

## **Shrine Mont: My favorite things**

### **The place:**

- The buildings have been there a long time, and have so much character. It's fun to just roam around and explore.
- There's a lot to do on the grounds: hiking, games, fossil and crawfish hunting, checking out the bookstore/gift shop, reading, sitting & rocking, napping, or chatting.
- There's a lot to do in the area: horseback riding, golf, more hiking, shops nearby, apple stands, covered bridge, corn maze, to mention a few.
- The menu is predictable and eagerly anticipated even before the bell starts ringing! Everyone has their favorite meal, whether it's the sausage and pancakes, the Saturday meatloaf, or the Sunday fried chicken. Then there are the "butt buns" and the pecan pie! Leave your diet at home for this weekend!
- My kids have gone there since they were toddlers all the way through high school, including summer camps, parish retreats, youth weekends, and PYM. At each stage they found something special that made it their own.

### **The people:**

- People seem a little different when they get there, in their comfortable clothes, with no pressure. It's wonderful to be able to have a decent conversation without having to race off somewhere.
- The kids run around in herds with the older ones watching over the younger ones, and nobody worries.
- The traditional group Trivial Pursuit tournament lets you see a whole new side of each other.

### **The atmosphere:**

- There's a holiness about the place, as if you were in God's own backyard. It makes you feel very welcomed, and very loved.
- There are usually a couple of group meetings during which we might sing songs, hear about the theme for the weekend, and discuss some thought-provoking topic.
- The Eucharist on Sunday morning at the outdoor Shrine is very beautiful way to close the weekend.

### **In summary:**

Where else can you stay two nights in a beautiful, serene setting, enjoy six belt-stretching meals, and enjoy one of the most stress-free weekends you've had in a long time, for such a reasonable price?

--Janet Bush