



the magnificat

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SUMMER 1994

A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE



UPDATE

Creating a New Landscape for Prayer-- “Garden of the Rosary” Blooms at Mary’s Shrine

Wilderness tract of swamp and underbrush is transformed into garden of devotion honoring the Blessed Mother of God.

ORLANDO, FL. — Well before the dedication ceremonies at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine last August, landscape architect Laura Llerena was at work, envisioning a unique garden of reflection for these holy grounds.

An accomplished designer of natural spaces, Llerena has left her botanical imprint on more than 200 project exteriors: among them, parks and recreation areas, medical centers, university campuses,

commercial and residential complexes, regional developments and centers for worship.

Her work can be appreciated throughout the Archdiocese of Miami and, nationwide -- from the Atrium at

“Let’s say I am the tool Our Lord used to honor His Blessed Mother.”

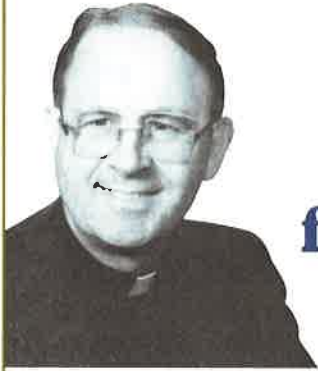
— Laura Llerena



Coral Gardens, north to New Jersey’s Riverside Nature Park and west, to Busch Gardens and the University of California.

Yet Laura Llerena considered the Prayer Garden at Mary’s Shrine among her most gratifying commissions. *“I am a simple woman,”* she offers, *“an artist who uses the open spaces as a canvas.”* On her *“palette,”* though, is nature itself: the earth and trees, stones, water and plants. *“I work humbly to recreate and preserve what God has given us.”* And she invites us to reach out our hands, walk with her, and see the new garden through her eyes.

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A Message from the Director

Dear Shrine Family Member,

Anniversaries are landmarks in each of our lives.

We remember birthdays. We renew marriages and meet again with old friends at school reunions. These are times that call upon us to pause and measure the progress of our lives.

So it is even for churches. And as we move closer to the first anniversary of our Shrine Church dedication on August 22nd, I would share with you some thoughts about the distance we have traveled together.

If you were with us in the early years, you know that our dream was never of buildings or monuments. Ours was to be a place where the human family could draw nearer to the Family of God.

We may have been architects; but the plans we drew were for pathways that would lead our brothers and sisters to Jesus and His blessed mother. We were stone masons and carpenters. But the foundations we laid were within the heart. We worked to build a stronger sense of faith; a greater openness to the spiritual dialogue which unites us with the Almighty.

Now we commit ourselves anew to this holy apostolate and--in the spirit of the Second Vatican Council--we seek to do so through the renewal of Marian piety.

Yet, just what is Mary's role in evangelization?

The Gospel has answers. The wisdom of the ages provides greater depth still. St. Thomas Aquinas, for one, wrote that "When the Virgin conceived the Eternal Word and gave Him birth, she became the Queen of Mercy." Added St. Bernard: "There are no sinners who will be lost...when this holy Lady intercedes for them."

In our own time, there is Thomas Merton who wrote: "In Mary is perfectly realized God's whole creative and redemptive plan. That is why she is said to be for us a light of truth and a pattern of life."

If then, we derive our strength from her, our love from her, our sense of purpose from her, we cannot help but follow in her path. And the radiance of our lives--our own evangelic witness--cannot help but lead others out from the darkness.

May these summer days enfold you with the warmth of Mary's embrace, and these summer nights bring you the restfulness of His peace.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

F. Joseph Harte

Father F. Joseph Harte
Director



MEMBERS OF THE
MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE
SHRINE FAMILY
ARE INVITED TO SHARE IN
THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
OF THE SHRINE'S
NINTH ANNUAL NOVENA
HONORING
THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY



THE
FIRST ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION
OF THE NEW SHRINE CHURCH

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

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"A Living Rosary of Faith"

You enter, taking your first steps among the trees and colorful blooms. But look beyond the flower beds, for together they form only the framework for an enormous, ground-laid cross.

You continue, sensing the walkway's unusual shape and movement. The multi-hued concrete pavers beneath your feet seem to resemble the beads of a rosary. It is indeed a rosary, laid out in the ground; and as you walk on, the most beautiful of prayers echo from within your heart: the "Our Father," the "Hail Mary," the "Glory."

Following the path, you come to realize this is a "living rosary," a work of man amid the works of God. Winding around natural hammocks of stately oak and tall pine, the "beads" encircle ponds of water. Here lilies open their petals to the sky. You may even glimpse a blue jay building its nest, or a squirrel scurrying underneath. And in the center of this prayerful oasis, you encounter a likeness of the Blessed Virgin holding the Infant Jesus.



"... what was first a dream and later a concept on paper is today a living rosary of faith."

— Laura Llerena

HEALTH & FAITH

That Sickness Be Anointed With Faith: The Healing Power of Prayer

Is science just now learning what faith has known for centuries? That is the conclusion we might draw from increasing numbers of scientifically well-designed, mind-body studies which suggest a positive relationship between prayer and healing.

Among the "converts" is M.D. Larry Dossey, author of *"Healing Words."* Serving as chief of staff for a major Texas hospital eight years ago, Dr. Dossey learned that a study of coronary care patients found those who had been prayed for daily showed, on average, greater progress than those who were not receiving prayers. But most remarkable, as reported in *The New York Times* on December 19, 1993, none of the nearly 400 patients in the group knew whom had been randomly assigned to the group being prayed for. Not even their nurses or physicians knew!

Following-up, Dr. Dossey discovered more than 100 such experiments in the scientific literature. And he was able to conclude in more than half the tests that prayer indeed had a salutary impact in a broad range of areas -- from high blood pressure and the healing of wounds to laboratory tests involving cancer cells in fungi and tumors in small animals.

Noted oncologist, Dr. O. Carl Simonton is also a believer. At his Simonton Cancer Center in Pacific Palisades, California, doctors have worked to develop effective techniques that can help patients themselves "mobilize their innate healing capacity."

Skeptics, of course, persist. And not even the most faithful would argue for substituting prayer alone in place of medical treatment. But the

People of God understand the linkage between prayer and healing. They point to Catechism 1421: "Jesus, doctor of our souls and bodies, wished that the Church should, by the power of the Spirit, continue his work of healing and salvation."

They reference also Catechism 1499: "By the anointing of the sick and the prayer of priest, the Church recommends the sick to the suffering and glorified Lord so he may comfort and save them."

As such, our work here at Mary's Shrine is as well a "healing ministry." We welcome the opportunity to pray for those dear to you who may today be ill, injured or suffering emotional distress. And for those of your loved ones who are approaching their final journey into the life beyond, we ask that God's mercy anoint them and His love embrace their soul.

All has a sense of rhythm, harmony and balance -- with God, nature and ourselves. Truly, this is a garden for all peoples. It invites us to enter, leaving behind the daily cares and burdens of our lives; and it offers us the embrace of inner peace.

Beyond the greenery, beyond the boundaries of Mary's Shrine, lies a mechanical wonderland of tourist attractions, each beckoning, busy and boisterous. Yet within the garden, there is only the pure and pristine. Even before a prayer reaches our lips, our hearts find serenity and joy.

This is the remarkable Rosary Garden Laura Llerena has created for

the friends and family members of Mary's Shrine. But she is quick to credit the Holy Spirit as the well-spring of her ideas. *"Somehow, God chose me for this work,"* she adds, *"and what was first a dream and later a concept on paper is today a living rosary of faith."*

Realizing the Potential

The Rosary Garden is an exceptional new resource for Mary's Shrine. Yet progress continues across the entire complex. Our original worship space has been redesigned to accommodate an exciting new center for evangel-

ization. And display concepts that will capture the interest of both young and old are even now being developed by computer specialists and other volunteer members of our Shrine family. New images in stained glass continue to be crafted and installed. Inspirational religious art -- including a richly drawn series of paintings depicting *"The Way of the Cross"* -- now graces the church interior. Satisfying, too, has been the opportunity to develop theme-related displays within a greatly expanded area for religious books and articles of faith.

As thousands of new visitors gather here each month, this holy place seems ever closer to fulfilling its great promise for the People of God. There is, however, so much that remains to be accomplished. And each month anew, there are prayers here for the family of Mary's Shrine -- all who continue to share, through their own sacrificial offerings, in the work... and in the dream.



The Rosary Garden at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine

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 us at (407) 239-4010.

RELIGIOUS ART

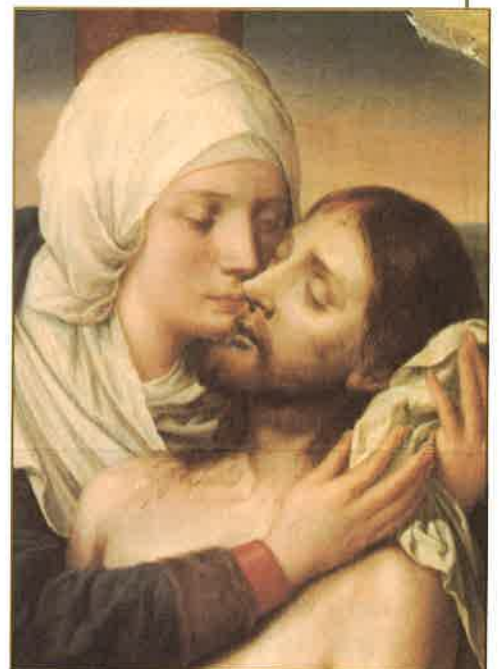
"Via Crucis" -- The Way Of The Cross



BRUSSELS -- Capturing for us the drama, passion and intensity of Holy Week in the Catholic Church are the images of Christ's *Via Crucis* -- *"The Way of the Cross."* So when it came to selecting those images that would most fully convey the traditional Stations of the Cross to the faithful within Mary's new church, Shrine planners looked first to the influential artists of 19th century Europe.

In the work of Flemish Master, Frans Anseele, the Shrine found a truly inspired interpreter of Christ's Passion. A student of the great Peter van Hanselaer, Anseele found his paintings celebrated in the salons of Brussels and Ghent. Even today, his work can be admired in public arenas such as Belgium's Church of Bouchante.

The selection of work by Frans Anseele reflected both a commitment to great art and to the preservation of sacred paintings that might otherwise be lost to posterity. The Stations of the Cross representations acquired by the Shrine,



though museum-quality and exacting in details, needed careful restoration. Yet the vivid color and translucent images captured within the 14 black wood frame with antique gold sgraffito trim, is a restoration not only of art but of faith's eternal memory.

A Moral Compass That Points Toward Peace – Reflections on the Queenship of Mary –

For the celebration of Mary's Queenship in 1959 -- five years after Pope Pius XII had, in his encyclical letter *"Ad coeli Reginam,"* decreed and instituted the feast -- John Cardinal Carberry offered a well-remembered homily.

He spoke of Mary, invoking the litany of her many titles -- from *"Queen of Angels"* to *"Mother of God"*; yet he held out great hope for this newest of her universal feasts. It was a prayer that commemoration of Mary, as Queen of all Creation would *"stir up in our souls renewed love and devotion... inviting all "to rededicate themselves to her Immaculate Heart."*

Cardinal Carberry was speaking at a time of great tension throughout the world. Nuclear weapons threatened to annihilate the planet, destroying much of God's own gift to humankind. Today, that threat has been much diminished. Still, these too are times of great concern. The slaughter of the innocent continues amid civil unrest and factional brush-fires in Eastern Europe, Africa and



even closer to home.

Nor has the United States been immune from factionalism and strife. Communities that should be drawing closer are failing to find common ground and purpose. Young people seem bewildered by the choices left to them. Television news sensationalizes violence and celebrates the least virtuous behavior.

It almost seems as if the world

has lost its moral compass. And we cannot help but remember the promise of St. Catherine Labouré: *"When Our Lady is honored as Queen of the universe, then there will be peace."*

In his 1959 homily, Cardinal Carberry reminded the audience that Mary has many times before come to the rescue of civilization. But we must beseech her. If only the prayer of Pius XII to Mary our Queen would be realized in the minds of all, the Cardinal exhorted. And he echoed that prayer: *"Reign over the minds of men, that they may seek only what is true; over their wills, that they may follow solely what is good; over their hearts, that they may love nothing but what you yourself love."*

Beginning August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption, and continuing through the Feast of the Queenship of Mary on August 22nd and beyond, our Shrine family will observe a Solemn Novena in honor of the Blessed Mother, Mary, Queen of the Universe. Please join with us.

THE MAGNIFICAT WINDOW

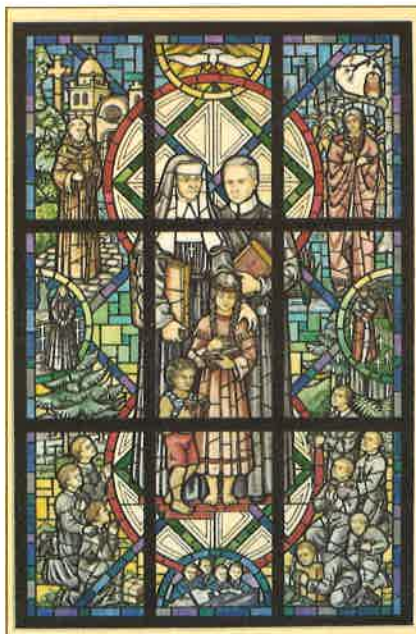
Commemorating A New World Of Faith: The Saints of North America

ORLANDO, FL. -- With *"Saints of the North American Church"* installed as the fourth in an extraordinary series of stained glass Magnificat Windows at Mary's Shrine Church, a new dimension has been added to the illuminated pageant of God's People. Depicted here are men and women whose loving graces helped nurture and sustain the growth of faith across the New World.

In the center, or main medallion, are Saint Katherine Drexel, the first

American-born to be canonized. With her is Saint John Newman, portrayed as a Redemptorist.

Encircling this main panel of the window are, beginning clockwise, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the recently canonized Native American and



Father Damien, who gave hope and purpose to the lepers of Molokai. Below are the kneeling figures of Jesuits, representing those martyred for their efforts to bring the Gospel Message to the people of the wilderness. Four faces and a sinking ship recall for us the World War II chaplains who gave up their life vests so that others might be saved from drowning.

Against the backdrop of New York Harbor's Statue of Liberty is pictured Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini, whose compelling work among the poor of urban America helped give roots to faith. Above is Blessed Junipero Serra who, with other early missionaries, brought Christ to the American West.

Both the Magnificat and Rosary Windows are available as memorials to friends and family. To learn more about dedicating a panel or an entire window, please call or write to us.

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.

**\$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.

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.

**\$50
ROOF TILE
MEMORIAL**

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

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**

**\$100
COMMEMORATIVE
COURTYARD BRICK**

The courtyard connecting the Shrine Church, Evangelization Center and Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel is 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.

