

SAINT

JOHN PAUL II

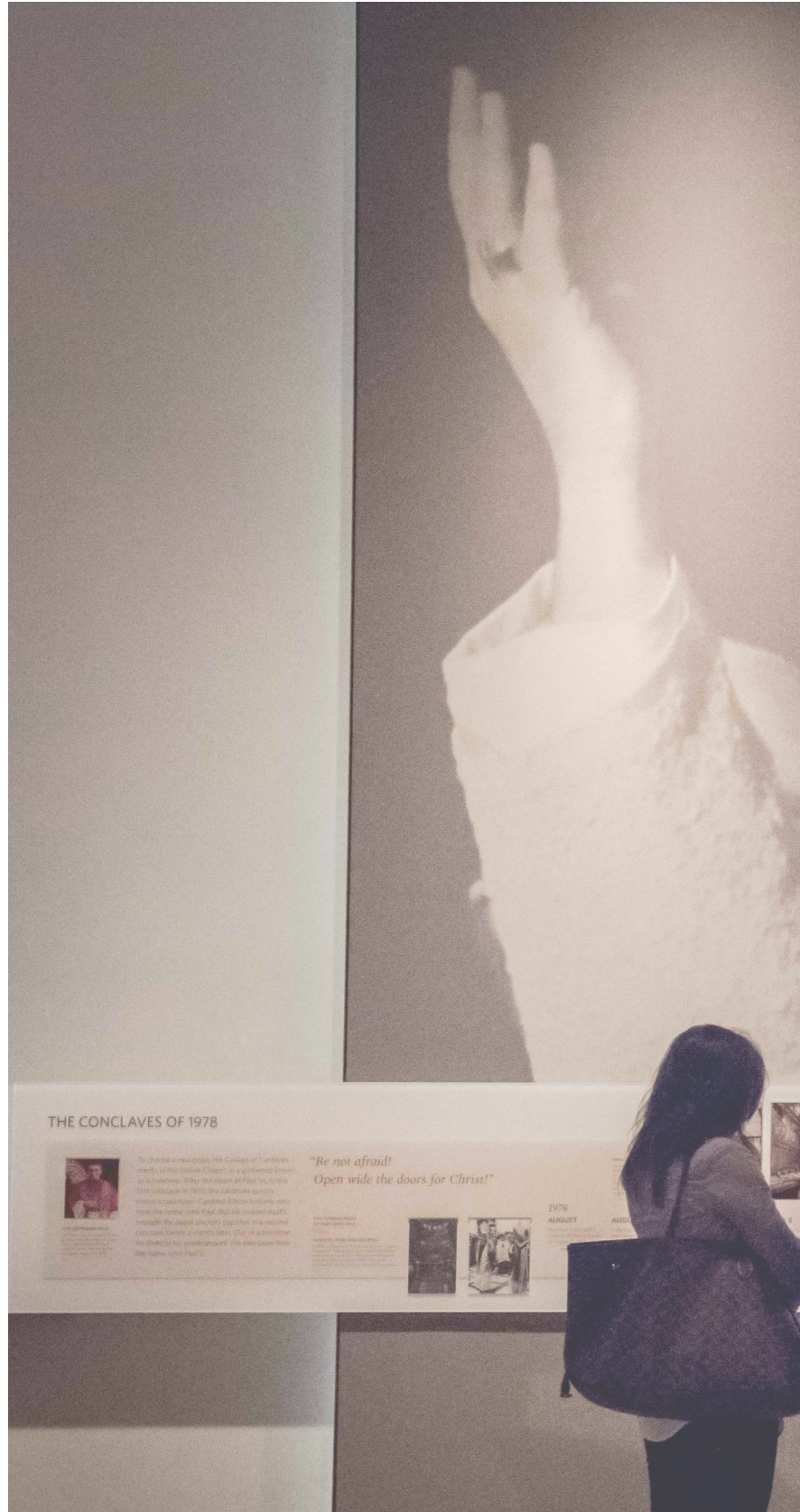
NATIONAL SHRINE

PLAN YOUR
PILGRIMAGE



*“Open
wide
the
doors
for
Christ”*

Saint John Paul II,
Homily for the Papal Inauguration,
October 22, 1978





Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum:
habemus Papam!

[I ANNOUNCE TO YOU A GREAT JOY:
WE HAVE A POPE!]



CELEBRATIONS

The celebrations for the election of John Paul II began in Rome and spread across the world. In Poland, the news broke out as a surprise of joy and hope. Many spiritual leaders raised several hands to mark the announcement. As people poured into the streets and spread the word, both the church bells were tolling in Krakow and in the town square in Wroclaw. Father Edward Dabrowski, Francis' childhood pastor, spread the news when an assistant rushed in saying, "It's John!"



Shrine Overview

The Saint John Paul II National Shrine is a place of worship, faith formation, and education where visitors learn about the pope who became a saint.

Visitors can attend Mass, go to Confession, venerate a blood relic of Saint John Paul II, or simply enjoy the beauty of the Shrine and its sacred art.



ADDRESS AND PARKING

3900 Harewood Road, NE
Washington, DC 20017

Free parking on site for cars and motorcoaches. All areas are wheelchair accessible.

WORSHIP INFORMATION

Daily Mass: 12:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday

Sunday Mass: 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prayer at the Hour of Mercy followed by the Chaplet: daily at 3:00 p.m.

For Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, check with our Welcome Desk.

EXHIBIT ON SAINT JOHN PAUL II

The permanent exhibit, “A Gift of Love,” leads pilgrims and visitors through the life of the saint so that they, too, experience the times that influenced the 264th Successor to the Apostle Peter, relive the excitement of his apostolic journeys in his missionary service to Christ and to the world, and understand what made this servant of the Gospel be called “John Paul the Great” by so many millions of people.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Open 365 days a year

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

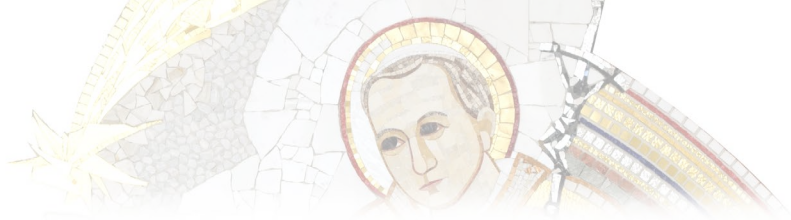
Exhibit and Gift Shop are closed Good Friday, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

SCHEDULE A VISIT

✉ VisitorServices@jp2shrine.org

☎ (202) 635-5400

Group tours (10+ visitors): complete our online booking form at jp2shrine.org/requestform at least 24 hours in advance.



Saint John Paul II

Pope John Paul II was seen by billions of people. Millions would proclaim that he changed their lives. The Saint John Paul II National Shrine explores how this modern saint inspires Catholics of every age to renew their faith and hope in Christ, and thereby continue to change the world.

During his 26-year papacy, Saint John Paul II came to embody the trials and triumphs of the twentieth century and became a voice of moral and spiritual clarity on the sanctity of human life, the nature of human freedom, and the need to bridge the profound differences that divide the human family.

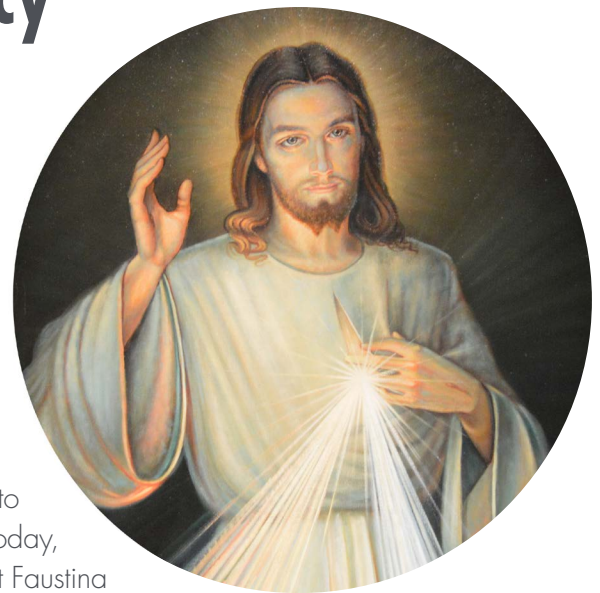
His doctrinal legacy is one of the richest in the history of the Church. Saint John Paul II's writings include 14 encyclicals, 15 apostolic exhortations, 11 apostolic constitutions and 45 apostolic letters, in addition to the catecheses delivered in the general audiences, lectures and homilies given during his many travels.

As the pope of a generation, he touched millions, believers and non-believers alike. Just nine years after his death, Saint John Paul II was canonized by Pope Francis. The power of his life and witness lives on.

The Message of Divine Mercy

Saint John Paul II's entire life was deeply rooted in the mystery of Divine Mercy: in 1980, he wrote the first encyclical devoted to God's mercy, *Dives in Misericordia*; in 2000, he both canonized Sister Faustina, the recipient of the message of Divine Mercy, and established Divine Mercy Sunday as a feast day for the entire Church; in 2002, he entrusted the world to Divine Mercy.

The Message of Divine Mercy given, by Jesus Himself through Saint Faustina, reminds us of the infinite mercy of God expressed in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The best response to this gift is a childlike trust in God and mercy toward our neighbor. Today, Sisters from the Congregation of Our Lady of Mercy — to which Saint Faustina belonged — spread the devotion to and message of Divine Mercy through daily prayer at the Hour of Mercy, followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy; through talks and days of recollection; and through the "Evenings with the Merciful Jesus," at 7:00 p.m. on the 22nd day of every month.



What Is a Pilgrimage?

Pilgrimage is a form of prayer. It is a spiritual journey a person makes to a sacred place, often one marked by God's special intervention, such as the Holy Land, or one that has particular importance in the religious history of a people.

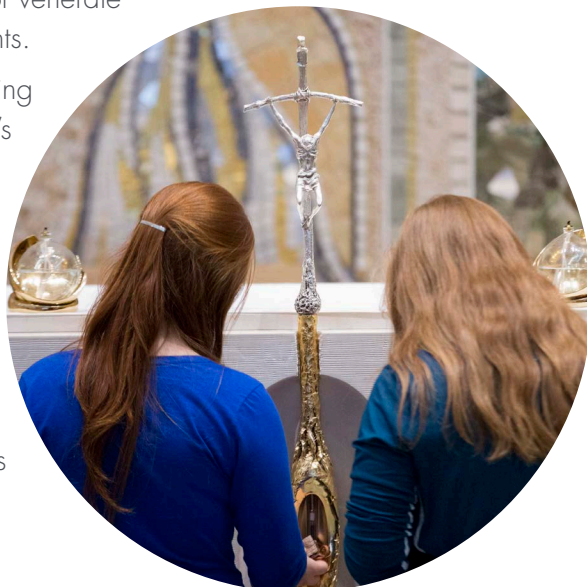
Catholic shrines are places of prayer, liturgical worship, and adoration of God. They are dedicated to the veneration of particular saints, each of whom is a unique source of inspiration and encouragement. Shrines have become beloved places of Christian pilgrimage. Pilgrims come to shrines to ask for a saint's intercession, and to renew and strengthen their faith. Examples of prayers to bring to the Shrine on your pilgrimage include offering up your inconveniences, struggles, and worries as a *"living sacrifice pleasing to God"* (Romans 12:1).

What Is a Relic?

From the earliest times, Christians have honored relics – the physical remains and personal effects – of Christians who were martyred or who lived especially holy lives. In many places their graves became sites of pilgrimage where the faithful journeyed to be inspired by their example and to ask for their help in the struggles of life and in leading holy lives themselves. Over time, shrines dedicated to these holy people were built to create a proper place for pilgrims to honor or venerate these saints, to attend Mass, and to receive the sacraments.

Traditionally, pilgrims venerate relics by touching or kissing the reliquary in which the fragment of the holy person's physical remains or personal item is kept. Veneration is an expression of reverence for the holiness of the saint, and pilgrims often ask for the saint to intercede on their behalf before God for spiritual assistance, physical healing, or other particular graces.

The Saint John Paul II National Shrine has a first-class relic of Saint John Paul II that is contained in a glass ampoule at the center of an ornate reliquary in the Luminous Mysteries Chapel.





Plan Your Visit

When is the Shrine open for visitors and pilgrims?

Admission is free. The Shrine is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day of the year.

What makes the Saint John Paul II National Shrine a unique destination?

“A Gift of Love: The Life of Saint John Paul II” exhibit: A stunning array of photos, quotes, short films, personal artifacts, and interactive displays allow visitors to become familiar with Saint John Paul II.

Sacred Art: Brilliantly colored mosaics decorate both the Redemptor Hominis Church and Luminous Mysteries Chapel. **Sacred art tours** are available.

Relic of Saint John Paul II: A first-class blood relic of Saint John Paul II is available for veneration in the Luminous Mysteries Chapel daily.

The Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy: The Sisters from the order of Saint Faustina conduct their Divine Mercy ministry at the Shrine.

Plenary Indulgence: Pope Francis grants those who make a pilgrimage to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine a plenary indulgence. Please refer to the Plenary Indulgence section on page 11.

What additional activities could my visit include?

Mass: Monday through Saturday at 12:00 p.m.; Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available 30 minutes before every Mass.

Prayer at the Hour of Mercy: Every day at 3:00 p.m., the Hour of Mercy is remembered with special reflections and with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, led by the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy.

Special Presentations: Talks on marriage, the spirituality of family life, the dignity of life, or Divine Mercy by members of the staff or the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy can be arranged for your group.

Special Videos: A selection of films on the life of Saint John Paul II or on Divine Mercy can be scheduled in the auditorium for your group during your visit.

What amenities does the Shrine offer?

Parking: The Shrine has ample free parking for automobiles and motorcoaches.

Food Service: Currently there is **no onsite food service**; however, seating is available for groups to bring their lunches or receive catered deliveries.

Gift Shop: The gift shop is open 7 days a week 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Accessibility: The Shrine entrances include access ramps, and public elevators are available so visitors may access all areas of the Shrine.

How do I contact the Shrine with questions or to schedule a visit?

🌐 jp2shrine.org/requestform

✉ VisitorServices@jp2shrine.org

☎ (202) 635-5400

Weekday Sample Itinerary

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Arrival and Welcome

Overview of the Shrine

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

“A Gift of Love: the Life of Saint John Paul II” Exhibit

Self-guided tour of the nine-gallery exhibit on the life and legacy of Saint John Paul II

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Sacred Art Tour

Guided tour of the mosaics in the Redemptor Hominis Church and Luminous Mysteries Chapel

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Confession/Relic Veneration

Confession in the Redemptor Hominis Church /
A time of intimate encounter with Saint John Paul II,
in the Luminous Mysteries Chapel

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Holy Mass

Group attends Shrine daily Mass in the Redemptor Hominis Church

12:30 p.m.

Lunch or Departure

Note: 3:00 p.m. Prayer at the Hour of Mercy, followed by the Chaplet, if your pilgrimage permits a longer schedule.





Sunday Sample Itinerary

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Arrival and Welcome

Overview of the Shrine

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

“A Gift of Love: the Life of Saint John Paul II” Exhibit

Self-guided tour of the nine-gallery exhibit on the life and legacy of Saint John Paul II

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

Packed lunch or catered lunch in the dining area
Available seating for up to 150

1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Sacred Art Tour

Guided tour of the mosaics in the Redemptor Hominis Church and Luminous Mysteries Chapel

1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Confession / Relic Veneration

Confession in the Redemptor Hominis Church / A time of intimate encounter with Saint John Paul II, in the Luminous Mysteries Chapel

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Holy Mass

Group attends Shrine Sunday Mass in the Redemptor Hominis Church

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Prayer at the Hour of Mercy

Prayer, reflection, and the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Redemptor Hominis Church

3:30 p.m.

Departure

Groups have options for shorter or longer stays to accommodate their specific schedules. Please refer to the “Plan Your Visit” section on page 7 or contact our Pilgrimage and Visitor Services department to learn how to customize your visit.

Location and Directions

The Saint John Paul II National Shrine is located in the northeast quadrant of Washington, DC in the Brookland neighborhood. It is across the street from the Catholic University of America and just up the street from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The area is nicknamed DC's "Little Rome" because of the high number of Catholic Churches, shrines, and religious houses in the area.



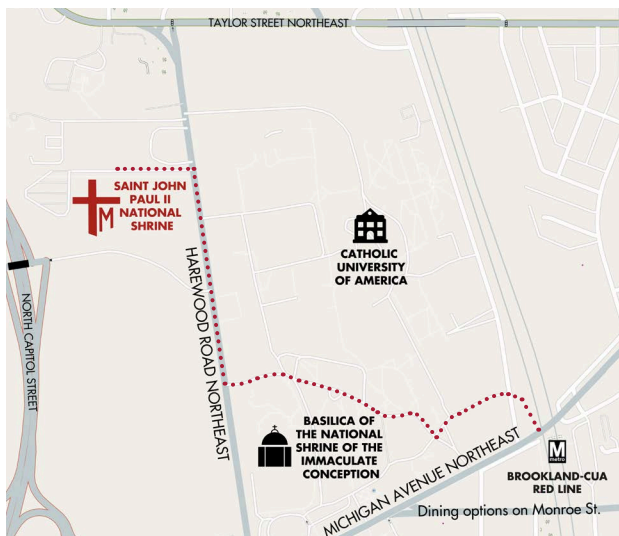
by car or bus, with ample free parking available on site.



by Metro via Red Line, Brookland-CUA station is within walking distance. More information on www.wmata.com.



by train, via Amtrak, arriving at Union Station, approximately 3 miles away and conveniently connected to Metro's Red Line. More information on www.amtrak.com.



Points of Interest



Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
 0.5 miles



Catholic University of America
 0.6 miles



Brookland Neighborhood
 1.5 miles



Plenary Indulgence Information

The Holy Father Grants a Plenary Indulgence to Christ's faithful

who make a pilgrimage to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine on one of these occasions:

- October 22**, the Solemnity of Saint John Paul II;
- Second Sunday of Easter**, Divine Mercy Sunday;
- Once a year** on a day of their choice;
- Whenever they participate in a pilgrimage** as a group.

To obtain this indulgence, pilgrims must either:

- Participate in sacred ceremonies carried out in honor of Saint John Paul II
- OR
- Pray before the relic of Saint John Paul II, remembering one's duty to the Holy Father, and conclude with the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Hail Mary, and the following:

*You are the Shepherd of the sheep, O Prince of the Apostles.
To you the keys of the kingdom of heaven have been given.*

(Visit jp2shrine.org/jp/en/resources/indulgence.pdf for the full text of prayers)

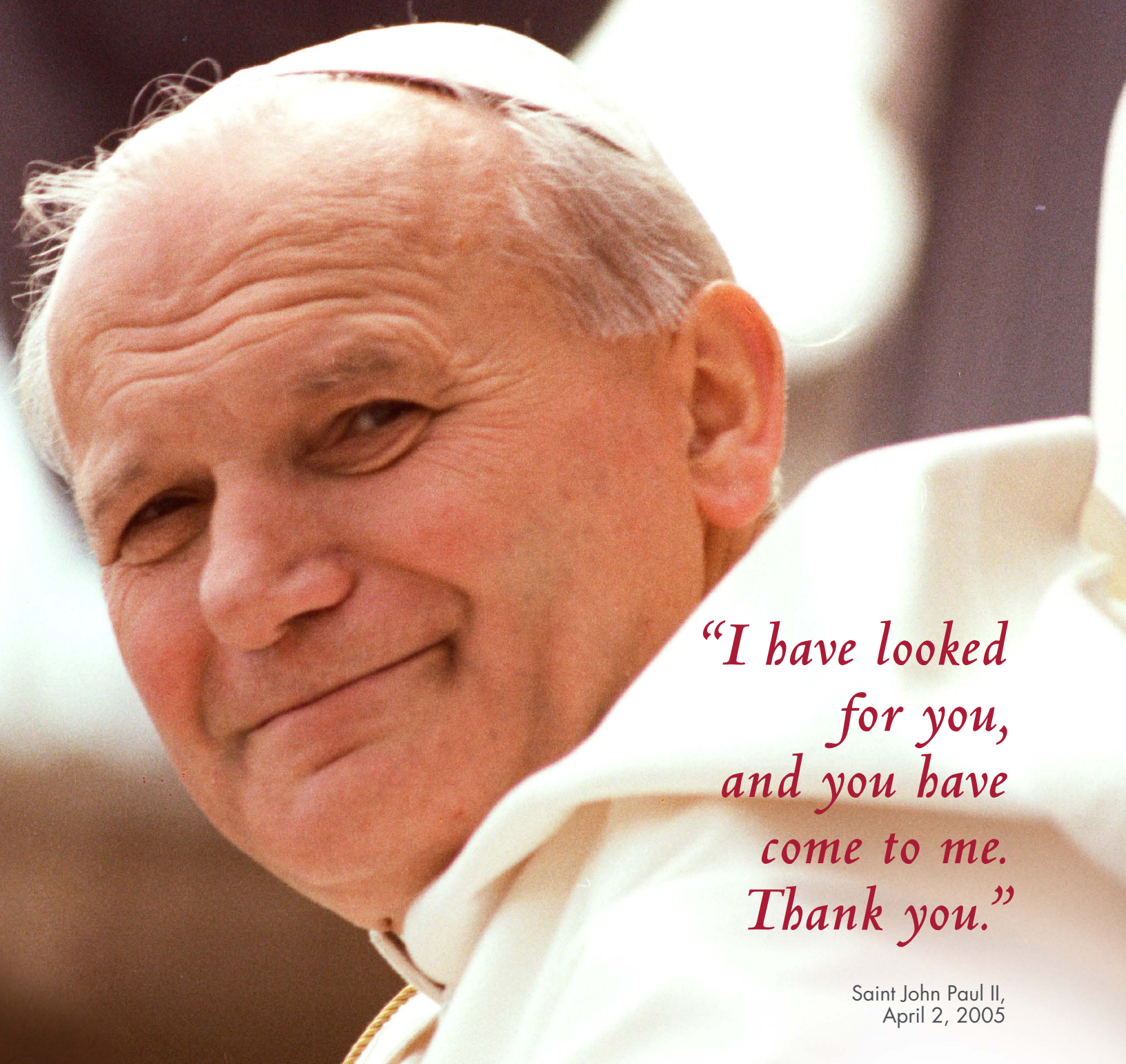
An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. A plenary indulgence removes all of the temporal punishment due to sin. Pilgrims can gain an indulgence for themselves or apply an indulgence to the dead. A plenary indulgence can be gained only once a day.

Pilgrims must be truly penitent and fulfill the usual conditions for an indulgence. They must:

- Be in the state of grace when the work is completed;
- Have an interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin;
- Sacramentally confess their sins;
- Receive the Holy Eucharist;
- Pray for the intentions of the Pope.

It is appropriate that the sacramental Confession, Holy Communion, and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the pilgrimage day. However, it is sufficient that these sacred rites and prayers be carried out within 20 days before or after their visit to the Saint John Paul II National Shrine.





*“I have looked
for you,
and you have
come to me.
Thank you.”*

Saint John Paul II,
April 2, 2005

SAINT
JOHN PAUL II
NATIONAL SHRINE

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