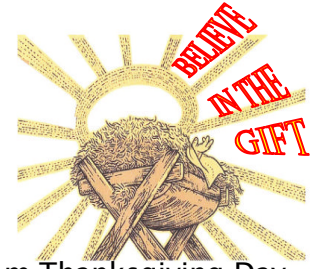


Most Asked Questions About Christmas at the
National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette
Attleboro, Massachusetts

"BELIEVE IN THE GIFT"

2010



When is the 2010 Christmas Festival of Lights? The lights are on daily from Thanksgiving Day November 25 until January 2, 2011 from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

How many lights are there? Over 300,000

Who puts them up? La Salette Brothers, Maintenance Staff and Volunteers.

Do the lights stay up all year? Those on the top of the trees do. The installation of the majority of lights begins right after Labor Day and they come down in January. Every few years we have to add lights to the tops of trees due to new growth.

When did the lights begin? In 1953.

Who designs the displays? Sr. Gertrude Gaudette, a Dominican Sister from Fall River, and our dear late Albert Lapierre, a liturgical artist from North Attleboro, have created many wonderful displays over the years. Bob Roy, from BB Metal Art in Enfield, New Hampshire designed the Metal Art Displays. This year Ted Charron, a local Artist will share his expertise in creating the theme.

What are the Lights all about? The Christmas Festival of Lights is a gift from the La Salette Missionaries to God's people. Christ is the "Light of the World", and Mary was surrounded by "dazzling light" when she appeared at La Salette in France in 1846. Thus, light is a very strong symbol here at the Shrine and in our Christian Tradition. This year's theme is **"BELIEVE IN THE GIFT"**.

What does it cost to come? Parking and admission are FREE. Your generous donations are gratefully accepted. They are a main source of keeping this Shrine viable.

Who comes to see the Lights? From babes in arms to senior citizens... they come from New England and Canada – people of all faiths and nationalities and some 200,000 people in cars.

What does La Salette mean? La Salette is the name of the village in the French Alps where Mary, the Mother of Jesus, appeared to two children in 1846 and shared a message of reconciliation.

Who operates the National Shrine in Attleboro? The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, a Roman Catholic religious congregation of men & women. There are about 1,000 La Salette Fathers, Deacons, Brothers and Sisters serving in 24 countries. There are 24 here in Attleboro, including retired members of the community.

How many concerts does Fr. Pat give at Christmas? This year he is scheduled to do over 60!

What are some of the points of interest? 1) The **Outdoor Manger** is the site of the 4:55 p.m. Prayer and Blessing ceremony each evening. 2) The **Trolley** every Friday thru Sunday from 5:00 – 9:00 P.M. donation \$3.00 per person. 3) A **Carousel** for the children (same schedule as the trolley) 4) The **International Display of Nativities**, located in the former Gift Shop. 5) The **Peaceable Kingdom** – 6) The **Three Kings** on their journey – 7) A **Myriad of Angels** 8) **Snow Flakes** everywhere! 9) A **Cafeteria** to accommodate groups. 10) **Special Concerts** 11) A **Gift & Book Shop** for young & old 12) **The Christmas Alphabet** around the Rosary Walk 13) **The Story of Clopper the Christmas Donkey** (for children).

What is La Salette's electric bill for the season? This one you wouldn't believe!!!

More information: (508) 222-5410 www.lasalette-shrine.org

