



Missionarii Sancti Joannis Baptistae

Vox clamantis in deserto, parate viam Domini

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An Ancient Type for Our Restoration Project



IN THE OLD TESTAMENT TIMES, God's chosen people, due to their sinful behavior, found themselves exiled from the Promised Land. The Babylonian Diaspora, most famous of these exiles, began in earnest after Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem and its Temple. After some decades, however, when the time was right, the great Persian King Cyrus, moved by God, sent many of the Jews back home to rebuild Jerusalem and its Holy Temple. Led by Esdras (Ezra) the priest and Nehemias the appointed governor, God's people returned home to restore what had been lost.

A careful reading of this story, retold in the books of the Holy Bible named for these two holy men, reveals these amazing facts: to begin the restoration, they worked with and through established authority, albeit secular (i.e., King Cyrus and his successors); they had to obtain proper permissions and permits, among other things the right to fundraise and build structures; their clergy and the Temple were exempt from taxation; they needed outside help for building materials; they had to do many things with their own hands; and finally, not surprisingly, they had to endure resistance from various peoples and individuals, both inside and outside their own people. The result? As the historical record shows, starting with the altar of sacrifice, the holy priests and leaders rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem and a modest Temple.

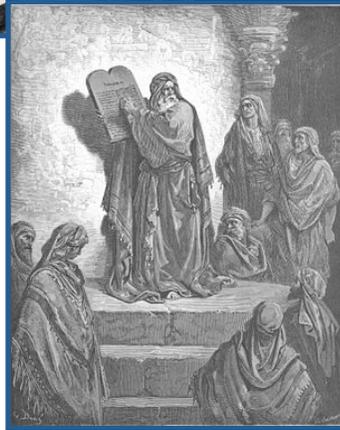
There is yet more to this story. To begin with, the people of God themselves needed to overcome what caused the exile. Even though they were home, they still had to convert back to their Lord and God. Among other things, the Israelites and their children

took foreign wives, and they did not observe the Sabbath properly. So, the priest Esdras, and many of the Levites along with him, read to the people the Law of Moses. They catechized them. Soon, the listeners were cut to the heart and confessed their sins. They made oaths and changed their lives, putting away their foreign wives and observing the Sabbath. The chanting of the Psalms echoed among the walls and the sounds of good cheer heard of those who dedicate their lives to God.

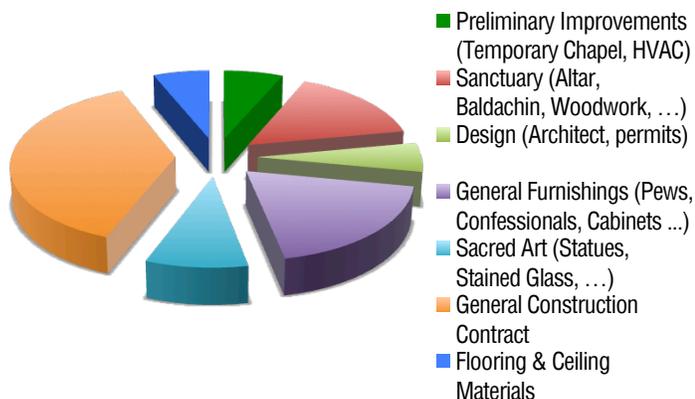
How refreshing it is to discover these Scriptural roots to what we are doing at this very moment! For we are in the midst of building up a modest temple for the Lord, a Tabernacle where the Word made Flesh can find a place where He is loved and adored... a place where people can find refuge, times for frequent confession, processions, chanting of psalms, catechism classes, all according to the ancient Latin liturgy and writings of the saints. We too have had to receive permissions and permits to buy and rebuild this place, to fundraise to cover the costs, and seek

exemption from taxation (we are now 501c3). What is more, we too have received resistance from various quarters to this holy work of restoration, but each time, although causing some delay, it has redounded to our good just as it did with Esdras and Nehemias. May God be praised!

We, therefore, make an appeal to all of you to assist us with your prayers and monetary donations in making this conversion complete. Help us raise the remaining portion (\$50,000) of our \$250,000 goal to build a sanctuary worthy of the King of kings.



Overall Budget for Conversion of church building: \$511,700



Our gift to our benefactors is this: daily prayer and the offering for them of the Holy Mass on Christmas and its Octave. Furthermore, we are providing another beautiful home for the Traditional Liturgy in this part of the world as well as preaching missions, conferences, and retreats. Please consider helping us with this important work for the glory of God, the honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the salvation of souls.



NOVENA is nine days' of prayer said as a preparation for some particular feast, or in order to obtain some special favor. The model, and the first of all novenas, was that made in the Cenacle after Our Lord's Ascension into Heaven by the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles in preparation for the coming of the Holy Ghost. The earliest ecclesiastical novena of which we have record is the Christmas Novena, which commemorates the nine months during which the Christ-child was carried in the womb of His Mother.



Please consider contributing to this work, making checks to:

The Missionaries of St. John the Baptist or MSJB

May God reward you!

The Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist (www.msjb.info)



Novena for Christmas

December 16

O SHEPHERD that rulest Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, come to guide and comfort us. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 17

O WISDOM that comest out of the mouth of the Most High, that reachest from one end to another, and orderest all things mightily and sweetly, come to teach us the way of prudence! *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 18

O ADONAI, and Ruler of the house of Israel, Who didst appear unto Moses in the burning bush, and gavest him the law in Sinai, come to redeem us with an outstretched arm! *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 19

O ROOT of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at Whom the kings shall shut their mouths, Whom the Gentiles shall seek, come to deliver us, do not tarry. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 20

O KEY of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel, that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth, come to liberate the prisoner from the prison, and them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 21

O DAYSPRING, Brightness of the everlasting light, Sun of justice, come to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death! *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 22

O KING of the Gentiles, yea, and desire thereof! O Corner-stone, that makest of two one, come to save man, whom Thou hast made out of the dust of the earth! *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 23

O EMMANUEL, our King and our Law-giver, Longing of the Gentiles, yea, and salvation thereof, come to save us, O Lord our God! *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*

December 24

O THOU that sittest upon the cherubim, God of hosts, come, show Thy face, and we shall be saved. *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be...*