

THE MAGNIFICAT

Fall/Winter 2018 | Volume XXIX, Issue II



Coming Home to Mary's Shrine

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



— 1993 2018 —
JUBILEE

A Message from the Rector

Dear Friend,

I am very happy to share with you a rather special issue of *The Magnificat*. It has been a very big year as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the Basilica church which happened on the feast day of our Patroness on August 22, 1993.

The celebrations in November will be beautiful, made more so by the possibility that you may be able to attend.

As the shrine's ministry began to take shape in its early days, Pope John Paul II himself expressed his conviction that this new ministry represented a pivotal moment in the Church's mission to evangelize all peoples.

This shrine has reached out to great numbers of pilgrims... God's people who come to us from all over the country and from around the world. We are a national shrine with an international reach. In a special way you've been a part of something wonderful. It is your time, talents, prayers and

love that have brought this ministry to where it is today. And, as we look to the future, the vitality of the ministry is evident in special things that are currently happening at Mary's Shrine. First, a major facet of our ministry is to daily make available the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are expanding the space in a beautiful way to accommodate all who come. Sometimes there are very long lines... a good thing. And, in the New Year there will be visible signs of movement as we prepare the building to undergo the necessary modifications ahead of the beautiful pipe organ's arrival.

Enjoy a good read today. We look forward to welcoming you home!

The Very Reverend Fr. Paul J. Henry, Basilica Rector

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COMING HOME TO MARY'S SHRINE

BY DANIEL FREEDMAN

In most all our lives, there is an enduring place of welcome, a place where the rhythm of our days remains comforting and familiar, a safe haven from the din and disruptions of the world beyond. In that place live memories we cherish even today; stories we freely share, and memories of times past we hold close, reserved for solemn moments of quiet reflection. It is that place we call 'home.'

For some of us, though, there is also a second home, a spiritual home - a place you helped us to build through your own unwavering faith and sacrifices. With doors opened wide to the world, your spiritual home away from home is Orlando's Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. This November 17th and 18th we hope you will join us in celebrating the Shrine's Jubilee Year.

Among those who will come home to Mary's Shrine will be a Midwest family that first visited Orlando one week in the early 1980's. With excited small children in tow, they had come to explore the wonders of a newly-opened Disney World. But on Sunday morning they took time to attend a Mass being offered in the temporarily rearranged dining room of a nearby hotel. Likely, they were greeted by a genial Irish priest who shared with congregates his dream of building a shrine to the holy Mother of God. It would be, he no doubt explained, a place of welcome for all the world, a peaceful respite from the neon glare of Orlando's beckoning amusements. And as they listened, that Midwestern family decided to

make their own special offering. What they chose was to dedicate a ceramic tile for the roof that would one day shelter Mary's new church. Yet, they could hardly have envisioned what would come of the small seed their faith had planted that Sunday.

Returning to Orlando years later, they must have marveled to see what glory had sprouted from the seemingly 'impossible dream' their generosity had helped to favor. Perhaps they realized this ministry to the world was 'their' ministry, and Mary's Shrine itself, a gathering place they could rightfully call their own.

Over the years, that same appreciation has inspired countless others to answer the Shrine's call, again and again. And so, truly, this house of pilgrimage their faith helped to build - this shrine in which their names are inscribed, and forever remembered with love - is their 'home away from home.' Indeed, for all those special friends and Shrine members who have received an invitation to join with us here this November, many will pack their bags, book a flight or gas up the car and come home to this place where Mary and her Divine Son wait to greet them, hands outstretched, hearts

overflowing with love.

A second invitation might have arrived in a Massachusetts mailbox and stir memories of a visit to Orlando with a stop for Mass where work was just beginning to convert 17 acres of swampy undergrowth into what Pope John Paul II would come to call "this place of pilgrimage."



They'd remember treading their way across newly cleared acres, only to find hard metal seats inside a cavernous white tent. They, too, no doubt made an offering, adding their names to the growing list of donors and began to receive letters and progress reports from the project's director – Father F. Joseph Harte. Excited by pictures of the new church and its potential to help open doors to Christ for a new generation, perhaps they chose to honor their role in building 'the dream' by commemorating a family plaque on the walls of the Shrine's uniquely framed Mother & Child Outdoor Chapel – 'their chapel.'

Another invitation crossed oceans, to be opened in a two-story house just outside Manila. Here lives a family that had visited a near-complete Shrine Church in the early 1990's. Determined to have a lasting role in the Shrine's outreach, they memorialized their own family's name with a gift honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, who was to have her own small chapel inside the new church.

Indeed, every invitation carries a page of the Shrine story, and forever links one family's name to the life and work of what is today The Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. And every invitee is, in a very real sense, 'a brick in the wall' of a church considered to be "the last great shrine of the Second Millennium."

This November, supporters and their families from across the United States will join with other Shrine builders from Canada, Central and South America, Europe, Asia and lands beyond for our Basilica's informal, 'Mix n' Mingle' event on Saturday, November 17th. This will be a wonderful time to reunite with Shrine friends from years' past and maybe even meet some new ones!

Saturday's program will also feature guided and self-guided tours of the grounds, a marvelous opportunity to catch up on new facilities and their pivotal role in educating, inspiring and ennobling the lives of hundreds of thousands more visitors each year. Mix n' Mingle

"...come home to this place where Mary and her Divine Son wait to greet them, hands outstretched, hearts overflowing with love."

will also be a great chance to interact with three artists who have been instrumental in creating sculptures and other sacred works of art that now adorn our basilica and its surrounding landscape.

Sunday evening will bring it all together for a reception where we will gather to Celebrate the Dream. Yet, the weekend's singular highlight will most assuredly be Sunday afternoon's Jubilee Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00pm to honor the 25th Anniversary of our Shrine Church's dedication with Bishop John Noonan, Bishop of the Diocese of Orlando, all three basilica rectors and other distinguished guests in attendance.

All are welcome to attend and will be enriched by a specially orchestrated program of music performed by our celebrated Basilica choir and orchestra.

So please circle the dates November 17th and 18th on your calendar and plan to be with us as we celebrate the life and work of this holy shrine you helped build and sustain. 'Come home' to Jesus and Mary. 'Come home' to celebrate your legacy of faith forever enshrined in "this place of pilgrimage." ❧





— 1993 — 2018 —
JUBILEE

— *Come Home* —
to **MARY'S SHRINE**

CELEBRATE THE 25TH JUBILEE YEAR
of the
SHRINE'S DEDICATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
and **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18**
TWO-THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

TOUR MARY'S SHRINE | 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Guided & Self-Guided Tours available

Discover firsthand what's new since your last visit and get a sneak peek at upcoming additions to the ministry of Mary's Shrine!

MIX N' MINGLE | 1:00PM - 3:00PM

Come home to Mary's Shrine and catch up with your Shrine family!

Event Includes:

- Light refreshments and beverages
- Access to artistic presentations and walking art tours by artists: Jill Burkee, Giancarlo Biagi and Loura Dobbs

TICKET PACKAGES

ALL-ACCESS PACKAGE - \$100

Includes

- Celebrate the Dream Reception (Following Sunday 3PM Mass)
- Welcome Home Jubilee Packet
- Guided or Self Guided Tour of Mary's Shrine - Saturday
- Access to Saturday's Mix n' Mingle Event with Guest Artists

SATURDAY EVENTS PACKAGE - \$25

Includes

- Welcome Home Jubilee Packet
- Guided or Self-Guided Tour of Mary's Shrine - Saturday
- Access to Saturday's Mix n' Mingle Event with Guest Artists

TOUR MARY'S SHRINE - COMPLIMENTARY

- Access to Guided or Self-Guided Tours of Mary's Shrine - Saturday

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE HIGH CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH AT 3:00PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

JUBILEE MASS OF THANKSGIVING WITH THE BASILICA CHOIR & ORCHESTRA 3:00PM

Join us as we celebrate through Liturgy the 25th Anniversary of the Shrine Church's Dedication.

The Basilica's new marble relief by artist Jill Burkee, depicting St. John Vianney (patron saint of confessors) will be blessed during the Mass.

Celebrants to include:

- Bishop John Noonan - Diocese of Orlando
- Father Paul Henry - Present Rector
- Monsignor F. Joseph Harte - Founding Rector
- Father Ed McCarthy - Proto-Rector

CELEBRATE THE DREAM - RECEPTION 5:00PM - 8:00PM

Celebrate The Dream with all three Rectors, Guest Artists and fellow Friends of Mary's Shrine at this special evening reception.

Event Includes:

- Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Dessert
- Open Bar
- Live Musical Entertainment
- Special Preview of what's next for *The Dream*, Continued



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MARY'S SHRINE



THE CONFESSIONAL EXPANSION

OPENING THIS FALL/WINTER!

Join us for the Jubilee Mass on November 18th at 3p.m. – the marble artwork of St. John Vianney, commissioned for this expansion project, will be blessed immediately following the Mass.



Legacy GIFTS

Thank you for laying the foundation for the Shrine's Legacy of Faith through your Memorials contributions. Your gifts made the first 25 years of this ministry possible and your continued support will sustain it far beyond. Thank you for helping us "Continue The Dream" of Mary's Shrine.



WE NEED YOU!

Join the Shrine's Hospitality Ministry of Volunteers!

From serving during Masses, to greeting guests at our concerts, participating in a mailer or helping a guest select the perfect item from our Gift Shop, the Shrine needs you! For more information contact: inquire@mqs.org or call: 407-239-6600



PIPE ORGAN UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS EARLY 2019!

For updates, visit our website or email: music@mqs.org



Like our Music at Mary, Queen of the Universe page on Facebook

FACETS OF MINISTRY AT MARY'S SHRINE

THE MUSIC MINISTRY

At the Shrine's beginning, there was a single cantor and pianist from a local resort. Eventually, the ministry moved to finding some Disney vocalists for one Mass, twice a month. Until the early 2000's, it was pretty much a blank slate. Today, the 16 members of the Basilica's professional choir come from all over the country, different kinds of backgrounds and various professions like law, engineering and music teachers at the high school and college levels. They all come together as one.... not only by matching vowels to make beautiful music, but as a faith family committed to furthering the mission of the Shrine.



THE SHRINE GIFT SHOP

Religious articles inspire. A beautiful piece of art can elevate our minds and spirits. A rosary can guide us in our prayers. The tradition of religious articles has always been strong in the Catholic church, not as items of worship, but as reminders of Christ's love for us. The Shrine's 10,000 square foot gift shop is a constantly evolving ministry. As technology evolves, it is our hope the shop will advance along with it to reach even more people. While we will always be rooted in tradition, we search for new ways to share these traditions that will inspire all who walk through the doors of the gift shop. Our goal is to keep surprising people, so that every time they come back they discover something new.

THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

The Holy Eucharist

The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist is the heart of our mission. It is the principle sign of God's action and the real presence of Jesus Christ. It unifies the faithful as they gather at the table to be fed and receive the Divine Presence of the Lord and sends us forth to bring Jesus to the world." – Fr. Paul Henry

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY OF VOLUNTEERS

The volunteers have always been the heart and soul of the Basilica. They are the friendly faces you encounter when you walk through its doors. They greet you in the gift shop, they serve as Eucharistic Ministers during Masses and lovingly prepare monthly mailers so we can stay connected to you once you've returned home.

The Shrine's Hospitality Ministry is so important to our mission of being the *Spiritual Home Away from Home* for the thousands of visitors who join us from all over the world. Because of the first impressions of our volunteers, those who visit the Shrine quickly become part of the Basilica family. If you'd like to volunteer during one of your visits, stop by our office to learn more and fill out an application!

PILGRIMAGE CENTER, MUSEUM & OUTREACH

Saint Pope John Paul II saw the growing need for a spiritual language of authentic Christian art - works that express the faith and hope of the Church. The Holy Father urged the promotion of religious art as an aid to the faith and that message was heard by those working at Mary's Shrine.

The hope was that this "house of prayer" might also become a permanent home for works of Christian art and culture. People learn, connect and pray in many different ways; through listening to the spoken Word or to glorious music and through looking at different mediums of art such as oil paintings, bronze statues or stained-glass windows. There is something for everyone here.

We offer guided tours and host retreats for small and large groups - please call 407-239-6600 for availability!





CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Fall 2018

NOVEMBER

Sat., Nov. 17 &
Sun., Nov 18

**25TH JUBILEE
WEEKEND HOME-COMING
CELEBRATION**



Thurs., Nov 22

Thanksgiving Day Masses
8:00am | 9:30am | 12:05pm

Offices & Gift Shop Closed Thu. & Fri., Nov. 22 – 23

DECEMBER

Sat., Dec. 1

Creche Opens before 6pm Vigil Mass for First Sunday of Advent

Fri., Dec. 7

Holy Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception Masses
7:30am | 9:30am | 11:30am | 6:00pm

Annual Gift Shop Open House | 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Christmas with the Basilica Choir & Orchestra | 7:30pm



Mon., Dec. 24

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve | 6:00 PM and Midnight Mass

Tues., Dec. 25

Christmas Day | 7:30am | 9:30am | 11:30am | 6:00pm

Mon., Dec. 31

New Year's Eve Mass | 6:00pm - *Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*



MARCH

Sun., Mar. 17

**A St. Patrick's Day Celebration Concert
with the Basilica Choir & Friends**
3:00pm | Tickets \$25

APRIL

Fri., Apr. 12

Tenebrae - A HOLY WEEK SERVICE OF DARKNESS

3:00pm

Presided by The Very Reverend Paul J. Henry, Basilica Rector

What is a Tenebrae Service?

- Tenebrae is Latin for darkness
- Dates to the 9th Century as part of liturgical celebrations during the final three days of Holy Week
- Traditionally includes a gradual extinguishing of candles, symbolizing the blackness of sin Jesus carried on the Cross
- Through a series of readings and choral music, attendees experience Christ's abandonment, the earthquake at His death, the closing of the tomb and the battle between God and Satan



Thu. - Sat.,
Apr. 18 - 20

Holy Week

Sun., Apr. 21

Easter Sunday

Masses: 7:30 am | 9:30 am
11:30 am | 1:30 pm | 6:00 pm



MAY

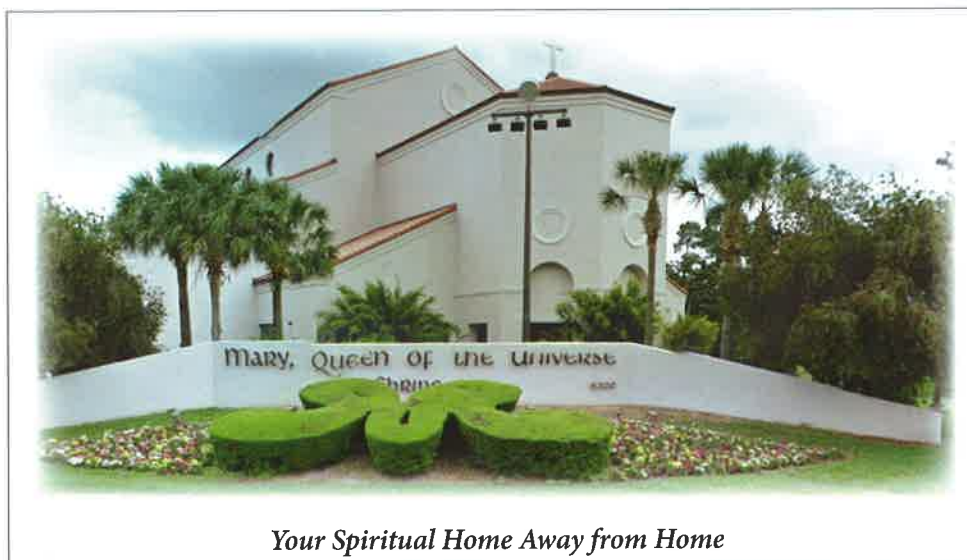
Sun., May 12

**A Mother's Day Bouquet Concert
with the Basilica Choir**
3:00pm | Tickets \$25



**Basilica of the National Shrine
of Mary Queen of the Universe**
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