



THE *Magnificat*

A publication of the Basilica of the National
Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe

WINTER 2022



Ordination to the Priesthood, May 2021
Bishop John Noonan blesses Father Roberto Marquez

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life

■ JOHN 6:63

February, 2022

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you this new year! Our Blessed Mother, Mary, Queen of the Universe, lived these words from the Gospel of St. John with her entire being. She not only lived them, but her fiat to them brought forth the Savior, Christ the Lord. Through her inimitable ministry, she holds us in her arms and guides us on the way to her Son each day of our own living.

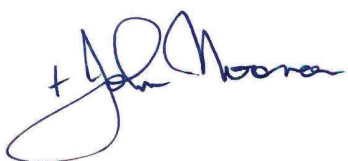
This issue of *The Magnificat* of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe honors the ministry of this beautiful sanctuary – dedicated to our Blessed Mother – that we might live as she lived, guiding all God’s people to Himself. We welcome pilgrims into her sacred space that you might come to know that God’s Words are Spirit and life. We pray that your visitation will refresh and uplift your soul for the glory of God. I express my deep gratitude for your unceasing support for this prayer-filled ministry.

Let us pray together for our Blessed Mother’s guidance as the Word made flesh comes alive through our every thought and deed.

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve;
To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us and after this our
exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!*

*Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend John Noonan
Bishop of Orlando



Cover Photo:

During the Laying on of Hands, Bishop John Noonan prays over Roberto Marquez, one of three newly ordained priests of the Diocese of Orlando. The Ordination Mass took place at the basilica on May 29, 2021. View more highlights from 2021 on pages 10-11.

Basilica Museum Reopens with *Advent* and *Christmas* Exhibit

The Basilica Museum reopened to pilgrims on Friday, November 26, with a temporary display of nativity scenes from around the world and a variety of seasonal religious artifacts.

A tapestry of Mary, which was made by the Stadelmair Company in the 1950s and is a part of the permanent collection of the Basilica, stood as a backdrop to a unique octagonal Advent Wreath, a symbol of the 8th Day of the New Creation that brought about the Mystery of the Incarnation and the Paschal Mystery.

Among the many nativity scenes was an Italian *Precepio* and village (made by the Fontanini Company) and an Irish nativity which was constructed in porcelain (made by the Wedgwood Company). The display continued through the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, February 2.



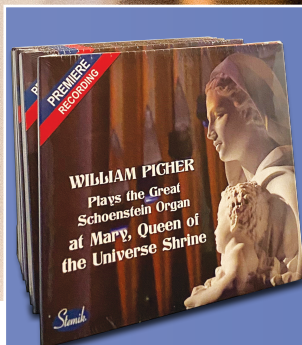
Basilica Pipe Organ Dedication Recital

What a glorious evening! On October 15, 2021, we were blessed to have one of the premiere concert organists in the world, Peter Richard Conte, play the dedication recital on our new Caporella Family Pipe Organ, built by the Schoenstein Company.

Mr. Conte is the Wanamaker Grand Court Organist at what is now the Macy's Department Store in Philadelphia. He is only the fourth person to hold this title since 1911.

Mr. Conte put our fabulous instrument through its paces with an exciting program of music by composers Bernstein, Guilmant, Bach, Dupré, Wagner and many more. A substantial audience applauded vigorously and were treated with an encore of Ponchielli's "Dance of the Hours".

The Basilica's Schoenstein pipe organ is a symphonic-styled instrument, with the widest possible dynamic range and an amazing assortment of total colors and shadings. Mr. Conte's program, which consisted of original works for organ as well as a generous helping of orchestral transcriptions by Mr. Conte himself, proved that the magnificent basilica organ could handle any style and makes the ideal musical partner for a first-class musician such as Mr. Conte. *This concert was made possible through a generous donation by The Ginsburg Family Foundation.*



A premiere recording of the Basilica's Music Director, Dr. William Pricher, playing the Schoenstein pipe organ is available for purchase on audio CD at Mary's Dwelling Religious Articles Shop.

Father Peter Henry

1944 – 2021

Father Peter Henry died on June 20, 2021, at the age of 76. We offer our deepest sympathy to Father Paul Henry, the second rector of the Basilica upon the death of his beloved twin brother, Father Peter. Father Peter, in his retirement years among us, frequently celebrated Mass and offered his special care to those who came to visit. He is deeply missed. May God grant him the reward of his goodness and may God grant comfort and peace to his family and to all who mourn his loss.

His Funeral Mass can be viewed at:



www.stmargaretmary.org/funeral-mass-fr-peter-henry/



A group of basilica volunteers came together to donate a Symbol of Faith to be added to the Bronze Entry Doors in memory of Fr. Peter and his brother, Fr. Paul.

Forever in your *heart*,
Perpetually in our *prayers*

"The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer."

– Pope Paul VI

Offering the Holy sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest gift that you can give a loved one who has passed away. The Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe invites you to honor the memory of a dearly departed family member or friend with a Perpetual Mass Enrollment.

For a suggested offering of \$50, a personalized Perpetual Enrollment certificate in a special folder frame will be sent to the person of your choosing.

Spiritual benefits for those enrolled include remembrance at basilica daily Mass, inclusion in the daily prayers of the rector and listing in the Book of Perpetual Enrollment.

Perpetual Enrollments can be completed at www.mqus.org/perpetualenrollment or by contacting the Basilica Development Office at (407) 239-6600.

NEW! We now have an Annual Enrollment available to honor the celebration of a sacrament, birthday, anniversary or other special occasion. Those enrolled will receive the spiritual benefit of prayer at daily Mass for one year. Visit www.mqus.org/annualenrollment for more information.



New Bronze Panel Honors Our Lady of Siluva

On Sunday, September 11, 2021, the Rector of the Basilica, Father Bob Webster, blessed a bronze panel of Our Lady of Siluva which was a gift of the Knights of Lithuania. A few days later it was permanently installed in the frame of the south portal door on the inside of the basilica.

The generosity of the Knights of Lithuania, which has brought this bronze image to completion, also brought about a beautiful mosaic and altar in honor of Our Lady of Siluva at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in our nation's capital.

The perseverance of faith in the midst of great challenges, both politically and religiously, during the Reformation and subsequent changes in leadership culminates in a story of apparitions and the restoration of sight to a 100-year-old blind man. It is a story of "buried treasures" of a Catholic Church that was unearthed and risen from its long-forgotten grave!

Today, the miraculous image which was unearthed, and now graces the Basilica of Our Lady of Siluva, comes to our National Shrine and Basilica today to tell a remarkable story of the buried treasure of faith that is still to be unearthed in our hearts as well!

Father Bob, who was gifted a Jubilee Sash of the Knights of Lithuania, blessed the image with the following prayer:

Almighty everlasting God, who do not forbid us to carve or paint likenesses of your saints, in order that whenever we look at them with our bodily eyes we may call to mind their holy lives, and resolve to follow in their footsteps; may it please you to bless and to hallow this image, which has been made in memory of the blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ and known as Our Lady of Siluva.

And grant that all who in its presence pay devout homage to your only begotten Son and honor to the blessed Virgin, may obtain your grace in this life and everlasting glory in the life to come!

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

There are currently 43 Marian Panels made to adorn the bronze doors of the Basilica. Each was sponsored by an individual, family or group with a heart filled with love for the Blessed Mother. You can make a donation for the preservation of Sacred Art at the Basilica using the enclosed envelope or by making a donation online at <https://maryqueenoftheuniverse.org/donate>.

PORTRAITS OF MARY

Above the great bronze doors in the narthex are 42 beautiful bronze panels featuring custom artistic renderings which celebrate Mary, Mother of God under her various patronages.

Annunciation
Cause of our Joy
Coronation of Mary/
Queen of Heaven
Help of Christians
Holy Name of Mary
Immaculate Conception
Immaculate Heart of Mary
Mary Mother of God
Medjugorje
Mother of Our Savior
Our Lady of Amore
Our Lady of Charity
Our Lady of China
Our Lady of Czestochowa
Our Lady of Fatima
Our Lady of Good Remedy
Our Lady of Good Success*
Our Lady of Grace
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Our Lady of Health Vallankanni
Our Lady of the Holy Family
Our Lady of Knock
Our Lady of La Leche*
Our Lady of Lourdes
Our Lady of Manaoag
Our Lady of Mercy
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Our Lady of Pahokey Bethlehem
Our Lady of Peace
Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Bihengng
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Our Lady of the Rosary
Our Lady of Sacred Twin Hearts
Our Lady of Seven Dolores
Our Lady of Siluva
Our Lady of Sorrows
Our Lady of the Snows*
Our Lady Undoer of Knots
Presentation of Mary
Queenship of Mary
The Nativity

** Currently in Process*

Visiting Priest Remembers Msgr. Harte and *Honors* Family Visits to the Shrine

By Father Michael Joseph Cerrone III

"ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE CONSUMES ME!"

Those words of Christ addressed to God the Father can certainly be applied to the late founder and first rector of the Mary Queen Shrine, Father Joe Harte, as he liked to be called. He was a true visionary who recognized, early in his priestly ministry, of the many thousands of tourists visiting Orlando, that a dignified and sacred place of worship would be necessary for spiritual refreshment and renewal.

His intense faith and devotion, his gracious hospitality and warm humor, inspired generosity in many of those tourists, enabling the construction and beautification of this noble house of God in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mother and Queen. But especially his pastoral zeal for souls made tourists from around the United States and abroad feel welcome in Mary's shrine as fellow pilgrims, even as brothers and sisters in the household of God.

The first time my family visited the Orlando area before the Basilica Shrine was built, we experienced

Father Joe's Irish charm at Sunday Mass in the administrative building. He expressed his vision for the future of the shrine and grounds as a spiritual oasis for individuals and families to "come away and rest awhile" with God. His subsequent personalized newsletters inspired us and so many others with deeper devotion to Jesus and Mary and the Saints, encouraging not only our continuing financial support but our return, again and again, as pilgrims to Mary Queen Shrine.

After another return visit, my mother contributed funds for an engraving of my name and that of a family friend inside the center bronze doors. After her death, my father and I memorialized her name on a plaque at the wall of the outdoor Mother and Child area. Just before my father's death, during Father Paul Henry's tenure as rector, I contributed to a bronze portrait of Mary Help of Christians in memory of both parents.

Most recently, because of Msgr. Joe's great example of priestly zeal and Marian piety, I contributed to his memorial fund for the sustenance of the shrine basilica. Now, as fears of diseases and disasters wane, I hope and pray that many

thousands of previous shrine visitors will return and many thousands of new pilgrims and devotees of our Lord and Our Lady will fill our beautiful basilica shrine to sing God's praises and receive God's blessings!

Donors interested in contributing to the Monsignor Harte Memorial Care of the Basilica Endowment can give online at www.cfocf.org/monsignorharte.



Mary's Dwelling

Mary's Dwelling Gift Shop, now located directly off the narthex, is filled with religious articles that support pilgrims on their journey of deepening faith and offering uplifting, inspirational gifts to share with others. Additionally, Mary's Dwelling will provide visitors with site maps, event information and membership sales.

Proceeds support the ministries of the basilica.

HOURS of operation

MON.-FRI. 10 AM – 3 PM

SAT. 12 PM – 7 PM

SUN. 8 AM – 2 PM



Mass at the Basilica

We miss our visitors who are not able to travel and cannot be with us to celebrate Mass. We continue to livestream our Sunday Mass every week at 10:00 a.m. (EST) online and on our Facebook page. Visit maryqueenoftheuniverse.org/live-stream or facebook.com/maryqueenshrine to join us.

The Basilica operates on the support of its visitors as it is not a parish, but a ministry to pilgrims to the Orlando area. To offer your support, visit maryqueenoftheuniverse.org/donate or scan the QR code.



Basilica Annual MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

We are so thankful for our Annual Members who serve as spiritual partners in the ministry of the Basilica Shrine as we provide a sacred space for faithful pilgrims from here in Central Florida and all over the world seeking to glorify God and deepen their devotion to our Blessed Mother.

As a Member of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe, you will be part of a group of individuals who care passionately about preserving and growing our ministry to serve the spiritual needs of those seeking comfort, calm and spiritual renewal amidst the hectic pace of the outside world.

In addition to being remembered in our daily prayers, Annual Members will receive:

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP – \$50

*Basilica Membership Prayer Card
Christmas Midnight Mass & Easter Sunday Noon Mass offered
for your intentions
10% Discount at the Mary's Dwelling Gift Shop
Printed Magnificat Magazine*

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP - \$120

*Basilica Membership Prayer Card
Christmas Midnight Mass & Easter Sunday Noon Mass offered
for your intentions
Annual Christmas gift
15% Discount at the Mary's Dwelling Gift Shop
Advanced notice of concerts and special events
Printed Magnificat Magazine*

We ask you to prayerfully consider Membership at the Sustaining level of \$120 (essentially \$10 a month), as we look to restore our financial wellness during this pandemic. New and returning members can make their membership donation online at www.mqus.org/membership.

Together we will continue our mission of evangelization and proclamation of the Gospel!



The Christmas Crèche was installed in the Day Chapel and remained available for pilgrims to view through February 2, 2021.

Highlights

from 2021 at the

Basilica



Catholic medical professionals joined Bishop John Noonan on October 9, 2021 for the White Mass to recognize the ministry of those who protect life and care for the sick and dying.

Father Barry Dowd *Retires*

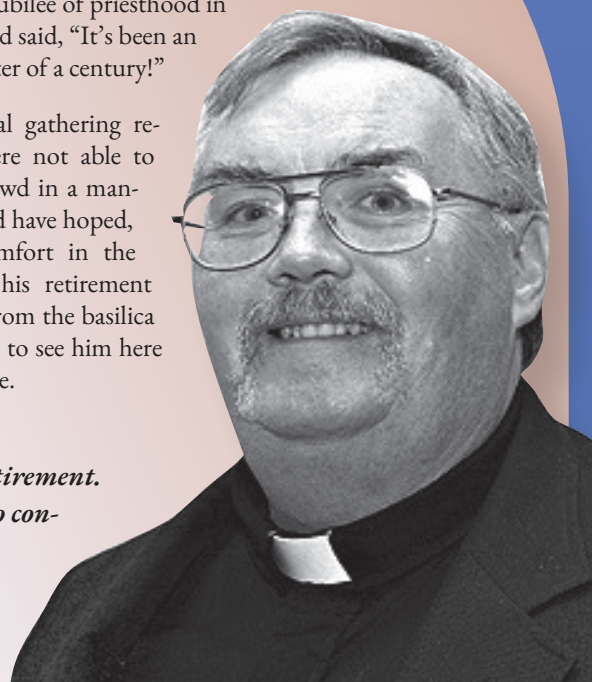
After nearly 25 years of dedicated and loving service to the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe, our beloved Father Barry Dowd retired on June 30, 2021. A priest of the Diocese of Burlington in Vermont, Father Dowd was known for his quick wit and welcoming spirit.

Father Dowd was born in New York City and completed undergraduate and theological studies at Holy Apostles College in Connecticut and at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Maryland. Heading to the Northeast, Father Dowd was ordained for the Diocese of Burlington on June 4, 1982. His first priestly assignment was at St. Anthony Parish in Bethel. He also served at St. Monica in Barre, St. Cecilia in Fairfield and St. Patrick also in Fairfield.

In 1995, Father Dowd transferred to the Diocese of Orlando and assumed his current duties as an associate at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. Celebrating his 25th jubilee of priesthood in 2007 Father Dowd said, "It's been an exhilarating quarter of a century!"

Due to the social gathering restrictions, we were not able to honor Father Dowd in a manner that we would have hoped, but we take comfort in the knowledge that his retirement home is not far from the basilica and that we hope to see him here often in the future.

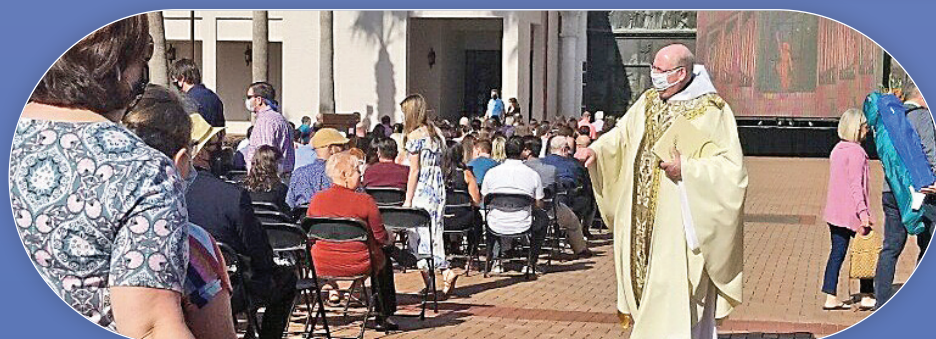
We wish Father Dowd health and happiness in his retirement. He still maintains a mailbox here if you would like to contact him and more personally, offer your best wishes!





On June 6, 2021 Bishop Noonan joined representatives from Africa, Vietnam, Brazil, Portugal, Korea, the Syro-Malabar Church, Poland, Haiti and the Philippines recognizing the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. Mass was followed by Eucharistic Adoration and a procession with the Blessed Sacrament to altars of repose representing seven countries.

The Ordination to the Priesthood of Roberto Marquez, Francisco Ojeda and Nathanael Soliven took place on May 29, 2021.



Thousands of pilgrims visited the basilica for the Vigil and Easter Masses in Spring 2021. To provide space for all, a large outdoor screen and seating was made available to visitors.

Leaving a *Legacy*

To leave a legacy is to reveal our hearts, for our legacy is a final testament of who we are, what we value, and whom we love. Legacy gifts are planned gifts you make to impact what is most meaningful to you. They create extraordinary opportunities to sustain our Church for generations.

Anyone can leave a legacy gift. This can include a stipend for Mass intentions, a donation for the continued care of this sacred space or funds to establish a named endowment to continue the mission of the basilica for generations. If you choose to leave a legacy gift for the basilica in your estate plans, to the right is a sample of the bequest language you can include:

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to John Noonan, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Orlando Florida, a corporation sole, and to his successors and assigns, the following: (\$_____, description of property or ____% of my estate/remainder of my estate) for the benefit of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe at 8300 Vineland Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32821 to use where most needed.

Our tax ID number is 59-2328306.

Regardless of the size of the gift, legacy donors are recognized during your lifetime with membership in the Vivos Christi Society. To notify us of your plans or if you would like additional information on how you can leave a legacy through an Endowment or other giving vehicle, please contact Madelyn Weed at mweed@cfocf.org or (407) 246-7188.



**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF
MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE**

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*The Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe
is a house of pilgrimage and prayer to inspire in the faithful
an ever-deeper devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of God and Mother of the Church.*

BASILICA HOURS

Monday - Friday..... 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am - 2:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday..... 10:00 am - 11:30 am
..... 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

MARY'S DWELLING (GIFT STORE)

Monday - Friday..... 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Saturday 12:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

ADORATION

Monday - Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday..... 12:00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday (anticipatory) 6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
..... *10:00 am
..... 12:00 pm

**live-streamed via webpage and Facebook*

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday..... 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

MQUS.ORG