

Make a Pilgrimage to

SHRINE *of the* MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT



3224 COUNTY ROAD 548 | HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA 35077

256-787-4121 | OLAMSHRINE.COM

Welcome!

We are eagerly looking forward to your pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Shrine is a beautiful, peaceful place of renewal for your family, group, parish, school, or faith community. We welcome everyone here including those of all Christian denominations and faith backgrounds. This packet contains information that will assist you in planning your group pilgrimage experience including lodging, transportation, Shrine pilgrimage activities, and other information. Please read through this packet and let us know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

EWTN PILGRIMAGE:

The EWTN studios and the Chapel seen on EWTN Daily Mass are located on the EWTN campus in Irondale, one hour south from the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville. For information regarding available activities at EWTN, please call our Pilgrimage Department 256-787-4121.

LODGING:

Find information on St. Bernard Abbey Retreat and Conference Center on page 8. A list of local Guest Houses and Hotels can be found on our website: <https://www.olamshrine.com/visit/lodging>. When registering at a hotel, be sure to tell them that you are a Shrine pilgrim in order to receive a discounted rate.

TRANSPORTATION:

Pilgrim groups ordinarily travel to the Shrine by charter bus. However, there is Birmingham International Airport (BHM) and an Amtrak train station nearly an hour away from the Shrine in Birmingham. The Huntsville International airport (HSV) is nearly an hour north from the Shrine.

MEALS/CATERING:

We have caterers who can offer breakfast and lunch for your group. These meals take place in the Castle's St. Raphael Dining Hall. (We do not offer catered meals on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Holidays.) A list of local restaurants and catering options can be found on our website: <https://www.olamshrine.com/visit/restaurants>

PILGRIMAGE ACTIVITIES:

There are daily activities that are open to the public including Holy Mass, Confessions, Divine Office with the nuns, Divine Mercy Chaplet, etc. Our daily schedule is on page 4. Visit our website [olamshrine.com/calendar](https://www.olamshrine.com/calendar) to find information on any updates to our daily schedule and to find information on special events.

GROUP PILGRIMAGE ACTIVITIES:

Group pilgrimage activities are available Wednesday through Saturday. In order to plan for a group pilgrimage to the Shrine, please visit our website www.olamshrine.com and fill out the group reservation form at least

one month prior to the pilgrimage. Activities that are available for groups of 15 pilgrims or more include tours of the Shrine and the John Paul II Eucharistic Center, spiritual talks, and healing services. Group activities must be requested by the 15th of the month prior to visit. Please see page 5 for a brief description of each of these activities. All Scheduled Group Pilgrimage Activities are open to the public.

Groups containing 50 or more visitors* are eligible to receive our Friend of the Shrine Tote Bag. Each visitor in your group will receive a custom Shrine tote bag which includes a Eucharistic Prayer Manual written by our PCPA Nuns, a car magnet, a keychain wristlet, two waterproof stickers, and assorted brochures to share with your friends and family. There is no cost and no obligation, other than to be an advocate for the Shrine!

**To qualify, groups must be Catholic and participate in a full Retreat Day. This offer is not valid on special event days.*

GIFT SHOP OF EL NIÑO:

Inside Castle San Miguel is our popular gift shop where a wide variety of "holy reminders" are available for purchase including statues, crucifixes, rosaries, books, videos, and other items. The Gift Shop is open every week Monday through Saturday from 8am to 4:45pm.

SHRINE CONDUCT POLICY AND DRESS CODE:

In order to maximize the pilgrimage experience for your group and for all of those who come to the Shrine, we ask that the following policy be observed:

- 1.** Please maintain a reverent silence while inside the Upper and Lower Churches at the Shrine. Silence is an effective way of communing with Our Lord and is conducive to prayer. It is also a sign of courtesy and respect for others, including the nuns, who might be praying silently inside the church.
- 2.** Please dress modestly when on the grounds of the Shrine. Shoulders and knees must be covered and no low cut or tight fitting clothing allowed while in the Church.
- 3.** Unless it is urgently necessary to leave, please remain in the church after Mass until after the Blessed Sacrament in the large monstrance has been exposed and the nuns have finished singing.
- 4.** Photography and Videography are not permitted in the Main and Lower Churches. No photoshoots of any kind are permitted on the Shrine grounds without prior approval of the Shrine Director.
- 5.** No pets allowed.

We pray that your visit to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament will fill you with peace, joy, and a renewed love and fervor for Our Lord and His Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist!

SHRINE PILGRIMAGE DEPARTMENT

3224 County Road 548 Hanceville, AL 35077

256.787.4121 | info@olamshrine.com

Daily Schedule



Open Daily

Summer Hours | 6:00am-8:00pm

Winter Hours | 6:00am-6:00pm

Holidays Hours | 6:00am-4:00pm

Lower Church | 8:00am - 5:00pm

Castle, Gift Shop of El Niño, and St. Carlo Acutis Exhibit Hours

Monday - Saturday 8:00am - 4:45pm

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 6:05 am | Divine Office (<i>Office of Readings / Morning Prayer</i>) |
| 7:00 am | Monastery Mass |
| 8:00 am | Confessions |
| 8:00 am | Divine Office (<i>Mid-Morning Prayer</i>) |
| 8:00 am | Castle Opens (<i>Monday - Saturday</i>) |
| 10:30 am | Shrine Tour (<i>Wednesday - Saturday</i>) |
| 11:30 am | Divine Office (<i>Mid-Day Prayer</i>), Holy Rosary & Angelus |
| 12:00 pm | Holy Mass (<i>10am on Sundays & No 12:00 pm on Mondays</i>) |
| 2:00 pm | John Paul II Eucharistic Center Tour (<i>Wednesday - Saturday</i>) |
| 3:00 pm | Confessions (<i>Tuesday - Saturday</i>) |
| 3:00 pm | Divine Office (<i>Mid-Afternoon Prayer</i>) & Divine Mercy Chaplet |
| 4:45 pm | Castle Closes (<i>Monday - Saturday</i>) |
| 5:00 pm | Divine Office (<i>Evening Prayer / Night Prayer</i>) |

--- All Times are Central Time Zone ---

Everything listed above is open to the public. Other events as announced.

Description of Different Activities

HOLY MASS:

Daily 7am Monastery Mass. A second Mass is available Tuesday - Saturday at 12pm and Sunday at 10am.

DIVINE OFFICE:

(10-20 minutes duration) – These are the daily prayers, psalms, scriptures, etc. that the Nuns chant together 5 times a day in the Main Church.

CONFESSIONS:

Offered twice a day at 8am and 3pm. (NO 3pm confessions on Monday and Sunday).

SHRINE TOUR:

(1 hour duration, Walking, standing and sitting) - Begins in Castle San Miguel or the Reception Area.

Tour includes Castle San Miguel, Creche (Nativity Scene), Main Church, Shroud of Turin, Lower Church, etc.

JOHN PAUL II EUCHARISTIC CENTER TOUR:

(Approximately 1 hour duration, Walking, standing and sitting) – The tour is led by Shrine Pilgrimage staff. It is an interactive encounter with the Teachings of the Church on the unfathomable gift that is the Eucharist.

EUCHARISTIC CENTER CAPACITY: Due to limited space in the Eucharistic Center, we are only able to admit 25 people per tour.

HEALING SERVICE:

(1 hour duration) – presided over by an MFVA priest or deacon. This service consists of devotional prayers, Scriptural reading and homily/meditation, Benediction, and individual blessing with the Eucharist, and Divine Praises. *(Only available to groups of 15 or more pilgrims.)*

SPIRITUAL TALK:

(45 min duration) – given by an MFVA priest, deacon, or professed brother and takes place in St. Gabriel Hall inside Castle San Miguel. *(Only available to groups of 15 or more pilgrims.)*

CATERING:

We have caterers who can offer breakfast and lunch for your group. These meals take place in the Castle's St. Raphael Dining Hall. *(We do not offer catered meals on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Holidays)* A list of local restaurants and catering options can be found on our website: <https://www.olamshrine.com/visit/restaurants>

Things to do around the Monastery



LOWER CHURCH

Tomb of Mother Angelica

6:00am-7:30pm | Summer Hours

6:00am-5:30pm | Winter Hours



SHROUD OF TURIN EXHIBIT

Four actual-size positive and negative
images of what is believe to be the
burial cloth of Jesus



GIFT SHOP OF EL NINO

8:00am-4:45pm

Monday - Saturday

Closed on Sundays and Holidays



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Life Size Crucifix

Things to do around the Monastery



CRECHE

Life-Size Nativity Scene
Votive Candles



EUCCHARISTIC GARDEN

Stations of the Holy Eucharist
Seasonal Flowers



ST. CARLO ACUTIS EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT

8:00am-4:45pm
Monday - Saturday
Closed on Sundays and Holidays



LOURDES GROTTO

Replica of site in Lourdes, France
where Our Lady appeared to
St. Bernadette Soubirous

Lodging for Groups

ST. BERNARD ABBEY RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

1600 St. Bernard Drive SE, Cullman, AL 35055
(15 miles from Shrine)

PLEASE CONTACT THE RETREAT CENTER AT:

256-734-3946

WWW.STBERNARDABBEY.COM

**Groups rates vary depending on whether or not you want to use the conference room.*

LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

(includes: chairs, tables; access to bar & kitchen; glasses, coffee service)

Call for Rates

SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM

(includes: chairs, tables; glasses, coffee service)

Call for Rates



AVE MARIA GROTTO

1600 St. Bernard Drive SE,
Cullman, AL 35055

256-734-4110

www.avemariagrotto.com

Known throughout the world as "Jerusalem in Miniature," is a beautifully landscaped, four-acre park designed to provide a natural setting for the 125 miniature reproductions of some of the most famous historic buildings and shrines of the world. The masterpieces of stone and concrete are the life time work of Brother Joseph Zoettl, a Benedictine monk of St. Bernard Abbey.

OPEN DAILY 9AM - 5PM

GUEST HOUSES AND HOTELS

A full of local guest houses and hotels can be found on our website

<https://www.olamshrine.com/visit/lodging>

SHRINE MAP
HIGHWAY 65 TO EWTN

The map illustrates the route from Huntsville to EWTN via Highway 65. Key locations and features include:

- Huntsville:** Starting point, with directions to Huntsville (up) and Memphis (left).
- CULLMAN:** Located near the top, with Highway 157 and Exit 310.
- HANCEVILLE:** Located in the middle, with Highway 31, Exit 291, and Exit 287.
- Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament:** A circular inset showing a church building, with a line indicating its location near Exit 287.
- BIRMINGHAM:** Located in the lower middle, with Birmingham International Airport and Highway 20.
- IRONDALE:** Located to the right of Birmingham, with Highway 59 and Exit 135.
- EWTN:** Located in the lower right, with a globe icon and Highway 459.
- Atlanta:** Located further right, with Highway 459 and Exit 27.
- Grants Mill Rd.:** Located at the bottom right, near Exit 27.
- Other Roads:** Arkadelphia Rd., Crestwood Blvd., Carraway Blvd., and Old Leeds Road.
- Highway Markers:** Various shields for highways 65, 31, 91, 20, 59, 280, 459, 1635, 747, 278, 548, 22, and 135.

1912 AL Hwy 157 | Cullman, AL 35058
256-737-2000