Guided Grotto Tour

June 1 3:30 p.m.  
June 2 1 p.m.

Join us for a guided tour of the National Shrine Grotto. You will learn about the history of the Grotto and its many devotional areas there.

Corpus Christi
June 3, 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. at the Grotto  
Eucharistic Procession, 1 p.m. beginning at Grotto cave  
Misa en español, 2 p.m. en la Gruta

Father’s Day
June 17, 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

One of the National Shrine Grotto’s Chaplains, Fr. Ted Trinko, has just finished his first full year as a priest. We could like to take this opportunity to say:

Fr. Ted, congratulations on your one year anniversary as a priest. May God bless you and your service!

The Sacred Heart
June 8, 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  
Exposition with Novena & other prayers to the Sacred Heart, 12:30 p.m. in St. Mary’s Chapel

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
June 27, 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

Celebration of Independence
July 1, 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. at the Grotto Cave

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.
Forgiving Against the Odds

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

“When you stand to pray, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance.” So, says Jesus.

Ever try to pray for somebody you are mad at? It is not easy to do, is it? Especially when you are more disposed to wish the sky would fall on them. But our praying for those we feel angry with can be the best act of forgiveness we can ever perform. We might not think it is forgiveness from our hearts, for we still have feelings of anger, but in such a state our praying just might be a heroic act of forgiveness. We put forth an effort to forgive instead of giving in to feelings that make us want to curse.

Forgiving someone for transgressions in the past, though sometimes very hard to do, can be much easier by comparison than forgiving someone for transgressions not only committed in the past but which they continue to commit in the present. How can I forgive you for what you did last year, last month, yesterday, when you are still doing it today? The only way I know we can even begin to forgive in a situation like that without seeming to give our permission to continue treating us badly, is to pray for the enlightenment and the good of the offender. Sincere prayer for anyone, even when accompanied by unkind feelings, might be the best we can do. And I believe Jesus understands. Could he have felt kindly towards all those Pharisees he was always praying for? His being human must have made that difficult.

“When you stand to pray, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance.” Easier said than done. Wasn’t easy for Jesus either.