

Breaking New Ground for Christ — 1991 Begins Construction of Shrine Church

Two year, \$6.4 million Phase II building program will prepare Mary's Shrine for a new era of faith

ORLANDO, Fl. — Nearly eleven months after ground was broken for the new, 2,000-seat Main Church at Mary's Shrine, construction remains on schedule for the doors to open in the winter of 1992.

In fact, it was on the afternoon of August 22, 1990 – the Feast of the Queenship of Mary – that more than 500 guests from Rome, Ireland and across America joined with Bishop of Orlando, Norbert M. Dorsey, CP, former Bishop of Orlando, Thomas J. Grady, Shrine director Father F. Joseph Harte and other clergy for a special blessing and groundbreaking ceremony that officially launched Phase II of the Campaign for Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine.

In his sermon which followed

the groundbreaking, Bishop Dorsey spoke of his hope that the new Shrine complex would become "a sacred place to give glory to God and honor our mother."

Continuing, Bishop Dorsey reminded the audience that Jesus, on the cross, had bequeathed to humankind one last gift – the gift of Mary, His mother, to protect and guide us and lead us upon the path to God. And, added Fr. Harte later in the day: "It is the Blessed Mother herself who continues to guide the progress and the promise of our efforts here at the Shrine."

And that promise has been most substantial. Within weeks of the groundbreaking, more than 40 pages of blueprints were approved – everything from complex schematics for electrical wiring to finely detailed specifications for placement of the 14 Magnificat Windows which will illuminate the walls of Mary's Church and help light the path to Christ for all who view them.

By late autumn, final plans for site development were submitted to the Orange County Permit Authority. And as the first snows



46We want the Shrine to be a temple, a sacred place to give glory to God and honor our mother.... Above all, we want it to be a spiritual home, a real hearth.

-Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey



A Message from the Director

July 1991

Dear Shrine Family Member:

On my pilgrimage to Lourdes earlier this year, I came upon the room where Bernadette had lived during the time of Our Lady's apparitions in 1858.

The room was small, dark and cold; its windows barred. In fact, it had been a "cachot," or old jail, that lay abandoned for more than 30 years before Bernadette's impoverished family was forced to make it their home.

Standing there, imagining the misery of Bernadette's surroundings and the anguish of her child's heart, I thought about the astonishing events that were to envelop her and change the course of her life—beginning with that first, icy February morning on the banks of the river Gave.

The appearance of the beautiful lady in white. . . the jeering of townspeople and threats of imprisonment Bernadette would suffer as she returned, again and again, to gaze upon Our Lady and obey her wishes. . . these images too flooded my mind. And I wondered how God had chosen this simple child, who could neither read nor write, to deliver our Blessed Mother's message to the world!

What possibly could Bernadette have had in common with Simon, the fisherman who cast his nets into the Sea of Galilee. . .or Paul, the tax collector who was transformed along the road to Damascus?

Where was her kinship to the gifted and wealthy young Augustine and Francis, or Patrick, the young slave in exile, or even Juan Diego, the Aztec peasant to whom Our Lady appeared at Guadalupe in 1531?

What indeed was it that caused God to speak through them and so many other blessed voices?

The answer, of course, is beyond our knowledge.

But on one point we can be sure: From Simon, who became Peter, to Bernadette, the peasant girl who was to become a saint, each was open to that extraordinary voice that calls to us from within our hearts. . . and obedient to the words that were God's own.

It is a voice ever more difficult to hear in our own time, distracted as we are by the frenetic pace of today's world and by secular, new age ideologies trumpeted at us daily through the news media.

Yet, as with Bernadette, God depends upon us to reach out, embracing today's wider world with his message of hope and salvation. We are, in fact, joined in this very effort through our work together here at Mary's Shrine.

And may this thought abide within your heart, bringing you joy and peace. . . while helping to light your path ever homeward to the kingdom everlasting.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

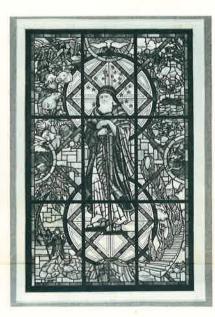
7. Joseph

Father F. Joseph Harte

AN INVITATATION TO MEMBERS OF THE SHRINE FAMILY

ou are invited to share in the spiritual blessings of our first ever St.

Anne Novena – in all, nine days of Masses honoring the mother of Mary and grandmother of Christ. Please join with us by listing your intentions on the enclosed Petition Form and returning it to us in the convenient, pre-addressed envelope.



ork is now underway on the second in a series of 14 **Magnificat Windows** for the Shrine's Main Church. These richly colored, superbly-crafted windows - as well as individual stained glass panels – are among the select commemorative opportunities outlined in our newly updated edition of Named Gift Opportunties at Mary's Shrine, which will be available in early September. To receive your copy, please write or call us at the address below.



IS ISSUED PERIODICALLY FOR THE FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE 8300 VINELAND AVENUE ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32821 (407) 239-6600

Joy of Angels; Model of Christian Womankind -The Glorious Legacy of St. Anne

he Gospels
are silent on
the subject of
St. Anne — the
woman chosen
by God to
bring
forth

Mary, mother of Our Savior. So, too, are the letters of St. Paul and the books of the New Testament which followed.

It is, in fact, through tradition alone — the unsubstantiated, second century *Protevangelium* of *James* — that we first learn of Anne, her husband Joachim and their life together in Nazareth some 2,000 years ago. And even here we find only a simple woman whose faith never wavered and whose prayers for a child were at last answered in late middle age

with the birth of a daughter.

Yet if you wish to know the mother, it is said, then look to the child. So we look to the daughter, Mary — the new Eve, the fairest flower of womankind — and see the mirror of a mother who was assuredly herself a model of all virtue.

Through all the milestones of Mary's earthly journey, in fact — from the Annunciation to her witness at Calvary and the Assumption— there is an enduring reflection of a mother whose own life was deeply, inextricably rooted in faithful obedience to the Will of God. In Mary's patience, piety and inner strength, for instance, we are reminded how Anne had never relinquished hope that her heart might know the joys of motherhood. And in Mary's

concern for the sick, the poor and the troubled, we see again the "mirror of compassion" that was St. Anne.

How fitting it is that the grandmother of Jesus should become the Patroness of Grandmothers everywhere and Protectress of the Home. Indeed, over the years her name has been invoked by countless numbers of the faithful throughout the world — and testaments to her intercession are legion .

Consider alone the thousands of churches, schools and hospitals that bear the name of this simple woman whose great virtue was love. And know how fortunate we are to have St. Anne — whom the litany calls "Joy of Angels" — as our own loving grandmother in heaven!

UPDATE

continued from page one

began to fall across much of the United States, the first tractors began bulldozing their way onto the Shrine grounds, clearing the dense ve

clearing the dense vegetation and underbrush from the site of the new church.

Two weeks later, steamrollers pressed onto the newly cleared ground, filling, compacting and grading the site in preparation for work that was to begin on the structural components of the building.

By mid-spring 1991, bulldozers pushed forward again, this time clearing the path for a permanent new roadway and parking area on the north end of the complex. When completed, this new construction will connect with the Shrine's existing roadway system – allowing for an orderly flow of entering and exiting vehicles, even during the heavily trafficked weekend periods.

In weeks to come, earth movers will join the army of heavy equipment at the Shrine, clawing deep into the ground below to excavate the building site. By summer's end, the concrete mixers should arrive as well, churning and pouring out the foundation



mixture for some 100 concrete pads. These pads, in turn, will be used to anchor the thick masonry walls of the landmark church.

Looking ahead to the winter of 1991 and beyond, progress will become increasingly more visible as components of the vertical structure are put into place – and the new church begins to rise dramatically from the ground.

But even as the groundwork is being laid and the walls positioned to reach skyward, visitors by the thousands are arriving each week at the Shrine – drawn by the promises of Christ and welcomed by a growing community of the faithful, the members of our own local Shrine family. Indeed, said one of our more than 300 volunteers: "We are the church from elsewhere. No matter where you're from, we are your home away from home."



To Be Always Remembered in the Building of this Great Work of Faith

ne of the true joys of this the Campaign for Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine — is the wide range of commemorative gift opportunities the Campaign makes possible. Such gifts afford the faithful the chance to forever link their own family name with this great undertaking — or to honor and perpetuate here the name of a loved one, living or deceased.

Ranging in price from \$50 to more than \$1 million, these commemoratives provide the donor a handsomely framed, individualized certificate of recognition and, in some cases, a beautiful plaque of recognition at the Shrine itself.

If you have not as yet been able to consider a named gift for your family — or should you wish to provide a special remembrance

for a loved one - Shrine commemoratives afford a lasting and most appropriate recognition for births, anniversaries and other milestone occasions, as well as enduring memorials for those dear to you who have been called home to God.

Described below are some of the Shrine's most popular giving opportunities.



\$400 COMMEMORATIVE SANCTUARY STONE

hose who donate a marble Sanctuary Stone are helping to lay the foundations for the Shrine Altar —which will be the heart of the Church. On the Altar, Christ will be offered to the Father and will come present to His people. Appropriately, these contributors will each be recognized with a handsomely framed Certificate of Commemoration.



ROOF TILE \$<u>50</u> **MEMORIAL**

o provide a roof for Mary's Church — this is the most affordable of the Shrine's commemorative giving opportunities and one of the most important tasks in the second phase of construction at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine. In addition, Roof Tile donors receive a special, framed certificate which attests to their personal role in building the Shrine Church.

o dedicate a Shrine Hymnal is to inscribe your name or the name of a loved one, in perpetuity, among the songs of praise and thanksgiving through which God is glorified.

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\$900 **COMMEMORATIVE PEW SEAT**

o be remembered within the Shrine Church is a very special honor. And donors who elect this commemorative will have their name, or the name of a designated loved one, engraved on a plaque which will be permanently installed in the pew.



Derhaps the most beautiful way to honor the special relationship that exists between son and mother, or mother and daughter, is through a named plaque in the Shrine's Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel. Each of these individual

\$1,000 & CHILD **PLAQUE**

marble plaques, engraved with the name of a dear one, MOTHER will be on permanent display at the Chapel — a testament of lasting familial love.

\$100 COMMEMORATIVE COURTYARD BRICK

he courtyard connecting the Shrine Church, Evangelization Center and Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel will be brickpaved throughout. And donors of \$100 will receive a special certificate in their name, or in the name of a designated loved one, attesting to their commemorative contribution of a Courtyard Brick.