



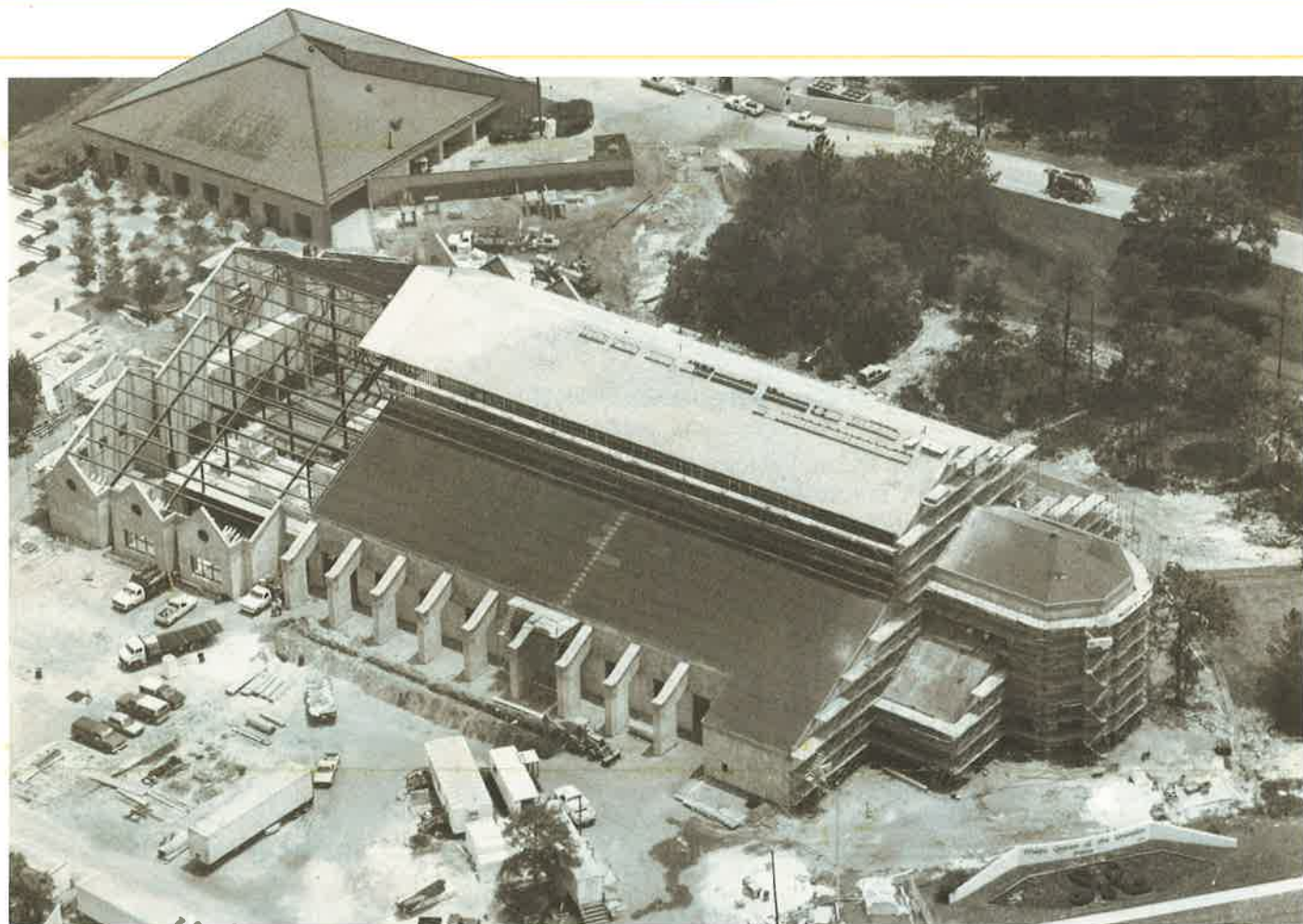
# the magnificat

Vol. 6 No.2

SUMMER 1992

A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE



## UPDATE

### ***Preparing the Crown for Mary's Shrine— Main Church Exterior Work Nears Completion***

**Construction timetable for 2,000-seat worship center now more than five weeks ahead of schedule**

ORLANDO, FL—As the building program for Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine continues to gain in both momentum and visible progress, construction crews are working to complete the exterior housing for the Shrine's emerging, 56,000 square foot Main Church.

During the summer months, conveyors will lift some 306 tons of concrete tile to the highest reaches of the building's outer shell. There, roofers will hand place the 68,000 individual tiles—which are to become the 'crown' for Mary's new church.

Working at roof level and below, masons, carpenters and other

members of the construction crew will install the cast stonework, high windows and outdoor light fixtures; set the rooftop cross; apply paint and stucco to the exterior walls; and pour the sidewalk concrete.

Within the center core of the new building, crews will assemble an extensive network of scaffolding. And from this multi-tiered frame, dry walls and fixtures will

be set in place, the ceiling completed and upper walls plastered and painted.

Should construction continue to move forward ahead of schedule, workers will remove the scaffold by late autumn—enabling the painters and other artisans to complete the interior walls; lay the wood and marble flooring; and install the air conditioning, sound and security systems by year's end.

Across the country, work continues



*To complete the Main Church at Mary's Shrine, construction crews will use some 812,000 lbs. of structural steel, 265,000 lbs. of reinforcing steel, and more than 14 million lbs. of concrete.*

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# A Message from the Director

June 26, 1992

Dear Shrine Family Member:

I was in Rome last month to begin preparations for the 1993 dedication of our new Shrine Church.

Happily, while there I had the chance once again to visit with Pio Cardinal Laghi, who was for many years the Papal representative to the American people.

Today he has the even greater task of supervising Catholic education worldwide. Yet he remains with us, a good friend—strongly committed to this remarkable apostolate which binds you and me.

And as we stood together in his Vatican office, looking out over St. Peter's Square, I marveled at the throngs of the faithful streaming through the great doors of the Basilica.

But I was also saddened by the thought of how many doors are today closing to the faithful here in America—once thriving parish churches and schools that are now no more than silent sentinels, locked and barred.

How many hearts, I wondered that morning, might become similarly dark, locking out the Gospel message of love and faith? How many souls might never find the light God's glorious plan has promised them?

Yet I was reminded as well of an old Irish proverb:

"If God shuts one door, He opens another."

And I thought about the doors of our own Shrine Church opening to welcome all who would welcome Christ ...and of the work that lies ahead for us in helping to share the joys and values of our Catholic faith.

May God bless you for your continuing part in this apostolate; and may your heart remain ever open to the redeeming love of Our Lord and His holy mother.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,



Father F. Joseph Harte



P.S. While in Rome I again had the great privilege of concelebrating Mass with the Holy Father—and the great joy, two days earlier, of remembering before the Altar at St. Mary Major all Shrine family members who were part of our Mother's Day Novena.

## To Our Lady of the Assumption

You are invited  
to share in  
the spiritual blessings  
of the  
Mary, Queen of the Universe  
Shrine  
Double Octave of Masses  
honoring  
Our Lady of the Assumption

July 31st - August 15th

### Mass Schedule

WEEKDAY    SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES  
8:00 AM                  6:00 PM

SUNDAY & HOLY DAY MASSES  
7:30 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM • 6:00 PM

## a legacy of faith

**B**y means of a bequest, naming Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine in your will, you can bequeath to a new generation a legacy of faith and gain for yourself the immeasurable blessings and deep personal satisfaction of knowing that your gift will help, in perpetuity, to further the work of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

the  
**magnificat**

IS ISSUED PERIODICALLY FOR THE  
FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS OF

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



## Our Mother's Grace, Our Father's Glory; Reflections on the Feast of the Assumption

The Assumption of Mary is the oldest and, arguably the greatest of all the Marian liturgical feasts.

Indeed, within only a few hundred years of her death, a fourth century bishop, Athanasius of Alexandria, would write: "O, Virgin, your glory transcends all created things." And by the fifth century—according to the reference, "Behold Your Mother"—Christians were celebrating on August 15th a "Memorial to Mary," patterned on the feast day remembrances for the early martyrs.

Homilies on the Assumption began to appear soon after—offering such exultations as these from an evening prayer service during the ninth century: "Behold: today heaven throws open its bosom to receive her who brought forth the Great

One." And from St. Peter Canisius in the 16th century: "O Happy Day—which raised up and so highly exalted this most humble Handmaiden of the Lord, that she might become the most glorious Queen of Heaven and the mistress of the world."

Still, it was perhaps left for our own age to consecrate most fully and remember most joyously this solemn liturgical feast which celebrates anew each year the everlasting bond that united holy Mary with Jesus, the risen Savior.

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared it to be a dogma divinely revealed that "the ever Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was run, was assumed in body and in soul to heavenly glory."

Yet why is Mary's Assumption so

important to each of us today? The late Dominican teacher, Gerald Vann suggests it is because hers is "a voice to affirm and a power to defend..."; one that bids us to be of good heart so we might hope to achieve our own lives, full, rich, deep, unified and free.

From Thomas Merton: "In Mary is realized God's whole creative and redemptive plan"; her perfection reached by "the obediential potency in her nature, which is also our nature...We cannot help but see that she is, like ourselves, a human creature whose littleness has been glorified in the light of Christ and who has been saved from the power of darkness and evil by the grace of His Cross." And simply, from John Cardinal Carberry: "The feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven turns our eyes toward home."

### UPDATE

continued

pace on the major artistic commissions of the building program.

From the Judson Studios in California, Mary's Shrine will soon receive *Prophecy and the Incarnation*—third in a series of 14 Magnificat Windows. Designs have also been rendered for *Crowning with Thorns*—the second of 15 stained glass Rosary Windows that will extend the length of the nave and help to illuminate the central part of the church from high above.

In his Chicago studio, celebrated sculptor, Jerzy Kenar, is also at work on behalf of the Shrine. His strikingly original Holy Water Font design will soon grace the narthex of the new church. And he has begun as well the even more daunting task of creating a large, 650-lb., sculpture of the Crucified Christ—which will hang suspended above the Main Altar.

Yet as progress continues and the excitement and anticipation build, Shrine Director, Father F. Joseph Harte most often speaks of the true foundation and prime builders of Mary's new church. These are, in his words, "the wonderful members of our Shrine family who are sacrificing much today that we might bring the Word of God to so many more in the months and years to come."



### ARCHITECTURAL ART

## Prominent Stone Casting Firm To Help Complete Mary's Church

NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL—In their selection of materials, craftsmen and artists to help realize the vision of a new Main Church for Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine, the Shrine's planners and architects have cast an ever wider net.

They have sent to Portugal for marble, contracted with stained glass artists in California and Kentucky, and commissioned major pieces from the Chicago studio of sculptor, Jerzy Kenar.

When it came to the finishing work for many of the most important design and structural elements at the new church, however, the Shrine planning team looked no further than New Smyrna Beach, Florida—and the stone casting workshops of Bailey-Sigler, Inc.

Founded in 1963, and today a prominent member of the Architectural Precast Association, Bailey-Sigler, Inc. includes work for Universal Studios, the Tampa Arena and the University of Florida at Gainesville among its impressive portfolio of achievements.

Yet Mary's Shrine offers a most exciting new challenge for the firm's craftsmen—as they work to complete the interior columns and archway openings, roof-mounted cross and cornerstone of the new church in a simulated, limestone-like coquina rock finish. It is, in fact, a project they believe will be among the highlights of tomorrow's Bailey-Sigler, Inc. portfolio.





**COMMEMORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES**

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

One 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

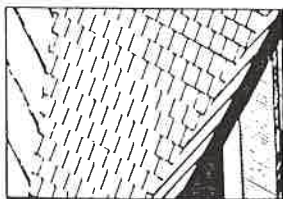
for a loved one — Shrine commemoratives afford a lasting and most appropriate recognition for births, anniversaries and other milestone occasions, as well as enduring memorials for those dear to you who have been called home to God.

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



**\$400** **COMMEMORATIVE SANCTUARY STONE**

Those 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.

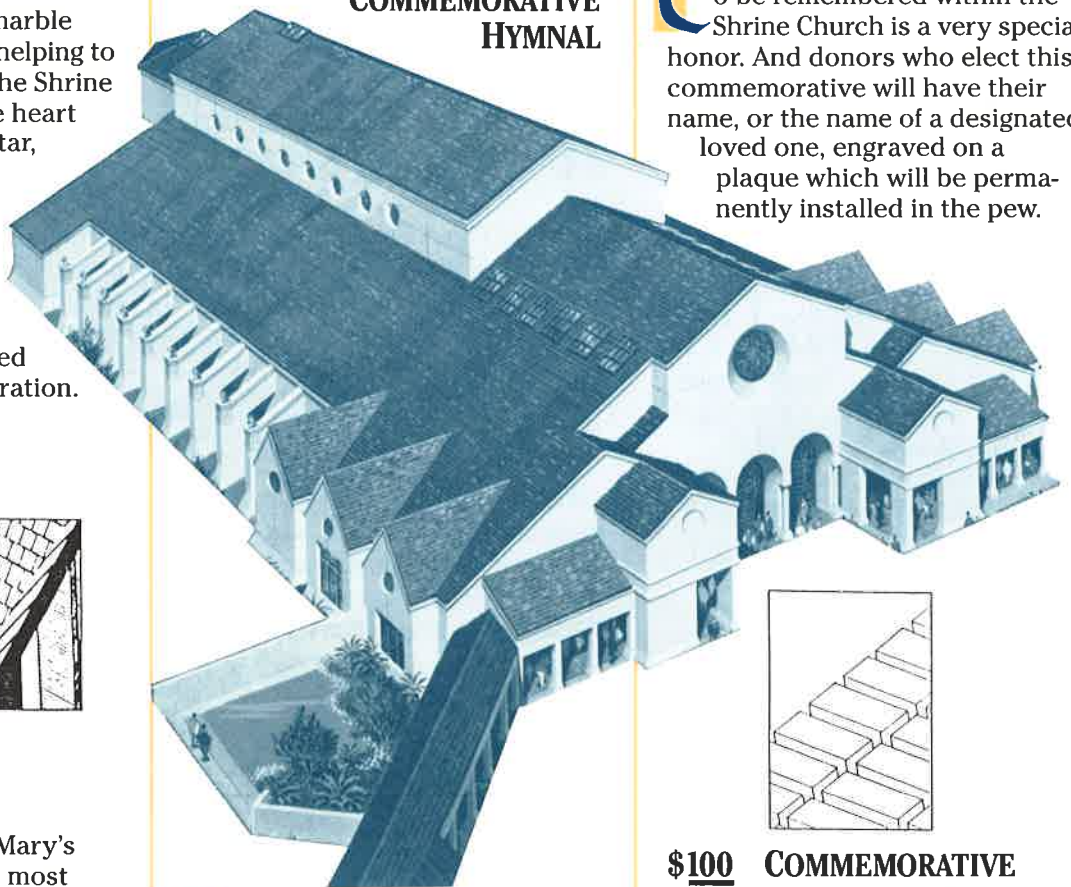


**\$50** **ROOF TILE MEMORIAL**

To 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.

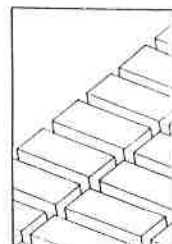
To dedicate a Shrine Hymnal is to inscribe your name or the name of a loved one, in perpetuity, among the songs of praise and thanksgiving through which God is glorified.

**\$250** **COMMEMORATIVE HYMNAL**



**\$900** **COMMEMORATIVE PEW SEAT**

To 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.



**\$100** **COMMEMORATIVE COURTYARD BRICK**

The courtyard connecting the Shrine Church, Evangelization Center and Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel will be brick-paved 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.

Perhaps 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** **MOTHER & CHILD PLAQUE**

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