

In the Footsteps of Father Martin . . . Our French Visitors

Fr. Martin was the pastor of St Peter's parish which in his time (a century ago) still included all the territory of OLHC, and that of St Michael and St Dominic parishes in Baden.



On Tuesday, October 18, St. Peter will welcome 23 pilgrims from Father Narcisse Martin's homeland to the place that he called home for 29 years, St. Peter's Parish. Here are the plans we have made for their time with us:

Tuesday, October 18 - OLHC Welcome Center: Visitors will arrive at Our Lady Help of Christians and be greeted by the families who will host the pilgrims in their homes during the eight-day stay.

Wednesday, October 19 - Basilica, Cardinal Wuerl, D.C. Tour: After Mass, continental breakfast in the Fr. Martin House, and a greeting from St. Peter's school children, the pilgrims head to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. After a tour of the basilica, the pilgrims will be greeted at the

Archdiocese's Pastoral Center by Cardinal Wuerl. Then it's on to Union Station in Washington for a quick Taste of DC Tour in a minibus, followed by a taste of rush hour traffic on the way to a quiet private dinner.

Thursday, October 20 - St. Mary's County: Today it's all St Mary's County, where Catholicism was born, starting with a visit to St. Clements Island, Historic St. Mary's City, and, just in case our visitors are homesick, dinner at Café des Artistes in Leonardtown for some good French cooking!

Friday, October 21 - Baltimore: Truly in the footsteps of Fr. Martin, pilgrims will visit his gravesite in Baltimore and the old St. Mary's Seminary on Paca Street where he lived, taught, worshipped, and was originally buried. That short visit will be followed by a tour, Mass, and lunch hosted by Sulpician clergy at the current St. Mary's Seminary in Roland Park. Then it's a visit to the Inner Harbor and a cruise around the harbor out to Key Bridge. Back on the bus, our French friends will stop for an American dinner of fried chicken and crab cake at Rips before arriving at St. Peter's to be picked up by their host family.

Saturday, October 22 - Charles County: Today the pilgrims will experience Charles County when they visit St. Ignatius Chapel Point and St. Thomas Manor, followed by a visit to Mount Carmel Monastery. The afternoon will end at historic Chandlers Hope,

where the pilgrims will enjoy dinner with county officials hosted by Commission President Candice Quinn Kelley.

Sunday, October 23 – Duel Parish Welcome: St. Peter's parishioners' welcome begins at our 10 o'clock Mass celebrated by Bishop of Arras Jean Paul Jaeger and concelebrated by our resident and visiting clergy. Then we will receive our guests at a special Sunday social with all the rich diversity and generous hospitality that makes our country and our Catholic faith so great. After a leisurely afternoon, Our Lady Help of Christians will welcome the pilgrims at 4:30 with music in their narthex and a Holy Hour with special music at 5 o'clock. The day will climax with an international pot-luck supper (Fr. Alain's favorite)! We hope many parishioners of both parishes will attend these happy events!

Monday and Tuesday, October 24 and 25 – Travelers' Choice: Escorted by parish volunteers, travelers will have the days to experience Washington, Annapolis, Solomon's Island or anywhere they want at sites and events of their choice be it monuments, museums, landmarks, shows, restaurants, shopping, or even resting!

Wednesday, October 26 – Crab Feast and Cookout: We can't let them leave without experiencing Maryland Blue Crabs and a back-yard cookout! So after a leisurely morning, the grills will be fired up in St. Peter's Square for an afternoon of hamburgers, hot dogs, and crabs! Then at 5:15, their airport transport arrives for the trip to Dulles and wheels up at 9:50 p.m. Our French visitors will wake up the next morning in Paris and, we hope, never forget their time In the Footsteps of Fr. Martin

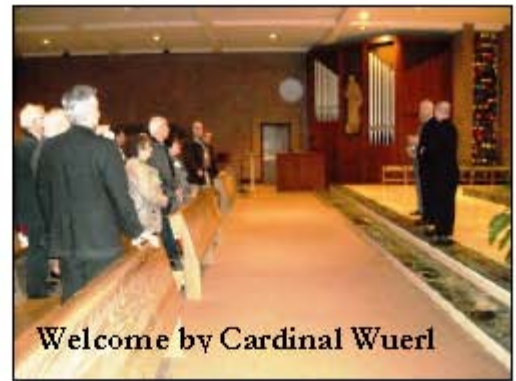
The French Pilgrims' Visit



Welcome Reception, OLHC



Visit to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception



Welcome by Cardinal Wuerl



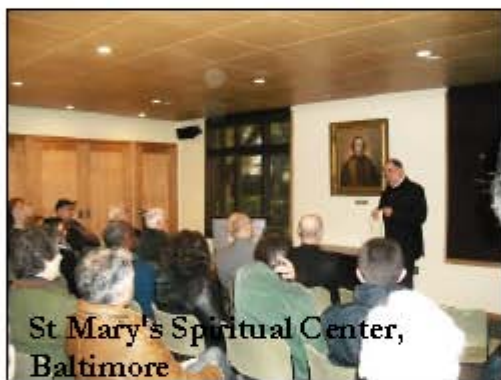
St Francis Xavier Church



At Leonardtown Restaurant



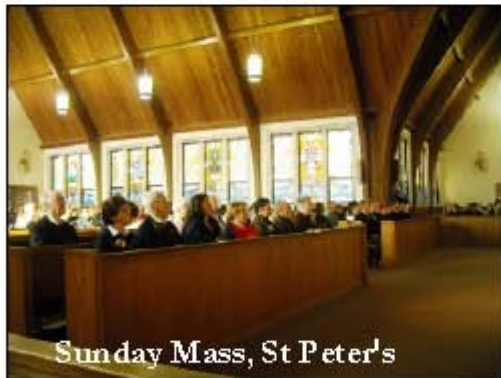
Fr Martin's Gravesite, Baltimore



St Mary's Spiritual Center, Baltimore



St Mary's Seminary, Baltimore



Sunday Mass, St Peter's



Boothuck Dinner, OLHC



Farewell Cookout



Bishop Edgar