

Faith Talk

CRYSTAL SHRINE GROTTO

A man-made cave depicting scenes from the life of Jesus Christ

Take a survey of kids' most interesting places to visit, and the results will probably not include a cemetery. But think again!

Take your family on an adventure to Memorial Park Cemetery located at 5668 Poplar Avenue. Drive through the park and notice the unique landscape and design. Plan a few activities while there (be sensitive to any services or family gatherings):

- Plan a simple scavenger hunt locating a yellow flower or blue jay, for example.
- Play I-Spy and see how creative you can be
- Bring a picnic or snack to enjoy while locating cloud images
- Visit a few fountains and pools

Memorial Park is home to several fascinating constructions located throughout the park including the Annie Laurie Rose Garden, the Fountain of Youth, and the Fallen Heroes Memorial. Complete your visit with the most famous artwork, the Crystal Shrine Grotto. What is a "Grotto"?

Grotto—a natural or man-made cave-like structure that is often used as a religious shrine or to display works of art



HomePoint
Building Faith at Home

Memphis is home to the largest (and possibly the only) man-made crystal cave in the world! This hidden gem is free and open to the public.

The construction of this special treasure began in 1937. The 60 feet deep, hand-built grotto is located near the center of the cemetery and includes mixed media art (rock carvings, quartz crystal, wood and semi-precious stones) as well as five tons of crystal. There are also ten dioramas from Christ's time on earth that include the Nativity, the Last Supper, and the Resurrection.

As you walk through the life story of Jesus as displayed in the grotto, ask these questions:

- What do you think Jesus was thinking?
- What were other people thinking?
- What does the Bible say about this story?
- Who are the other people in this display?

To discuss the timeline of the 24 hours before Jesus' crucifixion, pick up a copy of Family Worship Night or visit bellvue.org/homepoint.

The grotto adventure includes many opportunities to discuss "why" Jesus came.

Post pictures of your family adventure using [#outdoorfamilyadventure](https://twitter.com/outdoorfamilyadventure).