

Vol. 24, No. 1 SPRING 2014 A PUBLICATION OF THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE











UPDATE

"Shining Light Into Darkness," Mary's Shrine Illumines 2,000 Years of Christ's Teaching

A New Pope Gives Voice to the Great Tenets of Faith and Finds a Welcome Audience at Mary's Shrine

ORLANDO — When Pope Francis told the faithful that Christ's Church must get back to its historic roots, the new Pontiff's words brought near universal affirmation, praise, even joy.

His passionate call reverberated down corridors of St. Peter's Basilica and out from the shadows of ancient Rome to the peoples of Europe, Asia, Africa and beyond: a summons that calls today's clergy and laity alike to help recapture the missionary spirit, energy, traditions and outlook of Christ's early followers.

The Pope's challenge to priests: Draw closer to your flock. Bring the healing power of God's grace to all who hunger all who seek direction, counsel, comfort. A true shepherd, he points out, lives with his sheep, knows them, accompanies them on their journey. And Francis admonishes: "Be shepherds living with the smell of sheep."

the example of
The Good Shepherd
who came not
to be served
but to serve

- Pope Francis

Yet the still greater challenge he has issued in the dawning year of his papacy is for each of God's people to shine the Gospel's own true light into darkness.

Step out of your 'comfort zone,' he instructs: Do not be afraid to tell your neighbors about God's infinite mercy. Do not be afraid to proclaim the joyful news of salvation.

And in few places has the call of Pope Francis, from his message and instructions to the very challenge he lays before us, been as warmly received as here in Central Florida, by great friends and members of the three-decades-old National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe -- already one of the world's most fast-emerging and spiritually energetic holy sites.

continued on page 7

A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

March 20, 2014

Dear Friend and Shrine Family Member,

Throughout our world, the world of believers,

Easter is a glorious celebration of life — the life of
our Risen Savior. For as Pope John Paul II so often
reminded us: We are an "Easter people."

And here at Mary's Shrine each spring anew, we welcome overflow crowds who come to share with us — and you — in the joy of Christ's resurrection.

For many, there is added joy and gratitude in being able to celebrate at a shrine made beautiful by the faithful ... and made holy by faith itself.

Especially today, in a world often confused and conflicted for want of assurances that God is near, loving us, this shrine is a place of God's presence; not simply a building but a temple that inspires, renews and sends us forth!

Even our latest installations: St. Michael, the Conversion of Paul, and new devotional images of Our Lord's first disciple Mary, reflect a community inspired by those who first believed.

So too, just as the sick were brought to Jesus to be healed, we prayerfully bring the sins, problems and wounds of today's world to the Good Shepherd.

We are strengthened with the Holy Spirit, healed and restored as members of Christ in confession, and constantly nourished in that holiest of prayers, the sacred Eucharist.

And here, embraced by the Blessed Mother, our Patron, God's people are fed ... strengthened for their share of God's mission on earth.

Indeed, as a place touched by the presence of our Risen Savior, Mary's Shrine is a sanctuary, refuge, even a launching pad for the human spirit!

And as you continue to share in our outreach, loving Jesus and generously participating in His work, may He bless you and keep your faith ever new.

In the love of our Risen Christ,

I Paul Henry

Very Reverend Paul J. Henry



THE BASILICA
OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE
OF

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE SHRINE INVITES YOU

TO SHARE IN THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

OF THE BASILICA'S SOLEMN EASTER MASSES

APRIL 20-28, 2014 AND

JOIN WITH US IN RECOGNIZING
THE CANONIZATION
OF BLESSED POPE JOHN XXIII

8

BLESSED POPE JOHN PAUL II SUNDAY 11:30 MASS APRIL 27, 2014

Mass Schedule

WEEKDAY MASSES MONDAY-FRIDAY

• 8:00 AM • 12:05 PM

(MONDAY) • 7:00 PM

Mass and Perpetual Novena in honor of

the Miraculous Medal

SATURDAY MASSES

• 8:00 AM • 6:00 PM

SUNDAYS & HOLY DAYS

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



ISSUED PERIODICALLY FOR FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS OF

THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

8300 Vineland Avenue Orlando, Florida 32821 (407) 239-6600

WWW.MARYQUEENOFTHEUNIVERSE.ORG SHRINE@MARYQUEENOFTHEUNIVERSE.ORG



Father John McMullan Remembers Korea

"One day, while I was serving as a U. S. Army Chaplain in Korea, North Korean forces killed two of my men, both Catholics, in the DMZ; the Panmunjon neutral zone.

The camp erupted. It seemed as though World War III was at hand! Trucks filled with munitions roared out of our motor pools; every man wore his flak jacket and carried extra ammo. Troops put their affairs in order. Many wrote letters home to their families.

Amid the heightened tension. I was approached by a sudden, long line of soldiers, wanting me to hear their confession – in their minds perhaps a LAST confession. And God's mercy and compassion took care of them.

The men must have shared their inner peace and thankfulness to God with their buddies, for I was soon surrounded by Protestant GI's: seeking the inner peace their buddies had found, they wanted me to hear their confession as well! Prayerfully, I asked the Lord what to do and He said --- 'Go ahead!'

On that day I heard the first confessions of 17 young Protestant

soldiers and saw them come alive with God's peace and love, ready to face whatever might come. What a wonderful GIFT is the "Sacrament of Reconcilliation or Confession!"



Father John McMullan



The call went out. And it was Christ's people, first in Florida and later from towns and cities across the world, who would carve from the dream of a Catholic welcoming place in Orlando the reality of a major new shrine that is making it possible for today's Church to be truly present in the lives of so many who come here seeking God's love, God's peace.

it was as much an opportunity as it

was an obligation for the Church

"to be present in their lives.

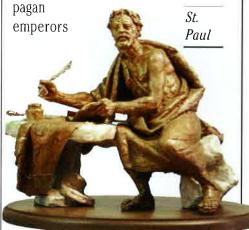
And what an evocation of the early church it is! Here visitors find shaded courtyards; walk through tranquil gardens of reflection; pause in the stillness of unadorned, outdoor worship spaces; enter a church that evokes the earliest basilica designs of a religion founded 2,000 years ago; and -- once inside what a soon-to-be canonized Pope John Paul II lovingly called "this house of pilgrimage" -there encounter Our Lord Jesus Christ and His blessed mother.



Mary's Shrine

It is a place, a faith experience that might imagine for some a time on the shores of Galilee where Jesus once bade a fisherman to become "a fisher of men" and later entrusted him, Simon called Peter, to build the foundations of a new church in First Century Judea.

pagan



to bring the promise of Christianity to the peoples throughout the Ancient World.

Indeed, each new generation has further enlightened, and down through history to Pope John XXIII, John Paul II and today, the beloved Pope Francis. It has not been an easy cause to uphold. The blood of its martyrs left on unnumbered villages whose people they had sought to convert.

While its spiritual landscape might stir in us images of a time gone before, it is really the ministry of Mary's Shrine itself that calls us to be, like Peter, "fishers of men."

For here is a ministry whose dedicated priests, staff and volunteers strive to make every pilgrim heart feel welcome. It is an apostolate that invites all to share the Eucharist, the words of Christ, a love for Him and His blessed mother.

So, too, it is a ministry that celebrates the art, music and heritage of generations that came before, and seeks to teach the young of each new generation.

It is this ministry we now share, serving a church and its people that continues to influence the course of human history like no other.

SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCE

To Bring Forth the Good Shepherd In Us All "Build Up The House Which Is God's Church"

A Call to Take Up the Cross; to Be As Shepherds to Humankind and Walk With Pope Francis In the Way of Our Lord.

ROME - "Let the holiness of your lives be a delightful fragrance to Christ's faithful, so that by word and example you may build up the house which is God's Church."

So instructed Pope Francis in one of his first Papal homilies. It was Good Shepherd Sunday. April 21, 2013 and the Holy Father was celebrating the ordination of ten new priests in the Basilica at St. Peter's in Rome.

Yet his words that morning could well have been a summons to all who believe: "I ask you in the name of Christ and the Church," he told the faithful gathered there, "never tire of being merciful."

"Comfort the sick and the elderly,"... he continued. "Strive to bring the faithful together into one family, so that you may lead them to God the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit. Keep always before your eyes the example of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served but to serve, and who came to seek out and save what was lost."

Here was an exhortation: Live in Christ. Let your life illuminate the meaning of what it is to be a shepherd -- not of sheep but of humankind.

The Holy Father asks us to turn away from the currencies of our modern world, in which



If we walk
without the Cross
and build without
the Cross and confess
in Christ without
the Cross, then we are not
the Lord's disciples ... "

status and possessions have been elevated in the minds of men, forcing out the very core of what it means to "live in Christ."

Turn instead, the Pontiff seems to urge, to the examples of Jesus and His blessed mother. Let humility be your touchstone. your defining grace. Let compassion fill your core.

Indeed, we are called to never abandon those in need of comfort, understanding, and above all mercies, the Holy Father calls us to never turn away from those most in need of forgiveness itself.

Sheep stray. Christ knows.

And in the fields, shepherds may lose themselves to a few moments of restorative sleep. Yet no member of the flock is ever really lost so long as the shepherd turns not away his heart. And as Christ reminds us: the good shepherd never abandons his sheep.

It is an image called to mind by the unadorned silver cross that Pope Francis wore as a bishop in Argentina and continues to wear now at the Vatican: It is the image of Christ as the Good Shepherd, bringing home the sheep that was lost; while overhead there flies a dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit.

Let us then rejoice in knowing the summons of Pope Francis is today bringing -- as it has been reported in the news recently -- "ordinary people much closer to the Church again"... more people perhaps to take up the cross Jesus bore. More people to watch over His flock. More of us to wear the Good Shepherd cross and take up the very mission that symbolizes our new pontiff's call upon the world!





For Shrine family
members and friends,
we are pleased to offer
our gift of the two, official
holy cards from the Vatican's

April 27, 2014 Canonization of Pope Saint John XXIII and Pope Saint John Paul II.



Donors of \$15 or more receive the Good Shepherd cross worn by Pope Francis; a 1" version signed and authorized by the artist.

For donors of \$35 and above we are honored to make available the 3" Pope Francis cross, gift-boxed with a Certificate of Authenticity. Generous donors of \$100 and above each receive a small sculptured treasure: the 9" high, "Christ With the Lost Sheep" from Goldscheider's Veronese



"Confession is Meeting Place With Jesus"; Every Day at Mary's Shrine: Reconciling With God

Fathers Paul Henry and John McMullan of Mary's Shrine Offer Reflections on the Sacrament of Reconciliation

ORLANDO — One Sunday in Germany, the influential Catholic theologian and extraordinary teacher, Father Bernard Häring was speaking to a large congregation. His subject that afternoon: "Confession."

He began by asking them: "What is the most important thing about confession?" And he heard many voices: Yet the congregation could tell from Father Häring's face that he'd not yet heard THE most important thing.

In the silence that followed, there stirred a young girl's voice: "I know what's most important. Father: It's what Jesus does!" Fr. Häring smiled: she had it right!

For while confession has many elements, each important; above all, it's what Jesus does for us. THAT is truly the heart of reconciliation.



Jesus is the Divine Healer.
The Good Shepherd. He is center stage. And He tells us: "Come to me all you who are burdened and I will refresh you." No 'hoops' to jump through; no recriminations; no begrudging; just mercy.

All we need do is to move toward Our Savior who beckons, and then acknowledge our need. Jesus wants us to have 'a skip in our step'! No one is turned away. The sin has yet to be committed which He will not forgive!

And marvelously, this celebration of God's mercy happens every day at Mary's Shrine where Reconciliation, or Confession. is one of our most valued ministries.



Indeed, since this ministry began three decades ago, many thousands of women, men, children, priests, nuns, religious, even a few bishops, have celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation here! And their expressions of gratitude have been most heartening to us all.

"Wow, this is great! Confessions available every day, I wish we had this in our parish."

"I drove all the way from Tampa because I knew the only place I'd find a priest available for confession on Sunday afternoon was at the Shrine. I don't believe this is available anywhere else in Florida."

"Father, I can't believe this is happening. I came here merely to look at the architecture. Friends told me about the stained glass windows and unique statuary."

"This place is special because I was moved to go to confession and it has been more than twenty years since the last time I went."

From the Vatican

As Pope Francis told the faithful in St. Peter's Square last November, "The confessional is neither a "laundromat" for sin removal nor a torture session . . . Confession is a meeting place with Jesus, a place of tenderness. We need to approach this Sacrament meekly, gladly, with simplicity, with trust

"The confessional is the place where the Lord's mercy motivates us to do better. Priests and Bishops too have to go to confession, even the Pope confesses every 15 days, because the Pope is also a sinner. And the confessor hears what I tell him, he counsels me and forgives me because we are all in need of this forgiveness."

It is a humbling experience for a priest to hear confessions --- so many people trying to be better and to grow closer to God, sharing their human faults and failings — confident of the love, compassion and mercy of God. It makes the priest strive harder to be a better person himself.

Pope John Paul II said that the defining sin of modern times is the "loss of the sense of sin" and told of St. John's warning: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8)



Pope Francis has said that the priest in the confessional must have peace in his heart, that he be gentle, benevolent and merciful; that he knows how to plant hope in hearts and above all, that he be aware that the sister or brother who approaches the sacrament of Reconciliation, seeking forgiveness, does so just as did the many people who approached Jesus to be healed.

The priest who is not of this disposition of mind had better not administer the sacrament until he has addressed it. The faithful penitent has the right — all faithful have the right — to find in priests, true servants of the forgiveness of God. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

THE BASILICA
OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF MARY,
QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Restoring A Sense of the Sacred; Mary's Shrine to Be Catalyst For New Campaign

Here at Mary's Shrine the majesty of art and sacred music will neither be allowed to fade nor grow silent.

At a concert to celebrate the seventh year of his pontificate, an appreciative Pope Benedict XVI spoke of sacred music as a "rich repertory which expresses the faith of the Church in music."

He shared his own passion for Vivaldi, whose music, he said, "calls us to wonder before the works of God"; as well, the sublime hymn of praise that is Verdi's 'Magnificat.' And for Benedict, orchestral masses were a particular passion.

Regrettably, sentiments like his are too rarely expressed these days. The arts are a diminishing priority.

So churches often grow silent. Liturgies seem dark without choir or musical accompaniment.

Once-proud organs are replaced by electronic music -- and entire generations are left to come of age without experiencing the fullness of authentically-inspired music in the life of God's people.

With it fades an abiding sense of the sacred; a shared appreciation for the Church's exceptionalism; two thousand years in the making, embraced and enriched by giants

in the world of music and art. But the arts will neither fade nor be allowed to grow silent here at the Basilica.

In the year ahead, devoted friends and Shrine family members will be invited to join in planning with us a bold new campaign to benefit sacred music.

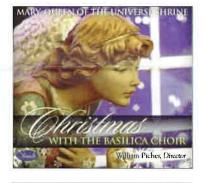
Using the Basilica as catalyst and cornerstone, our mission will be to help restore, then further vitalize the well-loved, historic role of music in the 21st century Church.

We greatly look forward to sharing with you our aspirations and our progress.

Mary's Song: Music at the National Shrine

It has been a wonderful season of music, concerts and surprises so far here at Mary's Shrine. Our Basilica Concert Series got off to a rousing start last November with a program of music composed for brass and organ entitled "The Power and the Glory of Brass" featuring members of the Sovereign Brass Union and our old friend, organist Wm. Glenn Osborne.

Notably, the musicians generously donated their time and talent, with all proceeds benefiting Catholic Charities of Central Florida's outreach service to the poor.



Christmas Album

and remain available for purchase at the Shrine Gift Store or by calling 407-239-6010.

So why not extend this season of joy by treating yourself, family or good friends to the music of a Christmas CD that's just wonderful to hear all year long!

A February 28th concert honored Orlando's much loved former Bishop Emeritus, Norbert

M. Dorsey. One of the Bishop's favorite composers was Mozart; and under the direction of Dr. William Picher, the Basilica Choir, together with orchestra and soloists beautifully brought to life Mozart's immortal composition."Requiem in D Minor."

On March 23rd, nationallyknown composer, pianist, singer and speaker Jeanne Cotter presented a

program entitled "A Lenten Meditation of Piano and Song."

While Jeanne's compositions are already familiar to mass-goers at the Basilica, this was their first opportunity to hear the famed pianist herself -- live from Mary's Shrine!

Gratifyingly as well, hers was the inaugural solo concert performed on the Basilica's recently-acquired grand piano, the magnificent gift of an anonymous benefactor in support of the Shrine's growing commitment to sacred music in the life of the Church and its people.



Jeanne Cotter

Be sure to get on the Music Department's email and postcard list to be kept up to speed on the latest music news. Call 407-239-6600 x317 or contact us at music@maryqueenoftheuniverse.org

Sovereign Brass

This year's Christmas Concert drew its largest and most enthusiastic audience ever! 'Frosting on the cake' was the premier of our Basilica Choir's third, full-length Christmas CD: "Christmas with the Basilica Choir." Copies of the new Christmas CD sold briskly throughout the holidays

"I Am the One Upon Whom God Has Looked:" For Each Is Called to Share in the Risen Christ

ORLANDO- In every age,
Pope Francis tells us, the Church
has called upon the arts to give
expression to the beauty of faith;
to proclaim the Gospel message,
"the dignity of human beings made
in His image and the power of
Christ's death to bring redemption
and rebirth to a world touched by
the tragedy of sin and death."

For Father Henry, Rector of Mary's Shrine, the Pontiff's words bring to mind a wonderful insight of Pope Francis some time ago. Asked by a journalist: "Who is Jorge Mario Bergolio?" -- his name before becoming pope -- Francis told of a church in Rome where he'd often go to pray; and within, a remarkably stirring painting by the Italian master, Caravagio, titled: "The Call of Matthew."

Here was Matthew, a collector of taxes seated at his counting table, when suddenly there appears Jesus, hand outstretched, beckoning -- a first encounter between Jesus and the surprised and despised one, soon to be a disciple!

And so Francis said "You ask, Who am I? I am Francis upon whom God has looked."

Indeed, God looks upon us all; with tender eyes Jesus looks and calls each of us to Him -- the universal call. It was the summons Mary received through the Angel Gabriel; and she said 'yes.' Saul encountered Jesus on

the road and, blinded by the vision's intensity, he became Paul, his life forever changed.

Again and again in the history of our faith there is the call of God: the call to conversion; moments so marvelously captured in the art we call sacred.

Which makes the arts here at Mary's Shrine as fascinating as they are evocative, challenging all of us to explore deeper within ourselves; like our newest installation, St. Paul, his conversion, which draws us in and speaks to us.

Dedicated with a liturgy, choir and blessing by Bishop Noonan on January 25, 2014, "The Conversion



The Conversion of St. Paul

of St. Paul" emerges from a granite slab which appears to be floating above the garden area, with lighting enhanced to show as the blinding of St. Paul. Surrounding the statue will be a walkway representative of the Road to Damascus that will encourage visitors to interact with the sculpture.



St. Michael the Archangel

Months earlier, on the 29th of September 2013, Mary's Shrine dedicated a new and powerful, 12-foot sculpture of St. Michael the Archangel, a guardian overlooking the bridge that welcomes God's people to Mary's Shrine.

Years ago, Pope Benedict XVI said there are ways beyond the Word which speak to us of God's call: from music and painting to poetry, stained glass, sculpture and beautiful liturgical celebrations. And all can be found here at Mary's Shrine, for this is a place of God's presence; not a static one, but a dynamic one --inspiring, renewing, and instructing those of us who would journey inward to discover who we are. And then, as with Pope Francis, be able to say, "I am the one upon whom God has looked."

News From the Shrine Museum

ORLANDO - On loan from artist Wayne Hovis, "Mary Knew" is an allegorical work in which Hovis has reimagined the crucified Jesus not as the lifeless, 33-year-old man of Michelangelo's Pieta but as a boy of twelve cradled in the arms of his sorrowful mother.

It is as if Mary is remembering the child seemingly asleep on her lap as he was all those years ago when first seen confounding the Temple elders -- the time she came to realize that her son had a destiny to fulfill, though a reckoning she would not fully comprehend until the day of the Cross.

Here, Hovis sought to move away from the traditional, a Mother & Child or the Pieta, for example, depicting instead a freshly inspired moment that would fall somewhere in between.

In "Mary Knew," a work that spanned nearly three decades from conception to completion,



Hovis has done just that, adding thoughtfully to the image of Jesus in art.

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 Blessed 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 \$500,000, 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 re gnized 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.



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 — 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.

COURTYARD BENCHES

In dedicating one of the attractive wrought-iron benches in the courtyard of the Basilica, you will be helping to shape the spiritual landscape of Mary's Shrine by providing a place for quiet meditation or a peaceful rest in the midst of the Shrine complex, while establishing a memorial for family or friend, with an engraved plaque.



Bronze Portal Commemorative

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 adjacent to one of the new entrance doors at Mary's Church.



FOOTSTEPS OF FAITH

\$300

Footsteps of Faith donors are opening doors to the new Interactive Theatre place where millions of visitors explore Christianity's storied history and traditions. Each of these generous patrons is honored with a handsome certificate and their names are listed on a special plaque at the Theatre entrance.



SHRINE CHURCH HYMNAL

\$225

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 which 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."

ROSARY GARDEN BRICK

With bricks 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.



\$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.

