

MARY'S SHRINE

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Our Lady of China

Mary's Shrine

BY REVEREND MONSIGNOR WALTER R. ROSSI, J.C.L.



At the conclusion of my message for the Spring/Summer 2021 issue of *Mary's Shrine*, I ended on a hopeful note that soon, because of vaccines, the coronavirus would be put behind us and the world would return to normal. It is, however, an illusion to think that we can go back to where we were. As the year progressed, the variants of the coronavirus proved this to be true. Living with the pandemic has become the "new normal."

Pope Francis, aware of our concerns, states, "We are still living in uncertain and difficult times due to the pandemic. Many are frightened about the future and burdened by social problems, personal problems, dangers stemming from the ecological crises, injustices and by global economic imbalances" (Angelus Address, January 1, 2022).

The emergence of new strains of COVID-19 is frightening to many people, especially those with immunocompromised conditions. We have experienced, once again, the burden put on first responders and medical personnel, the disruption of the educational system, employment concerns, especially as businesses are forced to close because of sickness, as well as the shortages caused by the supply chain bottleneck, which also makes many products more expensive.

This health crisis has also affected our ministry here at Mary's Shrine. For many months we operated with capacity limits; in 2021 most events were cancelled, and, like most households, the National Shrine felt the economic impact. It seemed as though every time we thought we had turned the corner, a new mutation of the virus dealt us a setback.

Amid all of these challenges, I am happy to report that people are beginning to return to their old routines and trying to live as normal a life as possible. This also includes attending Mass in person. Since Advent 2021, participation at Sunday and weekday Mass has increased. Barring any new obstacles, we have pilgrimages, tours, and special events scheduled throughout 2022.

This year the National Shrine will observe

the silver anniversary of the dedication of the Oratories of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage (Antipolo), Our Lady of Good Health (Vailankanni), and the Chapel of Our Mother of Africa. In addition, the devotional mosaic, Our Lady of China, will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of its dedication.

With these images of the Blessed Mother, we see how through the centuries, Our Lady has been present to her children around the world. The significance of these oratories and chapels at Mary's Shrine speaks to the diversity of people who come to this great Marian sanctuary and reflects the mosaic of peoples which comprise the Church. Each multi-cultural community enhances the National Shrine through prayer, song, ritual and native dress. Above all, each community, like the faith of all those who worship at Mary's Shrine, confirms that their Roman Catholic faith is important; alive and thriving; a strong witness in what is, at times, a faithless world.

Last December, when tornados in Kentucky, Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Mississippi caused tremendous destruction and the loss of life, one affected individual was asked, "How do you cope?" to which the response was given, "Faith. You have to have faith."

Isn't this true for all of us and all of life? We "have to have faith." We do not know what one day or even one hour may bring. We must have faith that in all that life brings us; in illness, amid disaster and adversity, even in death, God will take care of us.

Who but the Blessed Virgin Mary is the perfect model of faith for us? We speak of Our Lady as the "Pillar of Faith," a title which traces its origins to the first Marian apparition and bilocation. It was in the year 40 A.D. while Mary was still alive and living in Jerusalem. She knew of the difficulties that James, one of the first apostles called by Jesus, was having while evangelizing in Spain and Portugal. One day, while deep in prayer, James looked up and saw before him Mary, the Virgin Mother, holding her Divine Son. She was standing upon a pillar supported by a cloud of angels who had

transported her miraculously from Jerusalem to Spain. Like a true mother, Mary spoke words of comfort, encouragement, and reassurance. Then, she asked James to build a chapel on that spot on the banks of the Ebro River, promising that “it will stand from that moment until the end of time in order that God may work miracles and wonders ... for all those who

place themselves under my patronage.”

As you read this edition of *Mary's Shrine* please know that I have placed each of you under the protection of our Blessed Mother, asking for her intercession so that God may “work miracles and wonders” in your lives and keep you safe from all harm. 🍷



Mary's Shrine Welcomes You

The week of the 2022 National Prayer Vigil for Life (see next page) marked a major milestone in the life of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Mary's Shrine welcomed nearly 21,000 people—the greatest number of visitors to come through its doors in one week since the 2020 National Prayer Vigil for Life.

In the two years between these prayer vigils, the coronavirus pandemic affected every aspect of life, including the life of Mary's Shrine. The Basilica was forced to close its doors for an unprecedented three months from March to June 2020. What followed since has been a phased reopening: first for private prayer, then for a limited schedule of Masses with capacity limits, then for Confession, then Adoration, then the reopening of the Gift Shop and Bookstore, and finally opening to the public without restriction, except for the District of Columbia mask mandate that was lifted on March 1.

Over the past two years, Mary's Shrine, its clergy, religious, and staff, worked harder than ever to continue to fulfill its mission as a place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelization, and reconciliation. Through its website, social media, and email communications; through livestreamed Masses, devotions, choral concerts, and organ recitals; through online spiritual enrollments and devotional offerings; through online tours, online shopping and more, Mary's Shrine has reached out in every possible way to be present to the faithful across our nation and around the world.

While continuing online ministry, Mary's Shrine is ready to welcome you back in person. For those yet unable to return, please be assured that Mary's Shrine will continue the outreach and keep you and your loved ones in prayer.

For the latest news and information on Mary's Shrine, please read the pages herein and visit www.nationalshrine.org. 🍷

2022 National Prayer Vigil for Life

Catholic News Photo by Bob Roller



Archbishop Lori delivers the homily during the Opening Mass.

At the Opening of the 43rd Annual National Prayer Vigil for Life, Monsignor Walter Rossi, Rector of the Basilica, welcomed a congregation of more than 5,000 of the faithful who filled the Basilica's Great Upper Church, Crypt Church, and Memorial Hall.

With great joy he exclaimed, "It is so wonderful to see so many of you with us this year! Seeing the National Shrine filled with so many advocates for life is a sight for sore eyes!" He said this in light of last year's Vigil for Life which was held virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions in the District of Columbia and across the country.

In addition to welcoming the pro-life faithful, Monsignor Rossi also welcomed Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, the Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities, who was the principal celebrant and homilist of the Opening Mass.

He also welcomed Cardinal Sean O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston, who would be the celebrant and homilist of the following morning's Closing Mass of the National Prayer Vigil for Life. Monsignor Rossi noted that Cardinal O'Malley "is a pioneer of this Vigil, having led it many years ago when it was celebrated in the Crypt Church of the National Shrine."

In his homily, Archbishop Lori said, "What is needed in all situations is a witness to love and to life" as he highlighted various ministries that give such witness: the Sisters of Life, Walking with Moms in Need, pro-life pregnancy centers across the country, many of which provide ultrasound technology often supplied by the Knights of Columbus, and Project Rachel, among others.

During the Vigil's Closing Mass, Cardinal O'Malley said that after nearly half a century of struggle to reinstate the right to life, "This year may be the year when the legal protection of unborn children will once again be enshrined in our laws" as "the Supreme Court has an opportunity to correct a legal and an even greater moral wrong" by overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

"Changing the law is important," he said, "but we still have the arduous task of creating a pro-life culture of changing people's hearts and minds." Cardinal O'Malley concluded, "Building a civilization of love is what will ultimately overcome abortion in our country." 🍷



Catholic News Photo by Bob Roller

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES TO MARY'S SHRINE

April 30	Conventual Franciscans	Sept 24	Diocese of Metuchen
May 7	Asian & Pacific Island Catholics	Oct 6	Diocese of Allentown
May 15	Our Lady of Lujan	Oct 8	Diocese of Pittsburgh
May 22	Archdiocese for the Military Services	Oct 15	Archdiocese of Philadelphia
June 25	Filipino	Oct 22	Diocese of Brooklyn
Aug 15	Catholic Golden Age	Oct 29	Diocese of Camden
Sept 10	Indian American Catholic Association	Nov 12	Diocese of Trenton
Sept 17	National Black Catholic Congress	Dec 3	Haitian Catholic Community

Mary's Shrine: A Pilgrimage Church

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is the largest Roman Catholic church in North America and it is among the ten largest churches in the world. It is our nation's preeminent Marian shrine dedicated to the patroness of the United States—the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception.

Mary's Shrine is also a national sanctuary of prayer and pilgrimage. We know what prayer is, but what is pilgrimage?

The practice of pilgrimage is rooted in Judaic tradition and the journey to Jerusalem. In the early days of Christianity, the faithful continued this tradition, eagerly journeying to the Holy Land to visit and pray at those places associated with the life of Christ.

During the sixth century, pilgrimage became a penitential exercise. At the beginning of the tenth century, it assumed the character and form of tourism. In time, pilgrimages became acts of religious devotion that included not only penitential themes, but also those of intercession and gratitude. Shrines dedicated to the Blessed Mother became the primary sites for pilgrimage and remain so today.

Such is the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception—a pilgrimage church, and Marian in more ways than one. Filled with more than 80 chapels and oratories that relate to the Blessed Mother and peoples from countries from around the



CNS photo by Andrew Braj, Catholic Standard

A statue of the Holy Child Jesus is placed next to a statue of St. Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino martyr and saint, for a special Mass celebrated in the Great Upper Church to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christianity in the Philippines.

globe, a pilgrimage to Mary's Shrine is a virtual pilgrimage to many of the great Marian shrines of the world.

Consider joining an upcoming pilgrimage, or plan one for yourself, your group, or your diocese. For more information on pilgrimages at Mary's Shrine, please visit www.nationalshrine.org/pilgrimages. 🇵🇭

UPCOMING BASILICA BROADCASTS ON EWTN *(all times Eastern)*

ALSO LIVESTREAMED AT NATIONALSHRINE.ORG/MASS

April 10	Palm Sunday	12 noon
April 14	Holy Thursday: Choral Meditations/Mass of the Lord's Supper	5:30 pm
April 15	Good Friday: Choral Meditations/Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	2:30 pm
April 16	The Solemn Easter Vigil	8 pm
April 17	Easter Sunday Mass	12 noon
April 17	Spanish Easter Sunday Mass (EWTN Español)	2:30 pm
May 30	Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) Memorial Mass	12 noon
June 5	Pentecost	12 noon
June 19	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ/Corpus Christi	12 noon
August 15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	12:10 pm
Sept 1	CUA Mass of the Holy Spirit	12:10 pm
Sept 7	Fr. Vincent Capodanno, Servant of God, AMS Memorial Mass	6:30 pm
Sept 11	Mass for 25th Anniversary of Mother Teresa's Death	12 noon

OUR LADY OF THE CATACOMBS

Geraldine M. Rohling, Ph.D., M.A.Ed.
Archivist-Curator Emerita

The Crypt Church, dedicated to Our Lady of the Catacombs, is the heart of the National Shrine. The “original” church, it was the first part to be completed. In 1924 it was the location for the celebration of the first public Mass inside the church of the National Shrine. On that first Sunday, Easter Sunday to be exact, the Shrine was still a construction site; folding chairs stood upon an unfinished concrete floor, between support beams and joists. The “main altar” was small, handmade of wood in 1774 by Father John Carroll, the future father of the American hierarchy, for use at the family home in Maryland during a period of anti-Catholicism in the Colonies. It was first used on this land, the site of the National Shrine, as the main altar for the blessing of the land on 16 May 1920; then again at the Mass for “our soldiers and sailors, living and deceased” the day after the dedication of the Foundation Stone (23-24 Sept 1920). Its size and mobility allowed it to accompany the construction progress. The historic “Carroll altar” was the perfect solution to a temporary situation.

Throughout the history of the National Shrine timing was everything. Either by chance or by design, Shrine events have been heightened by their occurrence in the liturgical and civil calendars. Such was the case in December 1926. On the last Sunday of that year, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, the Carroll altar was removed from the Crypt Church in preparation for the installation of a new altar. The next day, workers

from the Johnson Marble Co. of Boston began work for the installation of an altar made of delicate Algerian Onyx. The installation was completed on Friday, the last day of 1926. On New Year’s Day 1927, what was then the feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord and, even then a holy day of obligation, Reverend Bernard A. McKenna celebrated a solemn high Mass on the new altar in the presence of Bishop Thomas J. Shahan, who preached the sermon. The honor of celebrating the first Mass was a kindness shown to the first director of the Shrine by its founder.

The prevailing Code of Canon Law (1917) stipulated that Mass be said on a properly consecrated altar. The consecration of an immovable altar such as this was usually done in conjunction with the dedication of the church. It would be another 32 years however, before construction of the National Shrine would be completed and the National Shrine dedicated.

So how was it that Mass could be celebrated on this new altar?



Portable altar or stone.

From 20 April 1924 to 17 October 1929 canonical “portable altars” or also known as “altar stones” were used in the Crypt Church. Their size was approximately that of a standard book, enough to sustain a chalice and paten, though some were larger. They carried the usual



1924, Carroll Altar.

five crosses found on the *mensa* or table of a permanent altar and the *sepulcher*, the opening which contained the first class relics of two martyrs, a practice that was common to altars of that period. In effect, the portable altar was a “mini mensa” or smaller version of the main altar. Like a permanent main altar, it required a document or attestation of consecration, which was often affixed to the back of the stone. Unlike the main altar, the portable altar did not have the title of a saint. These portable stones were placed on the mensa of each altar in the Crypt Church including the main altar. They are visible as “bumps” in vintage photographs of the Crypt Church. One such “bump” is visible in a 1925 photo of the temporary altar in the center chapel of the east apse shown here.



BNSIC Archives

1925, Altar of the East Apse.

In 1959 prior to the solemn dedication of the National Shrine, Archbishop Patrick A. O’Boyle and Auxiliary Bishop Philip Hannan consecrated all sixteen permanent altars in the Crypt Church and the altar in the Lourdes Chapel. This was done in one day. The “portable altars” were removed and later archived.

Although the installation of the permanent main altar was completed in 1926, the altar itself was not finished. Fourteen niches of gold mosaic capped with a scallop design, the symbol of pilgrims and pilgrimage, awaited hand-carved onyx statues of Jesus, the 12 Apostles, and Saint Paul.



BNSIC Archives

Altar without statues.

The statues were placed in November 1927, in time for Thanksgiving and for the donation of the funds raised by the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae (IFCA). The altar in honor of Our Lady of the Catacombs, a title that is the same as that of the Crypt Church, was the gift of the “Marys of America.” Consequently, the altar has often been known informally as the “Mary Memorial Altar.”

As early as 1915/6, the IFCA suggested an appeal to their membership for a “Mary Memorial.” Every member whose name was Mary or who held even the remotest kinship with the name, or whose mother’s name was Mary—this was “to get the men”—was invited to become a shareholder in the Mary Memorial. The appeal read in part: “Scarcely a family but holds the name sacred because of some dear one who bore it. ... Everyone who can claim ... kinship with that name ... is hereby appealed to in the most earnest manner.” The IFCA followed this appeal with another, a concerted request to parish schools to enroll “the Sisters ... the most illustrious Marys,” noting that “all religious take this beautiful name” and that “no Sister should be forgotten.” The actual period during which the IFCA actively collected for the altar was 1919 to 1928.



BNSIC Archives

1928 Dedication of Altar.

The fourteen figures on the completed altar, starting on the left-front and proceeding clockwise, are as follows: John, Peter, Jesus, Paul, and Andrew; Matthew and Bartholomew (Nathaniel); Matthias (replaced Judas), James (the great or older), Thaddeus (Jude), Thomas, and Simon (the Zealot or Canaanite); Philip and James (the less or younger). It is speculated



BNSIC Archives

Crypt Church altar frontal.

OUR LADY OF THE CATACOMBS

that Thomas Johnson, “the marble king of Boston” and president of Johnson Marble Co., may have done some of the carving himself.



Thomas J. A. Johnson, 1934.

Thomas J. A. Johnson was an astute businessman and civic leader who operated a private bank in the North End of Boston (1900), served in the administration of Michael Curley, the Mayor of Boston (1930); and was honored by King Emmanuel of Italy for his assistance to Italian immigrants (1931). He was a gentleman known for his wit, knowledge of construction, and “courageous disregard for difficulties.” His genial and frequent presence at the construction of the National Shrine was welcomed, particularly by McKenna and Shahan, who valued his personal friendship.

His association with the National Shrine was more than a series of marble contracts. A sincere Catholic, Johnson held an “ardent belief in the genuine purpose of the Shrine.” To that end, Johnson used his social and political leverage in Boston to help fund the National Shrine by hosting galas and musicales at his residences and trimming marble costs whenever possible.

Upon completion of the altar, Johnson made a personal and private donation, a gift of beauty and nobility that would enhance the new altar. Knowing his way around the artists of the time, Johnson arranged for a bronze crucifix and six large candlesticks to be designed in Paris. The name of the artist remains unknown. These beautiful pieces arrived early in June 1929 and have been in continuous use in the Crypt Church since that time.



ca. 1930 Main Altar Crypt Church.

The Romanesque

The story of the main altar of the Crypt Church is more than marble, “portable altars,” and the “Marys of America.” It finds its roots in the studies of a young priest-professor and a worldwide movement that lasted more than a century.

Long before Vatican II, there was an effort afoot

to enrich the understanding, appreciation, and experience of worship: a liturgical movement that ended up spanning more than a century and culminating with Vatican II (1830-1969). The movement included groundbreaking research into the various periods of early Christianity. Abbé Louis Marie Duchesne (1843-1922), the most influential French Catholic historian, and a disciple of Giovanni Battista De Rossi (1822-94), the father of Christian Archaeology, contributed significant historical research on early liturgical documents. *Christian Worship, Its Origin and Evolution* (*Origines du culte chrétien: etude sur la liturgie ...* 1889, English 1903) is a seminal work that remains essential reading in the study of liturgy.



Photo: Public Domain

Abbé Louis Duchesne, ca. 1922.

As a young scholar, Shahan engaged in a study regimen with the finest Church historians of Europe. He too, was a disciple of De Rossi. In 1890, after a year of medieval and German language studies at the University of Berlin, Shahan went to the New Sorbonne in Paris to study with Abbé Duchesne.

Although preferring the style of the charismatic De Rossi, Shahan benefited from the erudition of Duchesne. During his first year as a professor of Church History and Patrology at Catholic University, the influence of both De Rossi and Duchesne was evident. His inaugural lecture, “The Blessed Virgin in the Catacombs” (1891), reflected his thinking and his spirituality. Within a year, the lecture was expanded into a book. In time, it became the source and resource for the Shahan vision of the Crypt Church.

Shahan felt that the contributions of the modern age could not compete with the Romanesque basilicas of early Christianity and the cathedrals of the middle ages. These structures were not only great houses of worship but also sanctuaries of artistic truth and sincerity. Shahan wanted to build a church like the basilicas and cathedrals of old: “a great school of the Word of God”; a national shrine where “the wondrous mercies of God” could be experienced (*The House of God*, 1905).

In 1914, Frederick V. Murphy, the founder of the department of architecture at Catholic University and future associate architect of the National Shrine, was asked by Bishop Shahan to develop a plan for the location of the “university cathedral.” At that time, the Shrine was to be built as a 14th Century French Gothic structure

designed by the architect F. Burrall Hoffman (New York). Murphy placed the Hoffman structure where the two main avenues of the university converged, where it would harmonize with current and future buildings in the Collegiate Gothic style. (Today, the location of the library.) In an interview many years later, Murphy recalled that it was at this time that the idea of a “crypt church” came into focus. The enthusiasm with which Shahan seized upon the crypt idea had a major impact on which part of the Shrine would be constructed first and, more importantly, the choice of architectural style. Shahan eschewed the restraints of a Gothic crypt with its forest of supporting columns. His vision was for “a great free open space unbroken by columns” (28 July 1910) with a free standing altar at its center. Shahan remembered well the Romanesque churches of Italy and their magnificent free standing altars. Such churches and altars were still in use and their history was well documented in illuminated medieval Italian Missals and manuscripts.



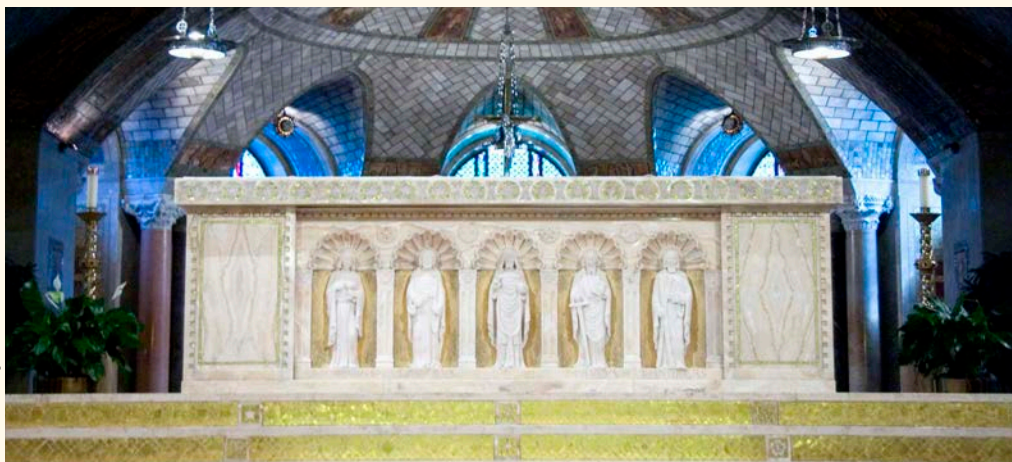
14th Century Italian Missal.

When the story of the undertaking of this new church hit the wires, the National Shrine was described as a “noble Romanesque” structure with a crypt church finished in “early Romanesque style, making it a unique ecclesiastical creation in our country” and assuring the public that it would be the first time in this country that “all the peculiarities of [the Romanesque] style” would be recreated successfully (17 Dec 1919). This included a

grand, freestanding double altar. A “double” altar is one on which Mass can be celebrated on either side; both sides are “consecrated.”

The main altar of a church was to be the “center,” the focal point toward which everything converged. It was the *raison d’être* of the building. In 1931, the first issue of *Liturgical Arts*, the publication of the liturgical movement in the United States, listed the requirements of a “proper altar.” It was to be freestanding, made of fine materials, separated from its backdrop, and was not to be used as a stand for a statue, a monstrance, or a crucifix. It was to have 6 or 7 “well-designed” candlesticks, and it was to have a “baldachino” or canopy. With the exception of the baldachino, the Crypt Church of Thomas Shahan met all the requirements. While there was discussion and even drawings for a baldachino over the main altar in the Crypt Church, it was determined to be impractical, an obstruction of the Pewabic medallion, *God the Holy Spirit*, that adorns the space directly above the main altar.

The Crypt Church dedicated to Our Lady of the Catacombs was completed by the end of 1929. As intended ten years earlier, this “noble Romanesque” church is unique among such “ecclesiastical creations” in the United States, perhaps even in the world. Church pews were not part of the ancient style and were added in the 1960s. The grand open space of which Shahan had written so passionately came to be through the architectural and engineering efforts of Maginnis and Walsh, the Guastavino Co., and Thomas Johnson. The main altar, the gift to Bishop Shahan from the “Marys of America,” is drawn from the writings and theology of the first three centuries of the Church. It is the table of the Eucharist, the essence of our faith. It is from this church, this altar that the Basilica of the National Shrine has grown. 🌿



Metropolitan Library & Museum

Geraldine M. Rohling

Livestream Ministry & Our Mission

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mary's Shrine launched a livestream ministry at www.nationalshrine.org/mass that has reached more than 5 million people across the country and around the world, offering the faithful its 12 pm ET Solemn Mass and 2:30 pm ET Mass in Spanish each Sunday, in addition to Mass on Holy Days, as well as other devotions throughout the year.



While the pandemic may be waning, viewer testimonials compel Mary's Shrine to continue this vital ministry — but to do so, we need your help. To make a donation, please visit www.nationalshrine.org/mass and click “Give Now.” Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping Mary's Shrine fulfill its mission by offering another way for the faithful “to worship God, give honor to Mary, and spread God's word wherever they go.”

Viewer Testimonials

From the USNS Comfort: I serve as an officer on the USNS Comfort. She is a 1000-bed naval hospital ship.... In late March 2020 we were deployed to assist in COVID relief. We had no chaplain on board and there were no religious



services available. In that atmosphere I found your livestream broadcast of the Mass. The first time I watched it on my little iPhone I wept. I was just so overwhelmed. The beauty of the Mass, the choir singing, the cantor's chanting and the sermons that the priests deliver have sustained me.... As long as I have a cell signal, I can at least have the comfort of the Mass every week. In a very real way Mary's Shrine has become my church for

services available. In that atmosphere I found your livestream broadcast

now.... I have come to love you and the community at the Basilica for all that you have given me. Thank you for taking care of us spiritually.

From Maryland: At the beginning of the pandemic, I started to watch Holy Week Celebrations livestreamed from Mary's House. I shared the link with my sister who was homebound. She and I would discuss the homily each week. My sister [recently] went home to the Lord after battling COVID. I just wanted

you to know on a personal level how much joy the livestreaming brought to her.

From New Zealand: My friends and myself have been enjoying your Sunday Masses since we started Lockdown for Coronavirus in NZ. We would like to thank you for the beautiful simplicity and spirituality of the Mass, as well as the meaningful sermons. We also enjoy the readings and singing, both beautifully executed. You are very much appreciated in a distant corner of the world!

From England: Dear all, I would like to thank you for your church service. We thoroughly enjoy the services and all the priests. Thank you from viewers in London.

From Montana: We have continued to watch and participate in your Masses each week, and also the Vespers in Advent and Lent, and most of your other celebrations. We know that you would like to keep these livestream broadcasts going indefinitely. This would be a great blessing. We want to help enable this extension. Even as we move out (mostly? maybe?) from the pandemic, there will continue to be people who are homebound or in hospitals who could benefit from your virtual ministry, as well as others not in those groups. One of us is in better health than the other and has started to go back to Mass, but we both watch your Sunday Noon Mass as before. The Basilica became our 2nd parish, and we are grateful to be able to support both. 🙏

MISSION STATEMENT

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a Catholic church dedicated to the patroness of our nation, is a place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelization and reconciliation. It offers visitors the occasion for a deepening conversion, a step forward in the journey to God, with Mary as the model for that journey. This monumental church, raised by Catholics of the United States because of their devotion to Mary the Mother of God, gives visibility to their faith and Catholic heritage. Mary's Shrine invites people from across the country and beyond into the saving moment of faith, hope and charity, so that they may be reconciled and transformed into living symbols of Christ's presence in the world. It is here that the faithful gather to worship God, give honor to Mary, and are sent to spread God's word wherever they go. 🙏

GIFTS FROM MARY'S SHRINE

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



beautifully illustrated, Jesus speaks lovingly to children receiving Him in the Eucharist for the first time

600 \$13.95

OUR LADY of MT. CARMEL SCAPULAR

Mary appeared to St. Simon in a vision, held out a scapular and said to him, 'he who dies in this will not suffer eternal fire'



601 \$14.95

THE LAST SUPPER WALL PLAQUE

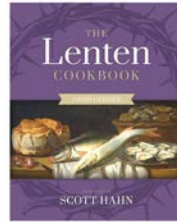
to be with Him on that night



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Chef and former Vatican Swiss Guard*



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606 Rose Incense \$19.95 **607 Gloria Incense \$19.95**
608 Brass Incense Burner 5" \$39.95

SAINTS DEVOTIONAL OILS

St Michael

*Our Lady
of Guadalupe*

St Anthony



Frankincense

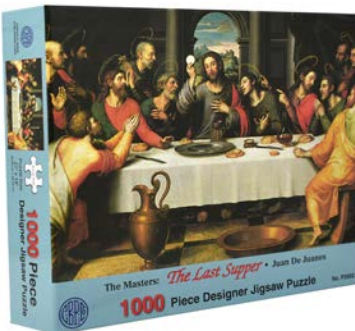


Rose of Sharon



*Lily of the
Valley*

610 St Michael **611 Our Lady of Guadalupe**
612 St Anthony **\$9.95 each**



609 Last Supper Puzzle 1000pcs \$19.00

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GIFTS FROM MARY'S SHRINE



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613 Rosary \$99.95

614 Rosary Bracelet \$29.95

Olive Wood
COMFORTING ANGEL

Guardian Angel to comfort, give you strength, hope, and carry your prayers to Heaven



Hand Made in Bethlehem

615 Comforting Angel \$6.95

VIRGIN MARY in BLUE
Icon Wooden Nesting Dolls



Virgin of Kazan

Virgin of Eternal Bloom

I am with you

616 \$99.95



617 Miraculous Mary Key Ring \$5.95

MIRACULOUS MEDAL
MARY WALL CROSS

Made in Italy



seek Our Lady's love, guidance, and protection

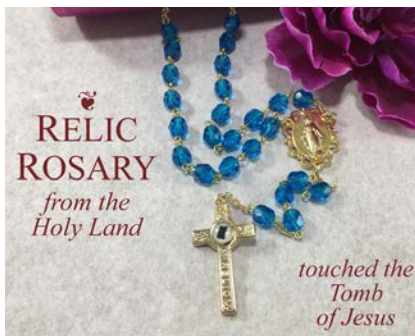
618 5½" Made in Italy \$19.95



Scapular Necklace & Bracelet
Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Mt Carmel

619 Scapular Necklace \$39.95

620 Scapular Bracelet – adjustable \$34.95



RELIC ROSARY
from the Holy Land

touched the Tomb of Jesus

621 \$45.95



Immaculate Waters
Lotions & Soaps



630 Tiny Glass Holy Water Bottle \$7.95

Immaculate Waters Soaps & Lotions made with Lourdes Grotto Water

Follow the words of Our Lady to St. Bernadette: "Go to the spring, drink of it and wash yourself there."

622 Lavender Bar Soap 4oz \$7.95

623 Lavender Hand and Body Lotion 8oz \$12.95

624 Lavender Liquid Soap 8oz \$12.95

625 Rose Bar Soap 4oz \$7.95

626 Rose Hand and Body Lotion 8oz \$12.95

627 Rose Liquid Soap 8oz \$12.95

628 Rose Spritzer 4oz \$9.95

629 Lavender Spritzer 4oz \$9.95

GIFTS FROM MARY'S SHRINE

MEMORY BRACELET



631 \$49.95



632 \$89.95



keep Our Lady close to your heart

inscribed with the Hail Mary Prayer

633 \$59.95



When a Cardinal Appears, Angels are Near Tapestry

634 13x18 \$24.95



a beautiful gift of love

Our Lady protect us

635 18" \$89.95

Ladybug Rosary Bracelet

with story card



636 Stretch \$9.95



beautiful gift for you or a loved one

in Sterling Silver and 14K Gold-dipped pendants

637 Sterling 3/4" Cross 18" \$64.95

638 14kt Gold Over Sterling 3/4" Cross 18" \$64.95

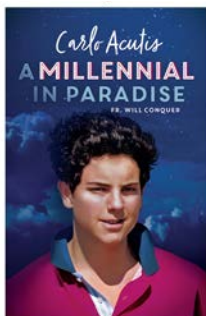


Made in Italy

Vermeil Gold over Sterling

639 Made in Italy 7 1/2" \$36.95

GIFTS FROM MARY'S SHRINE



A Millennial in Paradise – Carlo Acutis serves as a heroic model for today's young people.

640 Great confirmation or graduation gift. **\$17.95**

SAINT PADRE PIO Signature Scarf



pray, hope, & don't worry

641 \$24.95



Good Morning This is God Mug

Reads "I will be handling all your problems today."

642 Mug 15oz **\$12.95**

SAINTLY *no-show* SOCKS



St Michael



St Therese



Our Lady of Guadalupe

643 St. Michael **\$12.95**

644 St. Therese **\$12.95**

645 Our Lady of Guadalupe **\$12.95**

Stemless Wine Glass



Our Daily Red Stemless Wine Glass

646 15oz **\$14.95**

Please visit our website at nationalshrineshops.com



Consecration to St Michael Book Includes color illustrations, Novena, Chaplet and more.

647 **\$14.95**

PEWTER CRUCIFIX NECKLACE

with
*Holy Land
Relic that
touched the
Tomb of Jesus*



648 24" Chain **\$21.95**



handmade
in
Bethlehem

One decade OLIVE WOOD ROSARY with COMFORT CROSS

*beautiful to see
and comforting
to hold*

649 **\$7.95**

The ARCHANGELS Pewter and Gold Statues



St. Raphael



St. Gabriel



St. Michael

650 St. Raphael 9" **\$99.95**

651 St. Gabriel 9" **\$99.95**

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GIFTS FROM MARY'S SHRINE



MURANO
GLASS
Florentine Cross
NECKLACE

*One of a kind
Made in Italy*

653 Necklace 1 1/4" Cross on 18" chain,
each one unique \$59.95



Scapular Necklace
& Bracelet

*Mary appeared to St. Simon in a vision,
held out a scapular and said to him,
'he who dies in this will not suffer
eternal fire'.*

654 14kt gold plated Necklace 20" \$29.95
655 14kt gold plated Bracelet fits up to 7-8" \$21.95



Mother
of Pearl
OUR LADY
of GRACE
NECKLACE

14kt Gold
Plated

656 18" chain \$36.95

HUMMINGBIRD BRACELET



*life is not measured by the breaths
that we take,*

*but by the
moments that
take our
breath away*

658 \$45.95



HUMMINGBIRD PIN

*life is not measured by the breaths
that we take,*

*but by the moments that take
our breath away*

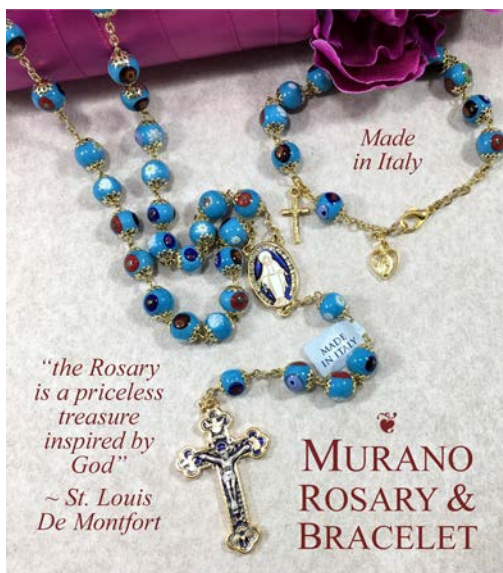
657 \$29.95



SCAPULAR
Bracelet &
Necklace

*Mary appeared to St. Simon in a
vision, held out a scapular and said
to him, 'he who dies in this will not
suffer eternal fire'*

659 Necklace \$29.95
660 Bracelet fits 7-8" \$21.95



Made
in Italy

*"the Rosary
is a priceless
treasure
inspired by
God"*
~ St. Louis
De Montfort

MURANO
ROSARY &
BRACELET

661 Rosary \$99.95
662 Rosary Bracelet \$29.95

All proceeds from your purchases of Mary's Shrine directly support the mission and ministry of the Basilica. Thank you for your support!

VISIT OUR NATIONAL SHRINE SHOPS WEBSITE AT WWW.NATIONALSHRINESHOPS.COM

LEAVING A LEGACY REMEMBERING THE NATIONAL SHRINE IN YOUR WILL

For many, charitable giving is an act of faith grounded in confidence in God's abundance and motivated by a desire to create additional resources for accomplishing God's work.

Leaving a legacy gift to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception offers the opportunity to pass on not only your assets but also the values that have guided your life.

Remembering the National Shrine in your estate planning is a wonderful way to put your values into action, ensuring that Mary's House is maintained for future generations as a center of worship and devotion as a personal legacy.

To remember the Basilica of the National Shrine in your will, you may contact your attorney or financial advisor for assistance in making a bequest. Or, you may simply include the following in your will:

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a body corporate of the District of Columbia, and located in Washington, D.C., (the sum of _____) or (___ % of rest residue, and remainder of my estate) or (___ shares of _____) or all my right, title and interest in the following described property _____).

Please feel free to contact the Basilica at 202-526-8300 if we can provide you with further information or assistance.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and continued support of Mary's Shrine.

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of the Immaculate Conception

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OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
400 Michigan Avenue NE
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Please visit nationalshrine.org for the latest news and information.



MARY'S SHRINE

A publication of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

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Shrine Hours
6 am - 6 pm

Sunday Masses
4:30 pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am
*12 noon (Solemn Mass with Choir)
*2:30 pm (Spanish)
4:30 pm

Sunday Confessions
10 am - 12 noon
1:15 pm - 2:15 pm (Spanish)
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Monday-Friday Masses
7 am, 8 am, 12:10 pm, 5:15 pm

Saturday Masses
7 am, 8 am, 12:10 pm, 4:30 pm (Vigil)

Monday-Saturday Confessions
9 am - 12 noon
3 pm - 5 pm

Holy Days
Please contact the Basilica for Holy Day Schedules.

Guided Tours
Monday - Saturday
9 am, 10 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm
No Guided Tours on Sunday.

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Cover photo by Robert Isaacson