



Diocese of Assisi - Nocera Umbra - Gualdo Tadino
Diocesan Curia

Press Office

PRESS RELEASE

From 3 to 9 April hosted in a synagogue and U.S. university
THE MUSEUM OF MEMORY OF ASSISI EXHIBITED IN THE
UNITED STATES

The history of welcome given to the Jews in the Second World War - an example to be made known

ASSISI – The Museum of Memory, Assisi 1943-1944, will be welcomed in the United States. At the wish of Pave the Way Foundation, an American organization that promotes dialogue and removes obstacles between religions, the entire itinerary of the exhibition, set up inside the Bishop's residence-Sanctuary of the Renunciation in Assisi, will be reproduced and exhibited in different locations in New York between 3 and 9 April. "We found in Gary Krupp, founder and president of this foundation," explains the Curator of the museum, Marina Rosati, "a person who is truly sensitive to the extraordinary history of Assisi that he had already heard about." The initiative comes at a time that we never thought we would see and live: the war in Ukraine, the death, the desperation of so many refugees take us back to the dark years of the Shoah. Hence, this testimony takes on an even more important value. Thanks to the responsible for international relations of the Diocese, Monsignor Anthony Figueiredo, the story of the rescue of the 300 Jews who arrived in the seraphic city between 1943 and 1944 was presented in detail to the Pave the Way Foundation, which had already collaborated with the Holy See in 2020 and the United Nations in the organization of the Day of Remembrance at the UN. "President Krupp," continues Rosati, "immediately believed in this project of historical memory, an education for doing good and citizen formation. For us, it is a great opportunity to make known an extraordinary page of Italian history that was bestowed in a significant and unique city like Assisi." The Museum, in its entirety, in Italian and English, will be set up at the New Rochelle Temple of Israel Synagogue on April 5, and then the following day, it will be transferred to Saint John's

University in Queens, where students from local high schools will also be able to visit it. "On both occasions," explains Rossati, "two conferences will be organized to deepen the Museum's exhibits, the events surrounding it and its value and historical importance". "This initiative," explains Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi, "not only wishes to recall a great page of light that shone in a dark period of history, but also to tell the world that good can and must triumph over evil, as happened in Assisi when all the Jews were hidden and saved. St. Francis of Assisi stripped himself to become a universal brother. Following in his footsteps, we welcome the initiative of President Gary Krupp and his entire Board and thank them for helping us pave the way to bear witness to brotherhood and peace." Satisfaction was also expressed by President Krupp. "We are happy to support this project," he explains, "because our mission is precisely to make gestures of goodwill among the world's religions and people of faith known internationally, in order to promote our motto: 'Embrace the similarities, Savor the differences'." The various events can be followed by registering and sending an email to: assisievent@desalesmedia.org.

Assisi, 8 March 2022