### **EPHESUS**



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### COMMUNITY



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## History of the Community

#### 1998 Ephesus Community

The community was founded on August 15th, 1998 on the suggestion of the then Archbishop of Izmir, Msgr. Giuseppe Bernardini and the General Vicar of the Archdiocese of Berlin, Otto Riedel. They had been inspired by the example of the first community of Ephesus and the spirit of Marian hospitality.

#### 2004 "Ephesus" a Community of Prayer

Only love can overcome all kind of divisions; therefore, the members of the community pray daily for this intention together with and for the Church in Turkey.

#### 2006 "Ephesus" – Non-profitable Association

The Ephesus Association was founded in Altötting (Our Lady pilgrimage site in Bavaria) on August 15th, 2006, with the aim to bring forward God's will.

### **Vision and Project**

Turkey is the Holy Land of the Church. Here the apostles Paul and John preached the Good News. Paul wrote some of his Letters, and the Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor by John. (Rev. 2.1-29 and 3.1-22).

We support the vision of the Church of being in dialogue with all religions as Pope Benedict XVI shows us. Our project is a meeting place, a center for hospitality and prayer in Selcuk (Ephesus) near St. John Basilica.



Grave of the Apostel John

# **Realization of the Project**

To realize this project we are looking into men and women whose hearts are touched by God to pray and sacrifice for the fulfillment of this vision and project.

If you feel called to be part of this mission, why don't you consider to become part either of the prayer community or of the Ephesus Association?

We look forward to welcome you. Below you find the information for any donation you might want to help us with.



### Ephesus Förderverein e.V.

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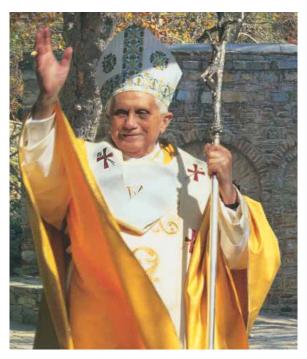


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Before the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI left Turkey, and in particular Mary's house in Ephesus "Meryem Ana Evi", where to tradition St. John and Holy Mother Mary have lived for some time, on November 29, 2006, he said:

#### "A part of my heart remains here!"

The house of Holy Mother Mary is a living icon that, all year round, draws to it hundreds of pilgrims, both Christians and Moslems. Pope Paul VI. and Pope John Paul II. have visited this Sanctuary.

Our Lady of Ephesus and Mother of the Church protect us and guide us on our way.

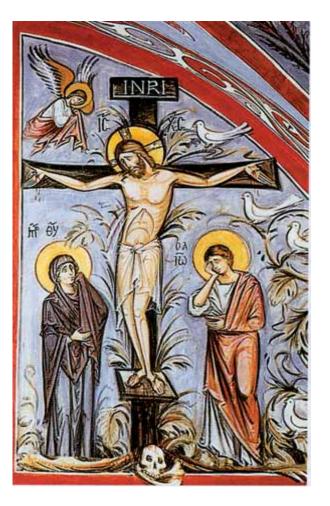


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Our Lady of Ephesus

#### Prayer

Holy Virgin Mary, our Lady of Ephesus, you lived here together with St John in the early days of the Church. Since your assumption into heaven you are glorified with Jesus, your son. Intercede for us and with us before God, so that all who are seeking truth, justice and peace, may become one people, for His praise and His worship. The love of God may unite the hearts of all, from all peoples and nations for His glory and His honor. Amen.



"When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, said to his mother, `Woman, here is your son`. Then he said to the disciple, `Here is your mother`. And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home." (John 19, 26-27)

This is the model for the Ephesus Community.