The National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

MONTHLY BULLETIN  August 2019

Feast of the Assumption of Mary - August 15th

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

Vietnamese Pilgrimage
August 31, 2019

Confessions, 11 a.m., St. Mary's Chapel
Collect at Tower, 12 p.m.
Procession, 1 p.m., begins in front of St. Mary's Chapel
Mass, 2 p.m. at the Grotto Cave (we will be in direct sunlight - please bring your water and sun protection)
Picnic, 3:30 p.m.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
September 8, 2019

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

The Blessed Virgin Mary was born to be the mother of the Savior of the world, the spiritual mother of all mankind, and the holiest of God's creatures. Because of her Son's infinite merits, she was conceived and born immaculate and full of grace. Through her, Queen of heaven and of earth, & the will of the Trinity, the unbelieving receive the gift of faith, the afflicted are ten-

Hours 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily (gates close at 5 p.m.) Holy Mass Every Day at 12 p.m. Adoration and Confession Saturday and Sunday 10:45 a.m.
Misa en Español Domingos 2 p.m. Shuttle Transportation is available from the parking lot to the Miller Family Visitors Center. Call (301) 447-5318.
Address 16330 Grotto Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727  (301) 447-5318  www.NSGrotto.org
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WHAT IS AND WHAT ISN'T FORGIVENESS?

Spiritual Reflections from Fr. Mike Messaro

Forgiveness is many things. It is being merciful like Jesus on the cross when he prayed, “Forgive them, Father, for they do not know what they do.” It is trying to realize that the other person is misguided and did not really understand all the ramifications of his actions. It is giving the offender more time to prove himself as God does with all of us.

Forgiveness is also NOT a lot of things. It is not letting the other person off the hook of responsibility. We all must make up for what we have done; we have the obligation to patch up as well as we can the situation we have created.

Forgiveness is not condoning what the offender has done. It does not mean we have to become palsy-walsy with that person. In fact, it is not even always necessary that we see that person again. But for our own physical health, it is best for us personally that we forgive. It is very harmful to our health that we continue to recall and relive what has been done by another person and getting ourselves, all worked up over it again and again. We are to learn from the experience, grow from the experience, and move on with our lives. Forgiveness of others, and forgiveness of ourselves, helps us to leave mistakes and tragedies and horror behind.