Missionarii Sancti Joannis Baptistæ

Vox clamantis in deserto, parate viam Domini

1101 Amsterdam Road ⚜ Park Hills ⚜ Kentucky ⚜ 41011

Patience Gains ALL Things . . .

As many of you know by now, the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has accepted our case to resolve our neighbor's issue with our building a grotto to "the highest honor of our race," the Blessed Virgin Mary. We are being represented by First Liberty (https://firstliberty.org/stjohn/). We first of all want wholeheartedly to thank you for your prayers and support, your generosity, and encouraging letters. We are truly grateful. SCOTUS has scheduled oral arguments for January 20, 2027. They should publish their decision sometime in late spring or early summer. We now ask that you again pray with us, especially the Christmas Novena, for victory in our case.

In all that has transpired, we cannot but be reminded of the trouble the original grotto in Lourdes, France underwent in being fully established and approved. As we have expressed in earlier newsletters, it seemed the whole world was opposed to the original grotto but one by one they all softened and the grotto was opened. There are many similarities.



One amazing similarity is how a striking variety of groups, both religious and secular, are uniting to support our grotto. There have been numerous amicus briefs filed to bolster our case as well as the US Solicitor General and twenty state attorney generals. Various law schools are among them too, including Notre Dame. Without doubt this case will surely affect many across our beloved country for decades to come.

First Liberty recently visited us to familiarize themselves with the disputed site. They were impressed with the overall simplicity and beauty of our property and what we have proposed for our grotto. Please pray with us that everyone's heart, from the simplest neighbor here in our city of Park Hills all the way up to the Supreme Court Justices, will be touched in the same way. In a word, we hope to build a beautiful cave of refuge for those who would like to take a break from daily struggles and meditate on the deeper realities of God's Holy Plan.

A cave of refuge is nothing new. King David had to escape to one from Saul as later did St. Elias. According to Tradition and the teaching of the Holy Pontiffs, both Our Lady herself and her blessed Son were conceived in the Holy House in Nazareth, which was partly a cave. The house part is now in Loreto. No wonder when the fullness of time had come… when the Blessed Virgin Mary was to give birth to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ… when half spent was the night… when there was no room in the Inn of Bethlehem… Tradition once again tells us the Holy Family resorted to a CAVERN-like stable for the first Christmas. The Virginal Birth of the Word made Flesh—taking place in a CAVE—forever set the pattern for how heavenly restorations of all time are initiated. Being rejected by earthly men, heaven resorts to caves. No wonder Our Lady chose the grotto outside of Lourdes, where heavenly men rejecting worldly ways can find a cave of refreshment. God and His holy Mother like to work out of grottos!

This is what we would like to provide for those in our little city and in our area. This is why we are willing to fight for the right to build such a

place even to the highest court in the land. Please pray that we can build a holy meditative cave of refuge on our property. ❧



We are striving to keep events updated on our website for those who like to keep abreast of the developments: https://www.msjb.org/.

"Let nothing disturb you;
Let nothing frighten you.
All things are passing.
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Nothing is wanting to him who possesses God.
God alone suffices."

— St. Teresa of Avila.



A 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.

Our gift to our benefactors is this: daily prayer and the offering of Holy Mass for them all on Christmas Day through its Octave.



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 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 Cornerstone, 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 just MSJB

May God reward you!

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