



the magnificat

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A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE



UPDATE

Opening Wider Still the Doors to Christ— Church at Mary's Shrine is Formally Dedicated

Members of Shrine family join with Church leaders from across the world in consecrating major new center for worship.

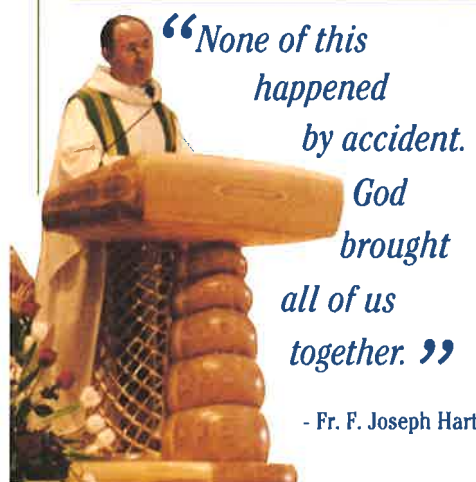
ORLANDO, FL. — As the afternoon sun streamed through the clerestory windows of the new Main Church at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine on Sunday, August 22, 1993, a lengthy procession of Cardinals, Bishops, priests and delegations representing the worldwide People of God moved down the center aisle of the basilica-formed house of worship and up the marble steps to the Altar.

On either side of the aisle were gathered thousands of Shrine family

members and friends. They had come from Europe and Latin America, Canada, and California, Orlando and points north and west. Among them were the workers who had built the massive church with their hands; and many of those who had helped build with their hearts and faith.

Brought together by the Feast of the Queenship of Mary — and the Dedication Mass for what may well be the last great shrine of the Second Millennium — they were now joined in helping to consecrate that which they had created. And together they listened as the Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, Bishop of Orlando, came forward to welcome the faithful:

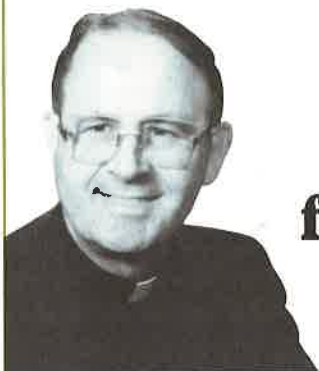
"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the grace of God be with you all who are His Holy Church. This is a day



"None of this happened by accident. God brought all of us together."

- Fr. F. Joseph Harte

continued on page 3



A Message from the Director

Dear Shrine Family Member,

As we enter this New Year in Christ, I bring you tidings most joyous -- gratifying news of our work together here at Mary's Shrine.

Yet I cannot write of tomorrow without once again acknowledging each of you who has sacrificed prayerfully to open wide a new pathway to Jesus.

Indeed, these first weeks of Christmastide have seen overflowing numbers of worshippers join with us... and the overflowing hearts of those who have found here the light of faith.

Greater still, however, is the promise you can help us to realize through the months and years ahead.

Even now we are working to complete the Shrine's unique Rosary Garden -- affording visitors an ever-changing landscape within which to contemplate the Mysteries that are central to our faith.

Nearing completion, too, is the new Shrine Evangelization Center. In fact, we have already opened a spacious gift shop, providing for more comfortable browsing and a far wider selection of religious books, statuary and articles of faith.

Still in development is the Shrine Museum, a space that will enable us to rescue, and then display prominently, treasures from the churches of Europe. As you may know, many of these churches have been forced to close, leaving their precious works of art an uncertain, imperiled fate.

We continue to develop as well our own images of faith. Beyond the Magnificat and Rosary Windows, we hope to begin shortly the definitive sculpture of Mary as Queen of the Universe.

As funds permit, other sacred images will find a home with us. Exterior bells will call the faithful, and a major pipe organ within the Church will resound with the music of their prayers.

In years to come, of course, countless men, women and children will be influenced by this work we have begun ... their lives enriched, their faith inspired.

And if it is, as the poet wrote, that "gratitude is the fragrance of memory," then surely you and I will have a lasting remembrance both in their prayers and in their hearts.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

F. Joseph Harte

Father F. Joseph Harte
Director

to Our Lady of Lourdes

MEMBERS OF THE
MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE
SHRINE FAMILY

ARE INVITED TO SHARE IN
THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
OF THE SHRINE'S
SEVENTH ANNUAL NOVENA
HONORING
OUR LADY OF LOURDES



YOUR PETITIONS
WILL BE PLACED AS WELL
ON THE ALTAR OF
OUR LADY'S SHRINE
AT LOURDES
AS PART OF THE
1994 LOURDES PILGRIMAGE
OF
FATHER F. JOSEPH HARTE

a legacy of faith

By 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 blessing 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
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UPDATE
continued
from page 1



*“As pilgrims we have kno
May we open ou*

of great rejoicing, for we have come to dedicate this Shrine Church by offering within the sacrifice of God.”

Seven months earlier, Bishop Dorsey had tapped his crozier three times upon the door of the still unfinished worship center; and, with the intonation, “*Holy, Holy, Holy,*” he was to open the doors for the first Mass ever held within the walls of the new church.

The date was January 31, 1993, and a surprising crowd of nearly 3,000 worshippers filled both the seats and standing areas for this historic, yet unofficial, first mass. Among the concelebrants that day was the retired Bishop of Orlando, the Most Reverend Thomas J. Grady,

who had given his blessing to the Shrine project in the Spring of 1980. Recognition of Bishop Grady’s presence brought thunderous applause. So, too, did the moment when Bishop Dorsey presented Shrine Director, Father F. Joseph Harte with the key to the new church. Again and again, in fact, the assembly joined in applause as Father Harte praised by name a number of those who had worked so long and hard in transforming the vision of Mary’s Shrine into reality. Noted Father Harte: “*This is what we have all dreamt about for years... and years... and years.*”

Yet the dream was to remain unfulfilled for seven more months. In the hours before and after mass,

contractors continued their work, installing plumbing and electrical lines. New glass art and statuary were set in place. Conversion of the Shrine’s temporary church now began – a project that would create a new center for evangelization, museum of religious art and artifacts, and a greatly enlarged shop for religious books and articles of faith.

But at last came August, with a week of ceremonies and events culminating in the Dedication Mass on Sunday the 22nd. And prayerfully, those gathered listened first to the Bishop’s opening remarks and then readings from the Book of Nehemiah, Paul’s letter to the Ephesians and Luke’s Gospel.

With guest choir members contributing their marvelous voices, hymns of faith and thanksgiving lifted the hearts of all. Yet even as Bishop Dorsey began his homily, a heavy rain

RELIGIOUS ART



Breathing Life Into Wood, Marble And Stone

*“Leave the beauty which
embraces our souls.”*

So ends a moving poem by Jerzy Kenar. Yet for this most renowned Polish artist, thoughts are even more powerfully expressed in wood, stone and bronze.

As long-time Shrine family members know, it was Jerzy Kenar who was called upon to create the Ceremonial Chair for the Chicago visit of Pope John Paul II, soon after Jerzy’s own arrival in the United States in 1979. And his strikingly original work has now been installed in more than 40 churches nationwide – including the Church at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine.

Interweaving his own artistic vision with the vision of those at the Shrine, Kenar sought to unite many natural elements, and convey both a welcome and the welcoming presence of Mary and her Divine Son.

His holy water font – with soaring, 30-foot high, mahogany columns and a base of marble ringed by bronze – evokes a “gateway.” Alternating bands of polished red



granite and unpolished rose granite flooring help carry the sense of flow, in a wave of motion from the water font to the sculptured glass doorways that lead to the nave. For the pilgrim’s heart, there is the feeling of being drawn, almost “washed forward” into the life of purity within.

Once inside the cavernous nave, with its basilica-like dimensions and soaring upward space, the visitor is soon transfixed by the 12-foot figure of the Crucified Christ – a 600-lb., linden wood sculpture set against

*...opened on the doors of this new Shrine to Mary, Queen of the Universe...
...hearts and minds to receive God's Word with Faith."*

– Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey

broke through the sun-drenched sky, washing over the church and grounds. As the congregation joined in the Profession of Faith and Prayer of Dedication, the rains continued. Just as the prayer was nearing its conclusion – "...*We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ...*" – and preparations were being made to anoint the Altar and walls of the Church, suddenly, dramatically, the rains ceased. The sky grew silent. The clouds retreated, allowing the sun to re-emerge.

Later in the day, an attending usher would offer that perhaps the heavens themselves had chosen to anoint this holy ground and then bless the ministry that was already underway at the Shrine. Indeed, as the anointing of the Church went forward, the choir offered first "*The Fragrance of Christ,*" and then "*Out of Darkness.*"

Through the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Christ renewed His presence in the hearts of those gathered. And with the Rite of Peace and concluding hymns, it seemed that Jesus and His Blessed Mother would remain ever present in the life and work of the Shrine.

Among those adding prayerfully to the Dedication was Pio Cardinal Laghi, former Papal Nuncio to the United States and now head of the Vatican's Office of Catholic Education worldwide. Cardinal Laghi brought with him Pope John Paul II's Apostolic Blessing on the new Church – which His Holiness calls "*this house of pilgrimage*" – and shared with Shrine family members a special message in which the Pope invoked the Queen of Heaven's loving protection upon all those who continued to help in fulfilling the Shrine's great promise.

More recently, on November 28th – the First Sunday of Advent – Bishop Dorsey officiated at the Mass of Initiation of Perpetual Adoration within the Shrine's inspiring new Adoration Chapel. Highlighting this new Chapel, which is located directly in back of the main altar, is the striking, Jerzy Kenar-sculptured repository, in which is placed the Monstrance. With exposition of the Blessed Sacrament now taking place daily, Fr. Harte offered: "*This Shrine came into being through our people's fidelity to the Eucharist. Now they have the opportunity to come here and spend even more time with Christ, in these peaceful and prayerful surroundings.*"

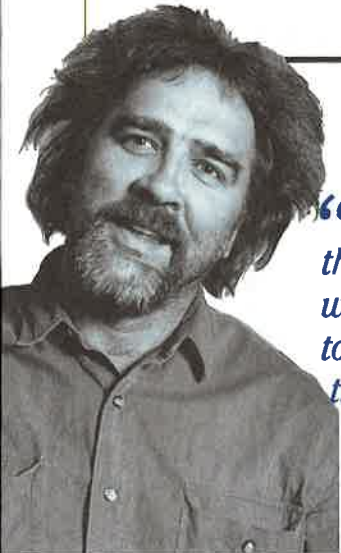
Now on videocassette is the Dedication Mass for the Main Church at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine. Copies are available at \$14.95 each.

To order, please write, or call (407) 239-4010.

a backdrop of beveled glass panels, each dancing with natural light captured from the Shrine's stained glass portals.

The arms are outstretched, but the face looking down from the disappearing glass cross is not one contorted in agony, but gentle in repose. It is as if the face of Jesus had been captured at that moment when death first ebbs the pain of life and then stills the soul.

For the Altar below, Kenar has

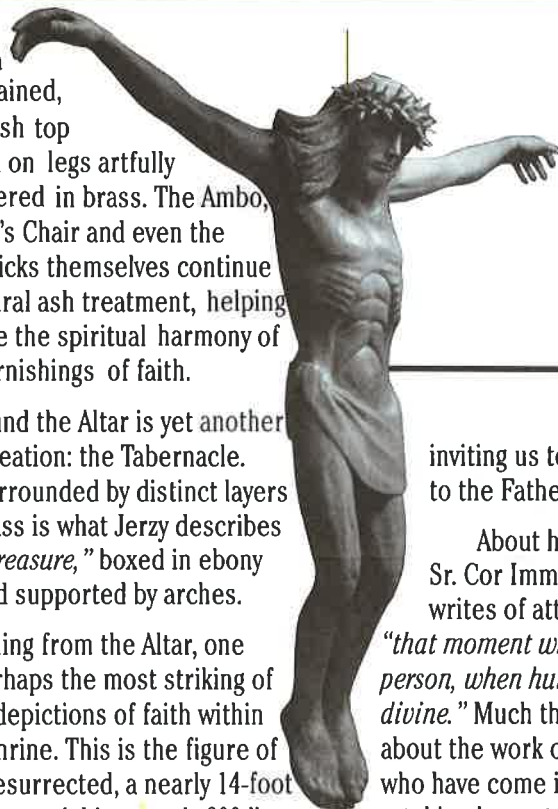


"Capturing the moment when humanity touches the divine."

crafted a richly-grained, natural ash top mounted on legs artfully embroidered in brass. The Ambo, Presider's Chair and even the candlesticks themselves continue this natural ash treatment, helping to assure the spiritual harmony of these furnishings of faith.

Behind the Altar is yet another Kenar creation: the Tabernacle. Here, surrounded by distinct layers of art glass is what Jerzy describes as "*the treasure,*" boxed in ebony wood and supported by arches.

Turning from the Altar, one finds perhaps the most striking of Kenar's depictions of faith within Mary's Shrine. This is the figure of Christ Resurrected, a nearly 14-foot high statue weighing nearly 800 lbs. Here is Jesus seeming to emerge from a shroud, with – in the words of Jerzy Kenar, "*one hand reaching down to us and the other, raised upward to the Father.*" Together with the upward spiral etched into the glass backdrop just behind the figure, the image is even more powerful,



inviting us to come, through Him, to the Father.

About her own sculptures, Sr. Cor Immaculatum Heffernan writes of attempting to express "*that moment when person meets person, when humanity touches the divine.*" Much the same can be said about the work of Jerzy Kenar; and all who have come into contact with his art, his elemental depictions of humankind's relationship with God, have assuredly been both refreshed and enriched by this art which breathes life into wood, marble and stone.

SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCE

Lourdes: Where Came Light From the Darkness -- The Enduring Candle of Our Lady's Presence

LOURDES -- Serge Perrin was 35 years old, the father of three children, when he awoke in early February 1964, with a severe headache and partial paralysis on his right side. Recovering gradually, the French accountant remained well until December of 1968. Then the paralysis returned; and this time, the medical prognosis was bleak: progressive paralysis; the loss of sight, speech and other senses; then, a life without life.

To be left alone, to die in peace; this was all Serge Perrin now asked. Whatever faith the Catholicism of his youth may have kindled, it had long since turned to embers. Still, urged by his family, the debilitated young father traveled to Lourdes that next Spring. But there was no relief forthcoming.

More discouraged than ever, Serge now seemed almost without hope. Yet his wife had remained strong in faith. Beseeking her husband again and again, she at last convinced him to return once more to the Grotto of Our Lady.



As the date drew near for this second pilgrimage, though, her husband's condition had deteriorated greatly. Arriving at Lourdes, Serge was near death. And he was in a wheelchair May 1, 1970, for the Anointing of the Sick ceremony in the St. Pius Basilica.

Suddenly, we are told, the nearly blind, largely paralyzed man sensed a feeling of "warmth" in his toes. The warmth was to spread upwards; and within hours, his paralysis would ebb and his sight would be restored.

Both Serge and the medical officer who had accompanied him soon realized that a miracle had indeed taken place. In the years that followed, both medical and ecclesiastical authorities were to confirm the cure's miraculous nature; and in his own heart, Serge Perrin was to confirm the extraordinary, all-embracing love of Mary and her Divine Son.

While his was one of only 64 scrupulously documented Lourdes "miracles," there have been at least 1,200 cures acknowledged to be "without scientific explanation." Countless others have found there, in Our Lady's Grotto, answers to their life's struggle; and few have returned from a pilgrimage to this holy place, nestled in the lengthened shadow of the Pyrenees, without a spirit that was newly refreshed and an accompanying sense of peace.

THE ROSARY WINDOWS



Illustrating God's Mysteries; Illuminating God's Love

Looking down from the upper reaches of Mary's Shrine Church are a series of 16 clerestory windows, bathing the area

of assembly below with a soft translucence while helping to focus the mind's gaze on the Joyful, the Sorrowful and the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.

These are the remarkable Rosary Windows of Mary's Shrine. Each is nearly seven feet in height and weighs some 200 pounds. Five such windows have now been created and installed. Among this first group of window installations are:

• **THE ANNUNCIATION**

Here the Blessed Virgin is seen reaching out to grasp a lily being handed to her by a dazzling white figure representing the Archangel Gabriel. This is the first of the Joyful Mysteries.

• **CROWNING WITH THORNS**

Jesus is seated, a scarlet drape thrown over His shoulders, a reed in His right hand, the crown of thorns on His head.

• **THE ASCENSION**

For this, the second of the Glorious Mysteries, we see the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles all looking to the clouds through which Jesus has just ascended.



• **THE ASSUMPTION**

Depicted rising in the clouds is Mary, Mother of God, while below is Pope Pius XII, proclaiming the Assumption.

COMMEMORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

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

One of the 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.

\$50
ROOF TILE MEMORIAL

To provide a roof for Mary's Church is the most affordable of the Shrine's name gift opportunities. Roof Tile donors receive a special, framed certificate which attests to their personal role in building this major new center for worship.

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

\$400
COMMEMORATIVE SANCTUARY STONE

Those who donate a marble Sanctuary Stone will have helped to lay the foundations for the Shrine Altar — the heart of the Church. On the Altar, Christ will be offered to the Father and will come present to His people. These generous contributors are recognized with a handsomely framed Certificate of Commemoration.

\$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 contribution of a Courtyard Brick.

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

\$1,000
MOTHER & CHILD PLAQUE

