

## **Josephine Conners, Sophomore, Class of 2028**

### **Reflection:**

This year of Jubilee is a year of hope, and keeping this in mind, I embarked on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Joseph in Detroit. At this site, I donated to the poor in honor of St. Joseph and said a special prayer to St. Joseph. A meaningful element displayed in the photo is my brother, as well as a St. Joseph's statue. In 2022, my brother, Teddy, was born prematurely and had multiple struggles for his life. In this stressful time, I consecrated myself to St. Joseph, doing a 33-day consecration preparation, and then consecrated myself to him. I am extremely blessed to be able to attend Catholic school, and therefore, I chose to donate to the poor. I gave my donation during the mass and dedicated it to St. Joseph for his intentions with gratitude for his work in my life. One way he has interceded for me is through Teddy, previously mentioned. Teddy is three and a happy, healthy little brother. I attribute his healing and development to the power of God, but specifically the intercession of the saints, especially St. Joseph. Through this all, I have learned to be meek and humble, as he did, as well as the power the saints truly hold with God. Visiting this sight allowed me to thank him and grow deeper in both my faith and my personal devotion. This pilgrimage in the year of the jubilee of hope truly inspired me to strive and hope for sainthood.

### **Pilgrimage Site:**

If I could visit any pilgrimage site, I would select Lourdes, a location where multitudes of miracles happen. My heart is drawn to this location because Our Lady of Lourdes worked a miracle in my family and I would be honored to visit her locale. My father with terminal cancer was cured by my mother's prayer at Lourdes. Neither of them knew each other, yet praying for a future husband saved him. The inexplicable nature of this truly exhibiting Our Lady's intercession inspires me to journey to Lourdes. Hence I desire to go there and become one of her pilgrims.



