

Part 3- Saint Mary-of-the-Woods

Open with Spiritual Pilgrimage Video 18:46 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oe4qh5k-meA&t=13s>

Or optional visit video 2:14 minutes

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTRjC_hi7NI&t

The Sisters Motherhouse shares a campus with the original academy, now Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. It is located just outside Terre Haute, Indiana. **Give the distance/travel time from your location as it may encourage a visit.**

26 of the buildings on the shared Campus are listed on the National Registry of Historical Places.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods has been described by many as being a “thin place” which is the Celtic expression for a place where heaven appears to be closest to Earth. Anyone who has visited or spent any time at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods can attest to this truth. Walking on the grounds, one cannot help but to feel God’s presence.

Tours of the campus and the many historical sites are available daily. Docents are available (by appointment) to lead your group on tours. (Large and small groups welcome). There are also self guided tours that you can print from their website, but I highly recommend the guided tours.

While you are visiting, plan to shop at the Linden Leaf store which sells handmade items by the Sisters of Providence and Providence Associates, as well as many other ethically sourced, Fair Trade items. The Farm Store is also open year- round selling seasonal produce, meats, cheeses, honey and may other items.

If you are visiting on a Sunday, plan to attend Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception (Mass time is 11 a.m.) and then stay for brunch in historic O’Shaughnessey Dining Hall.

The sisters offer a full calendar of retreat and other activities ***If you are able, pull up the calendar on the website and highlight upcoming events. Events.SistersofProvidence.org***

The second Tuesday of every month all are invited to Taize Prayer in the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

All events are open to the public (although some do require a small fee and prior reservation) Visit our website Events.SistersofProvidence.org for a full list of events.

There are a handful of hermitages available on the grounds for rent for personal retreat. They do book up in advance though so be sure to plan ahead.

Be sure to visit the Shrine of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin while you are on campus.

The Shrine is the final resting place of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin.

(Show Shrine Video: 5:57 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmTmps2Nq5U>

Come walk where Saint Mother Theodore Guerin walked. Visit the shrine, like a museum walking you in a faith experience through her life, the chapel there is where her remains rest and learn how her mission continues today. Walk the Woods where she walked, feeling the deep sacred peace that resides there. ***Pass out materials about shrine and visiting.***

Take questions from the audience.

The Providence community is happy to pray for you. I have prayer request cards here that you can return to me, mail in or submit online. Or if you don't have a prayer request but would to receive more information from the Sisters of Providence, there is a place to check that.

Offer prayer cards and let know that all prayer requests will be responded to.

Again the web page for more information is SistersofProvidence.org.

Thank those who attended.

End with Prayer if applicable to your group.