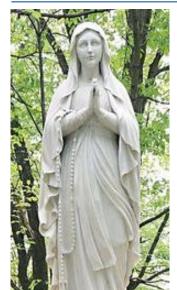


NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO MONTHLY BULLETIN | January 2017



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass ~ Holy Day of Obligation ~ January 1, 2017, Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

This feast is the celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus and is the oldest feast of Mary celebrated by the Catholic Church. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by an angel (Luke 1:26-38).



Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Mass ~ Enroll Yourself and Family Members ~ February 11, 2017, Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution Ineffabilis Deus. A little more than three years later, on February II, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Enroll a loved one, to be remembered during this Mass celebration, asking Our Lady to cast a merciful glance upon your intention, one who may be suffering, struggling against difficulties. Ask for the intercession of the Immaculate Conception by enrolling your loved one online www.nsgrotto.org/mass-enrollment.html.



2017 Rome and Lourdes Pilgrimage ~ 11 Days in November ~

Pray in Eternal Rome ... visit the medieval fortress city of Carcassone ... see Avignon and the old Papal Palace ... view the Renaissance artwork in Florence ... visit St. Francis' town of Assisi and end in Lourdes to visit the Grotto of Apparitions, where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette.

We schedule daily Mass throughout our pilgrimage and you will also have time for personal devotions in Lourdes, as well as in other sacred sites throughout the pilgrimage.

~ Schedule and price details to come soon ~

Sign up www.nsgrotto.org/2017-pilgrimage.html to receive more details today!

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.



It Takes God to Make it Happen Reflection by Fr. Mike M.SS.CC

When we begin new projects or get into a new way of life we are often full of confidence. But as time passes we find ourselves losing some of the confidence. Obstacles and difficulties we did not expect start entering the picture, we begin worrying about things we had not thought of before. Doubts about our ability to continue begin discouraging us. The more we worry, the more we doubt, the more we get discouraged. What happened to all that confidence we started out with? Many people quit whatever it is they started and get into something else. Why? Because we are made in such a way that many things we just cannot handle on our own.

Read the rest of Fr. Mike's reflection online http://www.nsgrotto.org/fr-mikes-reflections.html.



March for Life Mass January 27, 2017, Mass, 12 p.m. in 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.

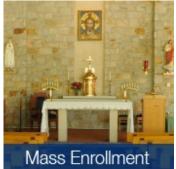
Around this time of year, we are especially reminded of the importance, necessity and power of prayer for our life issues. We would be most grateful if you would consider praying for the March for Life, and more importantly, for the ultimate reason we exist—that a culture of life be fully restored in the United States.



Nativity/Prolife Memorial ~ 5" replica statue now available ~ Exclusively at St. Bernadette's Shoppe | (301) 447-5444

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Request during your visit, online at NSGrotto.org or call (301) 447-5318

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