

## BASILICA PHOTO HUNT

The Basilica Photo Hunt is a fun activity. Students are given laminated cards with 20 color photos of parts of objects seen in the basilica, and asked to find those. You provide the teacher/chaperones with answer keys by photocopying and distributing the next two pages ahead of time.

**If you would like to participate in a basilica photo hunt, you must let us know in advance, and you will need to allow at least 30 minutes additional time in the basilica.**

Below are samples of some of the pictures that are included in the hunt.  
**Please remember to print an answer key for every teacher/chaperone.**



12



13



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9



18

## ANSWER KEY- BASILICA PHOTO HUNT

*Teachers & chaperones, please help to maintain  
quiet & calm during the photo hunt.*

The chapel (now called the Basilica) was the heart of the new Provincial House which was first occupied by the Daughters of Charity on September 12, 1964. In 1991, Pope John Paul II designated the chapel a **minor basilica**. The marble, bronze, stained-glass windows, and mosaics are Italian or German, as were the artisan who constructed them.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PHOTO HUNT (please allow an extra 30 minutes for this activity)

- Before your visit, print enough answer keys so that each teacher/chaperone has one.
- Divide your students into small groups, each headed by a teacher/chaperone.
- The docent will give you laminated Photo Hunt Cards to distribute to the students.
- Have the students go through the basilica, identifying each one of the photos.
- The teacher/chaperone can check off each one on the answer key as they are found, and tell the students about the history/explanation of each object.
- When the photo hunt is over, please return the laminated cards to the docent.

1. **Statue of Mary and the Altar of the Blessed Sacrament.** The statue of Mary, Mother of God, stands over the altar of the Blessed Sacrament. Here is the *Real Presence of Jesus*. Notice the red vigil light and the bright light, telling us He is here. We kneel before the altar and adore Him. The Eucharist was very important to Elizabeth Ann Seton. Listen to her words:

*“Jesus, then, is there. We can receive him, He is our own... That he is there is as certainly true as that bread naturally taken removes my hunger... so this bread of angels removes my pain, my cares, warms, soothes, contents and renews my whole being...”*

2. **St. Catherine Labouré stained glass window.** Catherine Labouré was born May 2, 1806 in the village of Fain-les-Moutiers in France, the 9th of 11 children. Catherine became a Daughter of Charity. In 1830, the Blessed Mother appeared to Catherine and asked her to have a medal made. This medal became known as the “Miraculous Medal.” She was canonized in 1947. She is wearing the habit that the Daughters of Charity wore until 1964. The large white headdress she wears is called a “cornette.”

3. **Mosaic of Angels.** The mosaic representing the choirs of Angels forms a semi-circle over the Sanctuary; it is reminiscent of the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal at the Daughters of Charity Motherhouse in the Rue du Bac, Paris. Note that no two angels are in the same pose.

4. **Jesus is taken down from the Cross.** Above the altar of Saint Louise de Marillac, there is a group of seven stained glass windows representing the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Here, Mary cradles her dead Son in her arms.

5. **Etched glass window of the Basilica door.** The windows and the glass panels in the doors were produced in Germany by F. X. Zettler, Glasmalerei of Munich. The symbol shown here is in the panel of the center door. It is a triangle, which symbolizes the Blessed Trinity; the hand symbolizes the Hand of God the Father. Can you think of what the other images on the windows might symbolize (grapes, sheaves of wheat, doves, etc.)?

6. **The Holy Family.** The only painting in the basilica, oil on canvas, on the ceiling of the dome. It depicts Joseph, a young Jesus, and mother Mary.
7. **Mary Window: Queen of Martyrs.** The lower windows of the Basilica represent some of the many titles used for Mary, taken from the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The word “litany” comes from the Latin, *litania*. It is often recited as a question and response chant in a group setting.
8. **Statue of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.** The altar of Saint Elizabeth Ann is also called “the Altar of the Relics.” The white marble statue of her is dressed in the habit which she and her Sisters of Charity wore in 1809. Under the altar, encased in marble, is the small copper casket containing her relics which were transferred here in 1968. For security reasons, a protective marble shield was installed in 1975.
9. **Mosaic of “Virgin Most Powerful.”** In November 1830, Mary appeared to Catherine Labouré for the second time. The Queen of Heaven was seen with a globe under her feet and holding a smaller globe in her hands. Mary then revealed to Catherine the Miraculous Medal was to look like. Catherine was told, “... the persons who will wear it will receive great graces...these graces will be abundant for those who wear it with confidence.” The front and back of the Miraculous Medal are reproduced in bronze on the communion rail gates. The prayer on the medal is “*O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you.*”
10. **Statue of St. Joseph.** Saint Joseph is shown as a young man and a carpenter, as he was when he was chosen to be the spouse of Mary and the foster father of her Child. Elizabeth had a special affection for Saint Joseph, and called her community the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joseph’s. This Emmitsburg spot is often called “Saint Joseph’s Valley.”
11. **The 4th Station of the Cross:** Jesus meets his sorrowful mother.
12. **Crucifix.** INRI is an abbreviation of the Latin phrase “*Iesvs Nazarenvs Rex Ivdæorvm,*” which translates as “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Latin uses “I” instead of the English “J”, and “V” instead of “U” (*Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judæorum*). Pilate had this inscription written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek and put on the cross.
13. **Statue of St. Vincent DePaul.** St. Vincent de Paul co-founded the Daughters of Charity in France in November 1633. See the little symbol of the ship on the pedestal. St. Vincent referred to his community as a “little bark,” or “boat.”  
*Have greater confidence in Him [God] than we do; let us allow him to steer our little bark; if it is useful and pleasing to Him, He will save it from shipwreck.*  
 #1478. Vincent de Paul to Achille Le Vazeux, 29 March 1652, Marie Poole, D.C., ed., *Correspondence, Conferences, Documents*, 14 vols. (New City Press, 1993), 4:347.
14. **Saint Louise de Marillac.** Saint Louise de Marillac (1591-1660) co-founded Daughters of Charity in France in November 1633 to care for the sick poor in the villages and towns of France. She is the patron saint of Christian Social Workers.
15. **The mosaic of the Evangelist Saint Mark.** The four Evangelists (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) are often represented by symbols. Mark’s symbol is a lion, usually winged, from “a lion roars in the desert” from the beginning of his gospel, referring to John the Baptist crying out in the desert. An Ox is the symbol for Saint Luke; a Cherub for Saint Matthew; and an Eagle for Saint John. Look for them on the four mosaics on the ceiling.

16. **Saint Patrick.** The high windows of the basilica represent saints who have a special relevance for the Daughters of Charity mission and ministries. Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. What is he holding in his left hand? What does it symbolize?
17. **Saint Anne.** Saint Anne and Saint Joachim (next to her) were the parents of Mary. St. Anne is often portrayed as teaching Mary. She is the patroness of housewives.
18. **The seven corporal works of mercy.** The seven corporal works of mercy are represented in these windows. They are: feed the hungry; give drink to the thirsty; shelter the homeless; clothe the naked; visit the sick; visit the imprisoned; and bury the dead.
19. **Mary Window: Queen of the Holy Rosary.** The rosary is an important and traditional devotions consisting of a set of prayer beads and a system set of prayers. What are the prayers? What is a *decade*?
20. **The coronation of Our Lady as Queen of Heaven and Earth.** The coronation of Mary is one form of reverence frequently shown in images of Mary

