

13th FILIPINO MARIAN PILGRIMAGE



May 4, 2024 Cistercian Monastery, Am Varenholt 9, Bochum-Stiepel, Germany

Mary, Mother of Reconciliation

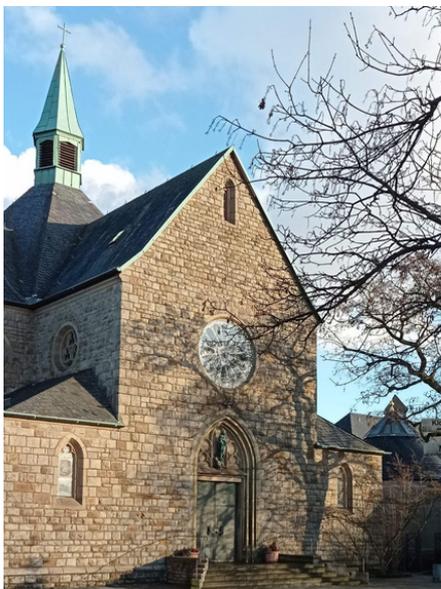
Programme

- 09:00 Arrival of Pilgrims
- 10:00 Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
- 12:00 Prayer with the Cistercian Monks
- 12:30 Salo-salo/Agape
- 14:00 Adoration and Confession
- 16:00 Marian Procession and Flower Offering
- 17:00 Home Sweet Home



The Origin

The Filipino Marian Pilgrimage has become an annual religious event at the Cistercian Monastery in Bochum-Stiepel, Germany. With the desire to bring together the various Filipino communities in Germany and share their vibrant faith and culture with their adopted country, Fr. Gabriel Chumacera OCist, then a Cistercian monk candidate, initiated the first Filipino Marian Pilgrimage on May 30, 2009. At the center of this gathering is Jesus Christ through Mary, who is closest to the hearts of many Filipinos and to the Cistercian Order. The late Fr. Adonis Narcelles Jr. SVD, an ardent supporter of the pilgrimage, described it beautifully: „Mary gathers us Filipinos in a pilgrimage of love“ - united in faith, one in prayer, obtaining the grace of reconciliation with God and with others.



The Cistercian Monastery

A Brief History

The history of Stiepel goes back to the Middle Ages. The original church was constructed in the year 1008 in honor of the blessed Virgin Mary. The statue of the Sorrowful Mother, the Pieta, goes back to the 15th century. After the First World War, the statue was placed at the Church of St. Marian. The present church was built from 1914 till 1915. Its foundation was laid on May 10, 1914 under the patronage of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven.

Cistercians in Bochum-Stiepel

The first Bishop of the Diocese of Essen, Franz Cardinal Hengsback invited several religious congregations in his diocese and supported the establishment of a Benedictine monastery, that eventually took charge of the Pilgrim Center in Stiepel. In 1988 came the first monks from the Austrian Mother Abbey of the Holy Cross to Stiepel. From then on, the monastic life inspired by St. Benedict and St. Bernhard of Clairvaux continued to flourish in this center of pilgrimage and spirituality.



Marian's Way of Faith is a special place of reflection. Since 1982, fourteen representations from the life of Mary can be viewed on the shrines made of sandstones, which were made in 1926 - painted by Egon Stratmann, Hattigen - for which Father Walter Kromer, MSC wrote the meditations.

Images from the Filipino Marian Pilgrimage in 2023



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🔍 How to get there: ✕



Please enter the address
Am Varenholt 17, 44797 Bochum
 in your navigator to get directly to the parking area.



From **Bochum Hbf** take the BUS 350 and get off at the stop HAARSTRASSE, then go on an 8 minute walk to the church.



Dusseldorf and Dortmund Airport are the nearest airports. From the airport, regular trains drive to Bochum Hbf.