

# Our Lady of La Vang Celebration 2015



St. Joseph the Worker commemorates the anniversary of the Vietnamese Community in our parish each August with a celebration of Our Lady of La Vang. The observance coincides annually with the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.







## Opening Procession of Prayer and Song – The Blessing







Opening Procession of  
Prayer and Song —  
Outside the church





Opening Procession of  
Prayer and Song —  
Entrance to the church







Opening Procession of  
Prayer and Song —  
Our Lady carried into the church







Anniversary Mass ...







... Anniversary Mass ...







... Anniversary Mass ...





... Anniversary Mass ...







... Anniversary Mass







**Dinner and Entertainment  
in the Conference Center Hall  
after Mass ...**







... Dinner and Entertainment  
in the Conference Center Hall  
after Mass ...







... Dinner and Entertainment  
in the Conference Center Hall  
after Mass ...







... Dinner and Entertainment  
in the Conference Center Hall  
after Mass



# About Our Lady of La Vang

Our Lady of La Vang first appeared to the Vietnamese people in 1798, during a time of severe persecution of Vietnamese Catholics. Amidst this suffering, many Catholics sought refuge in the deep forest of La Vang, where they often gathered in small groups to say the rosary and to pray.





Unexpectedly, one night they were visited by an apparition of a beautiful Lady holding a child in her arms, with two angels at her sides. The people recognized the Lady as Our Blessed Mother, who comforted them and told them that from that day on, all who came to that place to pray would have their prayers heard and answered.



The Blessed Mother continued to appear in this remote place throughout the period of religious persecution. Eventually, a church was built in honor of the Lady of La Vang. The church was destroyed in the summer of 1972 during the Vietnam War. It was rebuilt, and today the La Vang Marian Shrine is the most important site for Vietnamese Catholics.





# Photography

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