

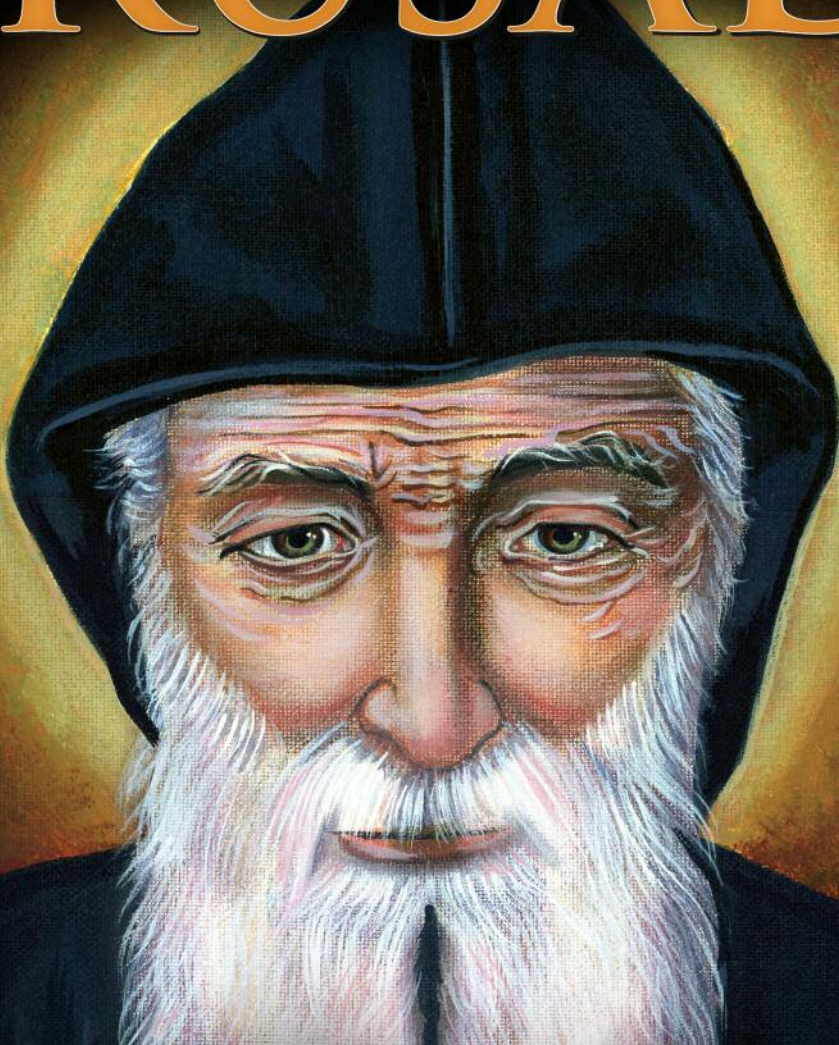
July/August 2018

CRUSADE[®]

MAGAZINE



TRADITION
FAMILY AND
PROPERTY[®]



SAINT
Charbel.
*The Wonder Worker
of Lebanon*

JOIN *America's Largest* Public Square Rosary Crusade!



Those seeking to remove God and His Holy Law from our society fight on unceasingly. Abortion murders innocent unborn babies. The institution of the family is weakened by impure customs and the legalization of homosexual “marriage.” The sexual revolution pervades popular culture, especially in television, media, movies and the Internet.

However, the worst consequence of this secularist offensive is the rejection of God. And without His grace, how can we survive? How can our leaders properly govern our nation? From where will they get the wisdom and the strength to solve

the great and complex problems that abound?

“What Can We Do?”

At Fatima, Portugal, in 1917, Our Lady made it very clear that the rosary is the solution to our earthly problems.

Thankfully, Public Square Rosary Rallies have been growing annually. Just last year we held an astounding 21,570 rallies across America! And our goal for 2018? We want to give Our Lady 23,000 rallies. Will you help us reach this goal? ■

Call (866) 584-6012 to find out how you can be part of this rosary crusade
To bring America back to God.



Prophecies of Our Lady of Good Success Relating to Our Times

AS TOLD TO MOTHER MARIANA OF JESUS TORRES IN QUITO, ECUADOR 1582-1635

As the times and events we witness become increasingly alarming, we can be tempted to lose hope. It is with this legitimate temptation in mind that we reprint the following prophecies of Our Lady of Good Success. Pronounced over 400 years ago, their present fulfillment is a clear portent of

the coming of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

“Unhappy, the children of those times! Seldom will they receive the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. As for the sacrament of Penance, they will confess only while attending Catholic schools, which the devil will do his utmost to destroy by means of persons in authority.”

“The sacrament of Matrimony, which symbolizes the union of Christ with the Church, will be thoroughly attacked and profaned. Masonry, then reigning, will implement iniquitous laws aimed at extinguishing this sacrament. They will make it easy for all to live in sin, thus multiplying the birth of illegitimate children without the Church’s blessing.”

“Secular education will contribute to a scarcity of priestly and religious vocations.”

“The holy sacrament of Holy Orders will

be ridiculed, oppressed, and despised, for in this both the Church and God Himself are oppressed and reviled, since He is represented by His priests. The devil will work to persecute the ministers of the Lord in every way, working with baneful cunning to destroy the spirit of their vocation and corrupting many.”

“To be delivered from the slavery of these heresies, those whom the merciful love of my Son has destined for this restoration will need great will-power, perseverance, courage, and confidence in God. To try the faith and trust of these just ones, there will be times when all will seem lost and paralyzed. It will then be the happy beginning of the complete restoration...”

“Then will the Church, joyful and triumphant like a young girl, reawaken and be comfortably cradled in the arms of my most dear and elect son of those times. If he lends an ear to the inspirations of grace—one of which will be the reading of these

great mercies that my Son and I have had toward you—we shall fill him with graces and very special gifts and will make him great on earth and much greater in Heaven. There we have reserved a precious seat for him because, heedless of men, he will have fought for truth and ceaselessly defended the rights of the Church, deserving to be called ‘martyr.’” ■

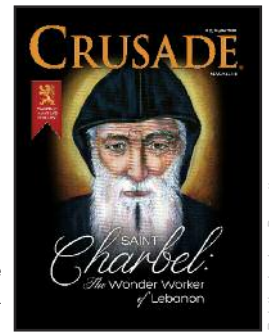


Statue of Our Lady of Good Success, Quito, Ecuador, commissioned by the Queen of Heaven herself to a Conceptionist nun in 1599.

For a free book on the story of
Our Lady of Good Success, visit www.TFP.org.

CONTENTS

JULY/AUGUST 2018



Cover:
Artist's rendition of the face of Saint Charbel Makhlouf of Lebanon.

Painting by Joan Bennett, www.etsy.com/shop/GoodShepherdFineArts

IN BRIEF	4
CHRIST IN THE HOME	
Make Your Bed	5
RETURN TO ORDER	
Baby Boomer Gives Gun Protesters Something to Think About	6
TFP IN ACTION	
♦ Catholics Battle Blasphemy at College of the Holy Cross	8
♦ Pro-Abortion Students Found Speechless at Bloomsburg University	9
♦ Opposing Pro-Transgender Priest at Spring Hill College	11
COVER STORY	
Saint Charbel: The Wonder Worker of Lebanon	12
ANF PROGRESS REPORT	
♦ Fatima Report, May 2018	17
♦ Fatima Conferences Held Nationwide in 2018	19
♦ A Miraculous Visit from Saint Charbel	20
♦ Our Readers Write	21
DEFENDING THE FAITH	
How to Write a Pro-Life Letter to the Editor	22
BACK COVER	
Hidden Beauty	24



6
Advice for our times from one who lived through the protests of the 1960's



8
Over 16,000 Catholics objected to blasphemy at College of the Holy Cross



17
Members of America Needs Fatima deliver over 8,500 roses to Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal

Crusade Magazine is a publication of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). Direct all requests and inquiries to: *Crusade Magazine*, P.O. Box 341, Hanover, PA 17331 or email to: crusade@TFP.org. Web: www.TFP.org, Tel.: (888) 317-5571, Fax: (570) 450-6352. © 2018 by The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc. This publication may include images from iStockphoto™ and Dreamstime™ which are protected by copyright laws of the U.S. and elsewhere. ISSN 1096-3782 LCCN 98-641433 **M-154**

CRUSADE

Editor: Antonio Fragelli

Associate Editors: John Horvat II, Michael Drake, Norman Fulkerson, Kenneth Murphy, Vincent Gorre

Photography: Gary Isbell, Michael Gorre, Joshua Long

Foreign Correspondents: Charles E. Schaffer, Austria; José Carlos Sepulveda, Brazil; Philip Moran, United Kingdom; Benoit Bemelmans, France; Beno Hofschulte, Germany; Juan M. Montes, Italy; David Nash, South Africa; Felipe Barandiarán, Spain

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

Beautiful Traditional Churches Attract Youth to Catholicism

A study commissioned by a British evangelization group found that 13% of teenagers who converted to Christianity did so because of their experience of visiting traditional churches and cathedrals. The study brought the researchers to the conclusion



© Lyudmila Menshova | Dreamstime.com

that “the new methods invested in by the church, such as youth groups, are less effective than prayer or visiting a church building in attracting children to the church.” The researchers also found that there is a rising trend of Catholic youth desiring traditional devotions and seeking to experience rich

Church history—relics, the saints, liturgies and beautiful churches.

Same-sex “Marriage” Repealed in Bermuda

Bermuda’s House of Assembly and Senate overwhelmingly voted by wide margins to repeal the country’s same-sex “marriage” law after it was allowed by a Supreme Court ruling in 2017. Governor John Rankin signed it into law, thus making Bermuda, a British territory, the first country to legalize and then repeal same-sex “marriage” in the world. The new law preserved the traditional definition of marriage as between a man and a woman while at the same time allowing “domestic partnership” status to same-sex couples in Bermuda.

Cosmopolitan Removed from Walmart Check-outs

The women’s magazine *Cosmopolitan* known for its pro-abortion stance was pulled out of check-out lane displays at Walmart. The chain store announced its decision after parents and conservative groups voiced their concerns. Walmart spokesperson Meggan Kring told USA Today,



© Debra Millet | Dreamstime.com

“While this was primarily a business decision, the concerns raised were heard.” *Cosmopolitan’s* covers frequently display scantily-clad women, along with

content that promotes risky sexual behavior, abortion-on-demand and other objectionable content according to a report in LifeNews.com.

Homeschooled Youth a Leading Source of Priestly Vocations

The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) of Georgetown University found that young American men who have been homeschooled are four times more likely to pursue the priesthood than those educated in Catholic institutions. Although a minority, homeschooled American Catholics provided 8 percent of young men studying for the priesthood. There are 100,000 homeschooled students versus 2,000,000 enrolled in Catholic institutions. On average, these young American seminarians spent seven years being homeschooled.

Mississippi Enacts Strongest Pro-life Law in United States

LifeSiteNews reported that Governor Phil Bryant of Mississippi signed a new law restricting abortions earlier than any other state in America. The republican governor of the state said that his goal is to make his state “the safest place in America for an unborn child.” The law forbids abortions from being performed beyond fifteen weeks for any reason other than a “medical emergency.” According to the Guttmacher Institute, a pro-abortion group, 17 states ban abortions past 20 weeks of pregnancy, but none banned them earlier until now.



College Student Removed from Class for Opposing Transgenderism

A professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania removed one of her students during her religious studies class for standing up to say that there are only two genders. Lake Ingle, a senior student at the university, said that after showing a 15-minute TED Talk by a transgender, Professor Alison Downie asked the class to share their thoughts. Ingle spoke up and told the class that the official view of biologists is that there are only two genders. The professor promptly told Ingle to leave and not to come back. He later received a letter from the university provost that said, “You are hereby barred from attending this class in accordance with the Classroom Disruption policy.”

Make Your Bed

BY M. TAYLOR



CHRIST IN
THE HOME

“Order assigns each thing its place. If you keep order, it will keep you. If you disturb order, it will disturb you. If you destroy order, it will destroy you. All that disturbs order disturbs peace.”

—Saint Francis de Sales

The sense of order today is highly underestimated but none the less essential. One way to instill orderliness in children is to teach them to make their bed, properly and promptly. As we all know, it is important to start the day out right, for as the great Saint Francis de Sales teaches us, “The beginning of everything is very important.”

Msgr. Romano Guadagni writes in his excellent book, *Learning the Virtues That Lead You to God*: “There’s more to goodness than keeping the Commandments: you’ve got to cultivate virtue too, so that you please God in what you do—and not merely in what you don’t do.”

And the first of the virtues he tackles in his book is the Virtue of Orderliness.

He explains, “[Orderliness]...underlines a sense of rule, a sense for what is necessary, so that a certain condition or an arrangement may endure.”

Indeed, one who acquires the virtue of orderliness is thus able to order, organize and prioritize their lives which, in turn, bestows the capacity and self-discipline to meet the obligations, priorities and commitments that we all have. Once this is achieved, the result is: *pax*—peace.

Making that Bed

At home, Mom was a stickler for orderliness—though she was patient. She knew neatness and a sense of orderliness is not something normally included in the Stork’s satchel. For this reason she taught us the importance of neatness and orderliness throughout our childhood years.

Mom believed that each day was determined by its start! An early rising, with a positive, snappy, cheerful and disciplined beginning, helped to energize our sluggish wills, flex our spiritual muscles, and set the tone for the day.

In our home that something positive, snappy and disciplined was making our bed. Once in a while Mom would remind us that in monasteries, convents, and the military making your bed is paramount as it helps to build strength of will, depth of character and promote order in our lives and in our surroundings.

I still remember the story she would tell us about how to test a “well-made” bed, with sheets pulled tight. This was done by tossing a coin on the coverlet. If the coin bounced, you passed.

We listened wide-eyed, impressed and envisioning a “drum” for a bed. We got the idea. In this way, she taught us how to make our beds properly.

Although I don’t remember any coin bouncing, I do remember my mother’s vigilant and patient gaze until we formed this habit.

Her patience in this regard was especially beneficial as it impressed upon each of us how much she actually understood us as individuals. She knew the formation of a virtuous habit varies with each child.

Through the years, in the natural flux of home life, she enforced but also flexed the rules; virtue for her was a “living” thing and not just a “rigid” rule.

So there was many a time when I ran out the door, late for something and came back to an unmade bed at the end of the day. But the important thing was that, at the sight of my messy covers, there was that feeling of “let down” as I renewed the resolution, “I will make my bed tomorrow.” It bothered me to walk into an untidy room.

And right there, Mom and orderliness had won.

I can say for sure, that the simple habit of making my bed every morning along with all the other good habits Mom instilled in us, have gone a long way not only to help me live, love and trust the Lord’s Commandments, but to live as happy and productive a life as this earth affords. ■

These boys learn that making their bed lays a solid foundation of orderliness on which to build a happy day.



© Imgorhand | iStockphoto.com



Baby Boomer Gives Gun Protesters Something to Think About

BY JOHN HORVAT II

Dear young protester,

I have watched your protests against gun violence and could not help but recall my own youth.

As a child of the Sixties, I was born of a generation that also had protests. I recall my desires to change the world and make it a better place by challenging everything. I remember my frustration in the face of a world in chaos.

Now I am of the older generation, and you are on the streets. However, matters are much worse. I hope these words might warn against the repetition of a tragic mistake.

A Well-Worn Path

It was my generation that helped unleash the violence that you find in your schools, culture and lives. My generation produced your generation. You are following in our footsteps. You are the later phase of a process my generation began. Don't continue on this path.

It was my generation that redefined freedom as "doing your own thing." We overturned society norms, morals and manners in an attempt to achieve this freedom. However, this quest only made us a self-centered "Me Generation," demanding everything instantly regardless of the consequences. It filled us with resentments when the world failed to bend to our needs.

Today, many of the younger generations are taking our mistake to new extremes. Today, it is no longer "doing your own thing," but "being your own thing" since you can identify as whatever you perceive yourself to be. Anything can be the cause of resentment, triggering instant snowflake meltdowns. Tragically "being your own thing" today can now include acting out fantasies... or killing others.

Smashing the Restraints of Violence

It was my generation that looked for a world of love and "free" peace. To obtain this goal, we destroyed family structures, sexual morals and marriage. We tried to make love free, and it came at the high price of shattering families and destroying individual lives (including those not yet born).

Far from producing love and peace, this shattered world is engendering bitter fruits in a society that is coming apart with great violence. You can see this in the sexual harassment scandals. It is found in the political landscape that is polarized and fragmented. It finds tragic expression in the lives of lonely individuals who seek revenge upon society by killing other students.

We have violence in society because our culture is immersed in it. Once my generation adopted an anything-goes attitude toward culture, it unleashed the forces of violent films, pornography, frenetic substance abuse and video games that you now see and suffer. You are given false role models

Author of the book *Return to Order*, John Horvat, II shares his experience as a "baby boomer" with the youth of today.



"As a child of the sixties, I was born of a generation that also had protests. I recall my desires to change the world and make it a better place by challenging everything."

Anti-war demonstration in Chicago, August 1968.

that glorify this violence and make it glamorous and popular.

Your generation feels threatened by violence because we have no defense against it. We have torn down the structures of family, community and faith that once protected us from it. We have smashed the rules that restrained violence and kept society safe. We have excluded God, the source of all good and order, from the popular culture.

Time for a Return to Order

And so as youth nationwide gather to demand action against gun violence, I would ask you to consider the cause of this violence, not only its tragic consequences. Let's both reject the premises that brought us here.

Now is not the time to repeat the sixties, but to reject them. Let us join together to declare the sixties over. They have brought us a catastrophe, full of violence and politically correct intolerance. People are tired of its old rhetoric and superficiality that has led us to our broken times. They yearn for order.

Now is the time for a return to order—but not the false materialistic order of the fifties.

It is time to find our roots and go back to what

Let us join together to declare the sixties over. They have brought us a catastrophe, full of violence and politically correct intolerance. People are tired of its old rhetoric and superficiality that has led us to our broken times.

Russel Kirk called those “permanent things,” those calm norms of courage, duty, courtesy, justice, and charity that owe their existence and authority not to a self-centered “Me Generation,” but to a loving and transcendent God.

Just something to think about.

All the best,
A Baby Boomer
Looking to the Future

P.S. Please excuse the long explanation. I had no time to reduce the above considerations into a single tweet. ■

As seen on The Stream



Catholics Battle Blasphemy at College of the Holy Cross

BY GABRIEL FONTICOPA

A pro-homosexual ring leader chants: “What do I study? Blasphemy!” You know it’s a dark day for Catholic education when blasphemy passes for scholarship. Unfortunately, the Jesuit-run College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., is standing by its theology professor Tat-Siong Benny Liew, who penned horrific blasphemies, claiming that Our Lord was an erotic cross-dresser with “queer desires.”

Scores of complaints condemning the blasphemous writings of Prof. Liew, including a statement from the Most Rev. Robert McManus, Bishop of Worcester, did not prompt any meaningful response from the Jesuit college so far. Instead of upholding fidelity to their baptismal vows, college officials are hiding behind “academic freedom” to justify blasphemy within their religion department. Therefore, as long as young souls are exposed to Prof. Liew’s twisted interpretation of the Bible, the scandal continues.

Protest at the Gates of Holy Cross

“Reparation, reparation, reparation!” echoed down College Street on April 7, 2018 as a throng of fervent Catholics from Massachusetts and neighboring states gathered to express their outrage at the gates of the Catholic college. Pro-life advocates, Holy Cross students and college alumni all joined forces for the



The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property opposes blasphemies taking place within the walls of this Jesuit college.

TFP-sponsored rally on the sidewalk that cold Saturday morning.

Large twelve-foot banners expressed the purpose of the peaceful protest. “Prof. Liew: Disavow or resign” read one, and another featured a quote by Bishop Robert J. McManus: “Clearly the biblical conclusions that Professor Liew has reached in his writings are both false and perverse.”

Twenty-seven TFP Student Action volunteers drove in from Pennsylvania with banners, signs and bagpipers to oppose the blasphemy. The rosary was prayed over a bullhorn and the faithful lining the sidewalk responded while they displayed signs such as “Why the endless insults to Jesus?”, “Stop Queer Theology” and “Crusader mascot is ‘offensive,’ but blasphemy is OK?”

Students Who Support Blasphemy

It became sadly apparent how the blasphemous mindset trickles down from professor to students. Shortly after the rosary of reparation began, some twenty Holy Cross students came out to counter-protest in favor of Prof. Liew’s blasphemous writings. Waving rainbow flags, the pro-homosexual activists interrupted the recitation of the rosary with chants such as “Love thy neighbor” and “Who are you to judge?” At least one student carried a blasphemous sign mocking Our Lord: “I (heart) my drag Jesus.”

The ring leader of the group shouted:

“What do I study? Blasphemy!

“When do I study it? All the time!

“Where do I study it? Right here at the Cross!” (pointing to the Catholic college).

16,422 Anti-Blasphemy Signatures Presented

More than 16,422 people have signed TFP Student Action’s anti-blasphemy petition, urging the College

Why Blasphemy Is Worse Than Murder

Saint Thomas Aquinas explains why blasphemy is such a grave offense.

“If we compare murder and blasphemy as regards the objects of those sins, it is clear that blasphemy, which is a sin committed directly against God, is more grave than murder, which is a sin against one’s neighbor. On the other hand, if we compare them in respect of the harm wrought by them, murder is the graver sin, for murder does more harm to one’s neighbor, than blasphemy does to God. Since, however, the gravity of a sin depends on the intention of the evil will, rather than on the effect of the deed, as was shown above (I-II:73:8), it follows that, as the blasphemer intends to do harm to God’s honor, absolutely speaking, he sins more grievously than the murderer.” (*Summa*: 2-2, q. 13, a.3)



Are these students getting their money’s worth? Full-time undergraduates at College of the Holy Cross paid \$48,940 in tuition and fees in the 2016-2017 academic year.

of the Holy Cross to dismiss Prof. Liew. Those petitions were presented by TFP volunteers before the gates of Holy Cross in the hope that Father Boroughs will correct the scandal and restore moral values on campus.

While at the gates, TFP volunteer Zechariah Long talked with two Holy Cross students. One had a rosary wrapped around his hand and lamented the state of his campus. “Here, if you try to do anything good and stand up for the truth, you will be persecuted,” he said. ■



Above: In an effort to repair the damage done by blasphemy, many Catholics came to Holy Cross, giving to God and Our Lady the honor that is Their due. Right: The number on these boxes represent the people who responded to an online protest. Clearly, a large number object to the blasphemy that passes for “education” at Holy Cross.



Pro-Abortion Students Found Speechless at Bloomsburg University

BY ROBERT NUNEZ

Without bothering to look up from his smart phone, the student took a TFP flier. After walking a few steps, he glanced at it and suddenly froze in place.

He rushed to the nearest TFP volunteer, his face lit up with excitement: “I just wanted to let you know that I am completely against abortion. I’m 23 years old and a year ago, I got my girlfriend pregnant. It was hard but I couldn’t abort the baby.” He pulled up a picture of his baby on his phone: “That’s my daughter. She’s three months old and she was just baptized.”

He was one of hundreds of students at Bloomsburg University in Pennsylvania who received TFP Student Action’s informative flier, *10 Reasons to Defend the Unborn* on February 26, 2018. It was difficult to miss the TFP’s red standard, the American flag, the sound of bagpipers and the banner—“Pray the Rosary to end abortion”—situated prominently on the campus quad.

“Not You Again!”

“Not you again!” cried a student as sixteen young TFP volunteers arrived on campus. With memories of last year’s TFP rally against transgender ideology still fresh in their minds, students were quick to recognize the TFP.

“I thought we scared you guys off last time,” another student said in disbelief.

“We don’t get scared,” responded a TFP volunteer.

“Yeah, no kidding!” came the reply.

About ten minutes into the campaign, a group of feminists dressed in scarlet cloaks from the “Woman’s Resource Center” began setting up a makeshift booth near the TFP banner. They gave out their own brochures in favor of abortion, carried pre-



Engaging passersby in an animated conversation can be the most effective way to promote the truth on college campuses.

made signs and distributed rainbow ribbons.

The undeniable link between the “pro-choice” movement and other radical leftist groups was evident by the kinds of people that joined them: a Satanist sporting a black pentagram T-shirt, a self-professed communist preaching Karl Marx, and several pro-homosexual activists carrying LGBT flags.

Abortion Advocates Refuse to Debate

A second, larger counter-protest was also forming in front of the TFP banner. Pro-abortion activists wearing gaudy “angel” costumes that looked like bed sheets gathered to block the TFP banner. A larger white sheet was stretched across to obscure the TFP’s message for the unborn. The bizarre sight of blank bed sheets confused some people while generating curiosity in others.

“What in the world is going on here?” asked a U.S. Army officer as he accepted a TFP flier.

Efforts to engage the pro-abortion demonstrators in civil debate met with stony silence. “Don’t argue with them [TFP]; that’s exactly what they want,” said one pro-abortion student to her friends.

It got so ridiculous that an onlooker intervened and started berating the leftists for refusing to debate. “Why don’t you go talk to them?” he insisted. “Your sign doesn’t even say anything.”

“It does say something,” replied the abortion advocate. “The sign says ‘this is a mess.’”

“This isn’t a mess,” the bystander retorted, “this [TFP presence] is very civilized.”

One pro-abortion sign stood out: “The more you silence us,



TFP Student Action volunteers leave the Bloomsburg University campus with a confident stride, proud to be promoting the rosary and defending the unborn on campus.

the louder we become.” But ironically, the same people who claimed they were being silenced were now the ones trying to block and suppress the TFP’s message in defense of the unborn.

The Shocking Abortion Mindset

“I had an abortion and I was happy when I did it!” a student blurted.

“What a real shame. I’ll be praying for you,” answered a TFP volunteer.

A heavily tattooed student rejected a TFP flier, adding: “I’m definitely pro-murder. I believe that we should get rid of anyone who is a barrier to progress.”

The TFP volunteer probed: “Do you think that I’m a barrier

deny the humanity of the unborn child also disregard the value of all human life.

Examples of Support

A good number of students and faculty members expressed their support, usually with a thumbs-up or a word of encouragement such as “Keep up the good work.”

“My daughter is a professor here,” said an older gentleman, “and my wife sent me over to take a picture of you because we really liked what we saw.”

While in disagreement, a leftist professor said he respected the courtesy displayed by TFP members. “I think it’s important for students to hear what the other side has to say. I teach my students to be critical thinkers, and that includes weighing in on both sides of the issue.”



Very quickly, the pro-abortion students ran out of arguments...and in real desperation they used white bed sheets to block TFP’s banner on campus that read: “Pray the Rosary to End Abortion.”

to progress?”

“Yah, I think you are.”

“Then do you believe that I should be murdered?”

“I don’t really care a [expletive] about what happens to you. If you were murdered, I’d put a smiley-face on my [social media] profile page,” he said.

From this exchange, we clearly see how those who callously

Do TFP Campaigns Work?

Leftists might claim that TFP campaigns do not persuade anyone. However, experience has often shown the opposite to be true.

“Last year when you came to campus, I was a raging liberal,” one student offered. “Now, I totally agree with you.”

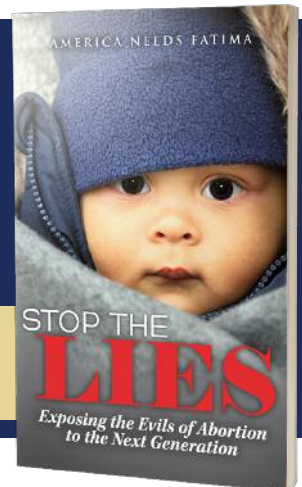
TFP Student Action also received this email:

“I wanted to express my thanks today to your organization. My son is a student at Bloomsburg University and he told me he saw some Catholics from the TFP handing out brochures on the evils of abortion. He talked with them for a little while and told them he was happy they were there...”

“Please keep up the fight,” she continued. “My son said it got people talking in his class and that is a good first step. It is a struggle to live out the faith on secular college campuses, but there are young people who support you. But many of them live in fear to step out either in class or among their peers. The holy boldness of your missionaries is sometimes all one of them needs to be empowered to make the right decision or speak out against this terrible evil.”

God bless all of the pro-life students and faculty at Bloomsburg University and give them the strength to carry on the crusade to end the sin of procured abortion. ■

Promote the truth about the Culture of Death as revealed through the groundbreaking little book entitled, *Stop the Lies*. If every American had immediate access to the facts about the killing industry going on in his own backyard, we would see an end to this multi-billion-dollar business. We invite you to share this book on college campuses, in local churches and on the streets—anywhere that you can shine the light of truth in a culture darkened by the lie that abortion is a “right.”



Get your copy today for just \$2.95.
Shipping and handling are absolutely FREE!

Call (888) 317-5571 and mention item #537a.

Opposing Pro-Transgender Priest at Spring Hill College

BY JOHN RITCHIE



Catholics gathered at the entrance to Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, on May 5, 2018, with a prayerful purpose: to oppose a commencement address given by Father James Martin, S.J., a vocal pro-homosexual priest who sows public confusion within the Church by promoting the normalization of transgenderism and homosexual sin.

Leading up to the commencement ceremony, TFP Student Action gathered 17,489 signatures on a petition to Dr. Christopher Puto, president of the Jesuit-run college, urging him to “find a new speaker who respects and loves the perennial doctrine of the Catholic Church.”

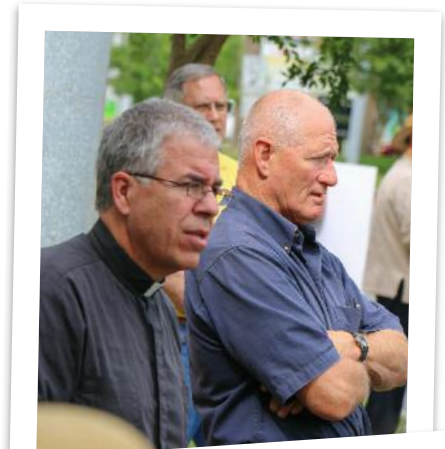
The voices of young Catholics, alumni, and parents, however, were ignored by the college, prompting the physical protest at the intersection of Old Shell Road and Portier Lane, organized by the American TFP together with local pro-family advocates.

The TFP petition alerted and galvanized many who came from as far as Florida, Louisiana and Texas to pray and protest at the gates of the college. Their public display was peaceful and visible. Those arriving for the graduation ceremony met throngs of faithful Catholics praying the rosary and holding signs and banners.

Recalling the words of Our Lady of Fatima, one young protester expressed his concern, saying, “Our Lady warns us that more souls go to hell for sins against the sixth and ninth Commandment, sins of the flesh, than anything else. So she, you know, wants us to live chaste lives. And that’s primarily what Father Martin promotes—sins of the flesh.”

As the peaceful protest ended, everyone knelt on the sidewalk to receive the priestly blessing of Father James Dean, pastor at Sacred Heart Chapel.

“I know the power of prayer can turn things around,” said a concerned Catholic at the protest. “Because we’re in a crisis right now and we need help.” Mentioning her devotion to Our Lady Undoer of Knots, she added, “Boy do we have a knot here and we need to pray to the Blessed Mother to start loosening this knot and maybe together with her we can untie it.”



SAINT Charbel: The Wonder Worker of Lebanon



BY BEN BROUSSARD

*The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree.
He shall grow like the cedar of Lebanon. (Ps. 91:13)*



The Biblical cedars of Lebanon have towered on mountaintops for thousands of years. Lebanon, a country mentioned in the Bible more than 70 times, today carries the cedar on its flag. The towering cedar is prized for both its quality and the stability of its wood, not to mention its fragrance.

Our Lord Himself walked the rugged country of Lebanon when He visited Tyre and Sidon. He foresaw all that would come to pass. He also looked to our days, and saw all the crises facing not just Lebanon, but the entire world.

It was here that Divine Providence raised up a man who could be called a true “cedar of Lebanon.” An exemplar of every virtue, his mission would be to help not just the people of his homeland, but the entire world. The quality of his life, the stability of his total dedication, and the fragrance of his sanctity rose to the heights of heaven. God gave to this man great power to work miracles. This man was Saint Charbel Makhlof.

Dedicated to God

Charbel Makhlof was born on May 8, 1828. He was the fifth child of Antoun Zaarour Makhlof and Brigitta Chidiac. At baptism he received the name of Youssef (Joseph). The family lived in the rural village of Bekaa-Kafra, high in the Lebanese mountains.

At his mother’s knee young Youssef learned to pray with great devotion. As was the custom among Maronite Catholics, the children knelt and repeated their mother’s prayers before the small home altar at day’s end. The smoke of incense rose with their prayers at evening twilight.

As he grew Youssef was drawn to the examples

of the lives of the saints and to the life of a hermit, as was practiced by two of his uncles. Youssef took charge of his family’s flock, daily bringing them to pasture. In a small grotto near where the sheep grazed, young Youssef placed an icon of the Blessed Virgin. In the peaceful solitude he would pass the day in prayer. The other boys of the village ironically began to call the place “the grotto of the saint.”

In the heat of summer or the snows of winter, the thoughts of Youssef always turned heavenward. With each passing day, he fervently prayed to Our Lady that he could live his days entirely in God’s service.

“God Wants Me Entirely for Himself!”

At 23, Youssef quietly left home and headed for the Monastery of Our Lady in Mayfouq, Lebanon. Here he began the novitiate, taking the monk’s habit and the religious name “Charbel,” after a second century martyr.

It did not take long for his family and friends to notice his absence. His mother and other relatives, learning of his whereabouts, tried many times to persuade him to return. Charbel’s only response was emphatic: “God wants me entirely for Himself!”

After the first year of novitiate, Brother Charbel was sent to the monastery of Saint Maron at Annaya. Here he learned to sing the Divine Office seven times a day. The Maronite monks held all of their ceremonies in Aramaic, the language spoken by Our Lord. He studied the Divine Liturgy and the monastic duties, always striving to make progress in the way of perfection. Apart from this, Charbel took on the domestic works of the monastery, including baking bread, cultivating the land, making shoes, mending and washing clothes and working as a carpenter.

In 1853, at the age of 25, Charbel pronounced his solemn final vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. He was next sent to another monastery to study theology. Here Charbel proved himself as an excellent student and an exemplar of sanctity. After six years of study he was ordained a priest on July 23, 1859.

Perfect Self-Control

Father Charbel returned to the monastery of Saint Maron at Annaya. Here he would spend the rest of his life.

The new priest was reverent in the exercise of his sacred duties. With great humility he also performed the manual labors of the community. The piety of Father Charbel could not be confined to the monastery, and word soon spread of his deep devotion and self-mastery.

One day the monks were working in the fields when they found a dangerous snake. Every attempt to frighten off the serpent failed. Father Charbel was called. He calmly rose from his prayers, approached the snake, and commanded it to go away and never return. The snake immediately obeyed and slithered away. On another occasion, swarms of locusts began to plague the area, endangering the crops. Father Charbel once again calmly approached the pests and commanded their departure. The locusts left immediately, and the harvest was spared.

A Hermit's Life

From an early age Father Charbel felt the call to greater solitude. He sought permission many times from his superior to move to a nearby hermitage. But Father Charbel was very useful to the community. His superior did not want to give permission, and so continued to delay Charbel's request.

After serving for 16 years as a priest in the monastery, divine intervention would obtain the desired permission for him. Again Father Charbel asked his superior for permission to become a hermit. His superior again deferred, asking Father Charbel to study a matter of some urgency. His superior gave him permission to stay up past the usual hour to finish the task.

Father Charbel went to the kitchen of the monastery to acquire oil for his lamp. The servant, wanting to mock this sacral monk, filled the lamp with water. Father Charbel, absorbed in devout contemplation, did not perceive the prank and returned to his cell. Immediately Father Charbel returned to his prayers, and lit the water-filled lamp with ease. The servant, looking on, watched in awe as he saw this holy monk miraculously burning water. He called the superior of the monastery. The abbot

stared wide-eyed at the bright lamp burning water for fuel, and could only exclaim, "Father Charbel, pray for me!"

Word of this miracle reached the Superior General of the Maronite Order. He authorized Father



Left: Exterior of Saint Charbel's house in Bekaa Kafra, Lebanon. Below: Interior of Saint Charbel's humble home.



Charbel to take up residence at the hermitage of Saints Peter and Paul close to the monastery.

From 1875 to his death, Father Charbel lived the secluded life of a hermit. He always held

himself to the strictest discipline and would undergo strict penances and fasting. At over 5,000 feet above sea level, the hermitage provided little shelter from the harsh winter or the heat of summer. Father Charbel kept a hairshirt hidden beneath his habit. With little food and deprived of every comfort, Father Charbel was the happiest man on earth. Our Lord Jesus Christ became his strength and his joy, his only reason for being.

Father Charbel daily offered Holy Mass in the seclusion of his hermitage. He would spend hours on his knees preparing for Mass, and hours afterward in thanksgiving. For 23 years, his offering the Divine Liturgy in the sacred mountain hermitage called down the blessings of heaven on him, his country, the Church and the world. Those who assisted always said the same about him: his voice was low, but his face shone with an interior joy. His deep union with His Divine Master radiated in every word and action.

Father Charbel's obedience became legendary, his angelic chastity encompassing his whole being, and his poverty going to extremes not reached by many other saints.

In December of 1898 while offering Holy Mass, Father Charbel suffered a stroke. The servant assisting him had to pry the Sacred Host from his hands. Just

seven days later, on Christmas Eve, he passed into eternity.

A Light from the Mountains

Following the funeral rites, Charbel's fellow monks carried his body to his tomb. As was the custom, his body was placed in a tomb in the monastery cemetery with no embalming and no coffin. For the last time Father Charbel was clothed in his monastic habit. The heavy snows of winter made the burial difficult for his brother monks.

The holy hermit thus lay forgotten by the world. But God's eyes were ever on His servant.

A short time after his burial, his fellow monks and nearby villagers noticed an extraordinary light coming from his tomb. The light shone for 45 days, and word quickly spread near and far. The monks soon sought ecclesiastical permission to exhume the body. This was done in the spring of 1899, four months after Charbel's death.

Frequent rains had flooded the cemetery several times, but the body was found completely incorrupt. The newly-opened tomb revealed the peaceful remains of Father Charbel floating on mud in a flooded grave.

The monks of Annaya carefully cleansed and re-clothed the body, which remained flexible with no signs of decay. Father Charbel's remains were transferred to a wooden coffin, this time in a corner of a private chapel in the monastery.

Another unusual occurrence came with exhuming Father Charbel's body. A liquid described as a mixture of sweat and blood issued from the body's pores. As a result, the bloodstained clothing on the relics of this holy hermit needed to be changed twice



Austere entrance to the hermitage of Saint Charbel.

a week. Pieces of cloth soaked in this liquid were given to those who approached Father Charbel with their petitions. News spread of numerous cures and healings.

From Hidden Hermit to Famed Miracle Worker

On July 24, 1927, two doctors with the French Medical Institute examined Father Charbel's body in detail. They drew up various documents which were submitted to the proper Church authority. Their testimony was signed in the presence of ecclesiastical judges and other witnesses. The body of Father Charbel was clothed in new priestly vestments and placed in a new coffin of wood covered

with zinc. A zinc tube containing all the documents pertaining to his case was sealed with the remains in a new tomb. The monks built an oratory especially for prayer before Father Charbel's remains. His body lay undisturbed here for 23 years.

In 1950, Pope Pius XII declared a jubilee year. Pilgrims to Father Charbel's tomb noticed a liquid seeping from the tomb and flowing onto the floor. The superior ordered the tomb opened at once, fearing damage to the precious remains. The tomb was dry, except for the liquid that flowed from a crack in the casket. Permission was granted to open the casket. In the presence of Church authorities and physicians the seal on the casket was broken on April 22, 1950. The liquid composed of sweat and blood continued to flow from Father Charbel's body, which remained flexible and lifelike.

While the body was being examined, no less than 5,000 pilgrims each day were arriving at the monastery. On feasts and Sundays, the numbers exceeded 15,000. Many traveled from distant countries



Mattress stained by the liquid described as a mixture of blood and sweat that issued from the incorrupt body of Saint Charbel upon exhumation in 1899, 1927 and 1950.

in anticipation of a cure or favor. In just two years after exhuming the body of Father Charbel, the monastery had collected 1,200 reports of miracles.

A Saint for Lebanon

Two of these miracles reported were accepted by the Sacred Congregation for Father Charbel's beatification. Sister Maria Kamary suffered from gastric ulcers for 14 years and was completely bedridden. Neither surgery nor medication brought relief. She could not eat and received the last sacraments on three occasions. Brought to the tomb of Father Charbel for fervent prayer, she was completely and spontaneously healed. Her doctor testified: "This was a supernatural happening which is beyond man's power to explain."

Mr. Alessandro Obeid was blinded in an accident when the retinas of his eyes were torn when struck by a tree branch. Brought to the tomb of Father Charbel, his sight was miraculously restored. After a thorough examination, his doctor concluded: "This can only be from an Almighty Will which operated only by divine grace. There is no other explanation and it is certain that we have seriously sought an explanation without finding one."

A third time Father Charbel's remains were exhumed in 1965, and once again they were found intact and secreting the same liquid. On December 5, 1965, Pope Paul VI presided at the beatification of Father Charbel in Saint Peter's Square.

For reasons known only to God, when Father Charbel's remains were exhumed in 1976 it was found that the body had succumbed to the effects of nature. Only the skeleton remained. This did not, however, stop the flow of miracles even for an instant.

On October 9, 1977, Pope Paul VI canonized Saint Charbel. Bishop Francis Zayek, head of the U. S. Diocese of Saint Maron, said "Saint Charbel is like a Cedar of Lebanon, standing in eternal prayer on top of a mountain."

Miracles Around the World

Since his death over a century ago, Saint Charbel has taken his place among the greatest miracle workers of the Church. Nearly every Catholic in Lebanon knows personally someone who has benefited from the healing power of this great saint.

In 1993, a 55-year-old woman from Lebanon named Nouad El Shami suffered paralysis on the left side of her body. After examinations, the doctors said there was no treatment for her condition. Returning home, Nouad later recounted a dream she had on the night of January 22, 1993. In the dream, two Maronite monks stood over her bed. One laid hands on her neck and operated on her, while the other assisted holding her pillow.

When she awoke, she discovered two wounds on her neck. She was completely cured and could walk again without trouble. The next night, Saint Charbel appeared to her in her dream stating: "I did the surgery to let people see and return to faith. I ask you to visit the hermitage where I lived on the 22nd of each month, and to attend Mass regularly for the rest of your life." Since that day, the faithful fulfill this request and gather each month to pray at the hermitage.

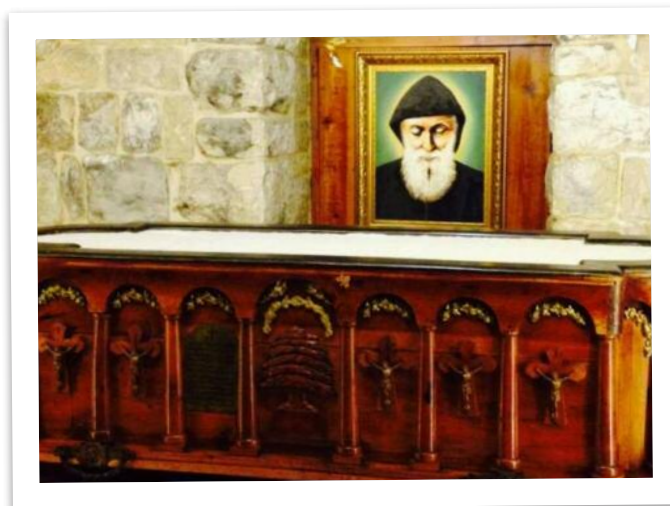
Early in 2012, a 17-year-old boy from Venezuela named Hanna Jabbour went to the hospital to have the doctors examine large red welts on his legs. After running tests and consulting a specialist, Hanna was diagnosed with blood cancer. Young Hanna was given just six months to live. His condition prompted an extended stay in intensive care.

Hanna was in the hospital for 20 days when his uncle came to visit him. His uncle had returned from Saint Charbel's monastery and brought a photograph of the saint for his nephew. Hanna thanked his uncle and placed the photo of Saint Charbel under his pillow. When his visitors left that evening Hanna prayed the rosary and asked Saint Charbel for healing.

That same week Hanna's father was staying with him in the hospital room. He was awakened when Hanna complained of feeling something cold on his back. Hanna's father lifted him up and found the photo of Saint Charbel on his back, covered in fresh blood. Pulling the photo off, he was stunned to find that his son was not bleeding, having no cuts or bruises.

Immediately Hanna's father called for the priest. Within the hour the priest arrived, and on seeing the astounding event told them not to reveal the photo to anyone, but simply have the doctors examine Hanna. In the morning, the doctors ran new tests, and were astonished to find no trace of the cancer.

On leaving the hospital in perfect health, Hanna



The carved casket containing the sacred remains of Saint Charbel. The Lebanese saint has worked great miracles for those who have made pilgrimages to venerate his holy relics.

Jabbour showed the blood-stained photo to everyone and recounted how Saint Charbel had healed him. Even greater than this healing was the fact that Hanna's family members, away from the sacraments, began to lead devout lives once again and spread devotion to Saint Charbel.

A Miracle in America

On January 16, 2016, the relics of Saint Charbel were brought to Saint Joseph's Maronite Catholic Church in Phoenix, Arizona. Dafne Gutierrez was invited by her sister to venerate the relics of Saint Charbel. Dafne suffered from benign intracranial hypertension. In 2012 she lost vision in her right eye, and by 2015 was completely blind. The doctors were at a loss for treatment, recommending she enter a nursing home due to occasional seizures.

Dafne, her husband and three children came to Saint Joseph's and went to confession. They prayed before the relics, and a priest anointed Dafne's eyes with sacred oil. The following day, Dafne and her family returned for Sunday Mass, and they again venerated the relics and Dafne was anointed by the priest.

The next morning, Dafne awoke with intense pain in her eyes. Her husband turned on the light, and the brightness was almost too much for her to bear, but her vision was restored. Two days later she was examined by an ophthalmologist, and her vision was a perfect 20/20. In the medical committee report, her doctor testified: "We have no medical explanation and therefore believe this to be a miraculous healing of Saint Charbel."

News of this miracle spread quickly, and Saint Joseph's Church was flooded with people seeking to venerate Saint Charbel's relics. Another mirac-

ulous cure happened that same week when a Phoenix woman was cured of cancer.

Father Akiki, pastor of Saint Joseph's, erected a large outdoor shrine to Saint Charbel, where monthly devotions are thriving. True to form, Saint Charbel's miracles have brought a great increase of faith.

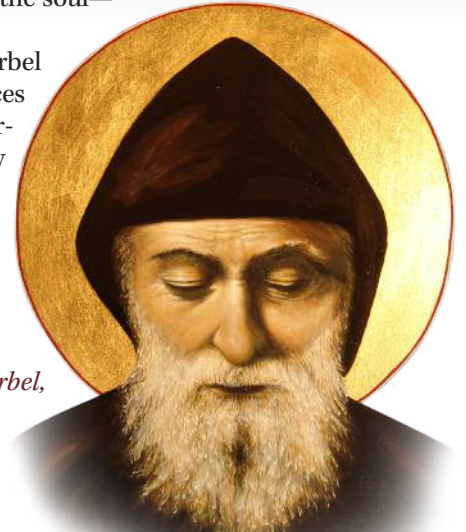
A Saint for Our Times and for All Time

Archivists at the monastery of Annaya, Lebanon continue to document miracles performed by Saint Charbel. Since the 1950s, the number of authenticated cures of people around the world has reached over 26,000!

But as impressive as so many miraculous cures are, Saint Charbel does something far greater. The numbers of those cured is a fraction of those who climb the sacred mountain or pray around the world, asking for his help. And he does give help. Saint Charbel imparts his own strength for his devotees to carry their crosses. The grace to endure one's sufferings until death is a miracle of the soul—far greater than any bodily healing.

Over and over again, Saint Charbel works wonders when the circumstances seem impossible. In the many dire circumstances we face today, no worldly solution can be found. For our own needs and those of so many others, let us invoke the powerful help of Saint Charbel with confidence. ■

**For a miraculous cure by Saint Charbel, recounted to one of our own Fatima Custodians, turn to page 20.*



From the time Saint Charbel entered the monastery, no one except his fellow monks saw his face, nor did anyone take his photo. On May 8, 1950, four Maronite Catholic priests from Scranton, Penn., were on a pilgrimage to Saint Maroun's Monastery in Annaya, Mount Lebanon, to visit Saint Charbel's tomb. One of their number, Father George Webby, took a photo of the four



Maronite Catholic priests and the guard on duty outside the monastery. When Father Webby developed the photo, he noticed an additional person with a white beard standing in the middle of the photo with the other priests.

He immediately went to the monastery to ask the monks if they recognized the "mystery" person in the photo. All the older monks, who had known Father Charbel in his later years, convincingly attested that it was indeed Saint Charbel. Experts ruled out trick photography. Coincidentally, the date the photo was taken, May 8th, was Saint Charbel's birthday.

All subsequent photos and portraits of Saint Charbel have been based on the photo taken by Father George Webby, including the photos and portraits displayed at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome during his beatification and canonization.



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

JULY/AUGUST 2018

PROGRESS REPORT

Fatima Report, MAY 2018

BY JOSHUA LONG

On the night of May 12, 2018, if you were to stand on one of the many hills surrounding the small country town of Fatima, Portugal, you would have thought that every star in the sky had fallen to Earth, only to rest at the feet of Our Lady of Fatima. Too many to count, the flickers of light filling the courtyard were actually candles carried by devotees of Our Lady. In the center of town, under a dark sky, thousands of pilgrims from around the world joined in the fa-

mous candlelight vigil procession, praying the rosary and singing hymns to their Blessed Mother.

Antonio Fragelli, representative from America Needs Fatima, stood among the crowd, the candlelight illuminating the banner he carried with him. The banner displayed over 13,000 names of America Needs Fatima supporters who sent their names in to join us in spirit for the celebrations.

The following day, May 13th, we returned to the village





square early on a sunny Sunday morning. As this important anniversary date fell on Mother's Day this year, America Needs Fatima extended a special invitation to Marian devotees across America to place roses at the feet of Our Lady of Fatima in honor of their mothers. To personalize their gifts, they were given the opportunity to choose roses of various colors to express their love in a special way. Red roses were offered as a sign of love and devotion. Yellow roses were used to express joy, while pink roses spoke of gratitude. And, finally, white roses were chosen to symbolize the purity of motherhood. Over 8,500 beautiful roses of various colors made for a magnificent display of affection from all across America.

In this sacred spot, chosen by the Queen of Heaven herself, we also delivered the thousands of hand-written intentions sent to us by America Needs Fatima members and supporters, taking this opportunity to light candles for them and their intentions.

Later that night, yet another procession took place, even more grand and well-attended than the one the previous night. Leading the procession was a large, illuminated cross. Flanking the cross on the right holding a place of honor was our America Needs Fatima banner. For a second time, this beautiful banner bearing the names of so many children of Mary was carried at Fatima. The American flag was held aloft to the left of the cross. It was truly a marvelous sight!





Fatima Conferences Held Nationwide in 2018

BY TONIA LONG

“The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property—TFP and its America Needs Fatima campaign cordially invites you...”

This was the invitation that appeared in people’s mailboxes all across the country. In a concerted effort to spread the message of Fatima and explain its relevance today, the American TFP, in conjunction with America Needs Fatima, held nationwide conferences throughout the first half of 2018.

In hotels and conference centers across America, Catholics gathered to hear speakers address the issues that concern them most. For example, attendees in Coral Springs, Florida heard meetings elaborating on the topic “How the Followers of Mary Battle Satan for America’s Future.” This particular conference included lectures on current events.

Other conference locations included Ocala, Florida and Reno, Nevada, and as well as Lafayette, Louisiana. A well-attended conference was held in Hazleton, Pennsylvania in March. In early April, residents of Topeka, Kansas were invited to gather in a beautifully refurbished fire station located just steps away from the Kansas State Capitol. The month of May saw conferences being held in Sacramento and Buena Park, California, as well as Hawaii.



The venue for the Kansas Regional conference, Fire Station Number 2, is a beautifully refurbished fire station steps away from the Kansas State Capitol.

A small sampling of the speakers and talks given follows:

Mr. Michael Whitcraft—*Heart of Infinite Majesty*

Mr. James Bascom—*The Spirit of Hollywood vs. the Spirit of the Cross*

Mr. Michael Gorre—*TFP in Action: Reports from the Battlefield*

Mr. Luiz Solimeo—*The Church at the Epicenter of the Culture War*

Mr. Norman Fulkerson—*Our Need for Confidence and Calm 100 years After Fatima*

Though the locations and venues varied, the prayerful and earnest recitation of the Most Holy Rosary remained a constant at every conference. Attendees were also invited to participate in refreshments in order to not miss the opportunity to discuss the talks with fellow Catholics. ■



Above: An attentive crowd gathers for the TFP Regional Conference in Hazleton, Penn. Right: Mr. Bascom gave listeners an inside look at how Satan promotes his agenda through Hollywood in his talk entitled *The Spirit of Hollywood vs. the Spirit of the Cross*.



GUSTODIAN'S

CORNER

A Miraculous Visit from Saint Charbel

BY BEN BROUSSARD



It was a beautiful spring day when I visited the Baaklini family in Harrisburg, Penn. The enthusiastic crowd sang hymns and organized a procession for Our Lady of Fatima on entering the home. After crowning Our Lady, I looked around the living room at several images of saints, some of who were unfamiliar to me. After they told me about certain Lebanese saints displayed, I pointed to an image of Saint Charbel Makhoul in the corner, exclaiming, "I know Saint Charbel!"

Overjoyed to find a fellow devotee of the great saint, one of the gentlemen began to tell a story. It involved family friends of his in Lebanon, and was a clear example of Saint Charbel's miraculous intercession.

It was the fall of 2014, and this Lebanese family had hired a live-in nanny to care for their children. The nanny was soon troubled to hear news that her mother in the Philippines was dying from cancer. The family she worked for could not afford to give her the money to travel to the Philippines. And if she made the long journey from Lebanon to the Philippines, her employers would have to hire someone else to take her place.

The father of this family told the nanny one morning, "We are going to the monastery where the relics of Saint Charbel are kept. Come with us and pray before the remains of Saint Charbel. When we return, call your mother and we will see what can be arranged."

Still troubled about her mother's illness, they all traveled together the next day to pray before Saint Charbel.

Upon returning, the nanny called her mother in the Philippines, eager for updates about her illness. Despite the time difference, her mother answered right away, so excited she could barely contain herself: "Tell the family you work for something for me. Tell them thank you! Thank them for the doctor they sent over yesterday!"

Needless to say, the daughter was confused. "Doctor? What doctor?"

"The doctor they sent yesterday! He gave me this juice to drink, and I haven't felt this good in years! I can't believe it!"

Still confused, the nanny persisted: "Doctor? Mom, who was this doctor?"

"Well, I don't remember his name..." Here she proceeded to describe the man who visited her, giving the exact physical description of Saint Charbel. As the mother in the Philippines related this story, her daughter halfway around the world started to cry. She realized it was a heavenly visitor who had cured her mother, none other than Saint Charbel himself!

The mother was examined by several Filipino doctors in the days that followed. They were astounded at the total disappearance of her cancer. Those who had tracked her illness could hardly believe it was the same woman had they not known her before.

As I listened to the story, I marveled at Saint Charbel, by whom God has worked so many wonders. This was not a story from centuries ago, but from our own day. Everyone involved is still living, and spreading devotion to Saint Charbel around the world. May Saint Charbel continue to work great miracles for those who call on him, to bring healing to both body and soul. ■

Please see pages 12-16 for a full account of the life of Saint Charbel Makhoul.



The Maronite Monastery at Annaya, Lebanon, receives pilgrims from around the world seeking Saint Charbel's powerful help.

To schedule a Fatima visit in your home, call (888) 460-7371.



Our Readers Write



Fatima Centennial Rosary Campaign

"I am in receipt of the rosary guide you provided me, along with the Fatima Rosary. Thank you very much. This address here is actually a Naval Brig (prison). I am scheduled for release within the next 30 days.

Your rosaries and letters have been very inspirational; they have assisted me in my return to the Catholic Church. Too bad it took this drastic of an

event to open my eyes, but as we know, that is how the Holy Ghost works many times. I ask that you keep me in your prayers. Thank you for what you do and may the mission of America Needs Fatima continue to grow."

C. V., Charleston, S. C.

"Just a note to say thank you for my lovely Centennial Fatima Rosary. It arrived in great shape and is just beautiful! With the devastating storms, wildfires, hurricanes, the threats from our country's enemies and recent events, America does need Fatima and our beautiful queen and Holy Mother's prayers and intercessions. I will be more than happy to help with the rosary rallies. Thank you, God Bless America!"

C. K., Houston, Texas

Miraculous Medal Book

"I would like to share a true story that happened just before I received the book *The Story of the Miraculous Medal* from you in the mail. This is how Our Lady and her Miraculous Medal work. I had the opportunity to visit our local Urgent

Care Center one evening because of a bone spur. The nurse practitioner who took care of me noticed the Miraculous Medal I was wearing. She said her mom had given her one, but she had lost it. I told myself, "I'll get her one." When I returned home, I looked through all my Catholic catalogs and online, but either they were too large or too expensive. A

few days later, I received a Miraculous Medal in the mail but with no chain. I thought maybe it just wasn't meant to be. Two days later, I received another medal, but no chain again. I told myself the Blessed Mother isn't giving up, so nor should I. A week later, I received another medal WITH a chain! Oh, Blessed Mother, you must really want her to have your medal! So I wrapped it up, wrote a short note, and dropped it off at the Urgent Care.



The next day she called me and left a message on the answering machine, telling me how grateful she was, and that I had made her day. No, Nurse, the Blessed Virgin made your day; I was just her messenger. Occasionally, I think of how everything fell into place, but with Our Lady at the helm, how could it not?"

J. C., Glendale, Ariz.

2018 Fatima Calendar

"The description of Saints Francisco and Jacinta in your 2018 Fatima calendar was most instructive... it made me think."

D. M., Whitehall, Wis.

"I am so happy to have Mary in my home!"

S. S., Bloomfield, Conn.

"This calendar is so beautiful! It focuses my day on Our Lord Jesus through Mary."

P. W., Florissant, Mo.

ANF Apostolate

"Thank you for the various books you have sent in the past and the recent one (*Meet the Witnesses*, centennial edition). I thoroughly love reading and re-reading them. I especially love the ones on Our Blessed Mother. You cannot buy these books anywhere. I use them for meditation as well! Thank you also for your outstanding work in promoting the message of Our Lady of Fatima. It is very much needed in our society! I am a Catholic school elementary principal, and our students recite the Rosary monthly as a student body! Know that you are in my prayers!"

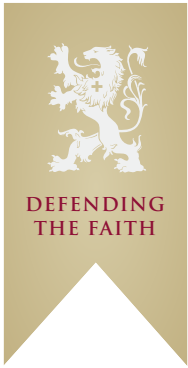
A. M., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

"I thank you for the beautiful centennial rosary and the Fatima book, which I appreciate very much. I am trying to say the rosary as often as I can (not every day yet, but I am trying!). It is important to me to get closer to Our Blessed Mother and I am looking forward to reading the book *The Immaculate Heart of Mary and God's Plan for America* and then passing it on to others. Bless you for sending these to me!"

H. M., Clayton, Ohio



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



How to Write a Pro-Life Letter to the Editor

BY WILLIAM RUSSELL

“All the strength of Satan’s reign is due to the easygoing weakness of Catholics.” —Pope Saint Pius X

Never one to mince words, Pope Saint Pius X gives us all a challenging call to cripple the strength of Satan’s reign in our day. One such forum in which to accomplish this goal is the “Letters to the Editor” section of your local newspaper. Here we offer you these five letters to the editor hoping to equip you with the tools you need to defend innocent life. Pick a letter that inspires you to write, adapt it to fit your style, and submit your copy to the local newspaper online, using the appropriate “opinion/letters to the editor” section.

Important note: *News editors want original content. Feel free to borrow the ideas contained in these five sample letters, but the letter should be your own, with your original wording and style.*

1 Every human being is a unique masterpiece

Dear Editor,

It is an irrefutable scientific fact that, at the moment of conception, every new human being represents a genetically distinct, unrepeatable life. To abort [kill] that human being in the process of development, at any stage, is to interfere with God’s creative power.

Under this perspective, abortion is more evil than, for example, the choice to chop off Mozart’s arms in mid composition. Mozart used his God-given talent to produce masterpieces capable of leaving entire generations of listeners

spellbound. Yet every human being, considered in its unrepeatable uniqueness, is a greater masterpiece than a brilliant music score.

The *Roe vs. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in 1973 is responsible for taking the lives of 58 million masterpieces. How many “Mozarts” were among them? In any decent society, the taking of an innocent life cannot be justified under any circumstances. This is why abortion is wrong and why the defenseless child needs to be protected by law.

Sincerely,

2 Will God bless a nation that allows abortion?

Dear Editor,

“Thou shall not kill.” The value of this Divine command is reasonable even to the atheist. Additionally, every stable culture in the history of the world has posited it as law in some form. As a weary America struggles through wars, a weak economy, and a spiritual crisis, perhaps we should reassess her moral compass. January 22nd marks the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court case that legalized abortion and is responsible for taking over 58 million lives to date.

The saying “God bless America” is a common adage in our country. Yet the question must be asked: will God bless an America that sanctions the slaughter of innocent children? Even more, will God bless those who, while disagreeing with the evil, stand by in apathetic silence? I don’t think so.

If our legal system accepts the killing of babies who, as science proves, have beating hearts after only twenty days in the womb, how can we feel secure for our own lives? America must change her moral compass. If she doesn’t, God will certainly withdraw His blessings.

Sincerely,



3 Abortion is highly un-American and immoral

Dear Editor,

“Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.” These three rights are strongly defended and loved by the American people. In fact, we have fought wars and risked lives to protect them. As we recall the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, the court case that legalized abortion, we must ask ourselves: What about the rights of the 58 million babies who have been killed since 1973?

During the Second World War, America helped put an end to the cruel concentration camps in Europe. Yet today, an even greater, silent holocaust is waged within our very own borders. Every year, over a million babies are aborted. In short, the most fundamental right, that of life, which is the basis of all the others, is being denied to our own people. Some may ask whether the unborn child is really a human. The answer is yes. Science tells us that the unborn baby has a distinct, unchanging, and unrepeatable genetic code, unique in all of history, from the moment of conception.

Many say that a woman has the “right” to choose. And what of the baby’s right? Even more, it is illegal in this country to harm the unhatched eggs of an eagle. Why then, is it legal to kill an unborn child, who is more precious than any bird?

Should life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness be denied to our unborn babies? To answer in the affirmative would be highly un-American and simply immoral.

Sincerely,

4 Abortion claims more lives than terrorism

Dear Editor,

Since the beginning of the War on Terror in Iraq and Afghanistan, thousands of American soldiers have been killed. This has been a tragic loss. Another war, however, has taken an even greater amount of American lives—over 58 million to be exact. When did this war start, and where does it take place? It started with the 1973 *Roe vs. Wade* decision which legalized abortion, and the war is taking place directly on our own soil.

Terrorism is a constant threat. Not a day goes by without hearing of the deaths it causes. Perhaps a greater threat than Islamic terrorism, though, is the abortionist’s scalpel. This terror often goes unnoticed, because the screams of the victims are silent. Today, we rightly fear the threat of losing our freedom. But, if we cannot as a nation defend our most basic right, that of life, for our own citizens, how can we ever defend ourselves from the threats against national security? As precious as Americans view



Participating in the Annual March for Life is just one of many ways to light a candle in the darkness of the Culture of Death.

freedom, how can we deny that freedom to the future children of our nation, the future that comes from a mother’s womb?

According to science, a baby’s heart starts beating 20 days after conception. If America does not defend her children at home, how can we expect to defeat terrorism abroad? On the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, January 22, let us stand together and put an end to the silent screams. Once we defeat the enemy within, then we can face the enemy without more effectively.

Sincerely,

5 Abortion undermines Western medicine

Dear Editor,

As we recall the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade* on January 22, the court decision which legalized abortion, I believe it is important to reflect on the tradition of Western medicine.

Western civilization formed the first hospitals and developed a school of medicine. The key to its fruition, however, is not pure chance, but is based upon the fact that each person, rich or poor, young or old, has the right to life. Yet today, there is a great contradiction: abortion. This contradiction in the practice of Western medicine is responsible for the deaths of over 58 million U.S. children since 1973.

For those who doubt whether or not the unborn child is a true human person, science has given us a number of facts. First, the baby’s heart begins beating at twenty days in the womb, with brain waves occurring at 40 days. Secondly, 14 weeks after conception the entire body surface, except the back and the top of the head, are sensitive to pain. What is more, an unborn child can survive outside of the womb at 21 weeks.

In a nation where it is illegal to harm eagle eggs, why do we allow for the slaughter of innocent babies, which are more valuable than birds? Let us hope that America will once again be the champion of Western medicine. Let us hope that she will again protect and defend the right to life, from conception until natural death.

Sincerely,



HIDDEN *Beauty*

BY THOMAS RYDER

I am often amazed by the fact that spectacular underwater beauty remained hidden from people throughout most of history. While perhaps a few men in earlier centuries may have gotten a glimpse of such deep-sea beauty, it seems that this moving palette was reserved for our times.

Indeed, only in the last fifty years, has mankind developed the technology to capture in still or moving images such stunning beauty for our admiration.

It is also evident that such beauty was not made for the animal, vegetable or mineral kingdoms as only mankind is able to recognize its priceless value.

The stunning beauty of the little colorful creatures combined with their graceful and varied movement within the deep waters is a sight which will stop any man in his tracks.

No matter how pressing his appointments, a man will pause to consider this beautiful spectacle, putting aside his more practical needs for the moment. The variety of vibrant moving colors moves him to imagine the possibility of other, even more beautiful colors and even more graceful motions.

A fascinating experience is to place an innocent child in front of such an aquarium and watch his reaction. The beauty of it all captivates him, almost trance-like, connecting with the beauty and innocence of his

soul. The child rejoices in excitement. Beauty and innocence get along just fine.

Looking at this from a different angle, one may say that such beauties in nature are the Creator's calling card; reminding us that if we are faithful there will be much more to feast our eyes on beyond the grave. In fact, great and saintly theologians tell us that what we see here on earth is nothing, absolutely nothing, in comparison with the incomprehensible beauty of Heaven.

Finally, I find in this variety of color and movement a considerable benefit for body and soul. For the body, it provides an opportunity to de-stress and a sensible tranquility of the nerves; especially if you happen to live in the twenty-first century. For the soul, it provides a window into paradise, a small proof, one may even say a "bait," for us to stay the course because it is for Beauty that we were made, and it is Beauty which will fill the need of our souls.

These are but a few considerations which I invite you to pause and consider the next time you come across such deep water beauty, a gift for our times. ■

