



Central Association *of the* Miraculous Medal

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PHOTOS**

The Miraculous Medal Shrine Commemorates the First Apparition of Our Lady to Catherine Labouré

*Devotees gathered July 18th to hear the story and commemorate the
First Apparition of the Miraculous Medal*

Germantown, Philadelphia, PA – July 19, 2018 – On Wednesday, July 18th, the Miraculous Medal Shrine celebrated a Special Mass to commemorate the First Apparition of the Miraculous Medal, when Our Lady first appeared to St. Catherine Labouré in Paris, at the Motherhouse Chapel of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac. After the Mass, devotees processed outside to place vigil lights for their intentions at the statue of Our Lady of the Chair, which depicts the First Apparition of Our Lady to St. Catherine Labouré. Fr. Frank Sacks, CM, was the celebrant for the Mass and delivered a beautiful sermon about the Apparition and its meaning. [Note: He also provided the photos of the candles illuminating the shrine at dusk.]

The Story of the First Miraculous Medal Apparition

On the night of July 18, 1830, the eve of the Feast of Saint Vincent De Paul, the first apparition of our Blessed Mother to Catherine Labouré occurred in Paris, France.

Catherine Labouré, a young religious of the order of the Daughters of Charity, prayed to St. Vincent de Paul, the founder of her order, to intercede on her behalf that she may see the Mother of God with her own eyes. That night, the voice of a child, Catherine's guardian angel, awoke her from her slumber, saying, "Sister Labouré, come to the chapel; the Blessed Virgin awaits you." The chapel was aglow as if prepared for midnight Mass, and, as Catherine knelt by the altar steps, she heard the rustle of a silk dress and the Blessed Virgin appeared. Mary sat in the Director's Chair of the chapel, as Catherine knelt next to her, hands resting on the Virgin's lap. Our Lady spoke to Catherine, saying, "My child, the good God wishes to entrust to you a mission. Have confidence. Do not be afraid. Graces will be shedon all... You will have the protection of God and Saint Vincent."

This was the first Marian apparition to Catherine Labouré prior to receiving the instructions to have the medal made for people to wear with confidence to receive God's graces.

**A video of the Anniversary of the First Miraculous Medal Apparition is available at:
www.MiraculousMedal.org/live**

For more information about upcoming events at the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal and the Miraculous Medal Shrine, please visit
www.MiraculousMedal.org.

The Miraculous Medal Shrine, home of the Miraculous Medal Monday Novena, welcomes all visitors to our beautiful Shrine, located in the heart of Philadelphia. The Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal provides a sanctuary for prayer, meditation, and pilgrimage to God and to The Blessed Virgin Mary. Visitors are also encouraged to enjoy our Museum's historical collection of Marian and religious artwork. The Shrine and Museum are run under the auspices of the Vincentian Community and The Central Association of the Miraculous Medal.

For over 100 years, The Central Association of the Miraculous Medal (CAMM) has dedicated itself to spreading devotion to Mary Immaculate and her Miraculous Medal. CAMM also supports the formation and education of seminarians, provides care to the aged and infirm Priests and Brothers of the Vincentians' Eastern Province, and supports programs that assist the poor. For more information about upcoming events at The Central Association of the Miraculous Medal and the Miraculous Medal Shrine, please visit www.MiraculousMedal.org.

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