



Missionarii Sancti Joannis Baptistae

Vox clamantis in deserto, parate viam Domini

1101 AMSTERDAM ROAD ✿ PARK HILLS ✿ KENTUCKY ✿ 41011

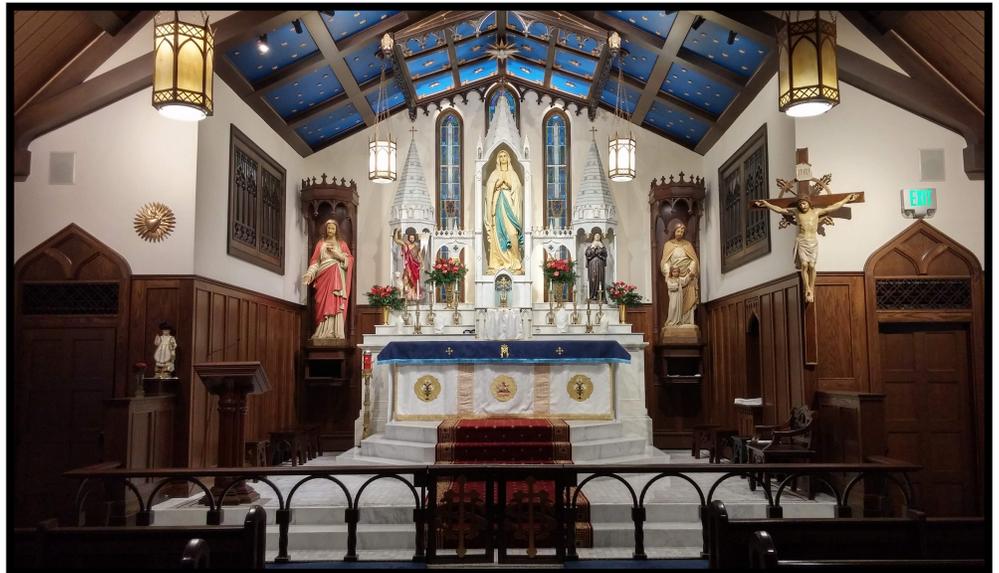
The Prince and The Pauper — A Christmas Story

MARK TWAIN'S NOVEL *The Prince and the Pauper* tells the story of two young boys who are identical in appearance. Having met one day outside the king's palace, the two of them become fast friends. They decide to switch clothes temporarily. The prince turned pauper soon finds himself trying to survive in an impoverished and abusive environment, while the pauper turned prince attempts to adapt to the demands of life in the royal court.

Mark Twain's novel can easily be applied to the Mystery of Christmas. The Holy Bible tells us that His Highest Majesty took to Himself our lowly human nature. Though a Royal Son, Christ Jesus was nevertheless largely treated as a pauper. Not only was He born in a cold cave and placed in a poor manger, but as He grew in His Sacred Humanity He was treated with contempt, including the cruel remarks from Jewish notaries and officials who dismissed Him as being nothing but the Son of a carpenter. Eventually, He would be punished by crucifixion, a form of execution reserved for rebellious slaves.

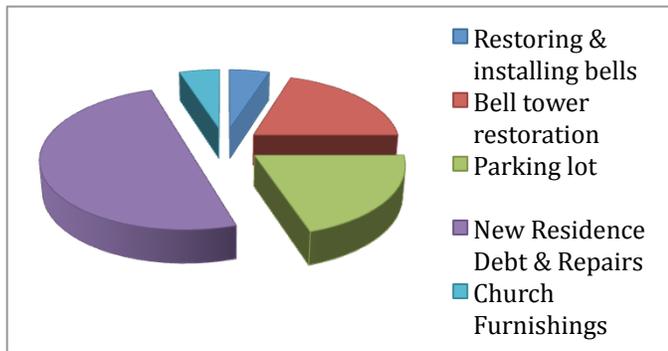
This was the loving plan of God, however, for unless He had dressed Himself with our pauper's clothing and been treated as a pauper, and even died as a pauper, His disciples would never live as princes before God. St. Paul writes in one of his fourteen letters, *Our Lord Jesus Christ...though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor that you through His poverty might become rich.* Let us rejoice, then, that the Divine Infant was wrapped in swaddling clothes, the rags of the poorest of the poor, in order that we might be robed in glory.

Our dearest Lord did lower Himself in becoming a Pauper for our salvation, but now His Sacred Humanity is glorified and He is Crowned as King over all creation. Please help us as we continue to provide a proper setting for our King, complete with working bell tower and Grotto for His Queen and Mother. Please be generous in your response to this appeal for funds as we seek to adore the Prince of Peace and the King of kings, as well as give the highest honor to His holy Mother and Queen, especially under the title of Our Lady of Lourdes.



We, therefore, make an appeal to all of you to assist us with your prayers and monetary donations. Help us raise the remaining portion (\$320,000) of our \$400,000 goal to complete a Sanctuary worthy of the King of the Universe and Grotto for His Holy Mother.

Overall Budget for Phase 1 of our Grotto Building Fund: \$500,000



Our gift to our benefactors is this: daily prayer and the offering for them 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.



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...*

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...*

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...*



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)

