

# Lourdes Echoes

January-February, 2016

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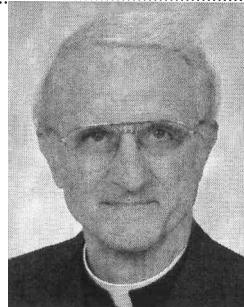


A PUBLICATION OF THE LOURDES CENTER • THE MARIST FATHERS & BROTHERS

By Fr. Frank Grispino, S.M.

THE THIRD SORROWFUL MYSTERY

## The Crowning with Thorns



Marist Guidance

“Crowning” brings to mind a king. Emphasis in this mystery is precisely on the kingship of Jesus. The ancient prophecy foretold that the Messiah-King would be from the ancestry of King David. That Jesus fulfilled that prophecy was in the air. Bartimaeus seeking a miracle for his blindness called out, “Jesus, son of David have pity on me.” Mark 10,47. (Even today the wording of the Our Father is a constant reminder that the fullness of Christ’s kingdom is yet to become a reality, “Thy kingdom come.”)

### The Jeering Soldiers

Rumors of Jesus being a king were widespread reaching into the barracks of the Roman soldiers stationed near the palace of the governor, Pontius Pilate. Let us take in the scene given in the scriptures and see what the sol-

diers did after the scourging of Jesus:

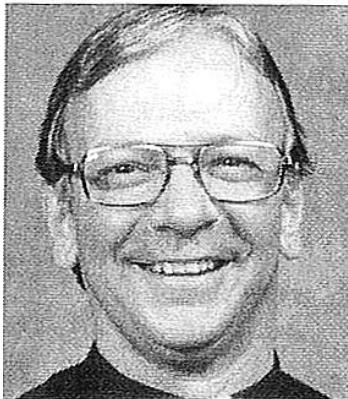
*“They stripped off his clothes and threw a scarlet military cloak about him. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ They spat upon him and took the reed and kept striking Him on the head” Matthew 27, 28-30.*

### Truth in Jest

The soldiers may have made fun of Jesus and found him an easy target to chase away their boredom. A hapless victim becomes the butt of jokes. On the other hand there may be something sinister at play

in the biting sarcasm. What if the soldiers are venting pent up resentment against authority in a game of scapegoat? The ancient form of removal of sins by sacrifice among the Hebrews was to lay hands on the goat chosen for the occasion. By this ceremonial gesture the sins of the people were heaped upon the animal which was then driven out into the wilderness to perish. But this religious practice was unknown to the pagan soldiers. In their case they were simply venting pent up resentment and anger against authority. The powerless often act out this way. When unable to take vengeance on the real king they seek to direct their anger and frustrations upon a substitute. In this case, Jesus. In so doing, these soldiers fulfilled

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**REV. ANDREW ALBERT, S.M.**

Dear Friends of the Lourdes Center,  
I am happy to tell you that you can now register and send in your \$400 deposit for the June 26 – July 5, 2016 pilgrimage to Lourdes. All travel arrangements and hotel arrangements have been finalized by Elizabeth Grinder of the Lourdes Pilgrimage office of Catholic Travel located in Rockville, Maryland. For the past several years our Lourdes pilgrimage has been part of the Catholic Travel office pilgrimage. Please see the opposite page for details. There will be a departure from Boston accompanied by one of our Marist priests. For more information or registration call us here at the Lourdes Center or contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage office of Catholic Travel.

I would like to bring to your attention one of the best books on ST. BERNADETTE: Her childhood, the 18 apparitions that she witnessed, her relationship with the local pastor and civil authorities; her life after the apparitions up until her death at the convent of Nevers, France at the young age of 35. The book was written by French priest Fr. René Laurentin. It was translated into English by two of our Marist priests. The preliminary translation was done by Fr. John Lynch, s.m.

## THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Thousands of you have ordered from us Fr. Lynch's 12 page booklet "Lourdes and Our Lady". Fr. Ronald Desrosiers, another American Marist, prepared the final English translation of Fr. Laurentin's book on Bernadette. Fr. Laurentin's book is entitled "Bernadette Speaks" and is published by Pauline Books and Media of Boston, MA. I am sure you can also get it from Amazon.com. It is an excellent book full of photos of Bernadette's family, Bernadette's years at the convent of Nevers, and scenes of Lourdes and the shrine area. We DO NOT have any copies for sale here at the center. Go to your local bookstore or Amazon.com.

February 11th is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. As you know, Bernadette had her first apparition on February 11, 1858. The Catholic Church has designated February 11 as an official day for the sick throughout the world. On that day all Catholics should pray for the sick and all those who minister to them. Let us all remember our sick brothers and sisters in prayer on that special day.

This issue of the Echoes is being prepared in early December. Already we have received many donations in our Christmas envelopes. I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you

who so loyally and with such great love support this special ministry of ours. We want more and more people to know about the great miracle that Lourdes is. About the fact that Mary our loving Mother appeared 18 times to the 14 year old French peasant girl named Bernadette. She could not read or write. But Bernadette was chosen by Mary to be her messenger. The shrine of Lourdes is a miracle in itself. This little girl was told by Mary "Go tell the priests to build a church here for prayer and penance." The result is the large Holy Rosary basilica and the huge underground church dedicated to St. Pius X.

May you always feel the presence of Mary in your life!

God bless you all!

*Fr. Albert*



**Our email address is:**  
**[ourlady@lourdescenter.org](mailto:ourlady@lourdescenter.org)**  
**[lourdescenter@yahoo.com](mailto:lourdescenter@yahoo.com)**

**Our website is:**  
**[www.lourdescenter.org](http://www.lourdescenter.org)**

**"MERCIFUL AS THE FATHER"  
HOLY YEAR OF MERCY**



Fr. Joseph Allen, O.P.

**62<sup>nd</sup> U.S. National Rosary Pilgrimage**

**Lourdes, France**

**JUNE 26 TO JULY 5, 2016**

**(Also visiting St. Jean de Luz & Gavarnie)**

**Welcoming individuals, families, parish groups, and young adults**

**Accompanied by clergy, medical staff & volunteers to  
assist the needs of the pilgrims.**



Fr. Michael Mary Dosch, O.P.



**ALL-INCLUSIVE!!**

International air transportation • Including airline fuel surcharges • First class hotels • 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

**DEPARTING FROM:**

**NEW YORK/JFK(via Iberia Airline) — \$ 2,727.00**

**NEWARK — \$ 2,826.00**

**BOSTON: — \$ 2,921.00**

**WASHINGTON/DULLES: — \$ 2,823.00**

**PLUS AIRLINE TAXES — \$ 159.00**

**SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT — \$ 395.00**

**(If you are flying from different cities please contact us.)**

To make a reservation, kindly send your deposit in the sum of **\$400.00** per person.  
PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: **CATHOLIC TRAVEL OFFICE**

**MAIL TO:**

**Lourdes Pilgrimage Office of Catholic Travel**

**5505 Granby Road**

**Rockville, Maryland 20855**

**TEL: (301) 740-9332 \* TOLL FREE: 1-877-276-7279 \* EMAIL: lourdespilgrimageoffice@comcast.net \***

**WEBSITE: www.Lourdes-pilgrimage.com**

**TO INSURE A PLACE ON THIS PILGRIMAGE PLEASE BOOK EARLY!!!  
OUR 2015 PILGRIMAGE WAS SOLD OUT 3 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE**

**RESERVATION DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2016**

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

# Nine words worth remembering

By Rev. Roland Lacasse, s.m.



we know that the Blessed Mother went to Heaven, body and soul. We call it her “Assumption.” But what about anyone else? In the history of the human race, there was a man that Jesus, Himself, assured that he was going to Heaven, after the man asked Jesus, as He hung on the cross, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.” And Jesus replied, “This day you will be with Me in Paradise!”

When the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette she, too, was promised Heaven when she was told, “I cannot promise you to be happy on earth, but only in Heaven.” And St.

**S**ome time ago, I heard a sermon about Heaven, and can anyone be sure of going there.

As Catholics,

Theresa of Lisieux once said, “I will spend eternity doing good on behalf of people on earth.”

There is a popular song about Heaven, some of the lyrics being “Everybody wants to go to Heaven, but nobody wants to die.” But that’s not quite true. In my ministry as a priest, I have visited many people who complained that God had forgotten to come and get them; that they had no reason to linger any longer here on earth. The mother of St. Augustine felt the same way after she had lived long enough to witness the conversion of both her son and her husband.

It’s strange, but as a result of interviews of many people, the vast majority believed in Heaven, but not in Hell. It seems that they believed that God is too merciful to send people to Hell. On the other hand, God is too just to allow everyone to go to Heaven. I believe that when we die, the soul will automatically go where it deserves to

go, at least until the “General Judgment.”

Heaven has been described in many ways, but the essence of Heaven is to be with God, just as the essence of Hell is to be without the God for whom we were created. St. Augustine had it right when he said, “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts can find no rest until they rest in thee.” Pity the atheist who denies the existence of God and of the after-life. What would he want as an epitaph on his tombstone? Would it be uncharitable to suggest, “Here lies an atheist, with no place to go.”

Most people have heard the saying about soldiers in wartime who find themselves in danger – “There is no such thing as an atheist in a foxhole.” And those of us who lived through World War II recall that all the churches were crowded during the war. Someone once said that people turn to

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# Fr. Grispino

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the religious intent and meaning of the scapegoat ceremony:

*"But the Lord laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth."* Isaiah 53,6.

Jesus was truly a King. But with what a difference! In the place of a crown of gold, a crown

of thorns; in place of a scepter, a reed; in place of royal purple, a scarlet cloak; and in place of reigning from a throne, a cross.

My Jesus, what great indignities you have suffered in order to take away my sins. Help me with your grace to shoulder all that has happened to me that has not been to my liking. And grant me to accept, in faith, to see in these hardships a share in your suffering so that I may one day share in your happiness. Amen.

## Gift Center

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

### *Order from The Lourdes Center*

2016 Wall Calendar (Limited Supply).....\$5.00

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.

CLAIRE SCAPELLATI, MA  
JANET DIETRICH, LA  
E. DOLORES CLARK, UT  
JEROME SCHMITZ, WI  
A. MORGAN, DE  
ROLAND DUPUIS, MA  
ROBERT HALACY SR., MA  
CORNELIA SIEBENBURGEN, OH  
JOHN E. DRAKE, CA  
ARTHUR WIELGUS, WI  
ARCH MACDONALD  
MARK SCHMEIDER, OH  
ALMA BRENNAN, WI  
DAVID B. RITCHIE, MA  
FAYE SITZMANN, MN  
SR. MARY CONSTANCE, OH  
SR. FELICE GORNY, OH  
JEANNE WEIGEL, MD  
ELLEN CHICOINE, CT  
MARY ANN PERRY, MA  
BEVERLY BLANCHARD, VT  
ANITE BADEAUX, TX  
PEDRO MORENO, CA  
SR. GRACIA SCHMITT, IA  
BETTY F. LIGHTFOOT, FL  
JAMES R. RYAN, IA  
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CARMEN GARVIN, FL  
RONALD MCMAHON, MA  
JOSEPH MAYERI, WI  
P.H. LAHN, MN  
MARJORIE SHAPLEY, WA  
ROSEMARY ROMIANI, WI

## Readers Write

**R.A.** I want to write to thank Our Lady for answering my prayers. After eight years of marriage my son and his wife have welcomed God's gift -- a baby boy. We know it was through your intercession that God has given us this lovely and precious gift, Thank you once again, Mary, Our Mother, for your help. We love you and will always honor you. **ME**

**J.F.** I am sending my offering to Mary of Lourdes for all the blessings and favors I have received. I send thanks to all the

angels and saints, St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael, St. Anthony, St. Thomas Aquinas and my savior, Lord Jesus Christ. **NY**

**D.G.** My sister and I received our intentions. She has been cured of her bowel disease and I had very high blood pressure, which is now in the normal range. Thanks to Our Lady of Lourdes. We use Lourdes water and are better. **IN**

**C.K.** Please pray for us. Our daughter is abusing drugs and alcohol and sometimes abuses us. Please pray for our family. **AZ**



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.*

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E-mail the information to: [ourlady@lourdescenter.org](mailto:ourlady@lourdescenter.org)

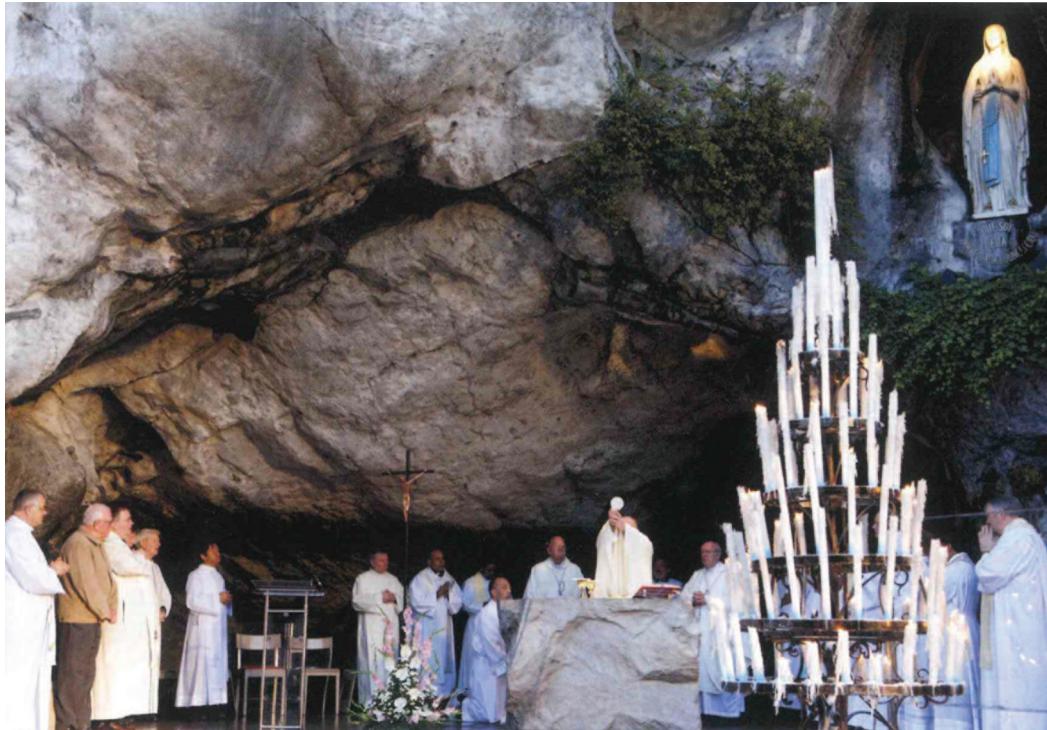
MAIL it to:  
Lourdes Center  
P.O. Box 15575  
698 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02215-2594

# Fr. Lacasse

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God only in times of crisis. Not all people. There are people who still go to church, not just because they "need God" but because it's the right thing to do. We not only are "social beings" who should worship God as social beings, but we all have a soul that needs to be nourished. And what better place for that to take place than where we meet God, where He talks to us and we talk to Him.

The nine words that Jesus said to the "good thief" when both of them were dying on a cross, deserve to be remembered by all of us, for we all hope that some day, He will say them to us.



*Mass celebrated at The Grotto, 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 offer-  
ing 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 \_\_\_\_\_

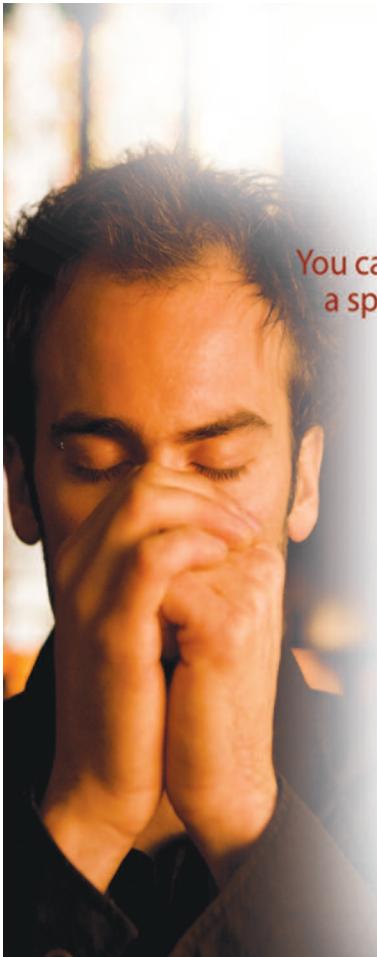
City \_\_\_\_\_

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, January 8 & Friday, January 22  
and Friday, February 12 & Friday, February 26,  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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.

Address Service  
Requested

OurLady@LourdesCentre.org  
[www.lourdescentre.org](http://www.lourdescentre.org)

617-536-2761  
Boston, MA 02215-2594  
98 Beacon Street  
Lourdes Bureau  
P.O. Box 15575

Lourdes Centre  
Marist Fathers

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Lourdes Echoes

