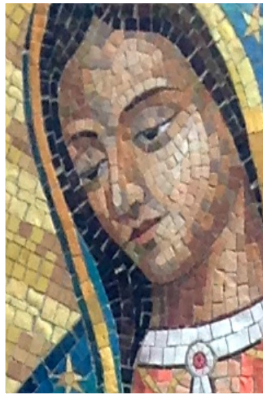


# NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

On the Campus of Mount St. Mary's University

NATIONAL SHRINE GROTTO MONTHLY BULLETIN | January 2018



## Spanish Mass

Starting January 7, 2018

**Mass**, 2 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel

Starting on January 7th, the National Shrine Grotto will be celebrating Spanish Mass at 2 p.m. every Sunday.



## March for Life

January 19, 2018

**Reconciliation**, 11 a.m.

**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



## Blessing of the Throats

February 3, 2018

The Blessing of the Throats is a sacramental of the church, celebrated on February 3, the feast day of Saint Blaise of Sebaste. The blessing will occur during 12 p.m. Saturday Mass.



## Our Lady of Lourdes

February 11, 2018

**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 the Immaculate Conception**, light a candle by visiting our website at [www.NSGrotto.org](http://www.NSGrotto.org)



## Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2018

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

Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Join us on February 14 to receive the ashes.



## Adoration

The National Shrine Grotto is very happy to announce we will now be having Eucharistic adoration on weekends year round: 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. We hope to see you there!

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.



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**

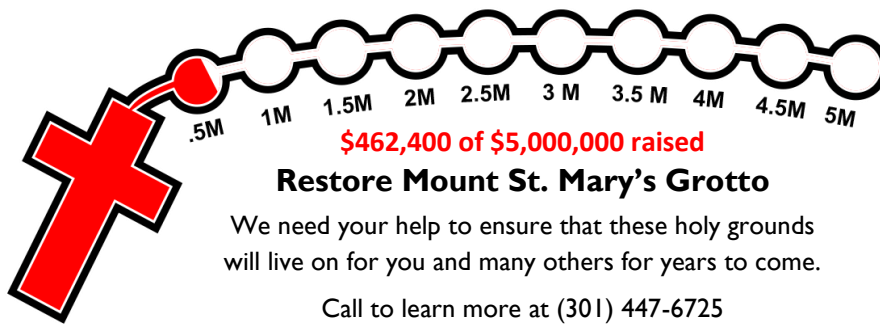
**The Final Hour** *Reflections by Fr. Mike Messaro, M.S.S.C.C.*

“Children, it is the final hour.” writes St. John in his first letter, and it is a good thought as we come to the end of another year. How well have we used this year in which we are living? Probably not as well as we would if we could do it all over again, with the knowledge we have now, of course.

Knowledge that sticks in us usually comes through experience, the experience of making both the right and the wrong choices. We might like to go back and do our lives all over again because now we think that with the knowledge we gained from making wrong decisions, we would better prepare for making the right ones. Maybe, maybe not. Some of us have been known to make the same mistakes over and over and even a third time, haven’t we?

But the hard fact is: We are not going back in time, we are not going to get the opportunity to do our lives over again. But we are going ahead. And if we are serious about shaping ourselves up and proving how wise we have become, then let us enter the New Year with all the wisdom of the ages – **AND USE IT!**

“Children,” writes St. John, “this is the final hour.” He’s talking about the final hour of the devil. Let us hope our final hour isn’t upon us. For we still have a lot of making up to do, many wrongs to correct, a large number of mistakes not to repeat. Let us use our New Year well. I suspect it is the last some of us is going to get so live it in the spirit of Christmas, that is in the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. Have a happy and successful New Year! One in which you grow even more in goodness.



**Restore Mount St. Mary’s Grotto**

We need your help to ensure that these holy grounds will live on for you and many others for years to come.

Call to learn more at (301) 447-6725

Or [stewart@msmary.edu](mailto:stewart@msmary.edu)

Mary led Bernadette to the Spring of merciful Love that washes, purifies, consoles and heals. By restoring and growing the National Shrine Grotto, you enable these holy grounds to welcome more pilgrimages, more sick people, more young people and families, so that the largest number may come to the Grotto where Mary is waiting for them. To this end, we are appealing to your generosity. Without you, it will not be possible.



**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**

*Upcoming  
Spiritual Activities*

St. Ann Seton Feast Day	Jan 4
First Saturday Devotions	Jan 6
Lourdes Rosary Crusade	Jan 13
March for Life Mass	Jan 19

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.

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