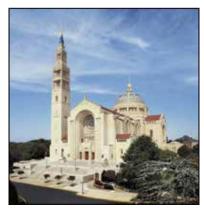
www.trinitydome.org www.nationalshrine.org

## The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception



Affectionately referred to as America's Catholic Church, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, has been a century in the making since the laying of its foundation stone in 1920.

Designated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a National Sanctuary of Prayer and Pilgrimage, the Basilica is our nation's preeminent Marian Shrine, dedicated to the Patroness of the United States, the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. Mary's Shrine, as it is often called, is the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America and is one of the ten largest churches in the world.

Pope Francis, Pope Benedict XVI, Saint John Paul II, and Saint Mother Teresa are among the faithful who have visited this magnificent basilica. Now as its one hundredth anniversary approaches, a nationwide effort is underway to complete this great "Hymn in Stone" as its founders envisioned with the mosaic ornamentation of the Trinity Dome.

## THE TRINITY DOME

The Trinity Dome is the central and largest dome of the Basilica. This "Crowning Jewel" will be adorned in mosaic and will depict the Most Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Immaculate Conception, and a procession of saints who have an association with America and the Basilica. The Nicene Creed will encircle the base of the dome, while the dome's pendentives will feature the four evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Trinity Dome will complete the work of the Great Upper Church according to its original iconographic scheme and bring to a close construction of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception as it approaches its centennial milestone in 2020.



## will adorn the Trinity Dome.

## THE NATIONAL COLLECTION

The Bishops of the United States approved a special one-time second collection for the Trinity Dome. Your prayerful and financial support will not only adorn this "Crowning Jewel" and complete Mary's Shrine, but will also leave a lasting legacy for generations to come in this living monument to our Catholic faith and heritage that is America's Catholic Church.