



ST. MARYS DEANERY
Catholic Parishes of Mercer & Auglaize Counties



Northern Lights

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You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14

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St. Aloysius, St. Francis,
St. Joseph (Egypt), St. Anthony, Immaculate Conception,
St. Bernard, St. Henry, St. Augustine, St. Wendelin,
Precious Blood, St. Rose, St. Patrick,
St. Joseph (St. Joseph), St. Teresa, St. Peter, St. Mary,
St. John the Baptist, Holy Trinity, St. Paul, St. Sebastian,
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Holy Redeemer, Holy Rosary,
Mary Help of Christians, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Maria Stein Shrine Completes Transfer of Land Deed

On December 8, 2017, the Sisters of the Precious Blood gathered in the Adoration Chapel of the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics to sign the transfer of land deed to laity. This process began nearly a decade ago and was solidified in October of 2016 when the Sisters announced their intent for the future of the landmark.

“After nearly ten years of planning and with the help of many people from the local area, the Sisters of the Precious Blood know that the ministry of peace, prayer and hospitality at the Shrine will be able to continue into the future without the direct involvement of the Congregation”, stated Sister Joyce Lehman, C.P.P.S., Congregation President .

The Shrine dates to 1846 and was the original motherhouse of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. It is the last of 10 foundations established by Missionary of the Precious Blood Father Francis de Sales Brunner. Today the Shrine is home to the second-largest collection of holy relics in the United States. The relic chapel, dedicated in 1892, has more than 1,000 relics including those from all four Gospel writers and all the faithful disciples. The finalization of the deed transfer on December 8th held great significance to the Sisters and Shrine staff.

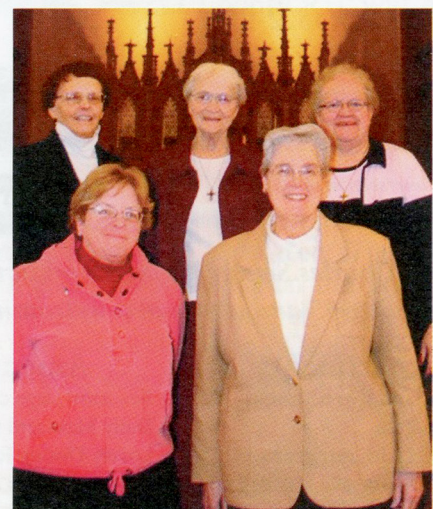
“December 8th is an important date for the life of the Church. It celebrates the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the first follower of Christ. The Maria Stein Shrine is named for Mary of Rock, so it is fitting that an important Marian feast has been chosen to celebrate this unique moment in this Marian Shrine’s history”, stated Matt Hess, Coordinator of Ministries & Hospitality for the Shrine.

For generations, many families have been part of the Land of the Cross Tipped Churches and the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics. This is an opportunity to help keep the relics in Maria Stein and preserve this beautiful, sacred space for centuries to come.

“It is a humbling and awesome responsibility for us to follow in the Sisters’ footsteps by accepting the duty of care for the Shrine”, said Don Rosenbeck, President of the Shrine. “We will continue to maintain it as a holy place for the faith nourishment and spiritual renewal of people from near and far”.



Deed Signing - Sister Joyce Lehman, C.P.P.S., President of the Congregation; Don Rosenbeck, President of the Shrine, and Sister Noreen Jutte



Representatives from Sisters of the Precious Blood : Top Row: Sr. Joyce Lehman, Sr. Ceil Taphorn, Sr. Linda Pleiman. Bottom Row: Sr. Patty Kremer, Sr. Nancy Kinross