



# the magnificat

Vol. 18 No. 1

WINTER 2004

A PUBLICATION OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE



## ***Crowds attending Shrine emphasize Catholic belief in Eucharist***

**T**his past year has witnessed thousands of visitors from many corners of the world visit *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine*. More than 30,000 people came to worship at the Masses on Easter Sunday. The traditional Christmas Eve Mass and all the Christmas Day Masses drew thousands of visitors and many locals. Some 2,000 pilgrims attended the Marian Conference in November. The Shrine was filled to capacity on August 22nd to

welcome Bishop Thomas Wenski, the newly appointed coadjutor Bishop of Orlando.

The Shrine is blessed in that we have a wonderful corps of volunteers who come from their home parishes, every week, to assist with the Shrine's ministry of Eucharistic hospitality. So many people flock to the Shrine that each Mass needs the ministry of some ten to twelve special ministers of the

Eucharist to assist the priest in the distribution of Holy Communion.

In addition to thousands of people attending Mass and hundreds celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation, every day sees many people "*spending time with the Lord*" in the Shrine's Adoration Chapel, walking and praying in the beautiful *Rosary Garden* or meditating in the outdoor *Mother and Child Chapel*.

Contd. on Page 4



***"The Shrine is a witness around the world to the strength of our Catholic faith."***

Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P.  
Bishop of Orlando





## A Message from the Rector

January 2004

Dear Friend and Shrine Member:

Eight weeks ago, you and I were honored by Pope John Paul II.

The date was Sunday, November 16, 2003. Hundreds of friends and Shrine family had gathered with us in Orlando to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of our marvelous Shrine Church - a Church that you helped to build.

As our Celebration Mass drew to a close, the Papal Emissary, Pio Cardinal Laghi, came forward with an announcement. The Holy Father was bestowing on me the title of "Prelate of Honor of His Holiness."

The Pope was recognizing you and others who have helped make possible so many of the Shrine's achievements - from creating this "house of pilgrimage," to serving countless thousands of men, women and families who arrive here each year, with faith... and hope!

Indeed, that Papal proclamation seemed, above all, to be a recognition of what "family" can truly accomplish together.

And we are "family": a faith community whose members are separated by miles - sometimes even oceans.

We are, in a sense, a choir of prayerful voices - and, as an early martyr of the Church once wrote, "The song we sing is Jesus Christ."

Thus I accepted the Papal honor in the spirit of which it was bestowed, sharing my joy with Shrine volunteers who have imparted their own enthusiasm for "the cause" to me... and without whom this ministry could not exist, and on behalf of the many, like you, who have continued to sacrifice for this holy apostolate... sharing your own love, faith and offerings to help make our Eucharistic Lord available here.

So as this new year unfolds, I hope you will join with us often - here at Mary's Shrine, through your prayer life at home, and through your personal intentions for the Shrine altar.

Please join with us too, whenever possible, in helping us to fund the vital work of this holy ministry tomorrow, just as you have done so generously in times before.

Indeed, the dream goes on!

Please God, 2004 will constitute yet another milestone for all of us as we continue to be Christ-bearers for those who seek His light.

A happy and blessed New Year to all.

Your friend in Christ,

*F. Joseph Harte*  
Monsignor 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  
OUR LADY OF LOURDES



FEBRUARY 11 - 19, 2004

## MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKDAY MASSES

- 8:00 AM
- 12:05 PM

• 7:00 PM  
(MONDAY)  
*Mass and  
Perpetual  
Novena  
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

## 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

Editor: Fr. John E. McMullan





Orlando Bishop  
the Most Reverend  
Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P.  
celebrating the  
**Mass of Thanksgiving**  
at  
Mary, Queen  
of the Universe Shrine



Bishop Dorsey blessing the  
newest Statue at the Shrine  
– **the Sacred Heart**



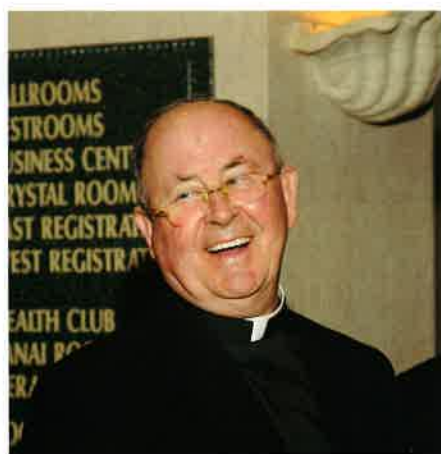
Bishop Dorsey blessing the  
Bronze Statue of **St. Joseph**  
and the Child Jesus



Cardinal Laghi and Bishop Dorsey  
at the "sign of peace"



Msgr. Harte proclaiming  
the Gospel



Msgr. Harte receiving  
congratulations from  
Banquet guests



Mary Harte, visiting from Ireland,  
congratulates her brother-in-law



Five hundred Banquet guests applaud as Fr. John  
McMullan, a member of the Shrine staff, places  
the sash for the first time, on the new Monsignor



Members of the Shrine "Family" enjoying  
themselves at the Banquet



## *Pope honors Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine by conferring the title of Monsignor on the Shrine Rector*

Saturday and Sunday, November 15 and 16, witnessed celebrations to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Shrine Church. The main event was a Mass of Thanksgiving with His Eminence, Pio Cardinal Laghi presiding and the Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P., Bishop of Orlando, as the main celebrant. Almost 1,000 friends and members of the Shrine "family" attended the Mass. Priests from area parishes and those who assist at the Shrine also joined in the concelebration.

During the Mass, Cardinal Laghi had a surprise for all when he announced that the Holy Father wished to recognize the work of *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine* by appointing Fr. F. Joseph Harte, the Shrine Rector, a Domestic Prelate, thus conferring on him the title of Monsignor. Following the Mass, some 500 friends of Mary's Shrine celebrated at a Banquet at the Hilton Hotel.



Cardinal Laghi presenting the new Monsignor with a "sash of office."

In his remarks, Cardinal Laghi said, *"Anytime I come to Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine, I am amazed. This is a beautiful Shrine. It is the work of providence and the work of men."* The Cardinal surprised everyone when he announced that the Holy Father had told him to appoint Fr. Harte a Domestic Prelate, with the title of Monsignor. A standing ovation followed the announcement.



During his homily, Bishop Dorsey shared the importance that Pilgrimages play in people's faith lives. *"When we visit Shrines, we come as pilgrims,"* he said *"Shrines are not our parishes and are not necessarily in our neighborhoods. They are special places. Life itself is a pilgrimage."* Since Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine and many others are devoted to Mary, the Bishop urged people to make a pilgrimage to visit *"our mother."* He recalled how the Pope was led to devotion to Mary, after losing his family to sickness and disease. The Pope's Motto is *"Totus*

*Tuus"* - *"Totally Yours,"* referring to devotion to the Blessed Mother.

Bishop Dorsey recalled the history of the tourism ministry, which began more than 28 years ago. Msgr. Harte, the founding Pastor of Holy Family Parish, was also responsible for Masses for tourists within the Disney World area. As the ministry grew by leaps and bounds, Msgr. Harte was designated by the late Bishop Thomas J. Grady to head the tourism ministry on a full time basis. Several years of fundraising by Msgr. Harte and a *"devoted band of volunteers"* resulted in the current Shrine Church being built and dedicated August 22, 1993.

*"On this day we thank God for the tourism ministry,"* said Bishop Dorsey. He also expressed appreciation to the Shrine's many supporters and volunteers. *"May God reward you for your goodness and generosity."* Following the homily, Bishop Dorsey blessed two new art pieces - a bronze statue of St. Joseph working as a carpenter with a teenage Jesus looking on and a white carrera marble statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



Monsignor Harte expressing his deep appreciation to all those who have supported the Shrine over the years.

He expressed special thanks to Cardinal Laghi and to Bishop Dorsey. He also praised and thanked the hard working and dedicated members of the Shrine Staff and the devoted volunteers.

*"I give thanks and praise God for all we have been given,"* he said. *"Thank you for your faith and support."*

AD MULTOS ANNOS  
Monsignor Harte!



At *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine*, the *Blessed Sacrament* is exposed in the Monstrance for adoration, Monday thru Saturday following the 8:00 A.M. Mass until 5:00 P.M.

Many visitors from all over the world, who come to visit Orlando's Theme Parks, frequently stop by to "*spend time with the Lord.*"

The **Adoration Chapel** is located at the west end of the Church. This chapel is free from all activity and noise and the faithful visit to pray before the *Blessed Sacrament*. The *Marist Fathers* (Washington Province) donated the **Monstrance**, which holds the Consecrated host. A representation of *St. Michael the Archangel* defeating the serpent adorns the Monstrance. When closed, the tabernacle doors exhibit multiple hands stretching out toward a central loaf of bread (the *Body of Christ*), a symbol of the desire of the faithful for the *Eucharist*.

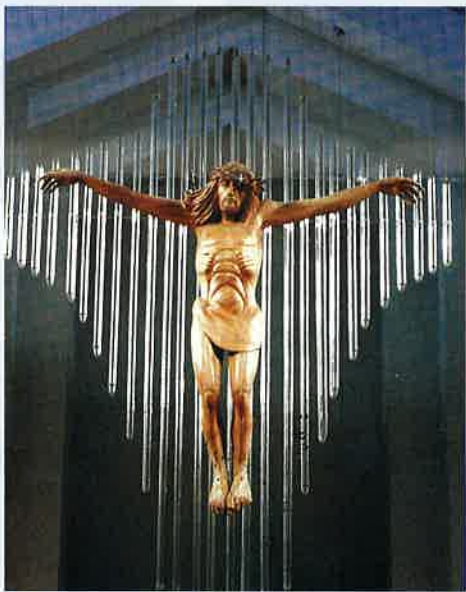
*"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest."*  
(Matthew, Ch. 11 – V.28)

## The Crucifix

Early Christians were reluctant to depict the crucified Christ, for they were hesitant to view His death as isolated from His resurrection, and an image of a dead Savior alone failed to express the reality of Christ risen and victorious over death. Thus among all the religious paintings in the ancient Roman catacombs there are no depictions of the crucifixion to be found, nor even among the hundreds of detailed mosaic images in the fifth century Churches of Ravenna in Italy.

Crosses without the image of Christ were common, but they were richly decorated, even with precious metals and jewels. Many decades later, when the image of Jesus began to appear on crosses, it was not the dead defeated Christ, but Christ frequently shown with a jeweled crown on His head, vested in kingly garments, with His eyes open and arms outstretched in victory. This would change in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, as Franciscan priests and monks, responding to a growing devotion to Christ's passion, began to popularize the image of Christ crucified. This development would reach a high point in the fifteenth century.

A crucifix is placed near the altar in our Churches to remind us, more



Depicted with arms outstretched but with a spirit of repose, this dominant image leads the faithful to reflect upon the sufferings and sacrifice that was our Lord's gift to humankind. Jesus' face is not contorted with pain, but reposed after completing His Father's will and commending His soul to the Father. The translucent Cross is a reminder – that when you follow Jesus, you walk in the shadow of the Cross.

*The Crucifix above the altar in the Shrine Church*

forcefully than would a plain cross, that we who share in the Eucharist must also share in the self-giving sacrifice of Jesus, who even today lavishly gives the loving gift of Himself to us. This is precisely why the Church's Catechism teaches us that if the Eucharist does not commit us to more deeply giving of our resources and ourselves to the poor, then our celebrations of the Eucharist are less than adequate.

*"Lord as we venerate the Cross, let us reflect that we ourselves are Christ's disciples and must therefore follow him by willingly taking up our own Cross each day."*

## Shrine Music Ministry

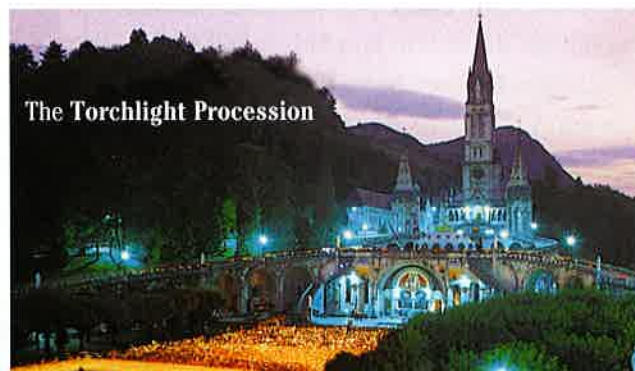
Part of the *dream* was to provide outstanding Liturgy at the Shrine. The appointment of Dr. William Picher as Director of Music Ministries and the formation of the Shrine Choir was a major step toward fulfillment. At the recent anniversary celebration, Msgr. Harte announced that the Shrine has now opened the campaign for the installation of a pipe organ. Details will be given later. All who are interested may find out more by writing or calling Monsignor Harte.



# *Novena to Honor Our Lady of Lourdes*

## *February 11-19, 2004*

Some six million pilgrims visit Lourdes each year. Many people would like to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes but are unable to do so for a variety of reasons. Monsignor Harte will travel to Lourdes in the spring of 2004. He will celebrate a Triduum of Masses in the Lourdes Basilica for the members of the Shrine "family." You are invited to use the enclosed Petition Slip for your petitions. Msgr. Harte will place them on the altar during the Triduum and then place them in the Grotto where the Blessed Mother appeared in 1858 to Bernadette Soubirous. The "Beautiful Lady" carried a rosary and identified herself with the words "I am the Immaculate Conception."



**May 2003**

Msgr. Harte and Fr. McMullan  
concelebrating Mass at **Lourdes**,  
for the intentions of the Shrine family  
of *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine*.



### **"Catholic Belief in the Eucharist"** Continued from Page 1

The special devotion at *Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine* is related to the Eucharist. It also emphasizes devotion to the Blessed Mother as one of God's gifts enabling us to reach that Salvation for which Christ gave His life on the Cross.

The Eucharist is the greatest gift Christ has left His Church, a gift that makes the sacrifice of His life present for all time and gives strength and hope to the world, Pope John Paul II has written in the encyclical letter, "*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*." The Pope issued the letter in the 25th year of his papacy as a sign of gratitude and with the desire to share his faith in the sacrament. In the letter, the Holy Father reaffirmed the traditional teaching of the church on the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, in the need for validly ordained ministers for its celebration, and on the

importance of following the church's liturgical norms.

The Pope also used the encyclical to express how important the Eucharist has been in his life and offered a reflection on the Blessed Virgin Mary, "*woman of the Eucharist*."

"Whether in a grand basilica or in a small country church," the Pope said, the "*Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation.*" Christ's sacrifice on the Cross – His offering of love to God the Father – embraces and redeems all creation and offers it back to God, the pope said. "*The church draws her life from Christ in the Eucharist; by Him she is fed and by Him she is enlightened.*" This is no mere metaphorical food, he said. As the Gospel of John reads, "*My flesh is real food and my blood is drink indeed.*"

In some places, he said, Eucharistic adoration had almost disappeared, and some people focus so much on its character as a "*fraternal banquet*" that they forget its sacrificial meaning. The Mass, the Pope said, "*makes Christ's one redemptive sacrifice present in time*" and allows people of all time to participate in it as if they had been in Jerusalem with Jesus.



**The Tabernacle  
in the Shrine Church**

Inside the Day Chapel at Mary's Shrine 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 appears before Juan Diego, a 55 year old native Mexican Indian, in the year 1531. Central to the mosaic's marvelous imagery is the figure of Our Lady clothed in the miraculous *Tilma* or Cloak. It is an image known and loved by millions.



Our Lady of the Americas (Quotes from Fr. James L. Empereur, S. J.)

In 2003, Pope John Paul II traveled to Mexico City to the Shrine of *Our Lady of Guadalupe*, where he canonized the first Indian saint of the Americas, Juan Diego.

Juan Diegos's name is inseparable from the story of Mary's appearance on the hill of *Tepeyac*, the site of an older shrine to Mary now replaced by the modern basilica in Mexico City.

As with all visitations from the mother of God, Guadalupe speaks to the influence of divine power in our lives. Each apparition has its own call to Christian holiness since Mary always points away from herself to her Son. *Lourdes* with its connection to the Immaculate Conception, reminds us that, like Mary, we are all caught up in God's grace even from the beginning of our lives.

At *Fatima*, when Mary declared herself *Our Lady of the Rosary*, we sense a call to a deeper reflection on the mysteries of Christ's life as they are lived out in the liturgical year.

Guadalupe brings together two cultures; the indigenous people living in what is now called Mexico and the conquering Spaniards. Out of this meeting was born a new culture, what we know today as Mexican. There are those who claim that there would be no Mexico, if there were no Lady of Guadalupe. In appearing to Juan Diego she takes the side of the most despised, the downtrodden and the conquered. Probably in no other apparition of Mary is there such a strong emphasis on social justice. At *Tepeyac* she gives new meaning to

the words that she uttered in her visitation to Elizabeth: "*He casts down the mighty from their thrones and lifts up the lowly.*"

The title of *Patroness of the Americas* has been given to Guadalupe. This title tells the world, especially those in North, Central and South America that Guadalupe does not belong to Mexico alone. Our Lady of Guadalupe cannot be marginalized as simply the object of Mexican piety. As for Juan Diego, he is much more than a poor Indian to whom Mary gave a gift of roses in wintertime. In him, she has a powerful companion for the evangelization of the Americas.

*"Know for certain that I am the true and perpetual Virgin Mary, Mother of the one True God. . . Here I will show and offer all My love, my compassion, my Help and protection to the People. I am your merciful Mother, the Mother of all who love me, of those who cry to me, of those who have confidence in me. Here I will hear their weeping and their sorrows. . .their necessities and misfortunes. . . Listen and let it penetrate your heart. . .Do not be troubled or weighed down with grief. Do not fear any illness or vexation, anxiety or pain. Am I not here who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not your fountain of life? Are you not in the folds of my mantle?"*

Words of the Blessed Virgin spoken to Juan Diego on 9th and 12th Dec. 1531 at Guadalupe, Mexico.

Pope John XXIII proclaimed a **Marian Year** of Our Lady of Guadalupe from 12 December 1960 to 12 December 1961 and extolled her as "**the Mother of the Americas.**" The moving prayer he composed exemplified his filial devotion and homage to her: "*Hail Mother of the Americas,*

*Heavenly Missionary of the New World! From the sanctuary of Tepeyac, for more than four centuries you have been the Mother and the teacher of the Faith to the peoples of the Americas. Be also our protection and save us, O Immaculate Mary. Aid our rulers; stir up a new zeal in our prelates; increase*

*the virtues of our clergy and preserve forever our Faith. In every home may the holiness of the family flourish, and in the shelter of the home may Catholic education, favored by your own benign glance, achieve a wholesome growth.*"



COMMEMORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

To be Forever Remembered in the Life of  
this Holy Apostolate, this 'House of Pilgrimage'

Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine provides a wide range of opportunities for Christ's faithful to be remembered, in perpetuity, within this holy apostolate designated by Pope John Paul II as: "a house of pilgrimage."

Through commemorative gifts, donors can forever link their name with the life and ministry of Mary's Shrine – or perpetuate the memory

of friends and loved ones within these sacred spaces.

Ranging upwards from \$50 to more than \$50,000, such gifts afford donors a certificate of recognition, individually inscribed on parchment stock, then set in a portfolio frame. Higher level gifts may be further recognized by a named Hymnal, engraved brick, marble plaque or bronze inscription

– permanently mounted and prominently displayed at the Shrine.

A uniquely enriching way to honor births, marriages and similar milestone events in the life of family and friends, Shrine commemoratives can also afford a marvelous spiritual remembrance for loved ones called home to God.



SHRINE TREE

\$800

In dedicating one of the Shrine's majestic oaks, date palms, magnolias, or other stately trees, you will be helping to shape the spiritual landscape of Mary's Shrine – while establishing for family or friend, a "living memorial" that will gain identity, in perpetuity, by an inscribed bronze plaque at the tree's base.

BRONZE DOOR COMMEMORATIVE

\$500

The Shrine's bronze doors renew the great tradition of magnificently-crafted Church portals, and donors who select this richly-historical commemorative option will see their names cast in bronze, and set permanently into one of the new entrance doors at Mary's Church.



ROSARY GARDEN BRICK

\$200

With brick tiles forming decades of beads, the Shrine's unique Rosary Garden walkway takes the shape of a rosary, complete with a centerpiece and cross. Donors are honored, in perpetuity – their names etched into a brick that is then set permanently into the walkway itself.

ROOF TILE MEMORIAL

\$50

To provide a roof for Mary's Church remains the most affordable of the Shrine's named gift options; and Roof Tile donors receive a special, framed certificate that attests to their own personal role in helping to complete this major, new center for Christian worship, life and culture.



MOTHER & CHILD PLAQUE

\$1,000

Honoring the bond that joins mother and child, family and friends, the Shrine's Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel commemoratives – each a green marble plaque hand-engraved in gold leaf – are testament to a love that endures.

COMMEMORATIVE PEW SEAT

\$900

To be remembered within the Shrine Church is a special tribute; and donors dedicating a pew seat will have their name, or that of a loved one, inscribed on an individual brass plate mounted on the polished wood of a Shrine pew.

SANCTUARY STONE

\$400

Sanctuary Stone donors will have helped lay the foundations for the Shrine Altar, heart of the Church where Christ is offered to the Father, and then comes present to His people. And Sanctuary Stone donors are individually honored by a listing on the Sanctuary Stone Commemorative Plaque.

SHRINE CHURCH 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 by God is glorified. And each hymnal opens upon a bookplate, inscribed with the name of the Shrine donor who has generously made possible this "gift of praise and thanksgiving."