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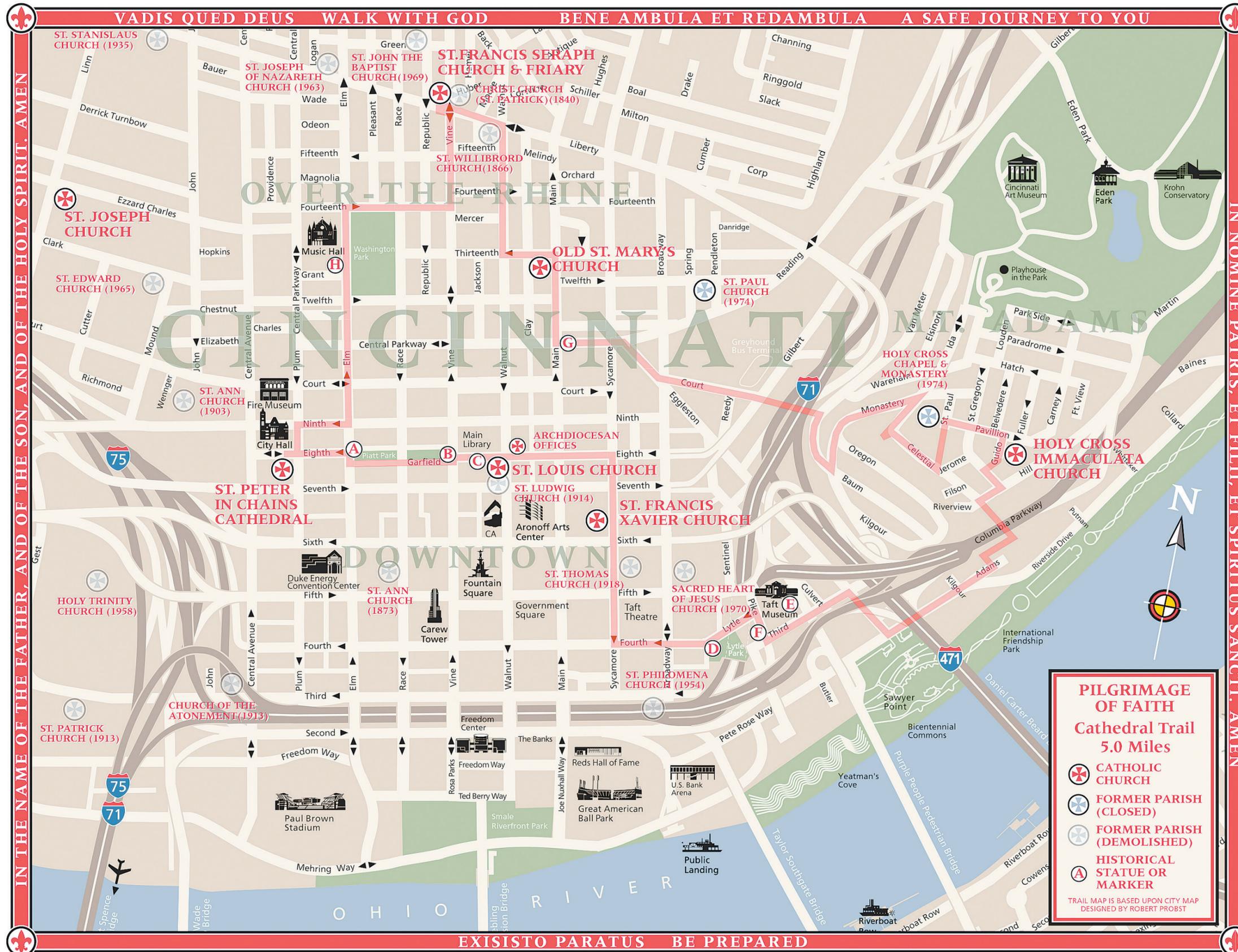
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Take a hike!

This fall, make a pilgrimage right here in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

As the days cool down, hikers gear up. This fall, why not make one or more hike into your own personal pilgrimage?

Pilgrimage of Faith shows you how. Developed for Catholic scouts by avid hiker and designer John F. Kennedy (yes, his real name) the eight Pilgrimage of Faith hiking trails through the Archdiocese offer hikers far more than a look at interesting religious and historical sites. They help make each walk into a pilgrimage by identifying area churches and shrines, providing prayer resources, and more.

"I love the faith, I love God; I'm a scout leader and a history buff," Kennedy said. "I love to walk around and look at buildings. I've always been fascinated by the Camino de Santiago and the other big pilgrimage in Europe from Paris to Chartres. I decided to tie all the things I love together" and create a series of pilgrim trails here.

Available free to anyone with computer access at Pilgrimageof-faith.com, maps and trail guides identify the streets, churches, and sites of former churches along the routes. But the site also offers more: tips on how to make a pilgrimage, and a downloadable booklet with suggested prayers in English and Latin.

Because scouting organizations typically offer merit badges for long hikes, Kennedy planned the shortest of his routes at 5 miles, and the longest at 20. Anyone daunted by the distance, he said, can choose to drive one of the longer trails.

"Many people have never been to parishes outside their own," he said. "Americans often don't understand the history of the faith in other parts of the world, and these trails show them their own history – the things built by the faith of others."

To download the maps, trail guides, and prayer booklet, visit Pilgrimageoffaith.org.

For more about John F. Kennedy's hikes, look for a story on our website, TheCatholicTelegraph.com, on September 11.



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Churches on the five-mile Cathedral Trail include (left) St. Francis Seraph, and (below) Old St. Mary's churches, both in Over-the-Rhine. The Cathedral Trail map also shows the sites of since-demolished Catholic churches, standing buildings once home to Catholic parishes, and historical markers.

Facing page: (top to bottom) the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, St. Louis Church, St. Francis Xavier Church, and Holy Cross-Immaculata Church. The six churches are built in a variety of architectural styles. All but Immaculata, high atop Mt. Adams, are in the city's urban core.



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