



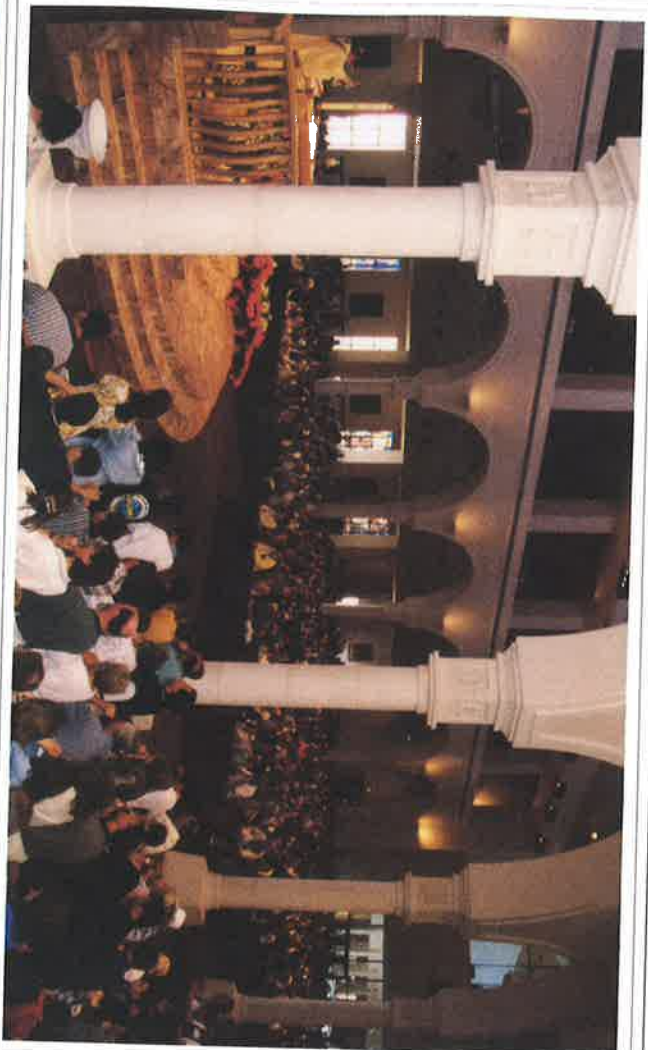
Vol. 12 No. 1

SUMMER 1998

A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE

# the magnificat



## UPDATE

### *Celebrations of Faith, Gatherings of the Faithful; A Year in the Life and Work of Mary's Shrine*

Opening of Shrine Museum, installation of sacred art works, help to enrich the experience of faith for a new generation

ORLANDO – As he welcomed Shrine family members, friends and visitors gathered on December's Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, CP, Bishop of Orlando spoke prayerfully to the congregation, asking that God trace in their hearts the readiness – “the alertness of faith to prepare us more and more to be a holy people... walking to Jesus and to glory with the help of Mary, our mother.”

Following this special feastday mass, Bishop Dorsey led a procession

to the nearby Day Chapel. There he blessed the Shrine's newly installed work which honors Our Lady of Guadalupe. A five-panel mosaic, this beautiful work unfolds the story of Our Lady's appearance in 1531 – from her apparition before Juan Diego to the miracle of roses



*... to prepare us  
more and more to be  
a holy people... walking  
to Jesus and to glory  
with the help of Mary,  
our mother*

– Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey

brought forth amid a garden of cactus and thorns in the depths of winter.

The Bishop led attendees across the courtyard for the dedication of the new Shrine Museum (see page 7). And later that evening came a special dinner which brought Shrine family members together in celebration and gratitude.

While these ceremonies were yet another milestone in the life and work of Mary's Shrine, the past twelve months offered many more highlights for this welcoming ministry.

September took Shrine Director, Father F. Joseph Harte to northern Italy

*continued on page 6*



## A Message from the Director

August 1998

Dear Friend in Christ,

In this ministry so filled with gladness and new faces, there is an especial joy in welcoming friends from years gone by.

These are the marvelous people who came here to Mary's Shrine, prayed with us and stayed, in their hearts, to help in opening our doors to the world.

Some were here with us long ago, when Mary's Shrine was no more than a dream. Some joined with us in the early '80's, when our "home" was simply a tent. And many others came more recently - their gifts helping to complete our church roof, building walls and sacred spaces.

How gratifying to be with them as they see, for the first time, that the "dream" has become real. How wonderful to hear them share in the joy.

It is as if we were old friends, gathered together after some time. And, to my mind, we are.

Not that I instantly recall each name and face.

Sometimes, in fact, I must be reminded of the last time I had written them - or their own, most recent letter to me. Then I remember.

It is, in a sense, like the two disciples who encountered Jesus upon the road to Emmaus. At first, they failed to recognize Him. But later, with the "breaking of bread," they knew Him at once.

In this, our Eucharistic ministry, we greet "the other Christs" - those who come for the breaking of bread. And while I might not recall each name or face, I know you by your faith, your love of God and neighbor, your commitment to Eucharist.

And I pray for you. Each day, in every mass, I ask God to bless you, for I want you to feel what you indeed are: a very special person who has become part of my life - and my ministry.

God and His most blessed mother surely love you. And so, dear friend, do I!

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

F. *F. Joseph Harte*

Father F. Joseph Harte

## NOVENA

FRIENDS AND MEMBERS  
OF THE  
MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE  
SHRINE FAMILY  
ARE INVITED TO SHARE IN  
THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS  
OF THE

SHRINE NOVENA  
HONORING

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE



AUGUST 22ND - AUGUST 30TH  
1998

## MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY  
MASSES

• 8:00 AM

SATURDAY  
VIGIL MASS

• 6:00 PM



• 7:00 PM  
(MONDAY)  
Mass and  
Perpetual  
Novena  
of the  
Miraculous  
Medal

SUNDAY &  
HOLY DAYS

• 7:30 AM  
• 9:30 AM  
• 11:30 AM  
• 6:00 PM

## 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  
8300 VINELAND AVENUE  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32821  
(407) 239-6600

## RELIGIOUS ART

### Shrine Museum Opens New Windows Upon the Faith

In 788 A.D., the Second Council of Nicea first approved icons and sacred images of Christ, Mary and the saints as objects of devotion. Twelve centuries later, Pope John Paul II echoed the Council's work, citing what he saw as "the growing need for a spiritual language of authentic Christian art" – works that express the "faith and hope of the Church." And he urged the promotion of religious art as an aid to the Faith.

It was a message heard by those working at Mary's Shrine to enrich the lives of many thousands of visitors each year. Their hope was that this "house of prayer" might also become a permanent home for works of Christian art and culture – and a showcase for visiting exhibitions from museums and galleries across the globe.

Contributing generously, hundreds of Shrine family members would make



that hope a reality. Located adjacent to the Shrine's gift shop, the new Museum at Mary's Shrine features more than 1,300 square-feet of display walls and spaces dramatically designed as a backdrop for centuries-old paintings, relics, chalices and other articles of faith that illuminate the Christian experience.

Among the most visited highlights of the Shrine's permanent collection – "Images of Faith" – is a 6th century relic of Desiderius Lingoninois, Bishop of Vienne during the epoch-making reign

of Pope Gregory the Great; and a major painting, "The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin," attributed to the 17th century Spanish artist, Bartolome Murillo.

Through growth in its permanent collection and an increasing number of traveling exhibits, the Museum at Mary's Shrine will continue opening new windows upon the past – and new doors to a better understanding of art's vital place in the Christian experience.

## THE SHRINE MUSEUM

### Images of Faith



(above) Paintings, relics, chalices and other works from the permanent collection of the Museum at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine.

## Russian Icons At Shrine Museum

Within months of its December 1997 opening celebration, the Museum at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine mounted its first visiting exhibition of religious art: The Russian Icon.

Installed within the Museum's front gallery, the exhibition reflected a broad spectrum of Byzantine-influenced works, dating from the early 16th century. Made available from The Hollingsworth Collection were wooden crosses, brass icons, panels decorated with gold leaf, and other pieces which help illuminate distinctions between the Orthodox and Latin cross. Putting such differences aside, though, Museum visitors could not help but reflect upon this shared image of Christ's death as a pathway for our own life's journey toward salvation.

# On Mary's Role in God's Plan of Salvation

— VATICAN II, *Lumen Gentium* (1964)

“Having entered deeply into the history of salvation, Mary, in a way, unites in her person and re-echoes the most important doctrines of the faith: and when she is the subject of preaching and worship she prompts the faithful to come to her Son, to his sacrifices and to the love of the Father. Seeking after the glory of Christ, the Church becomes more like her lofty type, and continually progresses in faith, hope and charity, seeking and doing God's will in all things.”



“Mary has by grace been exalted above all angels and men to a place second only to her Son, as the most holy mother of God who was involved in the mysteries of Christ; she is rightly honored by a special cult in the Church. From the earliest times the Blessed Virgin is honored under the title of Mother of God, whose protection the faithful take refuge together in prayer in all their perils and needs.”



in heaven is the image and beginning of the Church as it is to be perfected in the world to come. Likewise she shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come (cf. 2Pet. 3:10), a sign of certain hope and comfort to the pilgrim People of God.”



“The entire body of the faithful pours forth urgent supplications to the Mother of God and of men that she, who aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers, may now, exalted as she is above all the angels and saints, intercede before her Son in the fellowship of all the saints, until all families of people, whether they are honored with the title of Christian or whether they still do not know the Saviour, may be happily gathered together in peace and harmony into one People of God, for the glory of the Most Holy and Undivided trinity.”

*The Smolensk Mother of God  
holy icon – a special gift for Shrine  
family members and friends.*



“... the Mother of Jesus in the glory which she possesses in body and soul

*For friends and  
members of  
our Shrine  
family*

*a gift of thanks...*

As the naming feast for Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine, this annual Queenship celebration is a wonderful opportunity for us to thank those joining in our praise of God's holy mother – and in our ministry to the world.

This year, our gift of thanks is a beautifully illuminated holy icon – made available to our Shrine family through the auspices of the Russian patriarchy in Moscow.

Pictured above, the Smolensk Mother of God icon is a *hodegetrai* – Greek for “pointing the way” icon. (The identifying feature of a *hodegetrai* is the Virgin pointing the People of God to Christ as their Savior.)

Tradition records that the original icon was first brought from Byzantium to the Russian city of Smolensk, then moved to nearby

Moscow's Annunciation Cathedral during the 15th century.

But the people of Smolensk longed for the return of their cherished image of Mary. They prized her solemnity in the portrait and the unique, full-faced depiction of the Christ Child. They were to celebrate the icon's return in 1465 and would treasure its presence in their city down through the centuries.



*... and  
something  
more –*



As requested by many members of our Shrine family, we are pleased

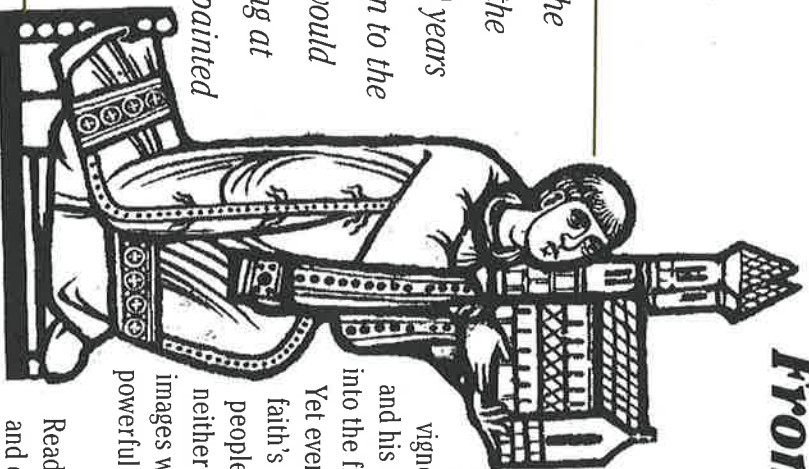
to make available remaining copies of what is today considered the most magnificent work of its kind: the limited edition Holy Bible – with masterful illustrations from The Vatican Library.

Our special gift for Queenship Novena donors of \$100 and above, this slipcased, limited edition binds 1,312 gift-edged pages of text in a handsome leatherette cover together with 700 full-color illustrations drawn from the 15th century Urbino Bible and other major works of the Renaissance.

Included as well are beautifully decorated pages upon which to record marriages, births and other events of family history. Indeed, this can be a family heirloom for the new millennium – or a gift to friends and loved ones that will be treasured for generations to come.

# From Catacomb to Cathedrals –

**“If not for the influence of the Church, 2,000 years ago and down to the present, we would still be looking at stick figures painted on ceiling walls.”**



Of course, not all these scenes were idyllic in nature. And Nightwine referenced a vignette depicting Meshach and his companions being cast into the fiery furnace (Dan 3:12). Yet even here was a story of faith's triumph. And for a people who, in large part, could neither read nor write, such images were themselves powerful teachers.

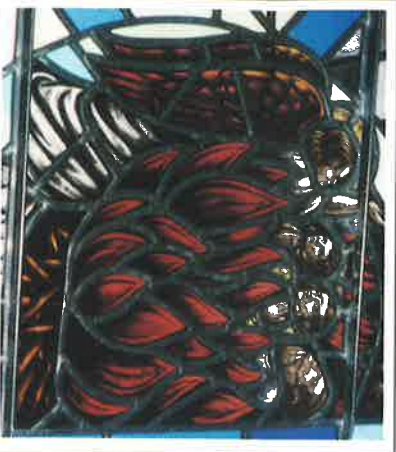
Reading these wall drawings and other biblical vignettes, early Christians learned not only the stories but also the messages most central to the Gospel. And they would teach each other, their children and neighbors.



The Emergence of Christian Art

Taking his audience forward to the year 312 A.D., Nightwine spoke of the conversion of Constantine I – and his decree that Christianity become the official faith of the Roman Empire. At last, the adherents of Christ's Gospel were able to emerge from underground. And they brought with them, into the light, new ideas in art, architecture and evangelization.

Notable among the early church buildings was the St. Petersburg Basilica, begun in 333 A.D. In form – Nightwine shared with his audience – this early basilica was much like their own Queen of the Universe Shrine. And much like today's Shrine, the St. Petersburg church, while plain on the outside, housed within its walls the elements of art that helped to teach the faith. In fact, Nightwine added, most all the art and architecture of Christianity's first five centuries had this simplicity of form but a sense of beauty within.



The Fiery Furnace (from a stained glass window at Mary's Shrine)

Indeed, Christian art began with a dual purpose: to instruct those who were already joined in faith, and to educate others so they might learn and perhaps be converted.

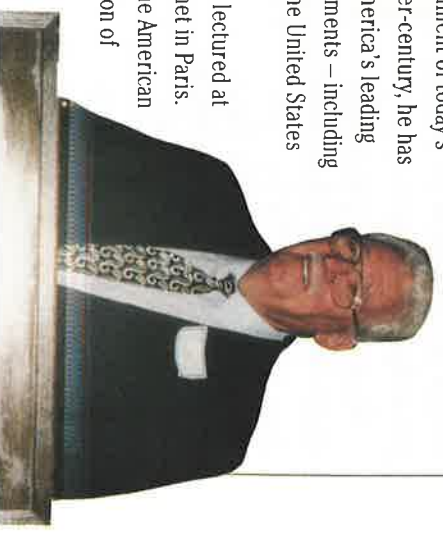
As Ted Nightwine explained, “Only a fellow Christian would understand the message and know that a meeting was to take place, a baptism or other rite.”

What remains of those early images are found most prominently in caves and catacombs. Here, amid the tombs and dark passages, Christians were able to paint vignettes and biblical scenes – most often scenes of happiness. Such vignettes were expressions of faith: their hopes for the future, their very anticipation of Paradise.

## G. Theodore Nightwine

is among the most prominent of today's fine art conservators. Over the past quarter-century, he has helped further the cultural agendas for America's leading museums, major universities, even governments – including The Smithsonian in Washington, DC, and the United States Postal Service.

A scholar, author and teacher, he has lectured at the University of Rome and the Lycee Michel in Paris. And he remains today a member of both the American and International Institutes for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works.

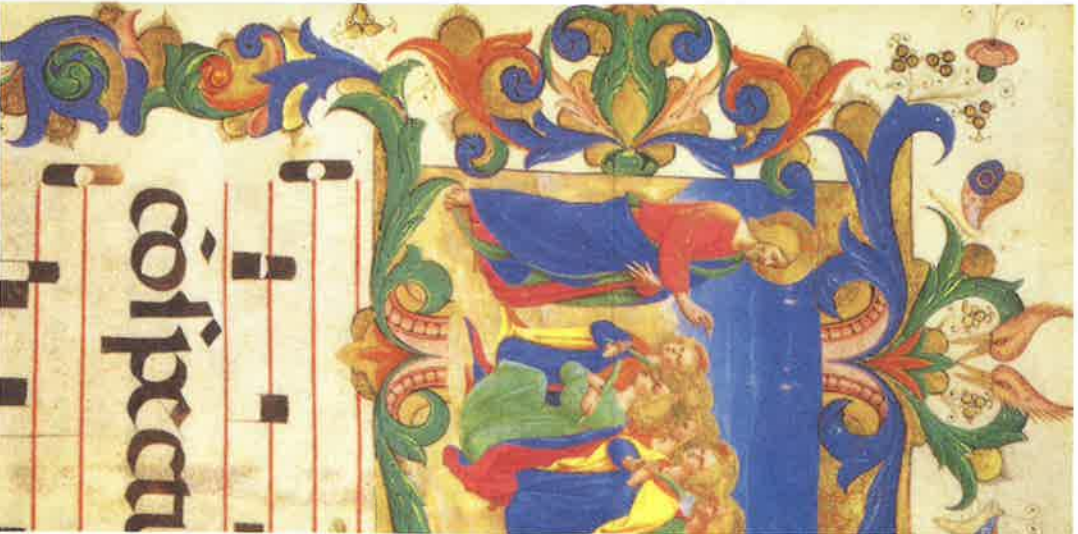


# Through the Ages in Christian Art

Adapted from remarks by G. Theodore Nighthine  
Keynote Speaker, Shrine Celebration Program  
Monday Evening, December 8, 1997

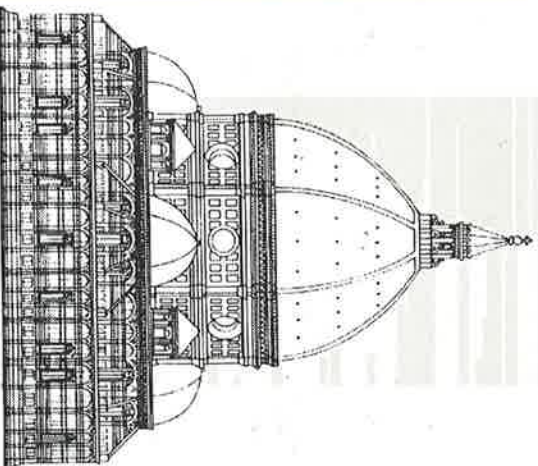
## From Conflict Comes New Approach to Art

Beginning with the Iconoclastic Controversy, in 726 A.D., the Church fractured between East and West. For the Eastern Church – believing that a growing use of religious pictures and statues would foster idolatry – art was to become formal, rigid and almost without expression.



But in the West, art flourished. Hidden away in monasteries, monks were set free to explore and develop new stylistic approaches. For tableaux, they mined both the Old and New Testament. And their work – from frescoes to painstakingly detailed illuminations – would influence centuries of artists to come.

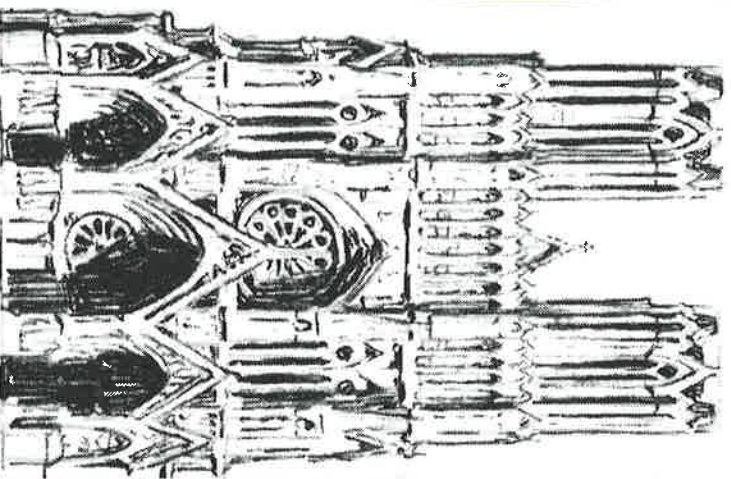
With the Middle Ages came larger churches; still with plain exteriors but now boasting rounded arches. While inside, carving in wood and stone



became an increasingly important tool for religious instruction.

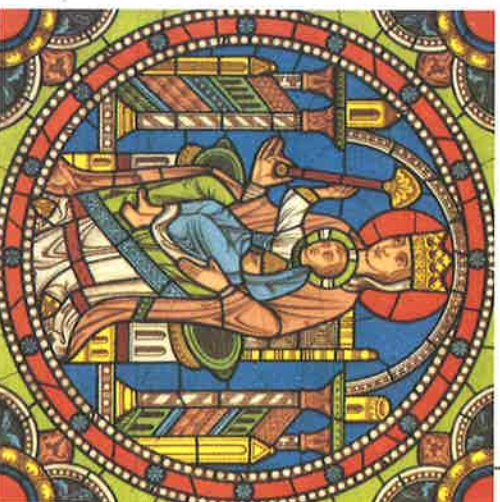
But these Romanesque figures were stiffly crafted, stylized – designed to overwhelm with their spiritual power. It was left for the Gothic era – and the teaching that man was created in God's own image – for realism to gain a firm standing in Church art. It was during the Gothic period as well that the great cathedrals began to appear. And through the 12th century and beyond, they grew taller and taller, stretching heavenward.

The uplift of their columns and graceful spires sent spirits soaring; and Christians found in the upward reaching wood and stone something of a ladder upon which their own prayers might ascend toward heaven.



The art of sculpting likenesses took center stage, and the great churches soon filled with statues of saints and martyrs. Charles Cathedral alone counted more than 1,800 sculptural figures.

It was during the Gothic period as well that stained glass windows first appeared. Mosaic walls of glass, these windows seemed to give both expression and illumination to the human spirit. And they remain, even today, among the most powerful elements of Church art and architecture.



## The Renaissance and Beyond

While the Gothic aesthetic offered immense vitality, it would both give rise to and be overshadowed by the period we know today as The Renaissance. Building upon the new realism that had emerged in earlier years, the artists of the 15th century looked back toward antiquity for insight and motivation. And in the classical forms of the Greek and Romans eras, they found inspiration enough to create many of the world's most treasured paintings and sculptures.

This was the time of Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo and others among the pantheon of immortal artists. And their work was to become both a benchmark and bellwether for each new generation – from Europe's Baroque styling to the Neo-Classical movement of the 18th century and beyond, to the emergence of 20th century art.

## ***Celebrations of Faith, Gatherings of the Faithful – A Year in the Life of Mary's Shrine***

to preview work begun by sculptor Jill Burkee on a defining new image for Mary, Queen of the Universe.

Days later at the Vatican, Father Harte met with Pio Cardinal Laghi – former Papal Nuncio to the United States who today heads the Church's worldwide educational mission.

During their time together, and on behalf of the entire Shrine family, Fr. Harte presented the Cardinal with an artist's etching of the new statue, together with a second etching for His Holiness, Pope John Paul II.

Early October opened the Shrine's doors in a warm welcome for the annual gathering of The National Conference of Catholic Women. A week later, Bishop Dorsey would again fill the Shrine Church, this time with a special assembly of Hispanic Catholics from across Central Florida. And the third week of October brought pilgrims for the Shrine's annual Rosary Walk.

November continued to open new doors to the People of God. With All Saints Day, large numbers gathered for a *Day of Prayer for Peace*, sponsored by the Pilgrim's Peace Center. The next morning, in commemoration of All Souls Day, came a joined, prayerful remembrance for the beloved deceased. And in the weeks that followed, from Advent through Christmas, Shrine friends and volunteers welcomed thousands more visitors in the name of Christ and His blessed mother.



- (clockwise from top)
- Easter Week '98 brings 40,000 Shrine visitors.
  - Vienna Boys Choir arrives at Mary's Shrine.
  - 10,000 roses decorate Mother's Day altar.



It was a year that brought many new friends to Mary's Shrine – from a visiting Irish football team to the Vienna Boys Choir, which used Shrine facilities to rehearse for a scheduled Orlando-area concert.

Even larger gatherings of the faithful were to come in the months that followed. Easter Week alone attracted some 40,000 visitors from across the Americas, Europe and Asia – filling the church again and again on Easter Sunday, with others spilling out from a huge tent set up just outside the church.



With May came celebrations for the month of Mary, and, as in earlier years, Mother's Day at Mary's Shrine was to offer splendid images of loving faith. Surrounding the Mother's Day altar was a shower of 10,000 roses – each placed in honor of a Shrine mother or maternal influence. Yet more than honoring their own mother, Shrine friends reached out, donating a total of \$5,000 in support of BETA, the wonderful Central Florida refuge for young mothers and their infant children.

Looking ahead, the family of Mary's Shrine can anticipate further gains: completion of the new Queenship statue; a new Pieta; and the commission for a work honoring St. Joseph, husband of Mary and Patron of the Universal Church.

Ahead, too, are developing plans for an interactive, multi-media theater, the Shrine's great pipe organ and other resources that can be important to this ministry. Yet most significant, tomorrow will bring the family of Mary's Shrine continued opportunities to enrich the life and faith of thousands more visitors arriving here each month.



*Father Harte presents gift of original art for Pio Cardinal Laghi and Pope John Paul II.*

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

ne 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 availability 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 here are some of the Shrine's most popular giving opportunities.



### *— Commemoratives —*

#### MOTHER & CHILD PLAQUE

**\$1,000**

**P**erhaps 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.

#### COMMEMORATIVE PEW SEAT

**\$900**

**T**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.

#### COMMEMORATIVE SANCTUARY STONE

**\$400**

**T**hose 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 is offered to the Father and comes present to His people. These generous contributors are recognized with a handsomely framed Certificate of Recognition.

#### COMMEMORATIVE HYMNAL

**\$250**

**T**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.

#### COMMEMORATIVE COURTYARD BRICK

**\$100**

**T**he 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.

#### ROOF TILE MEMORIAL

**\$50**

**T**o 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.