

May/June 2017

CRUSADE[®]

MAGAZINE



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PROMISES & PROPHECIES OF THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN

FATIMA CENTENNIAL: 1917-2017



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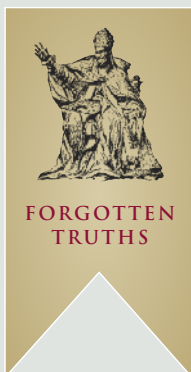
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Prophetic Words of Blessed Jacinta

Words pronounced by Jacinta Marto, the youngest of the Fatima seers, to her cousin Lucia dos Santos and to Mother Maria Godinho who took care of her during her last illness in Lisbon.

On War, Punishment and Peace

"Tell everybody that God grants us His graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that they should ask her for them, that the Heart of Jesus wants the Immaculate Heart of Mary to be honored along with Him, that they should ask the Immaculate Heart of Mary for peace because God has placed it in her keeping."

"Wars are nothing but punishments for the sins of the world."

"Our Lady can no longer hold back the arm of her beloved Son from the world. It is necessary to do penance. If people change their ways, Our Lord will still avail the world; but if they do not, the chastisement will come."

"If men do not change their ways, Our Lady will send the world a punishment the like of which has never been seen. It will fall first . . . upon Spain."

On Sin, Fashions and Marriage

"The sins that lead more souls to hell are the sins of the flesh."

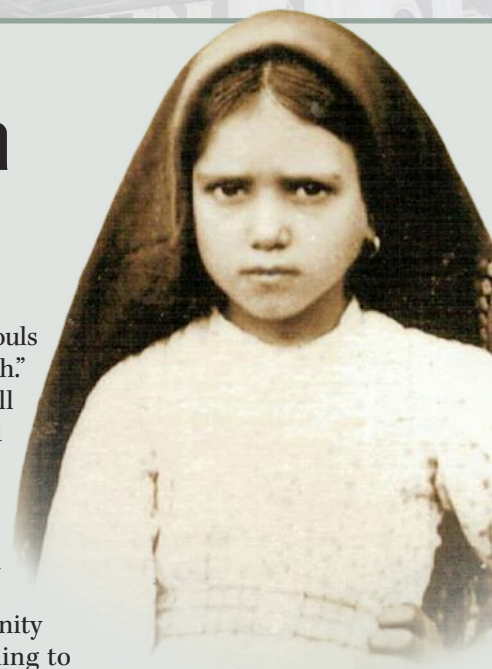
"Fashions that will greatly offend Our Lord will appear. People who serve God should not follow fashions. The Church has no fashions. Our Lord is always the same."

"If men knew what eternity is, they would do everything to change their lives."

"Men are lost because they do not think of the death of Our Lord and do not do penance."

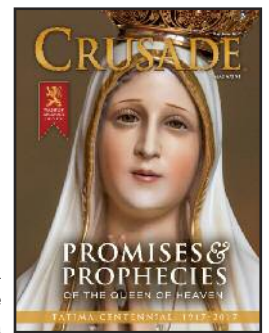
"Many marriages are not good; they do not please Our Lord, and they are not of God."

"Confession is a sacrament of mercy. Therefore, one must approach the confessional with confidence and joy. Without confession there is no salvation."



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MAY/JUNE 2017



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The International
Pilgrim Virgin Statue
of Our Lady of Fatima

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100 YEARS OF FATIMA 1917-2017

The present moment is the most tragic the Church has seen since the Catacombs; this portentous scenario is dominated by Our Lady's appearance to the little shepherds. Everything else that happens in the world is in function of her: Everything is unleashed because Our Lady was not heeded and her request was not obeyed.

—*Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira*



A Successful Protest



The Culture of Death Unmasked

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CRUSADE

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THE AMERICAN TFP

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) is an organization of lay Catholic Americans concerned about the moral crisis shaking the remnants of Christian civilization. Its earliest origins date back to January 1971, when the first TFP members started to group around the publication *Crusade for a Christian Civilization*. It is a civic, cultural and nonpartisan organization which, inspired by the traditional teachings of the Supreme Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church, works in a legal and peaceful manner in the realm of ideas to

defend and promote the principles of private ownership, family and perennial Christian values with their twofold function: individual and social. The TFP's words and efforts have always been faithfully at the service of Christian civilization. The first TFP was founded in Brazil by the famous intellectual and Catholic leader Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira in 1960. His work inspired the formation of other autonomous TFP sister organizations across the globe, thus constituting the world's largest anticommunist and antisocialist network of Catholic inspiration.



IN BRIEF

Gender Ideology Debunked by Pediatricians as Harmful to Children

The American College of Pediatricians, a national organization of pediatricians and other healthcare professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of children recently urged healthcare professionals, educators and legislators “to reject all policies that condition children to accept as normal a life of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex.” In a public statement, the association declared, “Facts—not ideology—determine reality.” The statement also enumerated 8 points to support their declaration. For example, that “No one is born with a gender. Everyone is born with a biological sex. Gender is a sociological and psychological concept; not an objective biological one.”

Boy Scouts Allow Transgender “Boys” to Join Boys-only Programs

A foundational shift in policy was announced by the Boy Scouts of America. It is now accepting girls as Boy Scouts. That is to say, the Scouts are now



accepting “transgender boys”—girls who are biologically female but are declaring themselves “boys.” Michael Surbaugh, the chief executive of the Scouts, explained that the new policy has been dictated by the “complex topic” of transgender identity. This is another capitulation of the organization to the lies of the sexual revolution which deny the biological reality of male and female. In 2013, the organization started accepting openly homosexual boys. In 2015, it dropped its ban on openly homosexual Scout leaders.

Study Finds Electronic Devices Can Cause Addiction and Psychosis

Among the newly-found side effects of prolonged exposure to high-technology gadgets and devices—glowing screens in particular—is addiction which leads to psychosis. This is according to Dr. Nicholas

Kardenas, executive director of The Dunes East Hampton, one of the country’s top rehabilitation centers. His book, *Glow Kids: How Screen Addiction is Hijacking Our Kids—And How to Break the Trance*, details the stories of children who became addicted to devices such as tablets, smartphones and video games which affected their brain’s frontal cortex (controls executive functioning, including impulse control) in exactly the same way that cocaine does. This addictive effect is why screens are called “electronic cocaine” or “digital heroin” that turn children into technological junkies.

Food Shortage in Venezuela Worsens; People Hunt Flamingoes and Anteaters

Ever since the death of socialist leader Hugo Chavez in 2013, and the subsequent takeover of Nicolás Maduro, Venezuela’s collapsing economy has made it difficult to import basic goods such as food and medicine for its people. The shortage has kept 87 percent of Venezuelans from being able to buy food for their families. Some have resorted to hunting dogs, cats, donkeys, anteaters and even the protected pink flamingoes to stave off hunger. Adding to the overall misery is the rise in violent crime, blackouts and widespread bloody protests against the socialist government.



Abortions in United States Lowest Since 1973 Roe v. Wade Ruling

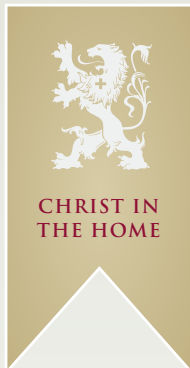
A report by the pro-abortion research and policy group Guttmacher Institute revealed that since the landmark 1973 decision that legalized abortion on demand nationwide, the abortion rate has dropped to

its lowest level. In 2014 the rate was 14.6 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44, down from 16.3 in 1973. Among the reasons given were the increasing sense among Americans that abortion is not a real solution for mothers, their babies and society at large, plus the over 200 abortion restrictions enacted by several states.



The Mother's Sublime Vocation as *Heart of the Family*

BY FR. MARTIN J. SCOTT, S. J.



Taking for granted that mothers are the loftiest expression of the goodness of God in this world of ours, let me say that they should do nothing to lessen the wonderful influence for good which they can exert. A mother should remember her function in the family—she is its heart.

What a world of meaning that one word suggests! It is the heart that suffers and sometimes breaks. It is the heart that rejoices and overflows with joy. Suffering and sympathy make the mother so cherished, so inspiring, so loved. Suffering and sympathy also bring to the mother her greatest joy. For her heart is so good that she delights to suffer for the well-being of others. Her kind, gentle nature

her to rejoice with them, and no human joy is so free from alloy as a mother's.

Besides, she realizes that in proportion as she lives for her family, they live for her. The good mother is the queen of the household. She reigns supreme over the hearts of her subjects. More than that, she is the inspiration of the father of the family. Under the gentle influence of a good mother, the father of a family finds it easy to toil and to face the trials of life. Oh, that every mother might realize her dignity and power, for she holds the key to the souls of her children and it is she who opens their little hearts and places in them the seeds of future character.

Motherhood exercises the most intimate and powerful influence known among men. Some of the greatest saints were the children of saintly mothers. Saint Augustine was the fruit of Saint Monica's example and prayers and tears. Saint Louis of France found in his mother Blanche a holy model. Her words, spoken to him in his youth, "I would rather see you dead at my feet than guilty of mortal sin," were engraved on his heart and influenced him throughout his life. The great Saint Bernard was the child of a mother so holy that virtue, instilled by her example, became almost second nature.

The first school a child attends is the one presided over by his mother. On those early lessons begun in the cradle and continued in the home, the career of later life mainly depend. Youth is like wax for receiving impressions and like steel for retaining them. If in the tender years of childhood the mother has placed the proper impression on her children, they will be the better for it all their lives.

The good mother is like a gardener who cultivates delicate plants. The gardener must prepare the soil and keep it moist and remove every harmful growth. But the joy he experiences as the plants rise from the ground and develop into beautiful flowers, more than repays him for his labor. The pleasure of beholding the result of his painstaking care is so great that frequently he cultivates a garden not for what it produces but for the pleasure of producing. When the plants are human souls, when the tender growth is one's own child, what must be the joy of the gardener! And as the devoted mother watches her flowers unfold, beholds their love responding to her own, what joy on earth compares with hers!

As the poet has written, "Then crown her queen of the world," for queen she is. The world is what mothers make it. ■



The so-called Women's March was a vile display of vulgarity and obscenity in support of the Sexual Revolution. Christian mothers reject these worldly aberrations in order to fulfill their God-given purpose.

cheers the children and their father, and helps them over the rough places on the journey of life.

But if the mother has her cares and sufferings, she also has her joys. Indeed, it may be said that no human joy is comparable to that experienced by a good mother. Every joy of the children and their father is hers twofold. If her mother's love causes her to suffer with her family, it also enables

Taken from You and Yours: Practical Talks on Home Life
by Fr. Martin Scott, SJ, pages 25-29.



COMMENTARY

The March for Life: Inspiring America and the World

BY BEN BROUSSARD

Since 1974, Americans have gathered in our nation's capital to protest the *Roe v. Wade* decision. Starting with just a few hundred souls, the March for Life has grown to become the largest annual event in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of thousands of pro-life Americans now make the great sacrifice to join this largest manifestation against the sin of abortion.

Not only has the March for Life in Washington seen impressive growth, but sister marches now take place in cities around the nation. The West Coast Walk for Life in San Francisco now draws upwards of 80,000 people. Enormous crowds of abortion protesters now march through more than 55 cities including Los Angeles, Austin, Saint Louis and Miami.

The efforts of pro-life Americans have gone a long way to inspiring similar marches around the world. Across Latin America, enormous crowds take to the streets of Bogotá, Lima, Santiago and Managua to keep their countries abortion-free. Europeans young and old take to the streets of Paris, Brussels and Rome to protest laws favoring the slaughter of the innocents. Countless worldwide demonstrations have taken the March for Life in America as their example, publicly standing against abortion on a global scale.

As this article goes to press, New York Catholics have found a unique way to honor the Feast of the Annunciation as yet another pro-life initiative will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2017. March for Life NYC will kick off with Holy Mass at 8:00 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Cross. After Mass, the participants will march on the street towards the abortion clinic located at 800 2nd Avenue, where



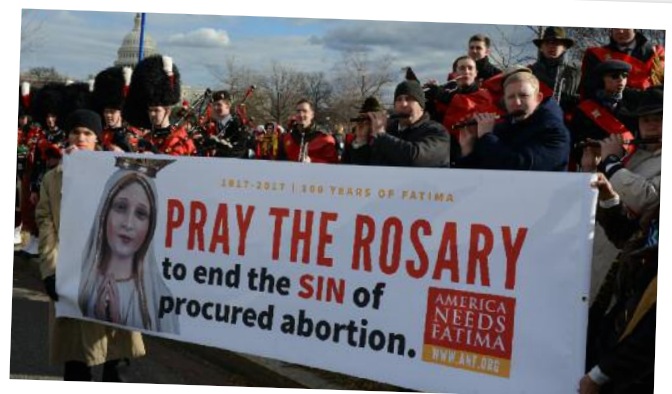
Youth are increasingly leading the charge in the fight against the sin of abortion.

they will pray for the unborn, their mothers and the conversion of abortionists. Finally, they will attend a pro-life conference that will be given by the Most Reverend Bishop Peter J. Byrne at the Church of Saint Agnes located on 143 East 43rd Street. Among the participants will be many young men from the TFP's *Sedes Sapientiae* Institute, joined by their younger brothers in the fight from Saint Louis de Montfort Academy.

Around the world, and especially here in America, young people make up the vast majority of those marching against abortion. In contrast, the proponents of abortion and the sexual revolution are aging and losing momentum.

More and more souls in the pro-life cause are attuned to the spiritual warfare involved in the fight for life. Because the Catholic Church has taken a strong stand against the culture of death since the beginning, it is no surprise that Catholics would lead the charge in the fight against abortion today. May Saint Michael the Archangel intercede to slay the abortion dragon, and protect us as we carry on the fight. ■

Below: TFP members and supporters met with Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life after the Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco. *Right:* The Holy Guardian Angels Band inspires the marchers at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.



FATIMA
CENTENNIAL
1917-2017

PROMISES & PROPHECIES

OF THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN

BY LUIZ S. SOLIMEO

It was the night of July 12, 1917, and little Lucia tossed and turned on her cot. Though exhausted both physically and emotionally, the eldest seer of Fatima could find no rest as she struggled to understand the happenings of the last few months.

She and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta, had seen a beautiful Lady, two times now, in the grassy Cova da Iria. And when Lucia asked the Lady from where she had come, the Lady pointed to the sky and said "I am from Heaven," of that she was sure. And had they not talked among themselves about how wonderful, how full of life and joy they had felt when they visited with her? Couldn't they almost fly down the pathway as they ran home from their encounters with the beautiful Lady?

But now, doubt had stolen into Lucia's mind, and it was planted there by the most unlikely of persons, her good parish priest, Fr. Manuel Marques Ferreira. The pastor, while questioning the three children in the presence of Lucia's mother, raised the hypothesis that the apparitions might be a trick of the devil. This was not a far-fetched supposition, for Saint Paul warns us, "And no

wonder, for even Satan masquerades as an angel of light," to deceive men (2 Corinthians 11:14).

Fatima's good pastor could not fail to consider the possibility of an intervention by the Evil One, and he did so before the very eyes of the seers and Lucia's mother. Lucia herself was shaken and began to doubt her own feelings about the Lady who appeared to them. What if she was the devil in disguise?

What an atrocious suffering! On the one hand, Lucia felt an irresistible attraction for the goodness, beauty, seriousness and candor of the Lady; her words so full of wisdom, her deeply touching requests. On the other hand, a cruel thought: Was she not being deceived by the Evil Angel?

Lucia's anxiety grew. She told Jacinta and Francisco that she would no longer go to Cova da Iria, and that they should go on their own. Her cousins were sad and disconcerted. Would that not be a sin, to disobey the Lady who had commanded them to go there? As far as they were concerned, they had not the least doubt that it was the Most Holy Virgin who appeared. Furthermore, Jacinta argued with her youthful logic, did the Lady not say she was from heaven?



COVER
STORY

*Crusade Magazine's cover story was compiled and adapted from Luiz S. Solimeo's book, **Fatima: A Message More Urgent Than Ever** and illustrated with paintings by Albert Sakda and David Meesang.*

After pleading with Lucia in vain, the two younger cousins walked sadly away, promising to pray for her.

As Lucia continued to toss on her cot, the effects of those prayers took hold of her weary soul, and she fell at last into a restful sleep. When July 13th dawned she felt an unknown force that made her get dressed in a hurry and run to her cousins' house. Jacinta and Francisco were kneeling down next to a bed, praying. "Let's go quick," Lucia said simply, and the two cousins, exulting with joy, left with her to keep their appointment with the Lady.

An Appointment with the Lady of the Rosary

Lucia describes what happened,

July 13, 1917—Moments after we arrived at Cova da Iria, next to the holm oak, amidst a great crowd of people, while praying the



The three shepherds accepted their vocation to be the instruments of Our Lady's designs.

Rosary, we saw a reflection of the usual light and then Our Lady upon the tree.

"What does Your Grace want of me?" I asked.

"I want you to come here on the thirteenth of the next month, to continue saying the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary to obtain peace in the world and the end of the war [World War I], because only she can avail you."

"I wanted to ask you to tell us who you are, to work a miracle so that everyone will believe that you appear to us," I said.

"Continue to come here every month. In October I will say who I am, what I want and I

will perform a miracle that everybody will see so they will believe."

Here I made some requests. I no longer remember what they were. What I do remember is that Our Lady said that it was necessary to continue saying the Rosary to obtain graces during the year. And she continued:

"Sacrifice yourselves for sinners and say very often, especially whenever you make some sacrifice: 'O Jesus, it is for Thy love, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.'"

Upon saying these last words, she again opened her hands as in the preceding two months. The reflection appeared to penetrate into the earth and we saw, as it were, a sea of fire. Submerged in that fire were demons and souls in human shapes who resembled red-hot, black and bronze-colored embers that floated about in the blaze borne by the flames that issued from them with clouds of smoke, falling everywhere like sparks in great fires, without weight or equilibrium, amidst moans of pain and despair that horrified us and made us shake with terror. The devils had horrible and disgusting shapes of scary and unknown animals but were transparent like black burning coals. Scared and as if asking for help, we raised our eyes to Our Lady, who said with goodness and sadness:

"You have seen hell, where the souls of poor sinners go; in order to save them, God wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart* in the world. If they do what I tell you, many souls will be saved and there will be peace. The war will come to an end. But if they do not stop offending God, in the reign of Pius XI a worse war will begin. When you see a night illuminated by an unknown light, know that it is the great sign that God gives you that He will punish the world for its crimes by means of war, hunger and persecutions against the Church and the Holy Father.

"To prevent it I will come to ask the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are fulfilled, Russia will convert and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer and many nations will be annihilated. Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me and she will be converted and the world will be given a certain period of peace. In Portugal the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved, etc.



Left: Painting representing the May 12th candle light procession in Fatima, Portugal, that takes place every year. Below: A typical Portuguese scene of the time of the apparitions.



“Do not tell this to anyone. But you may tell Francisco about it.

“When you say the Rosary, after each mystery, pray: ‘O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy.’”

An instant of silence followed, and I asked, “Is there nothing else you wish of me?”

“No. Today I want nothing else of you.”

And, as usual, she began to rise toward the east until she disappeared in the vast distance of the firmament.

**For more on the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, see page 15.*

Sin and Punishment

In order to show the gravity of sin, Mary Most Holy presents its consequences: in the afterlife, eternal punishment, hell, and in this life, wars and persecutions of the Church and of the good.

In order for those innocent children to understand the extreme gravity of sin, Our Lady did not hesitate to show them its terrific final consequence: hell. Were it not for His boundless mercy—God gives special graces in special trials—one would say that that gesture was an act of unspeakable cruelty. And Sister Lucia recognizes that, were it not for those special graces and the promise they would be taken to heaven, the three would have died of fear.

When one looks at the picture of the little shepherds taken right after their vision of hell, the expression of terror and suffering on their faces is such that it gives us an idea of the terrible reality of hell.

Our Lady presented the First World War as a

chastisement for the sins of mankind, which had fallen away from God, and she warned that if people did not amend and heed her requests, a worse war would come in the reign of Pope Pius XI and the “errors of Russia”** would spread everywhere.

That is why Sister Lucia deemed the extraordinary light, an aurora borealis, which illuminated the skies of Europe during the night of January 25–26, 1938, between the hours of 8:45 p.m. and 1:15 a.m., a sign that the war was near.

***For more on the errors of Russia, see article on page 23.*

A Secret and a Miracle!

The announcement the seers made after the third apparition had the effect of a bombshell. Our Lady, the children said, had confided to them “a secret” and promised to work “a miracle” in October that would be seen by everyone.

A secret! What could be more appropriate to arouse human curiosity than a secret? All the more so a secret given by someone from heaven!

In most people, sensational curiosity supersedes fear and passion supersedes reflection. So,

Christianity is the Most Persecuted Religion in the World

The global persecution of Christians has not only increased, but is spreading to every continent. This is according to various advocacy groups such as Open Doors USA, Center for Studies on New Religions, Philos Project and Aid to the Church in Need. Below are some of their findings:

- Nearly 90,000 Christians were killed for their faith in 2016.
- 600 million Christians were prevented from practicing their faith through intimidation, forced conversions, bodily harm or even death.
- 215 million Christians around the globe are facing

some degree of persecution.

- There has been an increase in persecution throughout Asia by governments and nationalist religious movements—Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist—in such countries as Pakistan, India, Myanmar and Egypt.
- Christians continue to be targeted by ISIS radicals in Syria and Iraq.
- Christianity is also under threat in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations.
- Mexico's Christians face beatings and forced conversions at the hands of hybrid faiths.
- 334 million Christians in 196 countries are persecuted and discriminated against because of their religion.

if the poor children had already suffered greatly with the previous apparitions, they were now entering a real martyrdom. They were subjected to all kinds of harassment, cajoling and threats to pry the secret out of them.

Lucia's family, who did not believe, did not bother her about it. Jacinta and Francisco's family was dominated by the upright and balanced personality of Mr. Marto. "A secret is a secret," he would later say. If the children received a secret, they must keep it.

To try and learn the secret, civil authorities employed threats and then force.

Aljustrel, like its surrounding villages, was part of the Administrative Council of Vila Nova de Ourém. The Council was presided over by a virulent anticlerical, Arthur Oliveira Santos, a tinker by profession, and known for that reason by the nickname "The Tinsmith."

On August 10th, Santos sent an official message to the parents of Lucia and Francisco and Jacinta, summoning them to appear at the Council's headquarters with the children. Santos pressured Lucia to tell the secret and promise not to return to Cova da Iria. Seeing the girl would not oblige, he strongly criticized her parents and, telling them all to go home, threatened future measures.

The Seers' Imprisonment

On August 13th, an imposing crowd had gathered at the place of the apparitions. But the time was going by and the little shepherds had not shown up. People became nervous.

All of a sudden, a rumor spread, "The seers are not coming!" and "The seers have been arrested by the Administrator!"

What had happened?

Early in the morning, Santos, accompanied by the parish priest of Porto de Mós village, had

gone to Aljustrel to the seers' house looking for them. He said he wanted to witness the apparition "like Saint Thomas, seeing to believe." Santos told the children he would take them to Cova da Iria in his horse-drawn carriage. Unsuspectingly, they climbed up into the wagon and Mr. Marto saw it move in the right direction, but when they reached the crossroads with the main road, Santos changed course and galloped away toward Vila Nova de Ourém.

Once in town, the seers were first taken to Santos' home. Mrs. Santos, who practiced religion unbeknownst to her husband, treated them as well as she could and served them lunch. Then the children were taken to city hall, where they were questioned about the secret. They then returned to the Administrator's home, where they slept.

The next day, Santos decided to really terrorize them and locked them in jail with thieves. The prisoners proved kinder than that "apostle of progress" and tried to encourage the children, to the point of saying a Rosary with them.

Finally, the wicked town despot took his threats to an unspeakable degree of cruelty. Deceiving those innocent children, he demanded they tell him the secret or he would boil them in a cauldron of oil.

One of the guards came calling for Jacinta first, saying the oil was already boiling, so she must tell the secret. Choosing martyrdom instead, the heroic child refused to speak and was taken away. Francisco and Lucia already imagined their little friend dead, when they came for her brother and finally for Lucia. To their great surprise they found themselves alive together in the same room!

On August 15th, Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven, Santos freed the three shepherds of Fatima.

Our Lady Waited. . .

Sister Lucia writes:

[Sunday, August 19]. Walking with the sheep in the company of Francisco... I saw the reflection of the light that we used to call lightning; and seconds after Jacinta arrived, we saw Our Lady upon a holm oak.

"What do you want from me?"

"I want you to continue going to Cova da Iria on the thirteenth and that you continue to say the Rosary every day. In the last month I will work the miracle so that all may believe."

"What do you want to be done with the money that people leave at Cova da Iria?"

"Make two litters: one to be carried by you with Jacinta and two other girls dressed in white; and the other, by Francisco with another three boys. The money left over from making the litters is for the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, and whatever is left from that is to help build a chapel that you will have erected."

"I want to ask you for the cure of some sick people."

"Yes; I will cure a few during the year."

And taking on a more sad appearance:

"Pray, pray a lot and do sacrifices for sinners, for many souls go to hell because there is no one to make sacrifice and pray for them."

And, as usual, she began to rise toward the east.

September's Apparition:

A Preview of "The Miracle"

Lucia writes:

We finally arrived at Cova da Iria, next to the holm oak, and began to say the Rosary with the people. A little later, we saw the reflection of light and then Our Lady upon the tree.

"Continue to say the Rosary to obtain the end of the war. In October Our Lord will also come, as well as Our Lady of Sorrows and of Mount Carmel, and Saint Joseph with the Child Jesus to bless the world. God is happy with your sacrifices but He does not want you to sleep with the rope [tied around the waist]; wear it during the day.

"People have asked me to ask You for many things: the cure of some sick persons, a deaf-mute."

"Yes, I will cure some, but not others. In October I will work the miracle for all to believe."

And beginning to rise, she disappeared as usual.

The Day the Sun Danced

The miracle that happened at Cova da Iria on October 13, 1917, when the sun "danced" in the sky, to use the expression of a newspaper at the time, was an extraordinary event of biblical dimensions comparable to Joshua's making the sun stop or to Moses dividing the waters of the Red Sea so the Jews could cross with dry feet.

If the event itself is stupendous, perhaps no less

extraordinary is the fact that it was promised three months in advance to prove that the children were telling the truth. That announcement of a spectacular supernatural event at a time when the world had supposedly "freed" itself from the supernatural thanks to "science" sounded like a far-fetched challenge. It simply could not happen because it would negate all the official ideology of the time—pretentious scientism, high-sounding but empty liberalism, and gross materialism.

Lucia recounts the last apparition of Fatima:

On October 13, 1917, we left home quite early to make up for possible delays along the way. The people were there *en masse*; the rain, torrential. My mother, fearing that would be the last day of my life, with her heart dilacerated by the uncertainty of what was going to happen wanted to accompany me. Along the way were repeated scenes of the past, more numerous and touching. Not even the very muddy roads prevented those people from kneeling down in a very humble and supplicating attitude. Having arrived at Cova da Iria, next to the holm oak, led by an interior movement I asked the people to close their umbrellas for us to say the Rosary. A little later we saw the reflection of the light and then, Our Lady upon the holm oak.

"What do you want from me?"

"I want to tell you to have a little chapel built here in my honor, as I am the Lady of the Rosary, and to continue saying the Rosary every day. The war will come to an end and the military will soon return home."

"I had many things to ask you: if you could cure some sick people, convert some sinners etc."

"Some, yes; others, no. They need to make amends, to ask forgiveness for their sins."

And taking on a sad aspect, "Do not offend Our

Despite heavy rains and bad roads, both the curious and skeptics came to the Cova da Iria on October 13, 1917 to witness the miracle Our Lady promised.



Lord anymore, Who is already much offended.”

And opening her hands, she made them reflect upon the sun. And while she was rising, the reflection of her own light continued to be projected on the sun.

This is the reason why I called out for the people to look at the sun. My goal was not to call their attention to it, as I didn't even notice their presence. I only did it led by an interior movement that impelled me to do it.

As Our Lady disappeared in the vast distance of the firmament, we saw next to the sun, Saint Joseph with the Child and Our Lady dressed in white with a blue mantle. Saint Joseph and the Child appeared to bless the world with gestures of their hands in the shape of a cross. A while later, this apparition having vanished, I saw Our Lord and Our Lady, who appeared to be Our Lady of Sorrows. Our Lord appeared to bless the world in the same way as Saint Joseph. This apparition also vanished and it seemed to me I saw Our Lady in a form similar to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Through the Eyes of an Atheist

Avelino de Almeida was the secular journalist sent to cover the event. The following is a portion of his description of the miracle published by the Lisbon newspaper *O Século* on October 15, 1917.

The point of the low land of Fatima where the Virgin is said to have appeared to the little shepherds of the village of Aljustrel can be seen from a long stretch of the road to Leiria, where the vehicles that brought the pilgrims and curiosity seekers were parked. Someone counted more than one hundred automobiles and more than one hundred bicycles.

But the bulk of the pilgrims, thousands of creatures who had come from many miles away to join the faithful of various provinces such as Alentejo, Algarve, Minho and Beira, congregated around the



Jacinta Marto had to be carried through the crowds of people after the Miracle of the Sun. Witnesses of the miracle reported their clothes, soaked with rain, were afterward completely dry.

small holm oak which, as the little shepherds put it, the vision had chosen as its pedestal... Many of the prudent peasants, protected by enormous hats, accompany the spiritual hymns and decades of the Rosary while nibbling on their poor fare.

And what about the little shepherds? Lucia, 10, the seer, and her small companions Francisco, 9, and Jacinta, 7, still have not arrived. Their presence is noticed a half-hour before the time set for the apparition. The little girls, crowned with garlands of flowers, are led to the place where the portal stands. The rain falls incessantly but no one despairs. ... Many people find themselves, as it were, in ecstasies; many are touched, prayer has paralyzed their dry lips; many seem dazed, with their hands together and eyes wide open; people seem to feel and touch the supernatural.

Many pilgrims say the miraculous manifestation, the visible sign announced, is about to happen... And then one witnesses a spectacle unique and unbelievable for someone not there to see it. From the top of the road, where cars are parked and hundreds of people gather who do not want to brave the mud, one sees the huge crowd turn

toward the sun, now freed from the clouds, at its zenith. The sun resembles a plate of opaque silver and one can look at it without any strain. It does not burn or blind. One would say an eclipse is taking place. Then a huge roar comes from the crowd and those closer to the place cry out, “Miracle, miracle! Marvel, marvel!”

As the peasants typically put it, the sun “danced,” shook and made abrupt movements outside all cosmic laws as those



The secularist press in Portugal and elsewhere helped spread the news about the Miracle of the Sun.

"I Saw, Clearly and Distinctly, a Luminous Globe. . . "

In a letter of 1932, when he was already Vicar General of the Diocese of Leiria, Monsignor João Quaresma tells what he witnessed in September 1917 at Cova da Iria:

On a beautiful September morning we [Father Manuel do Carmo Góis, Father Manuel Pereira da Silva and Monsignor João Quaresma] left Leiria in a rickety carriage drawn by an old horse for the spot where the much-discussed apparitions were said to take place. Father Góis found a vantage point from which we could observe events without getting too close to the place where the children were awaiting the apparition.

At midday there was complete silence. One heard only the murmur of prayers. Suddenly there were sounds of jubilation and voices praising the Blessed Virgin. Arms were raised pointing to something in the sky. "Look, don't you see?"

"Yes, yes I do...!" "Much satisfaction on the part of those who do. There had not been a cloud in the deep blue sky and I too raised my eyes and scrutinized it in case I should

be able to distinguish what others, more fortunate than I, had already claimed to have seen.

With great astonishment I saw, clearly and distinctly, a luminous globe, which moved from the east to the west, gliding slowly and majestically through space. My friends also looked, and had the good fortune to enjoy the same unexpected and delightful vision. Suddenly the globe, with its extraordinary light, disappeared.

Near us was a little girl dressed like Lucia, and more or less the same age. She continued to cry out happily: "I still see it! I still see it! Now it's coming down!"

After a few minutes, about the duration of the apparitions, the child began to exclaim again, pointing to the sky, "Now it's going up again!" and she followed the globe with her eyes until it disappeared in the direction of the sun. "What do you think of the globe?" I asked my companion, who seemed enthusiastic at what he had seen. "That it was Our Lady," he replied without hesitation.

It was my undoubted conviction also. The children had contemplated the very Mother of God, whereas we were allowed to see the means of transportation that brought her from heaven to the inhospitable waste of the Serra do Aire.

people filled with awe, with an attitude that recalls biblical times, heads uncovered, looked up into the blue with their fascinated eyes.

First Prophecies Fulfilled: the Deaths of the Three Shepherd Children

In May, 1917, when learning that their visitor was from Heaven, Lucia asked: "And will I also go to Heaven?... And Jacinta? ...and Francisco?"

Our Lady of Fatima's first prophecy came in her maternal response to this most innocent line of questioning: "Yes... Yes...Yes, but he (Francisco) will have to pray many Rosaries."

The fulfillment of this prophecy came rapidly for the youngest seers. In October 1918, almost exactly one year from the Miracle of the Sun, both Jacinta and Francisco became ill.

By April 4th of the following year, little Francisco lay in his home, on his death bed.

When he was about to die, he sent for Lucia and asked her to tell him the sins she had seen him commit; and then he asked Lucia to also ask Jacinta, who was sick in another room, to do him the same favor, for, he said with all simplicity, "I am going to confession to receive communion and then die."

Jacinta would soon follow her brother into Heaven, but first Our Lady asked if she would be willing to suffer in order to save more sinners from hell. This valiant child of God answered "Yes."

So it was because of this that the little Fatima seer, barely 10 years old, went to "die alone" in Lisbon on February 20, 1920, at 10:30 p.m. Despite her having died from purulent tuberculosis, her body, exposed in a church for a while, exuded a lovely perfume.

Today, the remnants of both Francisco and Jacinta lie buried in the Basilica of Fatima.

"Will I Stay Here Alone?"

In relation to Lucia, Our Lady of Fatima prophesied, "You will remain here for some time yet. Jesus wishes to use you in order to make me known and loved. He wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world."

Lucia asked this anguished question, "Will I stay here alone?"

To which the Mother of God answered maternally, "No, daughter. Does that make you suffer much? Do not be dismayed. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the road that will lead you to God."

That was the vocation assigned to Sister Lucia.

Sister Lucia dos Santos, Jacinta and Francisco Marto lie buried at the Sanctuary of Fatima, Portugal. The two younger ones died shortly after the apparitions while Lucia went on to live a long life as Our Lady had predicted.





The three shepherds challenge us today to work for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Whereas to her little cousins the apparitions were, so to speak, the end of their lives, to her they were merely the beginning of a long journey that ended on February 13, 2005 at the age of 97.

"Finally, My Immaculate Heart Will Triumph!"

While some of the chastisements announced at Fatima have already been fulfilled, others are still to come. Yet, however painful and gloomy the outlook may be, we should not become discouraged, as we are also animated by the confidence of victory.

Saint Thomas explains that "confidence" (*fiducia*) takes its name from "faith" (*fides*). It is a hope fortified by the faith that we have in someone's help. That faith will be all the greater the more powerful that person is and the greater the friendship, love and compassion that person has for us.

When that person is the Mother of God and our

Mother, we have the very best reason in the world to confide in her, since she is united with God totally and loves us enormously. Furthermore, the Blessed Mother announced that, after the chastisements that would come as a consequence of the rejection of her requests and the lack of conversion of mankind, her Immaculate Heart would triumph.

The certainty of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, of the conversion of Russia, and of the time of peace that will come after the succession of punishments in which we are still immersed, should encourage and inspire us to do our part in the struggle for that promised triumph.

Our Part in the Struggle

As Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, the founder of the Brazilian TFP and a great apostle of Fatima, emphasized, there is nothing in the message given to the little shepherds that would be contrary to the idea of our participating in the struggle for the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

It is in the plans of Divine Providence that men should participate in the struggle for historical transformations and serve as instruments, though imperfect, for the action of divine grace.

The appeal for prayer and penance made to the

WHAT IS THE CORE Message of Fatima?

100 years after Our Lady appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917, the world has seen a century of upheavals, wars, tragedies and natural catastrophes. Our Lady's admonitions and prophecies are being fulfilled. But in spite of this, her core message at Fatima is still widely unknown and largely ignored by the majority of mankind. What is this core message and what is its significance, especially today? What is the solution that she gave the world to solve its many problems? What remedy did she give us to save our own souls from eternal damnation? A new book by American TFP member, researcher and author Luiz Sérgio Solimeo, answers these questions and more.

Titled *The Immaculate Heart of Mary and God's Plan for America*, the release of the book coincides with the start of the centennial year of the Fatima apparitions. What better way to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the appearance of the Mother of God on earth than to study and understand her message?

This timely and beautifully-illustrated book explains in depth, the importance and significance of the centennial, reveals the true meaning of Our Lady's core message and its relevance today, and finally describes the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as she promised at Fatima in 1917.

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little shepherds a century ago still resounds today, because, through them, it is equally addressed to us.

We can join in Lucia's oft-repeated inquiry: "What does your Grace wish of me?"

The struggle can be an excellent form of prayer and penance, when engaged in for the love of God.

To oppose today's neopagan ambience; combat the errors that are spread by every means; and to face the risk of being disliked for not following fashions, both in dressing and thinking, is often much more difficult than fasting or spending a night in prayer.



In 2007, America Needs Fatima began organizing the Public Square Rosary Crusade, reaching almost 2,100 rallies across America in its first year. After 10 consecutive years of Rosary Rallies, 16,323 Rosary Rally Captains signed up to publicly pray the rosary for the conversion of America in 2016. The Rosary Rally goal for 2017 is 20,000 rallies, which will take place on October 14th.

Let us keep in mind that one thing does not exclude the other: to pray in public, thus combating human respect and proclaiming the Faith, is one of the most excellent forms of penance nowadays.

Yes, penance and prayer for the conversion of sinners is what the Blessed Mother is asking of us, as she did repeatedly 100 years ago. However, she expects us to do even more: to combat the "errors of Russia" that continue to spread right before our eyes destroying families, corrupting our youth, and blaspheming God.

Let us do our part, confiding in the fulfillment of her promise, "Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!" ■

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart: the Key to the Fatima Message

BY LUIZ S. SOLIMEO

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary exalts the whole person of the Virgin, but most especially her maternal love, symbolically represented by her Heart.

The Heart of Mary represents her as the Mother of God and her love for God and men. Saint John Eudes (1601–1680), who spread this devotion along with devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, finds in the Gospel of Saint Luke a reference to the Immaculate Heart.

Narrating how the shepherds were advised by the angels of the birth of the Savior and went to adore the child, Saint Luke concludes, "But Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19). And again when the Child Jesus was lost and then found at the Temple, "And his mother kept all these words in her heart" (Luke 2:51).

It was out of love for His Mother's heart that the Infant Jesus appeared to Sister Lucia on December 10, 1925.

Sister Lucia had a vision. She herself narrates it, using the third person out of humility:

On December 10, 1925, the Blessed Mother appeared to [Sister Lucia] and beside her, suspended on a luminous cloud, a Boy on whose shoulder the Blessed Mother rested her hand and at the same time, in her other hand, a heart surrounded with thorns.

At the same time, the Boy said, "Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother which is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment with no one to make an act of reparation to pull them out."

Then, the Virgin said, "See, my daughter, My Heart surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment with blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, make sure to console me and say that all those who for five months, on



Sister Lucia dos Santos spent the last decades of her life as a Carmelite nun in Coimbra, Portugal. She stressed devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary as the solution to the modern crisis.



“Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother which is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment with no one to make an act of reparation to pull them out.”

the first Saturday, go to confession, receive Communion, say five decades of the Rosary and keep me company for 15 minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the purpose of making reparation to Me, I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls.”

Five First Saturdays’ Devotion

Therefore, Mary Most Holy’s request is that on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, one confess and receive Communion; pray five decades of the Rosary; meditate during 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary; all this with the purpose of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the sins of men.

And then comes the marvelous promise from the Mother of God and our Mother: as a reward to those who practice this devotion, Our Lady promises to assist them at the hour of death, and grant them, at that supreme moment, all the graces necessary for salvation.

The Mercy of Jesus Manifest

In another apparition of the Child Jesus, on February 15, 1926, Sister Lucia asked if finding it difficult to go to confession on the same Saturday one could fulfill the request by going some other day. Jesus answered, “Yes, it can be on many other [days] as long as, when they receive Me, they be in [the state of] grace and have the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.”

Sister Lucia then asked, “My Jesus, what about those who forget to formulate that intention?”

Jesus answered, “They can do it in the next confession, taking advantage of the first occasion to go to confession.”

Why FIVE Saturdays?

In May of 1930, while at prayer, Sister Lucia suddenly felt more intimately possessed by the divine Presence. The following was revealed to her:

“My daughter, the reason is simple. There are five kinds of offenses and blasphemies perpetrated against the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

- blasphemies against her Immaculate Conception;
- against her virginity;
- against her divine maternity, at the same time refusing to accept her as the Mother of men;
- those who publicly try to instill indifference, scorn and even hatred toward this Immaculate Mother in the hearts of children;
- and those who insult her directly in Her sacred images.”

After much insistence by Sister Lucia through her Superior and her confessor, on September 13, 1939, the bishop of Leiria published the appeal of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Communion of Reparation of the First Saturdays.

And, thus, the key to the Fatima Message, devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, was made known throughout the world. ■



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

MAY/JUNE 2017

PROGRESS REPORT

Americans Say “NO” to Baphomet

BY MARC ANTHONY VARGAS

At 10:30 a.m. on January 25, 2017, concerned Christians assembled to pray in opposition to the proposal by the Satanic Temple to erect a Baphomet statue on state property. The battle against Satan reached a new milestone at the Arkansas State Capitol, where thirty residents were joined by volunteers from Tradition, Family and Property–Louisiana.

These prayer warriors were not alone; the Return to Order website collected more than 59,000 signatures nationwide to keep the satanic statue off public property.

The State Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission met in Little Rock with the Satanic Temple, a group of darkly dressed members who sneered at the peaceful rally participants. They were clearly feeling uncomfortable as they walked a gauntlet of rosary beads and banners mounting the steps of the capitol building.

One such banner begged the simple question: “Why should we want to honor the devil?”

Hot Springs resident Judy Vance, referring to the banner,



Americans reject the forced acceptance of satanism and the occult under the guise of “freedom of religion.”



Bold signs outside the Arkansas State Capitol met with wide public support as Americans continually reject honoring the devil.

said in an interview with Arkansas Online, “That’s going to hell. I don’t want to go to hell.”

The Satanic Temple gets plenty of media attention. News crews arrived from local media sources such as ArkTimes, KATV, Talkbusiness and Arkansas Democrat-Gazette Online to cover the protest.

“The fight against Satan in Little Rock is not only for Arkansas, but for the whole American nation,” TFP member Cesar Franco commented. He traveled from Houston, Texas, with a group of TFP volunteers for the anti-Satan rally.

Let us pray that Americans will wake up and fight against the satanic offensive which is making inroads into American culture all across our country. It is good to remember the words of Edmund Burke: “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

As children of Mary, we await the triumph of her Immaculate Heart, but that will not happen until we drive the Satanic Temple from the American landscape and back under the rock from which it crawled. ■



ANF Email Protest Campaign Stops Another Blasphemy

BY VINCENT GORRE

A successful protest campaign initiated by America Needs Fatima resulted in a victory over a blasphemous product mocking the Mother of God. It involved an offensive image of Our Lady of Guadalupe printed on the back of a military-style green utility jacket with the words, "F**k the world. Jinho Jeans."

The jacket was distributed by the Chinese online retailer She-in.com. Over 30,000 signatures were gathered by the email protest campaign that resulted in the removal of the product. The protest email read in part: "I am outraged that you offer for sale the Utility Coat with the wording 'F**k the World'... around the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.... Our Lady of Guadalupe is revered and honored by millions of Catholics worldwide. This vulgar and profane use of an image of the Mother of

God insults her and all Catholics and we cannot tolerate it and will avoid your products. Please remove the item from your inventory immediately."

She-in's customer service promptly issued an apology after removing the product, which read in part as follows:

"We kindly thank you for letting us know we had made such a situation which unconsciously offended you. We sincerely apologize to you about the impertinent jacket, we were totally unconscious and definitely had no offense to your holy faith. The jacket has been off the shelf yesterday (January 17th) and we ensure that we will pay more attention to the items with such kind of issues. Your suggestions in the future about our items are much appreciated...., would you please be kind to inform the millions of Catholics worldwide to stop sending us the emails about the item?"

This successful effort is yet another proof that protests do work, and that given the prevailing culture of increasing blasphemy and sacrilege, Catholics must not be insensitive to these offenses and must defend the honor of God and His Blessed Mother at all times. ■

Our protest was
SUCCESSFUL!



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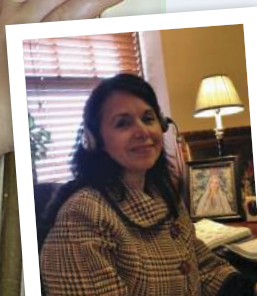
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On a Special Mission to Lourdes

BY JOHN HORVAT II

When asked to take a box of prayer petitions from members of America Needs Fatima and a very large candle to Lourdes, I gladly accepted the commission. I had never done anything like this before and as the time approached for the trip, I began to think of the seriousness of what I was going to do. There were literally thousands of petition sheets in every conceivable size and shape. By taking these petitions to Lourdes, I was assuming the role of a pilgrim representing thousands of other pilgrims left behind.

The morning after I arrived in Lourdes, I set about the task I was given. Upon looking at the petitions, it was clear to me that these were not just pieces of paper. These were the concerns, anxieties and afflictions of fellow Americans.

Some people think that prayer petitions should be spiritual and not centered on concrete needs. I consider any petitions valid for Our Lady since she is a mother. Mothers always take care of the material necessities of their children. Thus, there were many who had health and financial problems among the petitions.

Above all, Our Lady looks at our spiritual and mental afflictions and helps us deal with them. And although much depends upon our dispositions and the dispositions of those we pray for, she can help cure addictions, lead people back to



the Faith and bring unity back to families.

There are also others who ask for those things not connected directly with their daily life. They ask that America return to order and become one nation under God with no abortion or same-sex "marriage." They pray for the crisis inside the Church and that we return to Catholic teaching. Some presented long prayer petitions of several typed pages; others merely a post-it note with a single intention. All were important to my mission.

There is a box for prayer petitions just inside the Grotto, well within sight of the statue of Our Lady. Thus, those who sent petitions can rest assured that they were as close as possible to her, under her watchful gaze. However, the number of the petitions was so great for the size of the box that I dared not deposit all of them at one time; I made trips on different days to the Grotto and gradually put all the intentions in the box. Afterwards, I prayed a rosary for the particular intentions deposited.

With this, I felt my mission had been accomplished and that Our

Lady had heard the supplications of her children.

It was very cold at the Grotto. I would pray at the place where Saint Bernadette first saw Our Lady. At other times, I would go close to the niche where the statue is placed. On one occasion at night, it started to snow, thus adding yet more calm to the scene.

There was also the big blue candle that had to be delivered. The candle area has been moved across the river in front of the Grotto. There was no one there that could even take a picture, so I asked one of the workers to be the official photographer. He took the pictures and I deposited the candle into the holder. There the candle would play its symbolic role of prolonging the prayers of those who had intentions before Our Lady.

Later from the Grotto side, I looked across the river and spotted the large candle burning. Over the days, I checked on the candle to make sure it did not go out or burn irregularly as sometimes happens.

I thought my mission was accomplished. However, as the time for my departure approached, I realized that one written petition had been overlooked—my own. On the last day, I wrote out my own intentions and delivered them at the Grotto. It was truly an unforgettable pilgrimage. ■



TFP Vice-President John Horvat lights a candle and prays for the petitions of thousands of ANF supporters where Our Lady appeared at Lourdes.




Our Readers Write

Rosary Rallies

My group had approximately 80 in attendance. We were all filled with excitement and enthusiasm as we prayed the Rosary for our nation. I am already preparing for the 2017 Rally, and had published a "mark your calendar" for the centennial celebration in our Sunday parish bulletin. Thank you for your continued support and non-stop encouragement. This is a big task for you, Robert, and may you be blessed abundantly by our loving Blessed Mother!

G. C., Yorba Linda, Calif.

A few years ago, I had our rally banner enlarged. This year, a marathon path goes right by my front yard. Our banner was in the front yard and was seen by over 10,000 people that day!

T. S., Columbus, Ohio

I am about to turn 88 years old, have been a stay-at-home mom all my life, and this (being a Rosary Rally Captain) was a first for me. My adult children all want to help me next year. If I don't make it to my next birthday, the Rosary Rally will be my legacy to them to carry on.

C. V., Abbeville, La.

Gifts from ANF

Thank you for the book *Holy Mary* and the 2017 Our Lady of Fatima calendar. Very excited to receive both of them! The book is one of the most beautifully written books on the virtues and titles of the Blessed Mother that I have ever read. Just beautiful. I remember way back when in elementary school, doing a project on Mary's titles in her litany. Each student took one title from the Litany and drew a picture of how we thought that would be to see. That always impressed me and I've had a love for Mary's litany ever since.

C. L., Columbus, Ohio



Thank you so much for *The Virgin Mary* book. I take it with me when I go to Eucharistic Adoration and spend part of the hour reading it. When I finish it, I hope to give it to my children to read, and when I get it back, I know I will want to read it again myself!

L. R., Holdingford, Minn.

2017 Fatima Calendar

Congratulations on the product of a superb spiritual calendar 2017 in honor of Our Lady of Fatima! I was greatly impressed by its beauty and originality, especially as Our Lady of Fatima is very special to me and my family. God willing, we hope to go to Fatima for the Jubilee 2017. I find the calendar beautiful and edifying!

T. S., Glendale, California



I wanted to again confirm receipt of the 100th Anniversary Fatima Calendar which you so kindly sent to me months back. It is simply beautiful and I did receive it in good condition. It is already on my wall, blessing my home and filling me with joy when I pray the rosary before her. . . she fills me with her peace.

T. C., Laguna Woods, Calif.

Conversions and Graces Received

Thank you for everything you have sent to me. Our Lady of Fatima has captured my heart. I am now reconciled with the Church after 11 years away, and you, America Needs Fatima, have been part of that transformation. God bless your ministry.

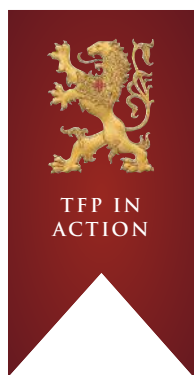
L. A., Casper, Wyo.

Greetings! I prayed to Our Lady to protect our home from the hurricane and she did! I promised to thank her by doing something to promote devotion to her, but I was not sure how, and I asked her to let me know how. Then the email appeal arrived and it hit me! Gasoline for Fatima Custodian Ben Broussard! What a clear-cut way to promote devotion to Our Lady! Enclosed is a check. Happy motoring!

J. A., Port Saint Lucie, Fla.



Have something you'd like to share?
Send us your feedback by writing to **Crusade@TFP.org**



Defund Planned Parenthood March

BY WILLIAM GOSSETT

More than 220 rallies in 45 states across the nation took place on February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, to protest Planned Parenthood and call for the defunding of the mega abortion provider.

Members of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) joined the rally organized by pro-life leader Larry Cirignano in Washington, D.C. The march started at the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court and ended at the new Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington located on 4th Street NE.

Permits for the legal and peaceful pro-life event were secured. However, what began as a simple 1.6

mile march was interrupted by a mob of lawless pro-abortion activists who wanted to deprive the peaceful pro-lifers of their First Amendment Rights.

How It Started

Father Stephen Imbarrato of Priests for Life led the gathering with an opening prayer. As the march kicked off, students of Saint Louis de Montfort Academy showed up to bolster the ranks of the TFP bagpipe and drum corps. In total, there were roughly eighty pro-lifers.

Within minutes, however, a mob of Planned Parenthood supporters blocked the sidewalk, linking arms to impede the progress of the pro-life

Left: Pro-abortion counter-protesters yelling obscenities tried in vain to block the path of the peaceful pro-life demonstration.

Right: Defenders of the unborn gathered to pray in reparation for the sin of abortion and for an end to the slaughter of the innocents.



advocates. To skirt the blockade of yelling leftists, D.C. police officers escorted the pro-lifers into the middle of the street and guided it all the way to the abortion facility some twelve blocks away.

Marching to Planned Parenthood

As the march progressed, pro-abortion activists got more aggressive. They started hurling themselves into the pro-lifers, physically blocking their progress at every intersection. The police intervened. They covered the front, sides and rear of the pro-lifers and staved off the furious mob, which refused to obey orders issued by the police.

The scenario repeated itself at almost every block: Planned Parenthood supporters blocked the street. Police broke through. Pro-lifers pass. Repeat.

In addition to the blockades, abortion activists stole and ripped up pro-life signs, tried to trip and kick the older ladies, and became physically aggressive with the police who were trying to keep order. While one of the policemen tried to call for backup, a counter-protester knocked the walkie-talkie out of his hand.

"Protesters blocked every intersection, pushed, tried to grab the banner," said Julia Haag, a pro-life marcher, "and one stuck out his leg to trip us a couple times."

Rev. Patrick Mahoney added: "If it were not for a courageous police presence, we never would have gotten to our prayer vigil and most likely would have been assaulted in a greater way than we were."



Michael Drake of the American TFP spoke at the Defund Planned Parenthood rally in Washington, DC.

Prayerful Smiles Versus Uncontrollable Rage

The contrast couldn't be more vivid. On one side, the pro-lifers were in high spirits, smiling, praying, and determined to march, all the while being verbally and physically bombarded by Planned Parenthood supporters who insisted on using lawlessness, profanity and aggressive behavior.

Pro-abortion activists shouted: "Not the Church, not the State, women must control their fate." "My body, my choice!" "F—the Police!"

Pro-lifers sang *God Bless America* and responded: "A child is a blessing, not a disease." "If it was your body, it would be suicide!"

Finally, thanks to police protection, the march arrived at the Planned Parenthood facility and law enforcement officers secured the area. The Washington, D.C., police force was extremely helpful in guiding and protecting the Defund Planned Parenthood Protest. Their professionalism and honorable conduct deserve respect and recognition.

"It felt as if we were marching into the teeth of the enemy," remarked Fr. Imbarrato. "But the enemy was not the human barricades. The enemy was Satan who was manic yesterday because we were marching to end his sacrament of child sacrifice. Our weapons were peaceful song and prayer as we marched for Jesus' babies. The police took care of our physical safety and the human barricades. Our Lord and His Mother, Our Lady of Lourdes, protected us spiritually."

The pro-lifers marched from the Supreme Court to the Planned Parenthood facility in Washington, D.C.



A group of counter-protesters. The issues listed on this girl's sign are telling of the crisis we live in. With God all things are possible and thus we should pray and hope that this list will soon change to: The best expression of femininity, sanctity in motherhood, heart of the family, inspiration to virtue, grace, mercy and compassion and the closest thing to God's goodness on earth.





COMMENTARY

Exposing and Fighting the Errors of Russia

BY BENTLEY HATCHETT

“Russia... will spread her errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecutions of the Church...” —Our Lady of Fatima

While not originating in Russia *per se*, it is difficult to deny that the errors Our Lady was referring to at Fatima were the fruits of Communism. The ideology, which took control of the country in 1917, used the apparatus of the Russian state to successfully install socialist republics across the world. So when these countries transformed into nominal dem-

ocratic republics following the fall of the Soviet Union, did the conversion of Russia and the inevitable recession of the errors of Russia begin? Not at all.

of the family. For this reason, communist promoters and intellectuals—such as the Frankfurt School—have sought to advance the same social aberrations that became institutionalized in the various Soviet “republics” into Western culture. These moral deviancies include atheism, abortion, euthanasia, gender theory, same-sex “marriage,” radical feminism, sexual liberation, and relativism. The ensemble of these is a system commonly referred to as “Cultural Marxism.” That is to say, they are the application of communism in society in all but name.

At the root of this ideology, and subsequently these errors, is a disordered egalitarianism, spurred by pride and sensuality. This egalitarianism, which denies the harmonious and complimentary inequalities created by God, leads society to ruin by erasing the differences between men and women (androgyny, transgenderism, and feminism), placing equal value to all religions (ecumenism and pantheism), likening sin with virtue (homosexual “marriage”), equating truth with fallacy, and ultimately good with evil (relativism).

How to Combat the Errors

In order to halt the advance of these errors, we must fight using the weapons prescribed by Our Lady at Fatima, namely, daily recitation of the rosary and the Five First Saturdays’ devotion, and defend moral truths in the public realm as Our Lord commanded in the Gospels. In our private lives, we must appreciate, love and embrace the legitimate and harmonious order established by God, our Creator.

Although we are promised victory in the end, Our Lady asks that we, her children, act as instruments for advancing the kingdom of God on this earth by battling the errors of our times. By corresponding to this call, we thus participate in the promise given by Our Lady that “Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” ■

Defining the Errors

To Marx, the biggest obstacle to the establishment of communism was not capitalism, but rather God, the Catholic Church and the Christian institution



Communist revolutionaries like Lenin worked to change the mentality of modern man to reject God’s influence. These errors of Russia foretold by Our Lady of Fatima are still with us today.



THE FATIMA PROPHECIES

BY ANTONIO FRAGELLI

When Our Lady appeared in the small village of Fatima, Portugal one hundred years ago, she brought the world a message and left it many a proof as to the fact that both message and Messenger came from Heaven. Her intention was clear: transmit to mankind a saving and urgent message and leave no doubt as to its veracity.

She promised a miracle which became the first prophecy of Our Lady of Fatima to be fulfilled. She said that in October she would perform a miracle and she did.

Witnessed by 70,000 spectators, around noon on October 13, 1917, the sun appeared to dislocate from its routine place, zig-zag towards the multitude and spin in all sort of ways. The secular newspaper reported at length about "the day the sun danced at Fatima."

But the Miracle of the Sun was only the first of many prophecies announced by the Mother of God.

She told Lucia she would soon take her two cousins to heaven. As it happened, Jacinta and Francisco Marto, although young and healthy at the time of the prophecy, were both dead within three years. She predicted the end of WWI and the war ended the following year. She predicted the beginning of "a worse war" if men did not convert. She also predicted that the skies of Europe would light up as a sign of the eminent cataclysm. This prophecy was fulfilled in January, 1938 when the skies across Europe were illuminated by an astonishing aurora borealis across the continent. Two months later Adolf Hitler forcefully annexed Austria to Germany, beginning the "worse war" the Mother of God warned about. WWII is today all over history and picture books. She also announced in 1917 that the war would begin "in the reign of Pius XI" (1922-1939) when no one could have known at the time the name of the future pope.

In July 1917 she spoke about the "errors of Russia" spreading throughout the world, "promoting wars and persecution" of the good. Three months later, in October, the Russian Communist revolution broke out, provoking everything the Lady from Heaven had said to its last detail.

There are, however, a few more prophecies that have not yet been fulfilled, culminating in the promise that "finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." Before this can happen, and according to still-pending prophecies, mankind will have to undergo great trials as it has clearly not heeded the heavenly messenger's maternal requests for prayer, penance and conversion. ■