



# the magnificat

Vol. 17 No. 1

SUMMER 2003

A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE



DECEMBER 1991



DECEMBER 2002

## ***Shrine's First Decade of Service Crowns 28 years of Tourist Ministry***

**W**hen *Walt Disney World* opened in Orlando in 1971, an "instant" tourist boom began. It became necessary for the Diocese of Orlando to make provisions for the spiritual needs of the vast numbers of visiting Catholics. In the spring of 1975, Bishop Thomas Grady (RIP) placed Father F. Joseph Harte, Pastor of Holy Family parish, in charge of the tourist ministry. Together with hundreds of lay volunteers, Fr. Harte began to celebrate Masses in local area hotels. It soon became evident however, that the hotels would not be able to continue to facilitate the growing numbers of tourists. In 1979, property was purchased for the building of a facility to care for tourists. It was decided to erect a Shrine Church under the patronage of *Mary, Queen of the Universe*. The secular world in Orlando boasted of *Walt Disney World*, *SeaWorld*, *Circus World* and other lesser "worlds" of entertainment.

The Church would place Mary as Queen over all in a reminder that all our "worlds" are but a small part of God's creation, and that it is indeed the "world" in the next life which ought to provide the main focus of our attention.

Ground was broken for the Shrine on December 8, 1984, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Within two years the initial facility was completed. Long term, this was to be the *Evangelization Center*. With 600 folding chairs and a blessing from His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, conveyed by the then Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Pio Laghi, the facility opened in November 1986 and became the Shrine's temporary, on-site Church.

On August 22, 1990, Feast of the Queenship of Mary, the Bishop of Orlando, the Most Reverend Norbert Dorsey, C.P. broke ground to begin construction of the main Church which was completed January 31, 1993.

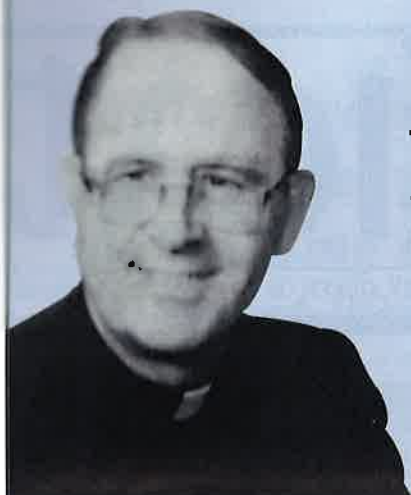
The dedication plaque states, "*This Shrine stands in testimony to the faith of Catholics throughout the world through whose generous gifts this building was made possible. May all who visit here find peace and tranquility of soul; and that union with the Creator which is the special gift of God to His people.*"

Cont'd on page 6



**Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P., Bishop of Orlando, will host a November 16, 2003, Thanksgiving Program and Banquet for friends and Shrine family members. (See page 6)**





## A Message from the Director

June, 2003

Dear Friend in Faith,

Just a few months ago, our Shrine Church entered upon a second decade of service to God and His people.

And, at the time, I was asked for my thoughts on the highlights of the past ten years here at Mary's Shrine - what stood out as most special, gratifying and memorable.

My first thought, of course, was of the Holy Father, who embraced our early efforts with the greatest enthusiasm, then followed with his special blessing upon the Shrine - in his words, "this house of pilgrimage."

Especially gratifying, too, has been the guiding hand of Bishop Dorsey and, before him, Bishop Grady; the cherished friendship of the Vatican's former Papal Nuncio in America, Cardinal Pio Laghi; and the warm support of many others who have continued to champion our ministry.

Closer to home, I thank God each day for bringing us our dedicated volunteers - special friends who have truly put the 'welcome' into this welcoming apostolate.

And when it comes to the memorable moments of these past ten years, we have been many times blessed: the unveiling of our Shrine Madonna, the St. Joseph bronze, our wood-carved Crucified Christ, the Magnificat Windows, and other works of art that will long inspire and endure. Memorable as well was the opening of our Shrine Museum, a new home for Christian culture that is both an exhibit space and teaching tool ... the first 'pilgrimage' through our unique Rosary Garden ... Mother's Day, with each year's spiritual bouquet of 10,000 roses ... and our Shrine's holy day celebrations, with great Crowds of Christmas and Eastertide visitors.

Yet, for me, what remains so gratifying about these past ten years are the men and women who came to Mary's Shrine seeking to bring Jesus Christ more deeply, more intimately, into their own lives, then came away, more committed than ever to the holy work of bringing Christ to the world.

These are wonderful people - just like you. And I pray that you will share in all of the blessings these summer days and weeks might enfold.

Your friend in Jesus and Mary,

*F. Joseph Harte*

Fr. 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  
IN HONOR OF THE  
**SACRED HEART OF JESUS.**  
27 JUNE - 5 JULY, 2003.

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKDAY MASSES

- 8:00 AM
- 12:05 PM

### • 7:00 PM (MONDAY)

*Mass and  
Perpetual  
Novena  
in honor of  
the Miraculous  
Medal*



### SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

- 6:00 PM

### SUNDAY & HOLY DAYS

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

## RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

### MONDAY - SATURDAY

10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

### SUNDAYS

1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

## 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

ISSUED PERIODICALLY FOR THE  
FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS OF

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

## Prayer to Mary

centers on her participation in the mysteries of her Son's life

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that *"there is no other way of Christian prayer than Christ."* The prayer of the Church is addressed above all to the Father who is approached through Jesus' sacred humanity, because he is the human face of God. Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is the way to the Father and the way to pray to the Father. Christian prayer also includes prayer addressed to the Holy Spirit. All of the Church's Liturgical traditions have developed the invocation of the Holy Spirit and included it in the celebration of the Sacraments and in worship.

The Catechism teaches us that just as the Holy Spirit unites us to Christ in prayer, so too are we united to his mother in prayer. Mary shows us the way of prayer, her Divine Son. *Prayer to Mary centers upon her participation in the mysteries of Christ's life.* Marian prayer follows a dual movement. First, it gives thanks to God for what he has accomplished in Mary, and through her for us. Second, it asks Mary to continue in us the work, which through her, God has begun. *"Let it be done to me as you say"* and *"My whole being proclaims the glory of the Lord"* sum up the tradition of the Church's prayer.

These two prayers stand ever before us as not only the objectives of our prayer, but also as the objectives of our lives. The Catechism describes the place of Mary in the tradition of prayer in this way: Mary is the perfect "Orans" (pray-er), a figure of the Church. When we pray to her, we are adhering with her to the plan of the Father, who sends his Son to save all people. Like the beloved disciple John, we welcome Jesus' mother into our homes, for she has become the mother of all of the living. We can pray with her and to her. The prayer of the Church is sustained by the prayer of Mary and united with it in hope. (2679)

## Easter Sunday

When the main Church was filled to capacity for each Mass, the faithful attended additional masses in a large tent erected beside the Church. Some 35,000 people attended the Shrine's Easter Sunday masses.





# Marian Art Treasures at the Shrine

In the Church, the Rosary Garden, the outdoor Mother and Child Chapel and in the Museum, the Shrine's Marian Art Treasures help us to come closer to our Blessed Mother who always points us toward her Divine Son.

## Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine responds to the Holy Father's call

"The Church needs art to communicate the message entrusted to her by Jesus Christ. Beauty is a key to the mystery and a call to transcendence. No bridge to God's saving grace is more beautiful than the Blessed Virgin Mary; the *tota pulchra*, the *entity of loveliness* portrayed by artists down through the centuries. Pope John Paul II.

The fine arts, but above all sacred art, "*of their nature are directed toward expressing in some way the infinite beauty of God in works made by human hands. Their dedication to the increase of God's praise and of his glory is more complete, the more exclusively they are devoted to turning our minds devoutly toward God.*"

Catechism of the Catholic Church.



The Shrine's Signature Statue of *Mary, Queen of the Universe* is formed from a block of pure white Carrara marble. The 8-foot work stands on a marble base and encloses the names of some 3,000 Shrine associates. The sculptor is Jill Burkee.



## Mother and Child Outdoor Chapel

Set below the Chapel's soaring 80-foot tower is an inspiring bronze statue of Mary reaching out to embrace her Divine Child. The scene of a Mother playing with her child is a universal symbol of motherhood. The sculptor is Jerzy Kenar.



Centered within the Shrine's Rosary Garden stands an historic statue of Mary holding the Divine Infant in her arms. The statue is more than 100 years old and came from a Convent in Holland. During World War II, the sisters and townspeople stood around the statue and prayed for peace. The cast-iron statue was made in Paris, France.



## The Pietà

The Shrine's Pietà extends an invitation to all who might wish to reflect prayerfully upon Christ's redeeming sacrifice and His Mother's enduring grace. Brian Hanlon is the sculptor.



An oil painting of *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin* by the 17th Century Spanish artist, Bartolome Murillo. The painting is in the Shrine Museum. It was presented by the Marist Fathers.



Inside the Day Chapel is a five panel mosaic of *Our Lady of Guadalupe*. Crafted by Rome's *Domus Dei* studio, the mosaic depicts Our Blessed Mother as she appeared before Juan Diego, a 55 year old Mexican Indian in the year 1531. Central to the mosaic's imagery is the figure of our Lady clothed in the miraculous *Tilma or Cloak*. It is an image known and loved by millions.





### Sculpture of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus at Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine.

This inspirational work was sculpted by Bruno Lucchesi. The figures of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus, the workbench and the tools are all made of bronze. (Notice the wedding ring on St. Joseph's finger.) On top of the workbench one can see nails and slats of wood, which make one think immediately of the Cross and the future Crucifixion of Jesus.

## SAINT JOSEPH

Joseph's love and fidelity to Mary are well known. He lived with his young wife. He accepted the mysterious conception and the birth of the child. To protect Mary and Jesus from the fury of Herod, King of the Jews, ruled by a Roman Emperor, he fled with them to Egypt. When Jesus was twelve, Joseph took him to the Temple. At one point, when he thought that Jesus was lost on the journey, he became very anxious and worried. These are the main facts that the Gospels relate about Joseph. After he brought Mary and Jesus back from Egypt, we hear nothing more about him.

St. Joseph has special importance for our time. As a carpenter, his work was simple and difficult. No devotion has grown so universal; none seems to have appealed so forcefully to the heart of the Christian people and particularly the laboring classes, during the nineteenth century as that of St. Joseph. The devotion to St. Joseph is greatly influenced by his image of the humble and faithful servant. In 1870, Pope Pius XI solemnly declared Saint Joseph, *Patron of the Catholic Church* and enjoined that his feast should be celebrated on March 19th.

St. Joseph was pleasing in God's eyes because he was a decent man. He accomplished everything God entrusted to his care. He was a splendid success in what mattered to God and his true vocation in life was one of great dignity. Joseph's life teaches us that even if we live obscure lives and seem to be failures in the eyes of the world, we can be of great success in the eyes of God. While Mary is Mother of the Church, Joseph is the Patron of the Universal Church. Joseph is also invoked as the patron of workers, families, virgins, the sick and the dying. He has also been recognized as the patron of prayer and the interior life,

of the poor, those in authority, fathers, priests and religious, travelers, and all devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In 1937 Pius XI named St. Joseph as the patron of the struggle against atheistic communism. Although communism has mostly been defeated, his protection is still needed against threats to the truth of revelation and to human dignity, which are evident in today's culture of death.

### St. Joseph— PRAY FOR US



The sculptor, Bruno Lucchesi and Fr. Harte at the artist's studio in Pietresanta, Italy.

## The Sacred Heart

Fr. John E. McMullan

When I was a young child, a large, gold framed oil painting of the Sacred Heart hung on one of the walls of my parents' bedroom. The face of Jesus looked very kind. His smile always seemed to welcome me as a friend, every time that I stuck my head into the room. And of course, his eyes seemed to follow me, no matter where I would stand.

One day, my older sister Christine and I decided to "steal" a cigar from our father's dressing table. Some of our friends had been boasting to us that they had smoked. So we

decided to try it as well. As I knew that the eyes of the Sacred Heart would be looking at me when I crept into our parents' bedroom to steal the cigar, I averted my eyes so that I would not have to look directly at my friend. He might have a disapproving look on his face.

We did not know that the cigar was several years old and was dry and dusty. It had been a gift to our father from a friend of his, who had become the proud father of a new baby girl. Needless to say, my sister and I became violently ill very shortly after we "lit up" in the back garden behind the tool shed. Our parents quickly came to the rescue and the whole embarrassing story had to be told.

Several days later, I finally got up the nerve to peek into my parents bedroom. The eyes of the Sacred Heart looked directly at me. He still looked kind and friendly. I wasn't sure — but I could have sworn that there was a hint of a smile on his face. I did not hear any voices but the words that came into my head were; *"That will teach you a lesson my boy!"* Silently I responded, *"It sure will — and — I'm sorry!"*

The smile on the face of the Sacred Heart seemed to grow friendlier. I smiled back and the Sacred Heart and I have been good friends ever since.

## Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

The historical origins of devotion to the Sacred Heart go back to the dawn of Christianity. Jesus revealed devotion to the Sacred Heart to us, when he told us, in the only direct mandate he gave, to imitate him, by telling us, *"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls."*

Devotion to the Sacred Heart has become widely known only since the seventeenth century; and the Church did not sanction it for general use until the latter part of the eighteenth. When the doctrine was first introduced, it met with great opposition - by the jansenists and also from sincere Catholics who objected because they did not understand it.

Spiritual writers mention homage paid to the Sacred Heart as early as the twelfth century; but it was practiced to a very limited extent until a little more than two hundred years ago. A humble and holy French nun, the saintly Margaret Mary Alacoque, instituted a devotion which will last forever. She became the apostle of the beautiful and now universal worship of the loving Heart of our Blessed Savior.

She was born in Lhautecour, in France, in 1647 and lived until 1690.

After a childhood remarkable for sanctity, she entered the community of the Visitation nuns at Paray-le-Monial in 1671. Here she lived a very holy life. Our Divine Lord appeared to her on several occasions; and in one of these visions He showed her His Heart, pierced with a wound, encircled with a crown of thorns; surrounded by flames and surmounted by a cross. He commanded her to practice and spread devotion to His Sacred Heart because of His ardent desire to be loved by humankind and His wish to give to all humankind the treasury of His love and mercy.



All Margaret Mary's actions and teachings were subjected to a most severe examination. In 1794, however, Pope Pius VI issued a decree approving the devotion to the Sacred Heart and granting indulgences to those who practice it. In 1920, Pope Benedict XV declared Margaret Mary Alacoque to be a Saint.

Throughout this month of June, the Church encourages the faithful to practice this devotion. The Heart of Jesus is a symbol of His Sacred humanity and an emblem of His infinite love for us whom He died to save.

Giancarlo Biagi is the sculptor. His studio is in Pietresanta, Italy. Giancarlo, a recipient of the National Sculpture Society's Gold Medal, is a teacher and also Editor of American Sculptor's most important periodical. His work illuminates Pope John Paul's vision of art as "a bridge" to humankind's innermost being.

**The Sacred Heart Statue**  
at

Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine



## Shrine's First Decade of Service

Many thousands of visitors from every State in the Union and from many countries all around the world continue to visit the Shrine, a peaceful oasis in an ever-busy world. They pray the Mass, they spend time with the Lord in the *Adoration Chapel*, they celebrate *Reconciliation*, they

pray in the Rosary Garden or at the outdoor Mother and Child Chapel and meditate amidst the peaceful serenity of the 22 acres of God's preserve.

Activity continues at the Shrine. The Statue of the Sacred Heart and the

magnificent bronze work of St. Joseph and Jesus as a teenager, have been installed. Work is underway on the front door Mosaics and the new Bronze Doors. Hopefully the first of the three new Bronze Portals will be installed in late 2003.

## Shrine Schedules November 16, 2003 as Major Day of Thanksgiving and Celebration

To formally celebrate the **Tenth Anniversary** of the Dedication of the Shrine Church, a special *Mass of Thanksgiving* will be celebrated at the Shrine on Sunday, November 16th, 2003, at 3:30 P.M. by the Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P., Bishop of Orlando. His Eminence, Cardinal Pio Laghi will preside at the Mass. Thanksgiving will be offered to Almighty God for the more recent installations of Sacred

Art at the Shrine - the beautiful bronze work of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus; the marble statue of the Sacred Heart; the Mosaic of the Good Shepherd and the first set of Bronze Doors for the center Portal of the Shrine Church. Later in the afternoon, Bishop Dorsey will host a Banquet at 5:30 P.M. at the Hilton Hotel at Lake Buena Vista, close to the Shrine. Musical entertainment will be provided.

All friends of Mary's Shrine are invited. If you have received the "*Magnificat*", you are already invited to attend and will be warmly welcomed. Just let us know that you will attend, so that we can plan for the Banquet. There are many Hotels in the local area. Reduced rates have been arranged for anyone wishing to stay at the Hilton Hotel.



The completed Mosaic of the *Good Shepherd* at the artist's studio in Pietresanta, Italy. This will be placed above the central Portal at the Shrine. The large size of the Mosaic is well illustrated by observing the Shrine Rector, Fr. F. Joseph Harte who is standing alongside.

## Novena to the Sacred Heart

O Most Holy Heart of Jesus,  
Fountain of all blessings,  
I adore You, I love You,  
And with a lively sorrow for my sins  
I offer you this poor heart of mine.  
Make me humble, patient, pure,  
And wholly obedient to Your will.  
Grant, Good Jesus, that I may  
Live in you and for you.  
Protect me in the midst of danger.  
Comfort me in my afflictions.  
Give me health of body,  
Assistance in my temporal needs,  
Your blessing on all that I do,  
And the grace of a holy death.  
Amen.



"When I was on pilgrimage in 1986 to the tomb of St. Margaret Mary, I asked, in the spirit of what has been handed down in the Church, that veneration of the Sacred Heart be faithfully restored. For it is in the Heart of Christ that the human heart learns to know the true and unique meaning of its life and destiny; it is in the Heart of Christ that the human heart receives its capacity to love."

**Pope John Paul II**

**27 June - 5 July, 2003**



## *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 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**

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.

### COMMEMORATIVE PEW SEAT

**\$900**

To be remembered within the Shrine Church is a 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.

### BRONZE PORTAL MEMORIAL

**\$500**

Each commemorative provides for a bronze inscription honoring an individual name (for example, John Smith); husband and wife (John and Mary Smith); or family name (The Smith Family). Commemoratives are still available for all three of the Portals.



### COMMEMORATIVE HYMNAL

**\$250**

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

### COMMEMORATIVE ROSARY GARDEN BRICK

**\$200**

The beads for the prayers of the Rosary are formed from bricks inlaid in the ground. Your name or that of a loved one is permanently inscribed upon a brick, then entered in "Stars of Mary's Crown" — the official record of Shrine benefactors.

### ROOF TILE MEMORIAL

**\$50**

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.