



BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2026

**Basilica to Pray the Rosary for Peace with Pope Leo XIV**  
**- Saturday, May 30 at 1pm ET/7pm Rome -**

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception has been asked by the Holy See to join with Pope Leo XIV and shrines across the world on Saturday, May 30, at 1pm ET (7pm Rome time), in praying the Holy Rosary to implore the gift of peace for various countries suffering from armed conflicts.

As the preeminent Marian shrine and patronal church of the United States, the Basilica joins shrines throughout the world in this worldwide Rosary with the Holy Father. All are invited to participate in this special moment of unity and prayer for peace throughout the world.

Reverend Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, Rector of the Basilica, will preside and prayerfully lead the faithful in the recitation of the Rosary.

This worldwide Rosary, coordinated by the Holy See's Dicastery for Evangelization, will be prayed live from the Lourdes Grotto in the Vatican Gardens and simultaneously in the Great Upper Church of the Basilica. For those who cannot join in person, the Rosary will be livestreamed at [www.nationalshrine.org/Mass](http://www.nationalshrine.org/Mass) so that all might be able to spiritually unite with the Holy Father.

In addition to the Basilica's livestream, live video and images from the Basilica will also be available for use by the Vatican's global broadcast with the Holy Father at [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va).

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**ABOUT THE BASILICA**

*The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is the largest Roman Catholic church in North America, and it is among the ten largest churches in the world. Dedicated to the patroness of the United States, the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception, the Basilica is the nation's preeminent Marian shrine and patronal church and has been designated a national sanctuary of prayer and pilgrimage. Among those who have visited the National Shrine during its 100+ year history are Pope Francis, Pope Benedict XVI, Saint Pope John Paul II, and Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta.*

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