

Lourdes Echoes

July-August, 2014

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A PUBLICATION OF THE LOURDES CENTER • THE MARIST FATHERS & BROTHERS



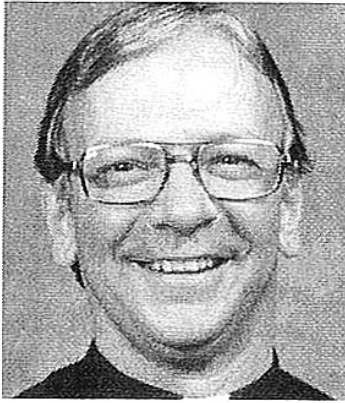
The Assumption of Mary (Fourth Glorious Mystery)

Artist: M. J. Wencker, 1907.

This mosaic and the next one are the most recent (1907). They are both by the same artist, an Alsatian by the name of Wencker. This particular one was a gift from the Catholics of Bohemia, Silesia and Moravia: This goes to explain some of the décor.

As in Lourdes, Mary is dressed in a white robe, with a blue sash. As in the apparition to Catherine Labouré, rue du Bac in Paris, in 1830, Mary is surrounded by twelve stars [100], like the woman in the Apocalypse (12, 1). These are the twelve stars, which we find again on the European flag: This is no coincidence (see *Lourdes Magazine* n°128, July-August 2004).

The Church has never made a pronouncement concerning the end of Mary's life. The artist represents here the Assumption like a Resurrection: Mary leaves the tomb around which the apostles are assembled [101]; she is greeted in heaven by the Father [102], the Son [103], her Son, and the Holy Spirit [104], through whom the incarnation took place (see the mosaic of the Annunciation). Two women wait for Mary in heaven: Judith [105] who saved her people by killing Holofernes, an Assyrian General, and Ruth [106], the converted pagan. Two small books in the Bible relate their story.



REV. ANDREW ALBERT, S.M.

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Here we are in the middle of summer again. I hope you are able to enjoy the bounty of God's nature during these summer months.

As you can see the cover page of this issue of the Lourdes Echoes features a beautiful painting of the feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. We celebrate the Assumption on August 15th. The painting is found in the beautiful basilica dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary at the Lourdes Shrine in France. The basilica was the first built at the Shrine. Later another underground basilica was built and named after St. Pius X. As you know the Blessed Mother appeared to Bernadette with the rosary in her hands. They even said the rosary together. So it is not a surprise that the basilica was named after Our Lady of the Rosary. It is a very busy place, with Masses going on all day long in different languages. This painting of the Assumption, done by M. Wencker in 1907 is one of 15 mosaics in the Rosary basilica. Each mosaic depicts one of the mysteries for each decade of the rosary. Five depicting the joyful mysteries, five depicting the sorrowful mysteries, and five depicting the glorious mysteries. There is much to

admire in this very beautiful basilica on the grounds of the Lourdes Shrine.

Thank you very much for your generous Easter offering of \$12,895.00. Your generosity enables us to continue this special work of Mary.

Please continue to send us names of people who would be interested in receiving the Lourdes Echoes. You are helping St. Bernadette do the work Our Lady of Lourdes asked her to do. Use the coupon in the Echoes or your own stationery. You the readers are our best advertisers in the best sense of the word. We are all called to be missionaries. We are all called to bring the good news to others.

As I mentioned before, if you want a publicly announced Mass offered in our Lourdes Chapel for your loved ones living or deceased please write to me. The stipend for an announced Mass in our chapel is ten dollars.

Our 2014 pilgrims had a wonderful stay in Lourdes at the end of June. Eighteen left from Boston, others from New York and others from Baltimore, Maryland. They prayed for your intentions and I am sure they will never forget their pilgrimage to Lourdes.

A lady from Coral Gables, Florida remembered the Lourdes Center in

her will. God Bless her and may she enjoy the company of the Blessed Mother and St. Bernadette. May her generous heart inspire others to spread the good news of Mary's love for all of us.

My sincere thanks again to all those who are able and willing to support our ministry financially. I know many of you are elderly and on fixed incomes and so we understand that. But say a rosary for the success of our ministry. We need both prayers and financial support. We consider all of you out there as our partners in the great work that Our Lady of Lourdes started in 1858.

May you always feel her presence in your life.

God bless you all,

Fr. Albert



Our email address is:
ourlady@lourdescenter.org
lourdescenter@yahoo.com

Our website is:
www.lourdescenter.org

Only saints speak and act this way

By Rev. Roland Lacasse, s.m.



REV. ROLAND LACASSE, S.M.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta entered a bakery one day to beg for bread for the poor. The baker, not a

Christian, did not treat her kindly. He stared coldly at her for a long time and finally spit in her face! Instead of showing her displeasure, she thanked him for his “gift” and said, “Now what about the bread?” The baker ended up being one of her best supporters for her ministry....

Mother Teresa and St. Bernadette have a lot in common. There is a simplicity about the Saints. What you see is what you get. No pretense. Lately, we’ve been hearing a lot about the need for transparency in our dealings with one another. The way of the world is to be two-faced and double-dealing. The Saints show us a better way to live.

Unfortunately, the Saints are not the first ones that most people turn to when they seek a model to live by today. And yet no one is better suited to teach us how to live to be happy.

In the Middle Ages, Christians were not as “contaminated” by secularism and materialism. When Columbus sailed for America, he and his men would sing the “Salve Regina” every night on board ship as part of their night prayers. It was normal for them to do so, because religion was part and parcel of their daily life. The Saints were their heroes and Our Blessed Mother was the greatest of all the Saints they venerated. Parents taught their children, from the cradle, why God created them, as well as how to pray. Some people call the “Middle Ages” the “Dark Ages,” but they weren’t as dark as they made them out to be. At least they had the light of faith, which many people lack nowadays.

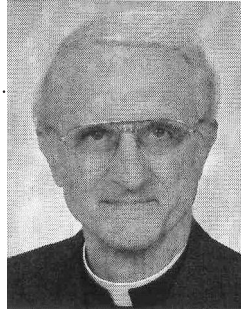
We Christians live in two worlds:

planet earth and the world of the Spirit. We are here to make the world a better place in which to live, true, but we are also here to save and sanctify our souls. We live in the material world and in the world of angels and demons. St. Bernadette never doubted for a moment that there was more to life than satisfying her material needs. The Blessed Virgin said to her “I promise to make you happy in Heaven, if not here on earth.”

The Saints and those who model themselves on the lives of the Saints make some people nervous. Virtuous people make some people uneasy. They serve as a reproach to those who neglect God and the worship of God. Catholics who no longer practice their faith sometimes feel uncomfortable in the presence of relatives who are Priests and Religious. It’s because religion is such an important part of life that it defines who we are, in great part.

Continued on page 5

By Fr. Frank Grispino, S.M.



THE FIRST GLORIOUS MYSTERY

The Glorious Mysteries: The Resurrection

The Resurrection

The shroud of Turin comes up in the news from time to time. The shroud is that linen cloth in which the body of Jesus was enveloped when taken down from the cross. What is striking about this burial cloth is that it bears the imprints of a crucified man thought to be the crucified Jesus.

Turin is the city in Italy where its cathedral has housed and preserved this relic. Now the mysterious part: the imprint of the face of Jesus as well as the wounds on the head, hands, feet, pierced side, lacerated and bruised body are said to be caused by light powerful enough to have seared these markings onto the burial cloth. Is this compatible with the resurrection of Jesus? The contention is that this mysterious powerful light was emitted by the glorious resurrected body of the Lord.

What Do The Scriptures Say?

No doubt you have read or heard about the Easter marathon: Peter and John ran together to the tomb on that first Easter Sunday. John being the

younger out runs Peter and is first to arrive at the tomb. But out of respect he allows Peter to enter first. This is what Peter saw: "...the burial clothes there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place" John 20, 6-7. And then John enters and this is what the Gospel says, "... he saw and believed" John 20, 8.

There Is More Than An Empty Tomb

To see the tomb empty is a good start to claim the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. But there is more, much more! Absence of the body was not the real reason for John to say that he saw and believed. Was the basis for his belief the fact that the burial cloth held the shape of the body of Jesus while remaining undisturbed? The risen Jesus had told Thomas, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed" John 20, 29.

Is John the first to be placed in

that category? After all, John did not see the risen Lord. He believed because of the shape of the cloth holding the form of a body without any body.

He Died for Our Sins

The crucifix is a constant reminder that Jesus died on the cross to take away sin. The idea of resurrection is not part of our experience as much as suffering and death. We know that the atoning death of Jesus was the cause of our being reconciled with God the Father. But what precisely does the resurrection of Jesus do for us?

He Rose for Our Justification

This is the part we don't hear much about. It is what takes place within us when Original Sin is taken away by the sacrament of Baptism and our actual mortal sins that we ourselves commit are forgiven by the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). It is the part we call "justification". It occurs once sin is absolved. Only it does not take

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Readers Write

G.A. Thank you for your many prayers, Mass remembrances, and loving notes that you have sent. These have supported and comforted me greatly. My open-heart surgery will be on June 23, 2014, which will be followed, the doctor tells me, by three months of recuperation. May God continue to comfort and bless you in all your needs. **HI**

M.K. Enclosed is a check for \$50.00 for a favor received through Our Lady of Lourdes. A newborn kitten had only the use of one eye and could not walk for two months. I used Lourdes water and the next morning he had two perfect eyes and could walk. **MA**

More on Page 6

Gift Center

The following gift items are available for order from the Marist Lourdes Center in Boston.

Order from The Lourdes Center



Lourdes Center Chapel, Boston

- Our Lady of Lourdes Medal in Grotto.....\$5.00
- Brown Scapular.....\$2.00
- Green Scapular.....\$2.00
- St. Bernadette pins.....\$3.50
- Booklet: "Lourdes and Our Lady"
by Fr. John Lynch, S.M.....\$4.00
- Booklet: "Joseph the Carpenter" by Fr. G. Caron, S.M.....\$3.00
- Booklet: "Come, We Could Be Children Together,"
by Fr. G. Caron, S.M.....\$3.00

Please send your order with payment to: Lourdes Bureau Gift Center,
P.O. Box 15575, 698 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215-2594.

Fr. LaCasse

Continued from page 3

And when Catholics give up their Catholic faith, they are no longer who they once were. Who then are they?

Many families nowadays are dealing with this problem, even the best of families. May St. Bernadette teach us how to live, so that Catholics who no longer practice their Catholic faith, will say of us, "I want what you have."

Purgatorials for the Deceased

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Requested by: _____

Suggested offering: \$10.00 (perpetual)

Our Lady's Purgatorial Society

Each year your enrolled deceased and loved ones are remembered during the 365 daily Masses celebrated by the Marist Fathers. An attractive certificate framed in a blue folder with a colorful picture of Our Lady is sent to the donor or recipient.

Readers Write

TC. On my recent 80th birthday, I noticed an angry red sore on my forehead. I applied Lourdes Water and prayed. Within a week the sore had faded. It has not returned. Please accept this small offering in gratitude. I pray the rosary every day. Truly, our Blessed Mother watches over us with love. **VA**

A.M. Enclosed is a check for \$35.00 for 10 bottles of Lourdes Water. I am also enclosing a check for \$20.00 to be used where needed. Please keep me in your prayers as I do you. I am having some problems and I know that the Blessed Mother will intercede for me. May God bless you. **NY**

R.K. Thank you for the letter from the Marist Fathers and for the beautiful Holy Card. In the past I've written about a strange accident in which my tongue was cut and hemorrhaging. I took the Lourdes water into my mouth, swallowed it all, and immediately the hemorrhaging stopped. I was amazed and felt rescued. The Lourdes water was my dear friend sent by God – and the Marist Fathers made it possible by delivering it to us all. Thank you once again. **NC**

Our Deceased

We have been notified that the following friends of the Lourdes Center have passed away. Please join us in remembering them in your prayers.

VIOLET GEORGE, CA
JACK ENGLISH, JR., KS
ROSE FEDORCHAK, PA
ANTOINETTE JOHNSON, LA
BETTY JEAN SULLIVAN, PA
NICHOLAS L. PERNICE, OH
SAL SCALTRO, NY
GAYLE SHANNON, RI
SR. PAT A. MURPHY, S.D.
ART PLISZKA, IL
VIRGINIA CUMMING, MI
RITA ANN TOTH, OH
FRANK & BARBARA TRUSKOL.CA
ANTOINETTE JOHNSON, LA
LAVONNE KEAVY, AZ
VERONICA TANSKI, NJ
HELEN WHEAT, CA
YOLANDA DESANTIS, NY
CELESTE AVALLONE, NJ
SAM BISH, OH
ELIZABETH KLOSOWSKI, IL
ESTHER GALLO, IL
PATRICIA DILORIO, MO
SR. MONICA LOWE, R.S.M., PA
MARGARET TAUNTON, NY
MARY KULPA, PA
SR. ROSEMARY BUDD, PA

JAMES REEDY, MD
ROSALIE COLLINS, MA
GERALDINE HALL, SC
LEO MAGRI, GA
VIRGINIA KOROBLIS, MA
REV. ROBERT FAHEY, S.M., CA
SUSIE ALLEN, FL
PETER RIVA, MD
MARY JASPER, MO
REV. JAMES PRATT
MARY SCHILL
JOSEPHINE SANTORO, CA
ETHEL WALKER, PA
ANN DRISCOLL, NY
JAMES BUSUITO, MI
KATHRYN GEORGE, CO
SR. MARY DIMMERLING, PA
LEILANA ALAMA, HI
PETER GRIVA, MD
SR. M. NAT. BERARD, MA
MARY M. FLOREZ, UT
GEORGE BILTZ, AZ
CLARA HICKMAN, MS
HELEN HARTNETT, NE
LOUIS R. ROY, RI
MARIA ANAK
JEAN SMITH, FL



Do you know someone who would like to receive Echoes from Lourdes? Give them a **FREE SUBSCRIPTION!**

Send their names and addresses. Use a separate sheet if necessary.

E-mail the information to: ourlady@lourdescenter.org
MAIL it to:
Lourdes Center
P.O. Box 15575
698 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215-2594

Fr. Grispino

Continued from page 4

away anything. Rather it imparts something. That “something” is a share in the divine life of the risen Christ. This makes us holy and pleasing to God. St. Paul expresses it this way, “He died for our sins and rose for our justification” Romans 4, 25.

It is this being made “just,” “holy,” “pleasing to God” that elevates us to realm of the divine. All this is expressed by the word “adoption”.

Children of God By Adoption

An adopted child does not have the blood of its parents. A child adopted into the Donald Trump Family would not have Trump blood coursing through its veins. But the child would have a share in the family’s wealth and inheritance.

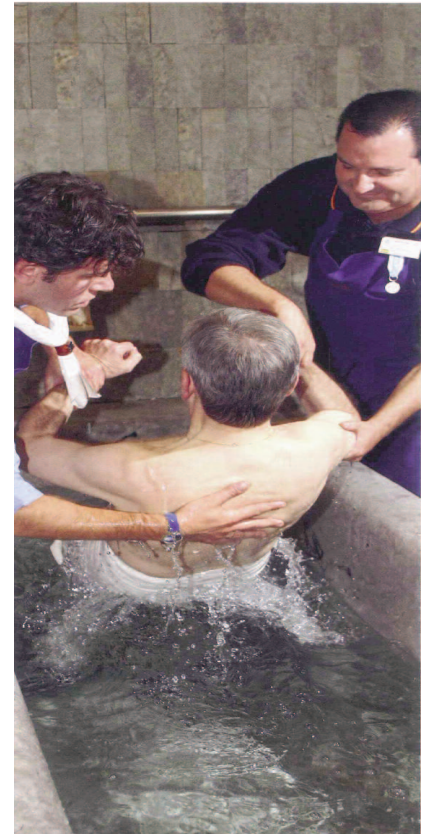
So also we as adopted children of God are not divine but share in the rich life of God and are heirs to heaven.

“How Great Thou Art”

Forgiveness of sin is a wonder in itself. But to share in the divine life is still more wondrous. There is a dance of love going on with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. By the forgiveness of sin and sanctified by grace and made children of God by adoption we too will share in the dance of love of the Trinitarian Family of God.

That hymn “How Great Thou Art” says it all ! Are there any personal words of praise you want to add?

Pilgrim enters the bath at Lourdes



Affiliations

**Remembrance in 50 Masses
yearly and at our
weekly Perpetual Novena**

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Requested by:

Phone No:

Offering: 1 year \$2.00,
3 years \$5.00 Lifetime \$10.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Lourdes Water ...

**...is an expression
of my faith...
my trust in God’s
mercy.**

Offering to cover shipping & handling \$ _____

N.B. A donation of \$3.00 per bottle is suggested to cover our expenses. When the offering permits, we use Priority Mail. We will accept orders of 1-3-5-6-and 10 bottles. For multiples thereof and for unusual numbers requested, we reserve the right to send what is both just and feasible.

**Please send _____ bottles of the
water from the Shrine at Lourdes**

Name _____
(Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

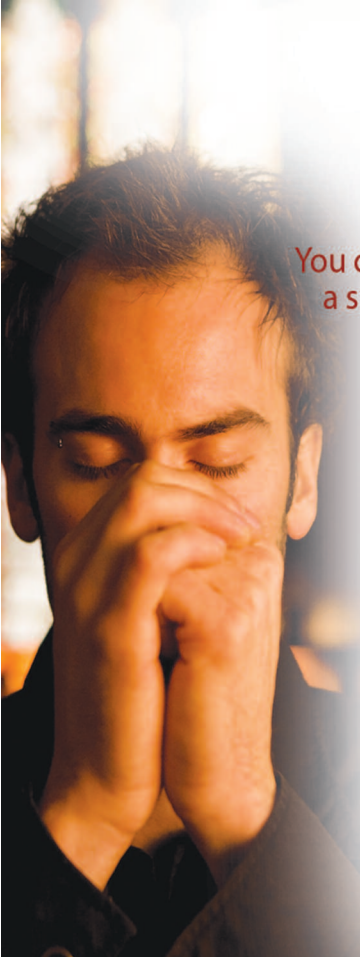
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Does this person receive Lourdes Echoes?
__ Yes __ No

If not, should we send Lourdes Echoes to them?
__ Yes __ No

PLEASE ALLOW 3-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY



On Friday, July 10 & July 24
and Friday, August 8 & Friday, August 22,
The Marist Fathers & Brothers of the Lourdes Center
will be praying for you.

You can count on it, on the second and the fourth Friday of every month, we hold
a special prayer day when we say special prayers and offer Mass at our chapel
for our extended Lourdes family ... including you.

Please send us your intentions: _____

Please direct your intentions, and any offering you'd like to send, to: Marist Fathers,
698 Beacon Street, P.O. Box 15575, Boston, MA 02215-0010 • 617-536-2761.

Director: Rev. Andrew Albert, S.M.
Asst. Director: Rev. Roland Lacasse, S.M.
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of Our Lady and interest in her shrine at

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