FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHOTOS

His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan Celebrates Mass for Day Three of the Miraculous Medal Shrine Solemn Novena

Cardinal Dolan Reflects on Gratitude to Mary

Photo Caption: His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan of NY Celebrated Mass for Day Three of the Miraculous Medal Shrine Solemn Novena, November 18 at 7pm. View photo here: https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/51a39441-7fbf-43ef-bd09-bb9a46f9357b

Photo Caption: His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan of NY shares his reflection on gratitude to Mary to a packed church during the Miraculous Medal Shrine’s 87th Annual Solemn Novena. https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/d3e5e514-a315-46af-a1fc-f12cea76b8fe


Photo Caption: NOTE: Photo Credit: Anne Pryce
A religious sister is happy to receive a blessing from His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan of NY at the reception following Mass Wednesday night at The Miraculous Medal Shrine Solemn Novena. https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/a106420a-4a02-4abd-baa6-7c4512231489

Photo Caption: NOTE: Photo Credit: Anne Pryce
At the reception following Mass at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, Cardinal Dolan and attendees enjoy a lighthearted moment. https://files.acrobat.com/a/preview/cf137003-5ff2-4620-b480-eeddbded3df
November 19, 2015, Philadelphia, PA – His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan Celebrated Mass for Day Three of the Miraculous Medal Shrine Solemn Novena on November 18 at 7pm. The Shrine was filled to standing-room-only; attendees listened with rapt attention as Cardinal Dolan shared a humorous and powerfully emotional reflection on gratitude to Mary.

"Fr. Carl Pieber, the Director of the Shrine here, and I go back 50 years!“ exclaimed Cardinal Dolan. “We’re old friends. He and I have known each other since both of us were thin and had full heads of hair!"

“You know why I’m happy to be here? I owe Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal big-time!“ said Cardinal Dolan. Cardinal Dolan noted that he and Fr. Pieber attended high school seminary together in St. Louis, MO, and recalled a memorable priest who taught them both.

“He spoke to us about the Miraculous Medal. He encouraged us. He said, ‘Fellas, make our Blessed Mother an important part of your life, and turn to her especially in moments of trial and difficulty because she will never let you down.’”

“I can’t forget those words: ‘She will never ever let you down.’ I owe her big-time, and whenever I’m asked to come and participate in the Novena, I don’t pass up the chance because I need to say ‘Thank you’ to her.”

Cardinal Dolan’s Sermon is available at www.MiraculousMedal.org/Novena.

The Miraculous Medal Shrine in Germantown is celebrating its 87th Annual Nine-Day Solemn Novena Nov. 16-24, with six to nine services daily; the Novena culminates with a Feast Day Mass celebrated Wednesday, Nov. 25, at 10 am.

Rev. Michael J. Shea, CM, Associate Director, Miraculous Medal Shrine, is the Homilist for the nine days, speaking about the theme: CAMM (Central Association of the Miraculous Medal) One Hundred Years of Glory to God and Honor to Mary.

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, celebrated and preached at the 7pm Mass on Wednesday, November 18.

Bishop David M. O’Connell, CM, Bishop of Trenton, NJ, will celebrate the Feast Day Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal on Wednesday, November 25, at the 10 am Mass. That will be the only Mass that day.

[See Bio information and list of topics below]

Masses and Novenas are streamed LIVE each day at 9am and 12:05pm EST. All sermons are posted on our website www.MiraculousMedal.org and on Facebook at Mary’s Miraculous Medal Family page each day.

Solemn Novena Theme:
Central Association of the Miraculous Medal
100 Years of Glory to God and Honor to Mary

Monday, Nov. 16: Fr. Joseph Skelly’s “Thank You” to Mary
Tuesday, Nov. 17: Apparition One: Mary and a Task for Catherine Labouré
Wednesday, Nov. 18: Apparition Two: Mary, A Way to God’s Graces and Blessings
Thursday, Nov. 19: Apparition Three: O Mary, Conceived Without Sin ...
Friday, Nov. 20: The Promoters: CAMM’s Greatest Missioners
Saturday, Nov. 21: The Shrine: Something Beautiful for Mary
Sunday, Nov. 22: Mary’s Shrine: Home of the Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday, Nov. 23: Miraculous Medal Novena: A Way to Christ through Mary
Tuesday, Nov. 24: Don’t Go Home Empty-Handed

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Join These Special Groups to Pay Homage to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Each day, prayer will be offered for a different group, seeking Mary’s intercession for their needs. Prayers will be offered for the following special intentions on each day of the Solemn Novena:

Monday, Nov. 16: Priests, Seminarians, and Religious Men and Women
Tuesday, Nov. 17: Public Servants: Police, Firefighters, and EMTs
Wednesday, Nov. 18: U.S. Veterans and Military Personnel
Thursday, Nov. 19: Catholic Educators
Friday, Nov. 20: Seniors (each service will have “Anointing of the Sick”)
Saturday, Nov. 21: Catholic Medical Professionals: Doctors, Nurses, and Technicians
Sunday, Nov. 22 Vincentian and Novena Families: All Who Attend Vincentian Parishes and the Monday Novenas (Past and Present Devotees)
Monday, Nov. 23: Catholic Societies/ Organizations: Knights of Columbus, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Legion of Mary, and many more
Tuesday, Nov. 24: Catholic Lawyers and Business Professionals

Invitations have been sent to each of these groups locally, and advertised and posted in all of the local parish bulletins. Many of these groups are organizing vans and buses to bring their parishes, youth, and special groups. Again, all are welcome to attend.

In addition, thousands of intentions from all over the world have been sent to the Shrine over the past few weeks to be hung on the Altar’s golden gates on blue and gold colored intention cards.

The Miraculous Medal was shown to St. Catherine Labouré by the Blessed Mother during her third visitation. Billions of people worldwide wear this medal today and receive many Miracles. The full history of the Miraculous Medal and Miraculous Medal Shrine can be found online at

The Central Association of the Miraculous Medal is a Catholic non-profit organization that was established in 1915 by the Congregation of the Mission, an order of Priests founded by St. Vincent de Paul, popularly known as the Vincentians. The Miraculous Medal Shrine was built in 1927 to help spread the devotion to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and to support the mission work of the Vincentian Priests and Brothers on behalf of those Most in Need.

For more information on the Solemn Novena Nine Days of Prayer or how to have your intention placed on Mary’s Altar, contact the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal at 215-848-1010 or email fdellisanti@cammonline.org.

Secured gated parking is available. Photos are available by email or online at www.MiraculousMedal.org.

Bios of Celebrants and Preachers:
Preacher Solemn Novena, all Masses and Services

Rev. Michael J. Shea, CM
Associate Direction, Miraculous Medal Shrine

Rev. Michael J. Shea, CM, was born in Brooklyn, NY, as the youngest of six children. After graduation from high school, he entered the Vincentian minor seminary in Princeton, NJ, and was ordained a priest in 1970. Fr. Shea taught at a number of Philadelphia high schools, as well as Niagara University, NY, and Auburn University, AL.

In 1993, he was assigned to St. Lazare Retreat House in Spring Lake, MI, and served there until his recent assignment to the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal, where he serves as Associate Director of the Miraculous Medal Shrine. Previously, Fr. Shea regularly contributed to the Catholic Standard and Times, and could be heard celebrating Mass on Holy Spirit Radio, 6ABC, and was interviewed on In His Sign Radio. In 2005, Fr. Shea received the Life Achievement Award from the Right to Life of Michigan.

Miraculous Medal Feast Day Principal Celebrant
Wednesday, November 25, at 10am Mass:

Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, CM, Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, New Jersey

Bishop David M. O'Connell, CM, the tenth Bishop of Trenton, NJ, was born April 21, 1955, in Philadelphia, where his family still resides. He was ordained a priest of the Congregation of the Mission at Mary Immaculate Seminary by Bishop Joseph McShea, of the Diocese of Allentown, on May 29, 1982. Bishop John M. Smith ordained then-Father O’Connell to the episcopacy on July 30, 2010, and Pope Benedict XVI appointed him as Bishop of Trenton on Dec. 1, 2010.

Bishop O’Connell received a master’s of divinity, and a master's of moral theology from Mary Immaculate Seminary, PA. He obtained a doctorate of canon law from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and received numerous honorary academic degrees. Bishop O’Connell has served in academia at Mary Immaculate Seminary, St. John's University, NY, and Niagara University, NY, and was the 14th president of The Catholic University of America. He serves on the board of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, PA, and on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Catholic Education. He is also a consultor to the Congregation for Catholic Education for the Vatican.
Guest Celebrant and Preacher  
Wednesday, November 18, at 7pm Mass:

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York

His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, was named Archbishop of New York by Pope Benedict XVI on February 23, 2009. Archbishop Dolan completed his priestly formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, where he earned a License in Sacred Theology at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Saint Louis on June 19, 1976, and served in parish ministry until he began studies for a doctorate in American Church History at The Catholic University of America.

Cardinal Dolan served as secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in Washington, DC, and in academia in America and Rome. He has served as chairman, board member and member of various organizations including his current position as chair of the Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life activities. He is also a member of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, the Pontifical Council for Social Communications; and, at the Vatican, the Congregation for Eastern Churches, and the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.


For more information about the upcoming events at the Miraculous Medal Shrine, please visit www.MiraculousMedal.org.

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The Miraculous Medal Shrine, home of the Miraculous Medal Monday Novena, welcomes all visitors to our beautiful Shrine, located in the heart of Philadelphia. The Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal provides a sanctuary for prayer, meditation, and pilgrimage to God and to Our Blessed Virgin Mary. Visitors are also encouraged to enjoy our Museum’s historical collection of Marian and religious artwork. The Shrine and Museum are run under the auspices of the Vincentian Community and the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal.

This year, the Central Association of the Miraculous Medal celebrates 100 years of dedication to spreading devotion to Mary Immaculate and her Miraculous Medal, supporting the promotion of this devotion, helping the formation and education of seminaries, providing care to the aged and infirm Priests and Brothers of the Eastern Province, and for supporting programs that provide assistance to the poor.

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