



SAINT ANN SHRINE



Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament
Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS)
Province of Saint Ann
5384 Wilson Mills Road
Highland Heights, Ohio + USA + 44143-3092
(440) 442-6311

Shrine Statues

In accord with the Code of Canon Law, 1983, canon 1232, these statutes, along with applicable agreements, likewise determine the relationship of the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann, with the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann in their Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament, to the diocesan bishop.

What is provided for in these statutes is subordinate to other elements of particular law pertaining to diocesan entities and their proper ordering in the Diocese of Cleveland.

Article I – Mission and Purpose

1. It is the purpose of the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann to provide valuable means of salvation to the Christian faithful of the Diocese of Cleveland and to the pilgrims coming from the diocese and beyond, through the rich liturgical and devotional life of the Catholic Church (canon 1234).
2. It is further the purpose of the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann in accordance with canon 1234 to foster the liturgical life especially through the celebration of the Eucharist and penance by remaining open to visitors throughout the day according to a published schedule in offering the sacraments of penance, anointing of the sick, holy baptism, matrimony and Holy Communion. The approved forms of piety are to be observed at the shrine (canon 1234) (i.e., the recitation of the rosary, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of the relic of Saint Ann).

3. The Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann is responsible for the pastoral care and direction of the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann for as long as an agreement exists between the Bishop of Cleveland and the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann for the care of the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament which houses the shrine dedicated to Saint Ann in its congregational headquarters.

Article II – History and Organization

1. The Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament was consecrated by Most Reverend Clarence Issenmann on May 4, 1965, coadjutor bishop and Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Cleveland for the house of studies (Saint Joseph Seminary) for the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann. This Oratory has been in continuous use from the seminary days of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann, moving from the original location on Euclid Avenue (founded in 1931) to this newly consecrated location in Highland Heights in 1965.
2. In 1892, Pope Leo XIII sent a first-class relic of Saint Ann to the famous Shrine of Saint Anne de Beaupré in Quebec, Canada. (Note: In French, the letter “e” is added to the name of Saint Ann.) On the way to Canada, the bearer of this precious relic stopped in New York City to the French-Canadian parish and little church of Église Saint Jean Baptiste. the relic was exposed in the church, and miraculous the sick and afflicted were cured, the blind saw, the lame walked, souls came back to God.
3. For three weeks, crowds thronged to Saint Jean Baptiste from every part of the country as the word spread. On the day of the departure for the Shrine in Beaupré, Quebec, the relic was carried through the crowded church amid cries of, “Goodbye Good Saint Ann! Come back soon!”
4. Moved by such devotion, the bearer of the relic arrived at Beaupré and requested from the rector that a portion of the relic be returned to Saint Jean’s in New York. As a result, the relic was divided and a portion of it was return to the church in New York City. The first annual Novena, nine days of prayer leading up to the special day of Saint Ann on July 26, began July 19, 1892 and has continued every year since in the United States at Saint Ann Shrine, New York City.
5. In 1900, Archbishop Corrigan of New York City invited the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in Montreal to administer the parish of Église Saint Jean Baptiste (the official name of the church/parish). Founded as a French-Canadian

immigrant parish, Saint Jean Baptiste became a center of Eucharistic devotion for the whole country, the first community of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in the United States and a place where the Priests' Eucharistic League, Peoples' Eucharistic League, Nocturnal Adoration Society began to be led by the Congregation. Bishop Clarence Maes, Covington, Kentucky, began the first USA National Eucharistic Congress, inspired by the international Eucharistic Congresses and the desire of Saint Peter Julian Eymard to regularly have congresses on the Eucharist. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops for the USA gave these ministries to the Blessed Sacrament Community for administration.

6. A portion of the Saint Ann relic came to rest in the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament and open an additional Saint Ann Shrine in Highland Heights, Ohio because the USA provincial headquarters of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament relocated in Ohio. The naming of the province, under the patronage of Saint Ann, is due to this long history and inherited administering of the relic of Saint Ann and devotion to this sacred saint and relic.
7. The first Triduum for Saint Ann in Highland Heights, Ohio, celebrated in the next-door parish church of Saint Paschal Baylon, began July 24 – 26, 1987 in the Diocese of Cleveland. People came from all over the Midwest to enjoy this Triduum. This event occurs at the same time as the annual nine-day novena still held at Église Saint Jean Baptiste July 19-26.

Article III – Description of the Shrine

The Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann is housed in the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament, on the grounds of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann next to the grounds of Saint Paschal Baylon parish, the territorial parish.

Article IV – Devotional Activities of the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann

Several devotional aspects are present at the Shrine that occur regularly and that will continue:

- a. Mass is Monday to Friday. Mass intentions may be received in the Saint Ann Shrine office.

- b. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in a special tabernacle in the Oratory of the Blessed Sacrament except during the Sacred Triduum.
- c. Perpetual Novena to Saint Ann and veneration of her relic weekly with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and benediction, each Tuesday and annually at the Triduum, July 24, 25 and 26.
- d. Recitation of the rosary.
- e. Donations are requested for holy cards, books, holy water, rosaries and memorial Masses for the deceased.
- f. Weekly distribution of food and clothing for the needy is part of the ministry of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.
- g. The sacrament of penance is available during the Shrine hours.
- h. Spiritual direction is offered by the chaplain or other members of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.
- i. During the annual Triduum, there is a special blessing of children, the celebration of the anointing of the sick, and a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. Each day there is time for veneration of the relic.
- j. The sacrament of the anointing of the sick is offered upon request.
- k. Indulgences may be obtained based on the *Manual of Indulgences*, 33, paragraph 1, number 4.
- l. Additional items are listed from time to time on the website: blessedsacrament.com.

Article V – Governance

1. The Saint Ann Shrine is owned by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann.
2. The Provincial Superior and his council present a chaplain to the diocesan bishop for the shrine and this chaplain is appointed by the bishop.
3. The upkeep and maintenance of the shrine is provided by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann.

4. All funds raised in Saint Ann Shrine contribute to the mission of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann.
5. The chaplain is supported by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann. This money is part of the support of the shrine given to the mission of the Congregation and Province and distributed through a monthly allowance and benefits to the chaplain.
6. Additional donations to Saint Ann Shrine support the various ministries of the priests, deacons and brothers of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann.
7. Regular reporting of the shrine monies is shared with the members of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann, their Finance Council and a report given to the diocesan bishop. (c. 1287)
8. All accounting of funds is managed by the accountant and Director of Mission Advancement of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann

Article VI – Amendments

These statutes may be amended with approval of the Bishop of Cleveland and also at the request of the Provincial or chaplain of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Province of Saint Ann for the Diocesan Shrine of Saint Ann. I request this approval, for I remain:

Very Reverend John Thomas Lane, SSS,
Provincial Superior, Province of Saint Ann

on 29 September 2023, the feast of the Archangels, Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael.

Approved:

Notary

The Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, JCL
Bishop of Cleveland