



LE DECINE DEL ROSARIO

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF POMPEII

The Oldest Continuing Italian-American Catholic Church
in the City of Chicago, located in the heart of historic "Little Italy."

A Gift of Italian-American Hospitality, Embracing All Pilgrims of Faith
Founded in 1911 ✕ Established as a Shrine in 1994

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you. ~ 1 Corinthians 6:19a

The term **shrine** signifies a church or other sacred place to which the faithful make pilgrimages for a particular pious reason with the approval of the local ordinary. At shrines, more abundant means of salvation are to be provided for the faithful; the Word of God is to be carefully proclaimed; liturgical life is to be appropriately fostered especially through the celebration of the Eucharist and penance; and approved forms of popular piety are to be cultivated.

Code of Canon Law, 1230 and 1234

Le Decine del Rosario is the Italian phrase for decades of the rosary, representing the twenty decades of the rosary, for which our weekly bulletin is named.

Dear Friends of the Shrine,

Last week I spoke about restoring the plaster on the front doors of the Shrine. This week I wanted to go deeper into our restoration hopes and plans.

When you look around the Shrine, you can see the work that needs to be done.

I'm happy to report the interior side of the front doors of the shrine church are restored... all done, but three small pieces of marble. These pieces were probably broken when the installation of the bronze doors was taking place. We are on the hunt to replace them!

So, what's next?

First, we will continue repairing the vestibule of the shrine church, and then, get it painted. The entrance area will lead us to doing the next part of the work... and raising the necessary funds to do it.

The bathrooms in the shrine hall are the same ones used by many of our affiliates, who attended the former school. So, those need to be cleaned up and repaired. I am working on some donors to sponsor this repair.

Then, there are some other needs:

* We must make the shrine church handicap accessible, according to Archdiocesan standards. This will allow us to become an even more hospitable place, welcoming all to enter and pray... *where your heart always has a home.*

* We need to consider the lighting and acoustics of the shrine church.

* We need to re-plaster and paint the interior of the shrine church, including the wonderful stenciling work.

* Then, we need to do the flooring and seating areas.

* Then, at last, we can consider a new pipe organ, built in Italy, on which music for the liturgy and recitals can be played for many years ahead. An instrument that will enhance not only the shrine church, but also contribute beauty to the City of Chicago and the amazing music that is hosted in this part of the Midwest.

So, how does this happen? Stay tuned... and buy a lotto ticket!

Father Richard