



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rwanda Genocide Survivor, Father Ubald, to offer Mass and Healing Services at Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help

CHAMPION, Wis. (Jan. 25, 2016) – [Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga](#), a survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide, will visit the [Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help](#) in Champion, WI on Friday and Saturday, January 29 and 30, 2016, celebrating Mass and offering a Healing Service each day he is at the Shrine.

Fr. Ubald lost more than 80 members of his family and more than 45,000 of his parishioners in the genocide. When he left Rwanda, he made a promise that he would return to bring healing to his people. Fr. Ubald has been a Roman Catholic priest in the Cyangugu Diocese of Rwanda for more than 25 years.

“We are so blessed to have Fr. Ubald arriving again to celebrate Mass and offer Healing Services here at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help,” said Fr. Peter Stryker, CPM, rector of the Shrine. “It is not uncommon for Fr. Ubald to celebrate a Mass in parts of Africa with tens of thousands of the faithful in attendance.”

Mass, followed by a Healing Service, will take place at **1 p.m. on Friday, January 29, and again at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 30**. The faithful are encouraged to arrive early for available parking and seating. Depending on attendance, each Mass, along with the Healing Service that follows immediately, could last 2-3 hours.

“Fr. Ubald has been here at this beautiful Shrine in the past and he was so moved by it, and by the people who came to see him, that he wanted to return,” added Fr. Peter. “The Masses and Healing Services will be meaningful and inspiring for everyone, so we encourage the faithful – even those who may not be Catholic – to seek out this opportunity for healing.”

The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help is located at 4047 Chapel Drive in Champion, northeast of Green Bay.

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Pronouncer: Fr. Ubald Rugirangogo’s name is pronounced: Ooo-bald Roo-gear-an-go-gah

Media note: Fr. Ubald will be available for interviews at the Shrine, 12:00 to 12:40 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

About the Shrine: On Oct. 9, 1859, the Queen of Heaven appeared to Adele Brise in Champion, Wisconsin, and said to her, "Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation. Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing. I will help you." On Dec. 8, 2010, Bishop Ricken granted formal Church approval to the Marian apparition at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. It is the first and only confirmed appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the United States. The announcement was made during a Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at the Shrine. For more information, visit www.ShrineOfOurLadyofGoodHelp.com.

Media contacts

Walter Fountain, Operations Manager
Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help
(920) 866-2571 ext. 8
wfountain@qbdio.org

Scott Stein
Leonard & Finco Public Relations
(920) 676-0711 ext. 157
sstein@LFpublicrelations.com