

2022 United States Convocation of Consecrated Virgins



June 24-28, 2022 – La Crosse, Wisconsin
“Communion in the Bride of Christ”

Dates & Location

The 2022 United States Convocation of Consecrated Virgins will be held from Friday, June 24 through Tuesday, June 28 in La Crosse, WI. We will be staying at the Franciscan Spirituality Center in downtown La Crosse, with most of our daytime programming held at the nearby Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This year’s theme is: “Communion in the Bride of Christ.”

Who May Attend?

We warmly invite all consecrated virgins, both from the United States and from other countries. The invitation is also extended to any candidate for consecration who has attended a previous Information Conference and has been accepted by the bishop of her diocese as an aspirant or a candidate to receive the consecration of a virgins.

What the Days Entail

In addition to various talks and presentations, we will gather together in prayer for Lauds, Holy Mass, and Vespers. The schedule provides time for personal prayer, unstructured time to enjoy the Guadalupe Shrine, recreation, and time for conversation among those attending. There will also be opportunities for adoration and confession. We will be joined this year by the Most Reverend Earl Boyea, Episcopal Moderator of the USACV and Bishop of Lansing, who will give us a presentation on Sacred Scripture. Fr. David Whiteside also plans to join us as chaplain again, as he did in 2019 and 2021.

Fees for the Convocation In-Person

The convocation fee is \$450 for single room occupancy, including all meals and four nights of lodging. Because this does not cover all costs of organizing the convocation, please consider making an optional donation. If you

plan to attend as a “commuter,” (i.e., either coming in for the day from home, or while staying in La Crosse someplace other than the Franciscan Spirituality Center) please let us know so that we can adjust the rate.

Convocation Livestream

Consecrated virgins may also register to virtually attend live-streamed sessions of the Convocation. Please see the program and registration form for details. We ask for a donation of \$40 to help cover the cost of the equipment and tech support needed to livestream the Convocation. Those who are not able to offer a donation may attend at no charge or for whatever donation is possible. We ask that you not share livestreaming links for security reasons.

Accessibility

The bedrooms at the Franciscan Spirituality Center are all newly-renovated, and each includes a private bathroom. Some rooms are handicap accessible—please let us know if you require this accommodation. At the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, all of the buildings were built as fully handicap accessible. To get to the Shrine Church, it is an approximately fifteen-minute walk uphill from the parking lot and pilgrimage center. However, Shrine staff are regularly available with golf carts to drive those who would have difficulty with the walk up and down the hill.

Dress Code

Our days together are relaxed and social, but we will be spending much of our time in formal liturgical prayer and in sacred spaces. Please pack comfortable but “business casual” attire that reflects the special dignity of our vocation. We ask that modest dresses or skirts be worn by those serving as sacristans, cantors, lectors, or Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at our Masses. Please also wear sensible walking shoes for exploring the beautiful grounds of the Guadalupe Shrine!

Planning Your Arrival & Departure

When making travel arrangements, plan to arrive at the Franciscan Spirituality Center no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, June 24, so as not to miss our opening Mass and Vespers at 5:00 pm. On the final day convocation, Tuesday, June 28, we will have Mass at 7:00 am, and our time together will conclude at around 11:00 am after some closing reflections.

- If you are coming by car, the Franciscan Spirituality Center in downtown La Crosse is easily accessible from I-90.
- If you plan on flying to attend the 2022 Convocation, we encourage you to make your flight plans soon, as airline tickets tend to sell quickly. The most convenient airport is the La Crosse Regional airport (LSE), which is only twenty minutes away from the Franciscan Spirituality Center. Delta and American are the only two airlines that fly into La Crosse. Other airports that are farther away but still within driving distance include: Rochester International airport (RST) in Minnesota; the Dane County Regional airport (MSN) in Madison, Wisconsin; and the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International airport (MSP).
- La Crosse, WI also has a local Amtrak station.

You can contact Jenna Cooper at: jenna.marie.cooper@gmail.com if you have other questions about transportation. We can help to arrange groups to share taxis or rental cars. Please inform the Convocation Coordinator, Joani McCann, of your travel plans as soon as possible, including flight numbers and times of arrival and departure to and from La Crosse. She can be reached by email at: joani.mccann@gmail.com.