



Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Church of the Holy Child and St Joseph,
Midland Road, Bedford.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton, England.
www.relicourladyofguadalupe.co.uk



Questions and Answers Regarding a Visit of the Miraculous Relic Image (MRI)

1. How does the MRI come to the cathedral / church and what comes with it?

- by van with two of the team
- in its travelling case (1.98m H x 1.40m W x 0.60m D)
- with its own stand
- devotional leaflets (show leaflets in file) and holder (6 boxes)
- booklets for the Service of Reception and Service of Return
- petition slips, basket and 1 box of pens
- boxes of repository items
- two advertising pull ups to be displayed near the Image
- small or larger flower display (if requested)
- the Guardians Team and the Knights of Saint Columba (KSC) Liaison Officer

2. Where is the best place to site the MRI?

- on the Sanctuary for the Service of Reception and Service of Return
- in a side chapel or a prominent place for daily veneration with sufficient seats to accommodate pilgrims, two or more kneelers (supplied by the cathedral or church), devotional leaflets in holder, basket for petition slips, flower display and candles, two advertising pull ups

3. What facilities and logistics does the cathedral or church have to provide?

- van parking permit and unloading area near to the entrance
- secure storage place for travelling case, stock of leaflets and petition slips, etc.
- flower display (roses as centrepiece)
- two large side candles
- two or more kneelers
- table or similar for displaying petition slips
- facilities for selling devotional specific repository items (either in shop or tables near to veneration area)
- photocopying facilities to support replenishment of leaflets and petition slips
- to promote the visit and the devotion through contacts with local area media, press, radio and TV, also in pastoral area or wider, church newsletters, posters, web sites and social media facilities as appropriate

4. Are there Liturgical Services and Mass during the visit?

- a formal Service of Reception followed by the Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Liturgy provided) accompanied by a Guardian's Talk (Devotion)
- a formal Service of Return accompanied by a Guardian's Talk (Home Shrine) usually at that day's morning Mass
- private and group devotion throughout the visit (rosary groups may wish to use this opportunity to say the rosary in front of the MRI)

5. What is the financial commitment associated with the visit?

We are a standalone organisation without specific financial support:

- £500 cathedral or £350 church to cover pilgrimage costs plus any appropriate collection or donation amounts
- sales or supply revenue through sales of devotional specific repository items

6. What is the role of the Knights of Saint Columba / other hosting organisation during the visit?

- assist with setting up/moving/taking down of the MRI
- to take part as escort, readers and as required in the Service of Reception and Service of Return
- provide security and guardianship for the MRI while at the venue
- provide guidance and control of the pilgrim numbers in the veneration area
- undertake, for the period of the visit, the liaison and daily contact with the relevant church authorities and to be first point of contact
- ensure that sufficient literature and devotional aids are displayed
- to sell (with permission of the venue authority) devotional specific repository items on behalf of the Guardians of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- to assist the cathedral or church with promotion of the visit and the devotion, through contacts with local area media, press, radio and TV, also in pastoral area or wider, church newsletters, posters, web sites and social media facilities as appropriate
- to act as liaison with diocesan groups e.g. Pro Life, SVP, Catenians, Legion of Mary, Mothers Prayers, etc. to encourage participation and attendance during the visit and its accompanying liturgical services