the Jesuit Order, founded to support the causes of the pope. He wanted to further the efforts of the Church by spreading the Gospel to foreign lands. Here he is depicted baptizing a native to remind visitors that he sailed to India where he had great success in converting the people there. St. Francis then went into Asia and is believed to be the first Christian to enter Japan. He was hoping to begin work in China when he died unexpectedly. Because of his successful mission work, St. Gaspar del Bufalo, founder of the Society of the Precious Blood, named him patron of the Society.

This window was placed in the chapel in honor of Fr. Francis de Sales Brunner, a Missionary of the Precious Blood. Fr. Brunner, whose extensive relic collection makes up more than half of the collection here in Maria Stein, had the heart and drive of a missionary. He longed to spread the Gospel and was given the chance when he brought the Missionaries and Sisters of Precious Blood to minister to the German Catholics of Northwest Ohio. The Sisters wanted to honor the missionary joy of these two men for the inspiration of generations to come.



Level

4

An annual gift of
\$1,000 - \$2,499

St. Rose of Lima

St. Rose of Lima was the first canonized saint to have been born in the Americas. Her father, who was a military leader, wanted to marry her off into another prestigious local family. Rose refused, stating that she only wanted to love and serve God. At one point she rubbed chili pepper on her face and cut her hair to ward off potential suiters. The window here depicts Rose as a member of the Third Order of St. Dominic, which she joined as she was never permitted by her father to enter the convent formally. She holds a rose, a symbol of her inner beauty realized in her acceptance of God's plan for her.

This window's subject has a connection to the lintel of the pilgrim's door of the relic chapel which reads "Enter devoutly O Pilgrim, for no lace is holier than this on the New Continent!" The Sisters who lovingly cared for the relics in this chapel since 1892 believed that this was the holiest place in the New World. St. Rose of Lima was chosen for a window in the chapel because they wanted as saint from the New World to grace its interior.



Level
5

An annual gift of
\$500 - \$999

St. Kunigunda

St. Kunigunda of Luxembourg was the wife of St. Henry, who was originally the Duke of Bavaria in present day Germany. Together, they are the patrons of childless couples as Henry and Kunigunda never produced any heirs to the throne. Without a large family, they were able to spend their time and talents on the Church. Kunigunda became Empress of the Holy Roman Empire when her husband was elected Emperor. After Henry's death, she entered the convent and spent her life in simple poverty.

The window here depicts her in the robes of an Empress with her eyes closed in silent prayer. The window is nod to Mother Kunigunda, who had the Empress as her namesake. Mother Kunigunda was the first Mother Superior of the Sisters of the Precious Blood in America and oversaw the building of the first permanent convent in Maria Stein. St. Kunigunda holds the Bamberg Cathedral; she built this great church and is buried there next to her husband. Both of these holy women demonstrate how one can not only further the church by their vision and generosity, but also by their holy example.



To know the Shrine, is to love the Shrine...

Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics provides an atmosphere of peace, prayer and hospitality for faith nourishment and spiritual renewal through opportunities for prayer and pilgrimage and inspiration from the lives of the saints.

It is a destination for visitors and pilgrims seeking spiritual renewal in a restful, quiet and peaceful place. Private, communal and Eucharistic prayer offer opportunities for healing and comfort. The Shrine has national recognition for its focus on the lives of the saints.

