# The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

MONTHLY BULLETIN NOVEMBER 2018



# **All Saints Day**

November 1, 2018

Adoration, 10:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel Reconciliation, 11 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel



The National Shrine Grotto is pleased to announce there will be 12 p.m. weekday Masses ( Monday—Friday ) starting Nov 6th!



# Total Consecration to Jesus Through Mary

October 10 through December 8

A series of talks to prepare for total consecration to Jesus Through Mary on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8

**Talks,** After 12 pm mass on Saturdays: Oct 20, 27, Nov 3, 10, 17, 24, and Dec 1



Adoration, 10:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel Reconciliation, 10:45 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

Include your faithfully departed in the All Souls Day Mass — enroll at

www.NSGrotto.org/events.html



### Thanksgiving Day

November 22, 2018

Adoration, 10:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel Reconciliation, 10:45 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

Thanksgiving and Christmas Days: Grounds ONLY will be opened from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (gates close at 5 p.m.).



#### **Christmas**

December 25, 2018

ONLY grounds open

Adoration, 10:45 a.m. in St. Mary's Chapel Reconciliation, 10:45 a.m. in the Confessional near St. Mary's Chapel Mass, 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

Enroll a loved one in our Christmas Masses

Visit www.NSGrotto.org/events.html or call us at ( 301 ) 447-5318 to Enroll

Hours 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (gates close at 5 p.m.) Mass Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. Adoration and Confession Saturday and Sunday 10:45 a.m. Shuttle: Transportation is available from the parking lot to the Miller Family Visitors Center. Call (301) 447-5318 for reservations.



#### **Share Your Blessings**

"Thank you Blessed Mother Mary for the healing and blessing of my beautiful niece Faith and her new born baby. Faith has been completely cured from the lymphoma cancer and the baby was born healthy and strong. Mother and child are doing beautifully. Thank

you for answering our many, many prayers. We have been so blessed and thank you everyday. " - Anonymous NSG Pilgrim

Please send blessing testimonies to NSGrotto@msmary.edu

## **Waiting on Reflection**

Reflections by Fr. Mike Messaro, M.SS.CC.

This Month our country gives us Thanksgiving Day to remind us we have much to be thankful for. It is so easy to become accustomed to thinking our lives are harder than those of other people, that we are among the most deprived and neglected on the face of the earth. But if we take time out to take a good look at what it is we have, and what so many other people in this world do not have, we just might come away from this Thanksgiving Day counting our blessings and praising God for the many things we often take for granted.

It is easy for our attention to get caught up in food and football games, and that can be a wonderful part of Thanksgiving. But, that is not to be the beginning and end of this day; it is only the icing on the cake, so to speak. The cake itself, the essence of Thanksgiving is HE who is the reason for the day. GOD!

Thanksgiving Day is for thanking God for all his goodness and love. Without God there would be nothing to be grateful for, without God there would not only not be a day for gratefulness, there would not be any days or anything at all! God has given us existence and life and this planet we live on. Has he given you more besides? That is for you to discover. Thanksgiving Day is set aside by presidential decree for you to count your blessings and thank God for them.

You have your faith! You are a child of God, a brother or sister of Christ. You have a family in heaven, you are part of as huge spiritual family on earth. You are a citizen of heaven, where an unlimited and everlasting inheritance is waiting for you. No matter how bad or how good you have it here, there in heaven you will have all the best.

Let us "bless the God of all, who has done wondrous things for us; who fosters our growth from our mother's womb, and fashions us according to his will! May God grant you joy of heart and may peace abide among you. May his goodness toward all of us endure in America as long as the heavens are above." Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day.



#### **Grotto Wish List**

Dear Grotto family,

We are excited to share with you our hopes for improvements in our Blessed Shrine. Below is a list of our needs, please prayerfully consider how you may help. Please contact Grotto@MSMary.edu or call (301) 447-5318 if you would like to help donate. Thank you!

Entrance gate Guardian Angels restoration \$5,000
Projector Screen \$1,500
(for Marian presentations in St. Mary's Chapel)
Seton Rock Landscaping \$1,000
(to honor Mother Seton's place where she liked to sit on Sunday afternoons)
Rhododendron Plants \$500
(to replace the over 20 year old, dying

rhododendrons throughout the grounds)



Stop by and welcome Sr. Auriesville and Sr. Man Coi at the Welcome Desk in the visitors center. We wish a warm welcome to Servants of the Lord sisters and the Institute of the Incarnate Word seminarians to the National Shrine Grotto! With their help, we continue to grow the devotion to Our Blessed Mother Mary; and be a place of worship, pilgrimage, evangelization and reconciliation.