

WELCOME TO HOLY HILL®



Points of Interest

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| 5. Basilica (Level 3) | 13. Shrine Replica Statue |
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Main Entrance



Restrooms
(Family Restrooms - Level 2)



Handicapped Parking



Parking

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1. Gift Store and Elevators to Churches

The Gift Store offers you the opportunity to obtain some remembrances of your visit, and contains a large assortment of religious articles, greeting cards and books. The proceeds of these sales help to maintain the grounds and Basilica. The elevators were first installed in 1962 to enable all visitors to visit the shrine. New elevators were installed in 2020.

2. The Mercy Chapel

The Mercy Chapel was opened in 2021. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is provided in the confessionals of the Chapel during scheduled times.

3. The Chapel of St. Thérèse

The Chapel of St. Thérèse seats 400 people. this Chapel, located one level below the Main Church, is dedicated to St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus. It is used for Spanish Masses, liturgies for special groups, and for daily Masses in winter.

4-5. Platform and Basilica

The Basilica has a capacity of 600 people. The floors are terrazzo, the pews are hand-carved oak, and the metal work is hand wrought iron and bronze. The Stained Glass Windows were made by the Van Treeck studios of Munich, Germany, depicting the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Platform in Front of the Basilica stands about 1,361 feet above sea level, the skyline of downtown Milwaukee is visible on clear days looking southeast.

6. The Shrine Chapel

The Shrine Chapel houses a rare statue of Mary. The youthful Virgin Mother offers her Son, Jesus Christ, to those who kneel before her. The statue was made by the Pustet Co. of Munich, and exhibited at the 1876 World's Fair in Philadelphia.

7. The Outdoor Way of the Cross (Entrance at the Eleventh Station)

The Outdoor Way of the Cross ends with its fourteenth station just outside the lower church. These almost life-size figures sculptured from Bedford stone took Joseph Aszklar of Milwaukee fourteen years to complete. He finished the task in 1928. Entry at the First Station can be accessed via Station Way Road just to the East of the main entrance on HWY 167.

8. First Station and Picnic Area

Accessible from Station Way Road off hwy. 167, the Way of the Cross begins here and winds a half mile up the hill, ending at the fourteenth station. (Restrooms and picnic area are available during warmer months).

9. Scenic Tower

The scenic tower is open in good weather seasonally, from May 1 - October 31. Visitors who climb its 178 steps enjoy a magnificent view of the countryside. The Bell Tower, a twin to the scenic tower, contains two bells which can be seen atop this tower.

10. Monastery

The Monastery of the Discalced Carmelite Friars adjoins the northwest side of the church. Over its entrance is affixed a large stone shield of the Discalced Carmelite Friars. Inside, one floor up, is the MONASTERY OFFICE. A Discalced Carmelite Friar is usually available Monday - Friday - 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. for blessings.

11. The Lourdes Grotto

The Lourdes Grotto reproduces the scene of the apparition of the Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette in Lourdes, France in 1858. Holy Water is available at this grotto during warmer months and at the Holy Hill Gift Store, in limited quantities, during winter months.

12. The Sacred Heart Statue

The Sacred Heart statue shows Christ reaching out to embrace the whole world. It stands on the site of the original farmhouse monastery.

13. The Shrine Replica Statue

This white Carrara Marble statue is inserted in the Lannon stone retaining wall. It was placed there in 1965 at the conclusion of the elevator expansion project. It offers visitors the opportunity to pause at the conclusion of their visit and reflect upon their time spent at Holy Hill.

14. Holy Hill Café

Holy Hill Cafe offers soups, sandwiches, bakery, coffee, lattes, smoothies, snacks, beverages and more in a unique atmosphere in the old Monastery.

15. New Guesthouse

Built in 1962, and renovated in the spring of 2017, the New Guest House is located above the Gift Store. Each of the fourteen rooms has two single beds and a private bath with shower. A communal kitchenette is available for use by all guests.

16. Old Monastery Inn

This is the original monastery, built in 1919 and converted into retreat rooms after the new monastery was built in 1935. This historical building retains all the character (and some of the quirks) of the original structure and has a uniqueness many have come to cherish. Twelve of the fifteen retreat rooms have two twin beds each, and all rooms are located on the third and fourth floors. There is one large, common bathroom per floor. A conference room, lounge, retreat kitchen, and chapel are also available for guests to use.