

Lourdes Echoes

March-April 2015

Vol. 77 No. 4

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



61st. U.S. NATIONAL ROSARY

Lourdes France

June 28 – July 07, 2015

(Also Visiting St. Jean de Luz and Gavarnie)

WELCOMING INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, PARISH GROUPS, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS



Fr. George Szal, s.m.
Marist Chaplain

Accompanied by Clergy Medical Staff & Volunteers to assist the needs of the Pilgrims.

ALL-INCLUSIVE!!

International air transportation including airline fuel surcharges • hotel accommodation • All meals: • breakfast, lunch and dinner • Guided tour of Lourdes • Guided visit to Gavarnie • Transfers and baggage handling • Tips for hotel dining and guides • Sanctuary registration fee • Scheduled liturgical services • Accompanied by medical & lay staff

BOSTON DEPARTURE - \$2976.00 (plus departure tax 170.00)
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT: \$395.00

TO MAKE A RESERVATION: KINDLY SEND YOUR DEPOSIT IN THE SUM OF \$400.00 PER PERSON

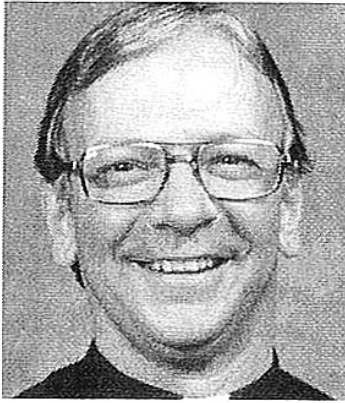
MAIL TO: LOURDES PILGRIMAGE OFFICE OF CATHOLIC TRAVEL
5505 GRANBY ROAD • ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20855
TEL (301) 740-9332 • FAX (301) 740-1509 • Toll Free: 1877 276-7279
EMAIL: lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net • WEBSITE: www.lourdes-pilgrimage.com

TO INSURE A PLACE ON THIS PILGRIMAGE PLEASE BOOK EARLY!!!
OUR 2014 PILGRIMAGE WAS SOLD OUT 3 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: CATHOLIC TRAVEL OFFICE

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THIS WONDERFUL MILESTONE!

*For further information or registration forms call
The Lourdes Center in Boston at 617-536-2761.*



REV. ANDREW ALBERT, S.M.

Dear Friends of the Lourdes Center,

Our cover this issue features our yearly pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France. Once again we are part of the Lourdes Pilgrimage under the tutelage of the Catholic Travel Office based in Rockville, Maryland. This arrangement has been working very well. One of our Marist priests, Fr. George Szal will be accompanying the pilgrims leaving from Logan Airport, Boston. For the first time this year there will be a group leaving from the West Coast. This is due to the fact that the Lourdes Echoes publication has thousands of readers who live in California, Nevada, and other western states. All the groups will meet up in Lourdes and stay at the same hotel.

I encourage all those who are financially able to make this pilgrimage. You will never forget it. The shrine at Lourdes is a power house of prayer, love of God and Mary, and deep faith.

Mass at the grotto where Mary appeared 18 times is an unforgettable experience. The great basilica dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, the immense underground church dedicated to St. Pius X, the joyous and faith filled daily processions featuring the recitation of the Rosary, and the thou-

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

sands of voices raised in singing the Immaculate Mary hymn are simply awe-inspiring. And the sight of so many sick pilgrims helped by those who are healthy and strong is a living example of Christians loving one another as Jesus told us to do. My prayers are with all those making this wonderful pilgrimage in late June.

I want to pay tribute to Roland Bourgea who was a faithful volunteer worker here for 10 years. He died on Christmas day. I am sure Our Lady of Lourdes received him into heaven.

We are in the midst of Lent. Lent is a period of time set aside for penance in preparation for the great feast of Easter. The feast reminding us of the resurrection of Jesus and the establishment of his church.

All forms of penance are not ends in themselves. In other words, we don't do something hard or special in order to pat ourselves on the back as we say, "Boy that was tough, but I did it!" We are not training to be Marines. Penance is done to help us fulfill the two commandments that Jesus said summarized all the other commandments. The two commandments are to love God with all our hearts and to love the neighbor as ourself. May we all find new ways to fulfill those two commandments more and more.

Your generous Christmas envelope

gift of \$16,701.00 to help our ministry grow is a concrete example of your love of God and neighbor. As Jesus said, "By their fruits you will know them."

I was ordained a priest in the Society of Mary on January 30, 1965 in St. John the Baptist Church, Brunswick Maine. I was ordained in the middle of winter and I was born in the middle of winter (February) during a snowstorm, so my mother told me.

I will celebrate my 50th anniversary here at the Lourdes Center on Sunday, April 26 at an 11:30 Mass, followed by brunch at a nearby restaurant. Please join me by thanking God and the Blessed Mother for allowing me 50 years of Marist priestly service. I will remember all of you at that Mass.

God bless you all! A very happy Easter to all of you!

Fr. Albert



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

Our website is:
www.lourdescenter.org

Stress

And How The Saints Dealt With It

By Rev. Roland Lacasse, s.m.



REV. ROLAND LACASSE, S.M.

Stress is something we all have to learn to manage, or it can kill you. It is often a major cause

of sickness in many people. Why else do we call sickness “disease?” When Jesus repeatedly said to His Apostles, “Peace be with you,” he meant “Don’t let stress overwhelm you.”

The Saints realized that “He’s got the whole world in His hands,” as the song says. They also realized that they should not worry over things they had no control over. They prayed, “Lord, I place all my cares in your hands, for I know that you, O Lord, take care of me.”

Medical doctors have become aware over the years that people who are religious-minded do better at regaining their health than people



STRESS IS OFTEN A MAJOR CAUSE OF ILLNESS

whose faith is weak or non-existent. There is a strong connection between body and soul. When people go to church every weekend, their souls are nourished and their bodies are relieved of stress. These people know that they are loved by God, and when you know that someone loves you, you realize you

are worthwhile, that you are valued, that you are important. God’s love for us does all that.

St. Bernadette was fully aware of all this. She could deal with suffering because she realized that Jesus would have suffered and died on the cross for her, even if she had been the only person on earth! Shortly before she died she was offered prayers by a nun who said to her, “I’m going to pray that God will send you some consolation to relieve your pain,” to which St. Bernadette replied, “No. Pray that I might have patience and courage in my suffering.” I wonder how many of us would have answered that way.

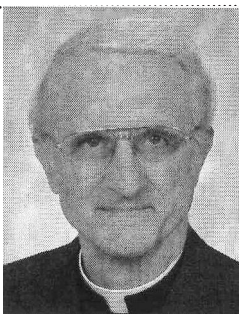
Our society is full of stress. Anyone who drives on our highways can tell you how stressful other drivers can be. Drivers are afraid to confront stressed out drivers lest they be attacked. We are told not even to make eye contact with someone who cuts you off or

Continued on page 5

By Fr. Frank Grispingo, S.M.

THE FOURTH GLORIOUS MYSTERY

The Assumption of Mary



At the outset, we must make distinctions. For the sake of clarity, we must distinguish between Ascension and Assumption. In his Ascension, Jesus went up to heaven on his own power. In the Assumption, Mary went up to heaven, not by her own power, but by the power of God.

No Sin: No Death, No Decay

St. Paul teaches that death has come into the world by the power of Satan, and that the wages of sin is death. Mary was neither under the power of Satan (see Genesis 3,15) and much less did she ever commit sin. And so the reasoning goes, that if she never was under the demonic influence, she escapes its consequence: death. Catholics hold that since Mary was conceived without original sin and never committed a personal sin, her body was taken up into heaven without it being desecrated by decay that ordinarily would be a result of death.

Mary is Special

What makes Mary so special from the rest of us? Her Son. She is the



Painting by Dr. Ashraf Fakry

mother of the Son of God giving him his human flesh “by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Luke 1,35.) Mary gave thanks for such a privilege as her divine motherhood, as well as anticipated privileges such as her Assumption. In her prayerful song of thanksgiving, she attributes them all to its divine source...”He who is mighty has done great things for me.” (Luke 1, 49)

The Wealthy Man and His Mother

I remember hearing on the news about an athlete who came into big money over the years. He always wanted to do something in order to honor his mother. He caught the attention of the news media when he purchased a palatial house as a gift to his mother. He had the money to do it, so he did it. It is the same with Jesus. He certainly had the power to preserve his mother from sin and its consequences of death and decay, and he willed to honor her by her bodily Assumption into heaven. He did what a son would do for his mother. The athlete honored his mother in a material way; Jesus honored his mother in a spiritual way.

Mary, New Ark of the Covenant

Religious television programs are showing great interest in the ancient temple of Jerusalem and its furnishings. There is one piece of furniture that should be of interest to Catholics. It is found in that room of the temple that is more

Continued on page 7

Fr. LaCasse

Continued from page 3

tailgates you. If only we could all remember to be kind and thoughtful of other drivers, our roads would have a lot less stress. I worry about where people who no longer go to Church get the inspiration to be kind and thoughtful. Religion reminds us to love others and be nice to others, even on the road. Without religion, we revert to selfishness and road rage all too often.

Who we are and how we deal with others is determined by what we believe. If we believe in a loving

God and if we believe that we were created in the image of God, then we will be loving towards others. If we believe in living for ourselves alone without being accountable to God for the way we treat others, what incentive will we have to be kind and loving toward others?


As a priest, I am bound by the same laws of the Church as all Catholics. On vacation if I don't say Mass on weekends, I have to attend Mass. And when I do, I always feel that I have been nurtured, uplifted,

and spiritually revitalized. No one can tell me that Church going doesn't matter. I know that it does matter. I feel it in my body, as well as in my soul, even when I'm driving on the highway!

Gift Center

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

<i>Order from The Lourdes Center</i>	
Our Lady of Lourdes Medal in Grotto.....	\$5.00
Brown Scapular.....	\$2.00
Green Scapular.....	\$2.00
St. Bernadette pins.....	\$3.50
Our Lady of Lourdes pins.....	\$3.50
Booklet: "Lourdes and Our Lady" by Fr. John Lynch, S.M.....	\$4.00
Booklet: "Come, We Could Be Children Together," by Fr. G. Caron, S.M.....	\$3.00



Lourdes Center Chapel, Boston

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

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.

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.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------|
| FLORA DEORA | IL |
| MARILYN E. BOTT | MI |
| ANN SULICK | PA |
| FABIOLA MARTIN | CANADA |
| JUNE CASTANEDA | MI |
| KYLE MYERS | LA |
| SCOTT MYERS | LA |
| MAXINE JULIAN | CANADA |
| GEORGE TAYLOR | MO |
| LORI GLOVER | MA |
| GERTIE GUEHO | LA |
| GERRY POLLASTRINI | PA |
| FRANCES SACCO | PA |
| IRENE SILVER | NY |
| EWELL LA BRY | LA |
| ROBERT BOUCHARD | MA |
| LUCILLE FLEMING | TX |
| GAIL NAPUTI | KY |
| GERRIE LASAK | MI |
| MARY SEJAS | MD |
| PAM BARDWIL | CA |
| GLORIA LO PRESTI | RI |
| DOROTHY LEROY | IL |
| SOPHIE KUBICEK | TX |
| ELEANOR WHEELER | NH |
| JOYCE M. CHIRI | MI |
| ROSE MARY TIMMERS | MN |
| ANN M. DELUCA | MA |
| ADELE MARCHAL | OH |
| PEARL ORTEGO | LA |
| MARGARET ARSENAULT | NC |
| MARY SHEPPECK | PA |
| JANE RAINIS | ME |
| DIANE WOLKOWICZ | IL |
| MARY WATKINS | IL |
| JOAN BOND | CA |
| BETTY MISTRETTA | NY |
| MIRIAM SELGRATH | PA |
| PAUL KEYS | TX |
| HELEN STANICK PETCHO | NY |
| MS. EILEEN VITALE | MA |
| SHEILA MILLIKEN | MA |
| LORETTA MUNCIE | CA |
| STELLA PATRICELLI | FL |
| ROBERT DEROOSE | IL |
| EDNA R. ZIEGLER | WY |
| MATHELDA KAPELL | CANADA |
| MARGARET M. BROWN | IN |
| HELEN PARRISH | NY |
| CYRIL ALEXIE | AK |
| HELEN EMMERICH | FL |
| SR. MARY L. GATTES | OH |
| DORIS A. PETERSON | VA |
| MRS. PEG SHIMER | GA |



Blessed Sacrament Procession at Lourdes

Readers Write

R.O. We are so grateful to Our Lady for the blessings received and prayers answered with personal situations involving unemployment and poor health among many members of our family. These are hard times so it is good to know that we can count on our faith. **MO**



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

holy than all other rooms, so much so, that it is called "The Holy of Holies." What makes it so holy is that it contains at its center the Ark of the Covenant. This ornate chest-like container with its cover of gold holds the tablets of the Ten Commandments given to Moses by God. This makes its contents precious for it held the Word of God. Mary held the living Word of God for nine months. Does not Mary fulfill the true meaning of the Ark in a far more excellent way?

As the Ark so Mary: Ornate and Revered

The lid of the Ark was overlaid with gold. The wood of the Ark was precious; its source was the acacia tree. This wood is unaffected by age or decay. In short, it is rot

resistant. And so was Mary the New Ark. She was unaffected by sin and decay of the grave because she was Assumed into heaven either at the moment of her death or simply taken up at the appointed time. If the wooden Ark containing the Word of God was so precious, ornate and revered, so was Mary, the New Ark, who bore the Living Word of God.

What Mary's Assumption Teaches

Mary's Assumption into heaven in body as well as in soul teaches us something of our resurrection at the end of the world. At that time, our bodies will rise from the grave by the power of God's Holy Spirit and be reunited with our souls already in heaven. We will then be in heaven as humans, united in body and soul. Mary's Assumption anticipates our final entrance into heaven.

A Doctrine for the 50s and Today

In the 1950s there were the scenes captured on film portraying the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis in their death camps. Humans were dismissed as garbage. Today we are shown in the evening news the cruelty of the Islamic terrorists with their brand of man's inhumanity to man. Once more humans are portrayed as means for religious-political ends. In the 1950s there was an upsurge in pornography demeaning the human body. Today it is a \$400 million industry. In contrast, the doctrine of the Assumption of Mary into heaven in body as well as in soul underscores the great dignity of the human body and its destiny for eternal glory

Mary, conceived without sin and Assumed into heaven, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

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, March 13 & Friday, March 27
and Friday, April 9 & Friday, April 23,
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.

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