



THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF **Mary**
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



Was Mary at the Tomb?

The first witnesses of the Resurrection were the holy women, who, with our Blessed Lady, were near the Cross at the crucifixion. They are mentioned by name on both occasions; only on the latter occasion, Our Lady no longer appears among them. They come to the sepulcher, not believing or hoping for the Resurrection, but, on the contrary, intending to embalm a lifeless body. Not finding it, they are "astonished in their mind." An Angel tells them what has happened, and reminds them that Jesus Himself has foretold it. Then "they remember His words," and run "with fear and great joy to tell the disciples" (*Luke 24: 4-8; Matt. 28: 8*). It was manifestly impossible that Mary should be one of these; Catholic piety could never endure to think of Mary as forgetting, despising, or misinterpreting the words of Christ. No less than six Doctors of the Church, including SS. Ambrose, Anselm and Albert the Great held that Our Lady was the first witness of the Resurrection. Pope Benedict XIV declared that this fact is "based on the tradition proclaimed by ancient architectural and liturgical monuments, starting from Jerusalem itself."



HE IS RISEN!

ALLELUIA * ALLELUIA

**GIVE THE GIFT THAT LASTS
MORE THAN A LIFETIME**

Do you have a mother, sister, aunt, cousin, niece or daughter? Will you need a birthday, wedding or anniversary gift in the next few months? What a great gift to show what a true blessing someone is to you. For only \$400 have their name engraved on the wall outside in the National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church. Next engraving April, 2021. You can also make a donation to the Shrine in honor of that special someone.

The Mothers' Wall

Example of the gold certificate you will receive showing the name, date and location on The Mothers' Wall of Life.

