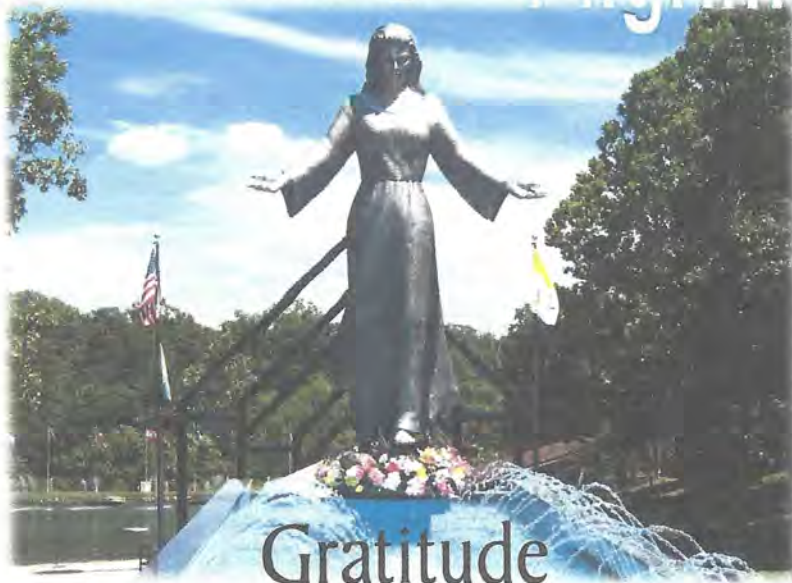




Jesus said:

“If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, “Move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.
Matthew 17:20



Gratitude

The staff, volunteers and Board of Directors of Mary, Mother of the Church Shrine are celebrating with joy all that has been accomplished on our grounds these past few months. So many gifts of money, time and talent have been utilized for the glory of God and His Blessed Mother to repair and upgrade our electrical and mechanical facilities.

Our project to construct rooms to isolate and keep dry our electrical and mechanical equipment, replace all electrical panels and the corroded wiring throughout the grounds, replace the sacristy HVAC and add HVAC to maintain the electrical room, renovate and reconfigure piping to separate the upper and lower fountains, replace oxidized and corroded pipes, build scaffolding to safely access the Sculpture components and install current GFI protection throughout the grounds is almost complete.

Jim Dove, Midwest Engineering & Design and his team coordinated the project from the beginning. Mike Grefrath, Septagon Construction Co., Inc, and his team was the General Contractor overseeing and performing the day-to-day work with Rehagen Heating and Cooling, Meyer Electric and Ken Sandbothe Plumbing. The onsite work started at the end of January and despite many cold days and much rain, the work continued. No contract goes without exposing other issues and this contract was no exception. Upon finding some of our fountain piping was so oxidized and thin from so many years of chemical, water and weather exposure, it was necessary to change it out.

With our limited funds, this was not achievable, but all the contractors contributed, including Butzer Mechanical who did the fabricating, bringing the price down to a point that we were able to get a donor to fund the difference and make it happen.



Part of the project was to bring electrical off to the left of the Altar in hopes that we could “some day” move the choir to a platform with shade for the summer Masses. A generous donor heard our plight and donated the choir platform.

All of this was accomplished through the generosity of many of you. Our Father thanks you, our Blessed Mother thanks you and all of us associated with this beautiful Shrine thank you!



My mother, Margaret M. Swanson, collected relics which she acquired from a friend of hers who was a Cardinal. She was a deeply religious woman and she and the Cardinal shared a love of Padre Pio. My Mother displayed these relics in our home.

The collection includes relics of two classes: First class relics or real relics which are physical body parts and Second class or representative relics which the faithful have touched to the physical body parts or grave of the saint or clothing or instruments connected with a martyr's imprisonment, torture, and execution.

My wife, Linda Lee, and I gave the collection of 193 relics, along with the official documentation and Certificates of Authenticity of the class in 2000 after my Mother passed away. I thought the collection would be best given to either St. Louis University or to St. Patrick's. Our family had become friends with Father Fred Barnett and my mother was a close friend of Monsignor Pelker. The Monsignor lobbied hard for them to stay at the lake and display them at the Church.

A few notable relics are one from the True Cross, one from the Holy Shroud and one from the Crown of Thorns.

Parishioners Bill Lund built the oak cases that house them and Bob O'Brien made the Plexiglas holders. 169 of the first-class relics are on display in the Sacristy of the Church.

MARY'S HELPER'S

Our Shrine operations function largely with an all-volunteer workforce. We have been blessed through the thirty years of operations with committed volunteers who utilize their many skills to staff our events, provide office help, assisting with the groundskeeping, prepare exquisite meals, and so much more.

In 1999, Bernie and Millie Marco retired to the Lake from Joliet, Illinois and have been untiring in their time and talent devoted to the Shrine. Father Barnett asked Bernie to become the Sacristan for the Shrine. Bernie found that the Sacristy below the altar was in need of attention, so he and Millie

painted and scrubbed and waxed.

Bernie and another longtime volunteer, Addie Walters, knew they needed decoration in the Sacristy. Addie brought in a crucifix that was her husband's. He had carried it all through WWII in the Army.

Bernie brought in a framed print of the Stations of the Cross dated 1889 that was his grandfather's and added it to the Sacristy walls.

Master woodworker and parishioner, Tom Riedy created a beautiful wood plaque of the Our Father for the Sacristy.

After 20 years, Bernie and Millie have said they wish to start training others to carry on their duties and spend more time relaxing together. Father Schmitz, Spiritual Director, said, in learning of their retirement from their many roles at the Shrine, "Bernie and Millie do so much and have done it so seamlessly for so many years, that we don't even know what all they take care of."



When you are at the Shrine this summer, please join us in thanking Bernie and Millie for their 20 years of continued service to our operations!

SCULPTURE ROTATION

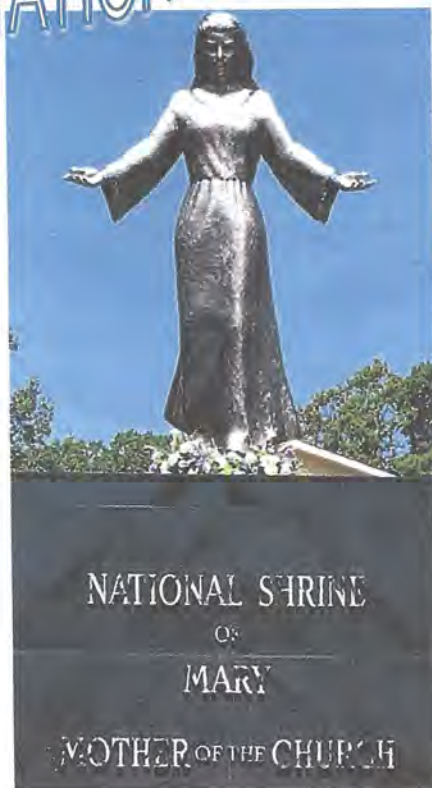
Just as we were completing our work on the Electrical and Mechanical contract and had started to test all the electrical and plumbing systems newly installed, our beautiful sculpture of Mary ceased her every four-minute rotation. The sculpture is the centerpiece of our national shrine and is a symbol of honor and love to all the mothers of the world. The groundskeeping staff described it as yet another miracle, for when the gear box drive failed, Mary was exactly facing the altar. It is always said that Mary points the way to her Son in the Eucharist!

Our groundskeeping staff and our volunteer Engineer, Jim Skelly were able to pinpoint the problem, aided by the new service platform and lighting that allows them to safely access the drive. Unfortunately, every supplier we contacted had a 10-week delivery on the new motor and gearbox. That would mean our Sculpture would be in a fixed position for most of the summer.

The sculpture of Mary, set in 1992, was commissioned by Mr. and Mrs. John Fabick and the Fabick Charitable Trust.

The Sculptor, Mr. Weigand recalls that, "We couldn't possibly make

up our mind which way she was going to face. Face the altar or face the church. So, John Fabick then came up with the caterpillar tractor turntable idea. You put it on that thing so it would turn every four minutes." Mr. Fabick and his staff designed and installed the system.



So, 27 years after the original installation, we called Mr. Harry Fabick to see if he could help us make the repair faster than the 10-week quotes we were getting. Mr. Fabick kindly offered to replace the drive unit and improved the schedule by 8 weeks! Thanks to all the generous, expedient help from Mr Harry Fabick and his staff at Fabick Caterpillar, our sculpture of Mary, Mother of the Church is again revolving.

We especially thank the employees of Fabick Caterpillar who gave generously of their time and talent, including:

Craig McArton, Executive Vice President and COO
Greg Witry, Sr. Vice President
Wesley Jackson, Operations Manager
Jimmy Greer, Western Regional Product Support Mgr.
Brian Paul, Service Supervisor

Make a pilgrimage to



Our next pilgrimage will be September 7, with Dr. Gregory Thompson. His topics will be Eucharistic Miracles and Affirming Church Teachings. Dr. Gregory Mary Thompson is the Director of the Marian Association and is also a Eucharistic Apostle of Divine Mercy. Dr. Thompson is a Marian Helper with the Marians of the Immaculate Conception at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy. He is also a Marian Catechist with Cardinal Raymond Burke. Dr. Thompson speaks at conferences from San Diego to Boston.

Schedule for September 7th

8:30 - 9:00 Registration & Confession
9:00 - 9:05 Blessing/Welcome - Fr. Schmitz
9:10 - 9:45 Eucharistic Miracles - Dr. Thompson
9:45 - 10:45 Confession available
9:45 - 11:30 Adoration/Meditation
10:30 - 11:30 Rosary
11:30 - 12:00 Personal Reflection

11:00 - 11:30 Benediction
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:15 - 2:15 Affirming Church Teachings - Dr. Thompson
2:15 - 2:25 Question and Answer
2:25 - 2:30 Wrap up - Dr. Thompson
3:00 - Divine Chaplet
4:30 - Mass

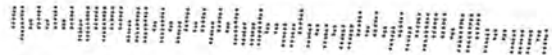




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did you know?

On March 3, 2018 Pope Francis declared Mary, Mother of the Church Feast Day to be celebrated each year on the Monday after Pentecost. The first Mary, Mother of the Church Feast Day was celebrated at the Shrine on May 21, 2018 with Bishop Shawn McKnight presiding.

Mass at the Shrine at 7 pm.

The Feast Day fell on Monday, June 10 this year and was celebrated with a

Over 10,000 people attended our Masses from Memorial Day to Labor Day in 2018.

Over 1,000 people attended our 2018 programs at the Shrine which included Pilgrimages, retreats, a Marian Conference and the Feast Day celebration.

The Shrine operates mostly with volunteer staff, many of them St. Patrick's Parishioners.

Even though the properties are adjacent and share the same entrance, the Shrine is not part of St. Patrick parish. The Shrine is funded entirely on its own, separate from St. Patrick's parish, with its operations and management under the direction of its Board of Directors.

Mary, Mother of the Church Knights of Columbus Council 10381 of Laurie, Mo., donated \$50,000 to our Shrine Appeal. The Knights of Columbus are untiring in their dedication to the Shrine. They volunteer to assist with the groundskeeping, food preparation for our programs and pilgrimages, honor guard for Masses, parking assistance for large events and many other activities at the Shrine.

The Shrine has hosted 3 Pilgrimages during the summer of 2019. On July 26th, renowned Christian Artist Paul Todd and his son, Paul Todd, Jr. performed at a fundraising concert on behalf of the Shrine.



Please feel free to use our QR code to donate.