

# NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

On the Campus of Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland

NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO MONTHLY BULLETIN | December 2017

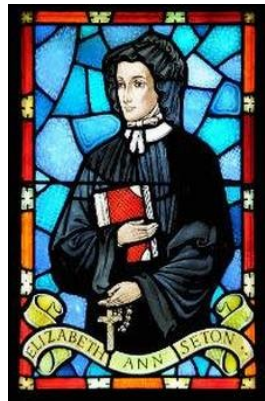


## Solemnity of Mother of God

January 1, 2018  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

**Reconciliation**, 11 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel  
**Mass**, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

**Ask for the intercession of our Mother**, light a candle by visiting our website at [www.NSGrotto.org](http://www.NSGrotto.org)



## Feast day of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

January 4, 2018

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton said of this historic place, "We would quench our thirst from a neighboring spring and ramble for a time at the grotto, a wild and picturesque spot..."



## March for Life

January 19, 2018

**Reconciliation**, 11 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel  
**Mass**, 12 p.m., St. Mary's Chapel  
**Dignity of Human Life Sermon**, 12:30 p.m., St. Mary's Chapel  
**Sorrowful Mysteries Rosary**, 12:45 p.m. St. Mary's Chapel

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court invalidated 50 state laws and made abortion legal and available on demand throughout the United States in the now-infamous decisions in Roe v Wade and Doe v Bolton. The MARCH FOR LIFE in Washington, D.C., began as a small demonstration and rapidly grew to be the largest pro-life event in the world. The peaceful demonstration that has followed on this somber anniversary every year since 1973 is a witness to the truth concerning the greatest human rights violation of our time, legalized abortion on demand. Join the National Shrine Grotto family in solidarity and support for the unborn.

**Request a prayer** for the unborn and all those affected by abortion by visiting our website at [www.NSGrotto.org](http://www.NSGrotto.org)



## Restore Mount St. Mary's Grotto

Help us to preserve the serenity of our beloved National Shrine Grotto so future generations can make the same inspiring pilgrimage that you've made!

We hope to begin Phase I this fall – in need of ~~\$850,000~~ **\$350,000** to begin.

Director, Lori Stewart, invites you to get involved!

(301) 447-6725, [stewart@msmary.edu](mailto:stewart@msmary.edu)

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (gates close at 5 p.m.) | Mass: Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. | Reconciliation: Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m.  
Shuttle: Transportation is available from the parking lot to the Miller Family Visitors Center. Call (301) 447-5318 for reservations.



16330 Grotto Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727, (301) 447-5318, [www.NSGrotto.org](http://www.NSGrotto.org)





Request a Prayer



Mass Enrollment



Light a Candle



Donate Now

**Request during your visit, online at [NSGrotto.org](http://NSGrotto.org) or call (301) 447-5318**

**Proclaiming Gods Greatness** *Reflections by Fr. Mike Messaro, M.S.S.C.C.*

“My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord.” That statement is not only fitting for Mary to say, it is a statement of fact for us. Maybe we are not as humble and holy and virtuous as Mary, but we are all miracles of God. We are signs of his greatness.

From nothing we were made, out of nowhere we have come, and into the world we were sent to show in physical and material form the greatness that existed in God. Though our habits and our ways may not make it easy for God to be seen in us by others, the fact that we can walk and talk, think and evaluate, choose and do things reveals the hidden God within us. Essentially our beings proclaim the greatness of the Lord. The present we should give Jesus for his birthday is our effort to make our beings such that they proclaim the greatness of the Lord in a much more noticeable way. Why do we allow ourselves to hide it?

Can people detect God in us? We may not look like God on the outside – Miss America or Mr. Universe; we may not be. But within us where our characters reside, where quality is to be looked for, where likeness of God has been implanted, what is it that reaches out and touches people? In Mary it was the “greatness of the Lord” that people felt in her presence. You have that same greatness in you. Nourish it with prayer, ask the Holy Spirit to give it growth, let God who is mighty do even greater things in you and for you than he has already done. Mary was chosen to be the Mother of God, why did he create us? To share and show that greatness of his being.



**Blessed Rother’s Relic**

The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes recently received a first class relic of our beloved Blessed Fr. Stanley Rother from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. It will be on permanent display here at the Visitors Center. Come venerate our new relic and ask for Blessed Rother’s intercession! ( Thanks Archbishop Coakley! )

*Upcoming  
Spiritual Activities*

*More activities listed on  
[nsgrotto.org/spiritual-activities.html](http://nsgrotto.org/spiritual-activities.html)*

First Saturday Devotions	Dec 2
Immaculate Conception	Dec 8
Lourdes Rosary Crusade	Dec 9
Our Lady of Guadalupe	Dec 12
Solemnity of Mother of God	Jan 1
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Feast	Jan 4
March for Life	Jan 19



**2018 Pilgrimage  
To Ireland and Northern Ireland  
~ 12 Days, November 5-16, 2018 ~**

Dublin, Downpatrick, Belfast, Sligo, Knock, Galway, Connemara,  
Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Glendalough

**\$3399 PER PERSON**

To book your space, contact Ms. Jessica Root  
(301) 447-5484 OR go to [www.NSGrotto.org/europe-pilgrimages.html](http://www.NSGrotto.org/europe-pilgrimages.html) to see full agenda.

**Registration deadline: June 20, 2018**

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (gates close at 5 p.m.) | Mass: Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. | Reconciliation: Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m.  
Shuttle: Transportation is available from the parking lot to the Miller Family Visitors Center. Call (301) 447-5318 for reservations.