

May/June 2022

# CRUSADE<sup>®</sup>

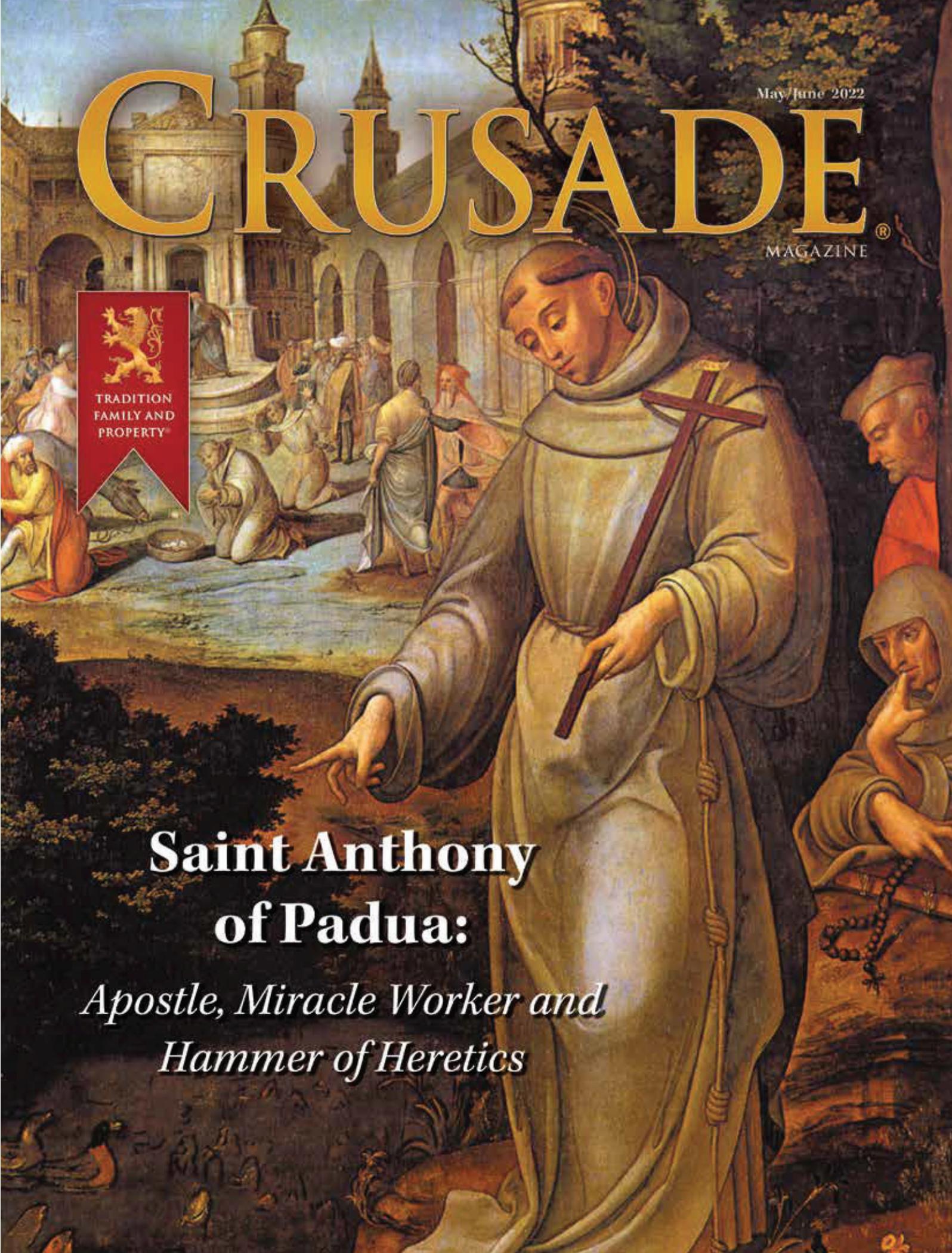
MAGAZINE



TRADITION  
FAMILY AND  
PROPERTY<sup>™</sup>

## **Saint Anthony of Padua:**

*Apostle, Miracle Worker and  
Hammer of Heretics*



# ST. LOUIS DE MONTFORT ACADEMY

TRAINING YOUNG MEN WHO WILL GROW UP TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

The **St. Louis de Montfort Academy** is an independent boarding school for boys, encompassing grades 7 through 12. Founded in 1995, it is staffed by full-time volunteers of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP).



**St. Louis de Montfort Academy** seeks to provide a solid academic foundation, where Catholic culture and civilization are emphasized. It strives to provide an environment that promotes everything a Catholic gentleman should be. Through a rich daily program of Holy Mass, rosary, inspection, studies, etiquette lessons, outdoor games and field trips, the Academy seeks the healthy growth and maturity of boys into Catholic gentlemen, with a special emphasis on manliness and militancy in the defense of Christian civilization. Ultimately, it hopes to provide the Church, our nation and an increasingly chaotic world with young men who will grow up to make a difference.

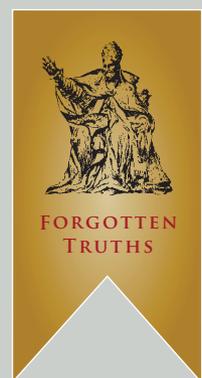
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT US AT:

[WWW.MONTFORTACADEMY.EDU](http://WWW.MONTFORTACADEMY.EDU)



Illustration - David Darichourt

## “But Deliver Us From Evil”



**Idolatry**  
Idolatry not only refers to false pagan worship. It remains a constant temptation to faith. Idolatry consists in divinizing what is not God. Man commits idolatry whenever he honors and reveres a creature in place of God, whether this be gods or demons (**for example, Satanism**), power, pleasure, race, ancestors, the state, money, etc. Jesus says, “You cannot serve God and mammon.” Many martyrs died for not adoring “the Beast” refusing even to simulate such worship. Idolatry rejects the unique Lordship of God; it is therefore incompatible with communion with God (CCC, 2113).

### Divination and Magic

All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely supposed to “unveil” the future.

**Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance and recourse to mediums** all conceal a desire for power over time, history and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect and loving fear that we owe to God alone (CCC, 2116).

All practices of magic or sorcery, by which one attempts to tame occult powers, so as to place them at one’s service and have a supernatural power over others - **even if this were for the sake of restoring their health** - are gravely contrary to the virtue of religion. These practices are even more to be condemned when accompanied by the intention of harming someone, or when they have recourse to the intervention of demons (CCC, 2117). ■

Taken from Catechism of the Catholic Church.  
Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2113, 2116, 2117, [emphasis ours]  
[https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM#fonte](https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM#fonte).

# CONTENTS

In Brief	4
Christ in the Home	
Do Your Children Belong to the State?	5
Return to Order	
The End of History Just Ended	6
Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira	
Clothed in Light	8
Cover Story	
Saint Anthony of Padua: Apostle, Miracle Worker and Hammer of Heretics	10
Book Review	
Exorcist Reveals Strongest Weapons in War on Satan	16
America Needs Fatima Progress Report	
♦ A Hopeful Message on Busy Street Corners	17
♦ "I Will Hear their Weeping..."	18
♦ Battlelines Newsletter	19
♦ Custodian's Corner	20
♦ Assemblymen, Remove Satan!	20
♦ Our Readers Write	21
TFP Student Action	
Keep Satan OUT of Christmas Conference Welcomes the Catholic Leaders of Tomorrow	22
Back Cover	
The Emperor's Throne	24

*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](mailto:crusade@TFP.org). Web: [www.TFP.org](http://www.TFP.org). Tel: (888) 317-5571, Fax: (570) 450-6352. © 2022 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-177 (FN2204)

## CRUSADE

**Editor:** Michael Gorre

**Associate Editor:** C. Michael Drake

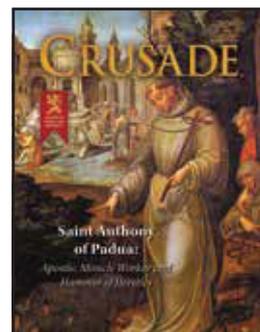
**Contributing Editors:** James Bascom, Ben Broussard, Vincent Gorre, Stacie Hiserman, John Horvat II, Robert Nunez, Gustavo Solimeo, Luiz Solimeo, Rex Teodosio, Renato Vasconcelos

## 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.

"Saint Anthony Preaching to the Fish, by Juan Carreño de Miranda (1646), Prado Museum, Madrid."



Children rely on us, not the state, for protection



5

© Dennis Kuvshinov | Dreamstime.com

How the Russia-Ukraine war represents a historic clash between two modern worldviews in crisis.



6

© Salajean | Dreamstime.com



18

Over 15,000 roses delivered to world's most visited shrine of Our Lady

Satanists claim Baphomet has same rights as Jesus; Rosary Rally held in Illinois State Capitol



22



IN BRIEF

### The Queen Marks Historic Seventy Years of Service

On February 6, Queen Elizabeth II commemorated seventy years since ascending the British throne, making her the first British monarch to ever celebrate a Platinum Jubilee. The longest-serving monarch in British history, Elizabeth became queen of England and the British Commonwealth on February 6, 1952 following the death of her father,

King George VI. Through scandals in the royal family and efforts by liberal activists to abolish the monarchy, she continues to be enduringly popular among people all over the world. According to the latest poll conducted by the British research firm YouGov, she maintains an approval rating of 76 percent.



Joel Ranson / Ministry of Defence

### Victory for Catholic Adoption Agencies in Michigan

On January 25, the state of Michigan reached a legal settlement upholding the right of faith-based adoption agencies to deny adoptions to same-sex couples in accordance with Church teaching, ending a years-long legal conflict. The controversy began in 2019 when Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel, a progressive and a lesbian, announced that taxpayer-funded religious adoption agencies could not deny services to same-sex couples on the basis of religious belief, under penalty of losing financial support. The move would have amounted to the closure of most faith-based adoption agencies. The Becket Fund, a non-profit legal group, sued the state on behalf of St. Vincent Catholic Charities, one of the oldest adoption agencies in the state. The lawsuit gained traction in June of 2021, when in a very similar case, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of a Philadelphia Catholic foster-care agency. According to the settlement, the state of Michigan will restore taxpayer funding to St. Vincent and agreed to pay \$550,000 in attorney fees and costs.

### Archbishop of Ukraine Calls on Citizens to Resist Russian Aggression

On February 24, as Russian missiles began raining down on Ukrainian cities and tanks rolled into the country, Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, leader of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, issued a courageous appeal for his people to defend their homeland and denounced the Russians as "an unjust aggressor." From his residence in Kyiv, the Archbishop proclaimed "Our Ukraine, which the world fairly called "lands of blood", which has been so many times sprinkled with the blood of martyrs and fighters for the freedom and independence of its people, calls us today to stand up for it - to defend its dignity before God and

humanity, its rights for existence and the right to choose one's future." He continued "We believe that in this historic moment the Lord is with us! He, who holds in his hands the fate of the whole world and of each person in particular, is always on the side of the victims of unjust aggression, the suffering and the enslaved." In addition, on March 2, the bishops of Ukraine submitted a letter to Pope Francis asking him to consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

### Survey Finds Majority of American Citizens Believe Culture Is in a State of Decay

According to a recent survey by the Trafalgar Group and the Convention of States Action, 76.8 percent of Americans of all political affiliations, believe that "American society and culture is in a state of decay." In contrast, only 9.8 percent of respondents said that American society and culture was "in a state of progress." The Trafalgar poll further revealed that 85 percent of Republicans, 81 percent of Independents, and 61 percent of Democrats agreed with the assessment. Mark Meckler, president of the Convention of States Action, stated that the "horrific" numbers "go beyond politics to the heart of who we are as a nation and a people."

### Government Report Reveals Record Number of Officers Killed in the Line of Duty

Studies conducted by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the National Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), revealed that 2021 was one of the deadliest years for law enforcement in history, with some 314 police officers shot in the line of duty and a record 73 killed. Of great concern to the FBI and the FOP was the large increase in unprovoked attacks and premeditated ambushes



© Thomas Carter | Dreamstime.com

committed against police officers. Law enforcement officials have blamed the surge of aggression on an erosion of respect for the police, fueled by anti-police rhetoric from the left and a shift of criminal justice system toward more lenient charges for crimes and a much faster rate of returning violent offenders to the streets. ■

# Do Your Children Belong to the State?

BY FERREOL GIRARDEY\*



# STATE PROPERTY



© Inara Prusakova | Dreamstime.com

Dear Christian parents,  
your responsibility as  
parents is great.

As individuals, you are answerable for your own souls; but as parents, you will be required to give the Sovereign Judge a strict account of the souls of your children. It is your sacred duty to train your children that they may become not merely good citizens and useful members of society, but more especially faithful members of Christ's body on earth, that is, the holy Catholic Church, in order that after this life they may be saints in God's heavenly kingdom.

If they become good practical Christians, they will certainly prove useful to society, and be law-abiding and patriotic citizens. Few parents thoroughly appreciate the full extent of their responsibility. If young men and women, before marriage, fully realized the extent of the obligations of parents, many would shrink from entering a state so laden with duties and crosses.

In the bringing up of children, both the father and mother should act as a team. If you neglect your parental duties in whole or in part, or if you act separately from or in opposition to each other, your marriage will produce only thorns and thistles, and your children will be neither good Christians nor useful citizens. Far from becoming your support and consolation in your old age, they will instead become your sorrow.

You should be firmly persuaded of the great truth that your children belong, in the first place, not to yourselves, but to God. It is He Who gives them to you and takes them back when He pleases. God only lends your children to you—He entrusts them to you as so many precious talents, for which you are strictly accountable to His infinite justice.

Infidels and freemasons, maliciously subverting the order of nature established by the Creator, seek to concentrate all rights and powers in what they are pleased to call "the state." They erroneously assert that the child belongs, not to his parents, but to the state; and, out of hatred of the Christian religion, they dare to claim for the state the exclusive right of

educating the children in state or public schools.

If, as they say, the child belongs to the state, the child's parents, being themselves the children of their own parents, must likewise be the property of the state; and therefore we no longer have any free men, but all are the possessions or the slaves of the state. And as in some countries the masons and infidels claim to be the state, it would seem that they claim to own and dispose of their fellow men just as they please.

If, according to this godless doctrine, both the child and his parents belong to the state, the state is obliged, not merely to educate the children, but also to feed, clothe, lodge and provide with the comforts of life both the children and their parents. Such a doctrine, however, is evidently false and absurd, and utterly subversive of the order of nature.

*[I]nfidels and freemasons . . . erroneously assert that the child belongs, not to his parents, but to the state.*

Let us never lose sight of the grand fact that the state is composed, not of single individuals, but of families. Without families, that is, with individuals only, the state could not be perpetuated, but would soon become extinct.

To endure, the state must be composed of families, i.e., of the parents and their children. Hence the unit of society or the state is the family, and not the isolated individual, just as the individual is the unit of the family. From this it follows that the family as an institution predates the state, for, as everybody knows, every compound exists before its components. This being the case, the natural and logical conclusion is that the family has natural and essential rights which the state is bound to respect and even to protect. ■

\*Taken from *Popular Instructions to Parents on the Bringing Up of Children*, Ferreol Girardey (New York, Cincinnati [etc.]: Benziger Brothers, 1897) pp 6–11.



# The End of History Just Ended

BY JOHN HORVAT II



The Russian invasion of Ukraine presents the greatest challenge to the West since the end of the Cold War.

In 1992, American political scientist Francis Fukuyama published his famous book, *The End of History and the Last Man*. The author asserted that the fall of the Iron Curtain marked a milestone of immense importance for the West.

He claimed that the end of the Cold War was not just “the passing of a particular period of post-war history, but the end of history as such: That is, the end-point of mankind’s ideological evolution and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government.”

Borrowing from Hegel and Marx about the evolution of events, he predicted that henceforth liberal democracy would be the final form of government for all nations. There would be no later progression to an alternative system.

## A Narrative that Limped Along Until Now

Subsequent events challenged his end-of-history scenario. Terrorism, Islamic wars and polarization all seemed to conspire against Prof. Fukuyama by adding chapters to the closed history book. However, throughout the post-Cold War period, the liberal democratic system remained the ideal form of government. The globalized world standardized economies using the framework and protocols developed under liberal democracy. The Fukuyama narrative limped along because no credible alternatives contested it.

With the invasion of Ukraine, however, the end of history just ended.

Liberal democracy appears weak, self-destructive and unfocused. Strong alternatives are not only on the horizon but are advancing across the landscape in the form of tanks and troop movements.

The Ukraine crisis is another milestone moment when two worldviews enter into conflict: liberal democracies and autocratic regimes.

The Ukraine crisis is another milestone moment when two worldviews enter into conflict: liberal democracies and autocratic regimes.

## Both Sides Are in Crisis

The moment comes as both sides are in crisis.

On the one hand, liberal democracy is in disarray. Basic institutions like family, community and faith are coming apart, destroying the social fabric. The radical wing of liberalism is engaged in suicidal behavior as it seeks to destroy social structures deemed too oppressive. The mechanisms of the rule of law that allow the system to resolve problems through peaceful and legal processes are breaking down. As a result, things are getting violent and unstable inside liberal democratic regimes.

On the other hand, the autocratic regimes opposing liberal democracy are likewise in crisis. They face

looming demographic implosions due to eroded morals or Draconian population policies. Their social structures are also in disarray amid widespread corruption. However, the hard mechanisms of governmental power are put in place to give a semblance of direction to a society irreparably in decay.

## Two Systems Born of Modernity

Thus, a clash between the two decaying systems is set in motion—jumpstarting the processes of history that supposedly ended.

However, it would be wrong to assume that the two systems are diametric opposites. Both are products of modernity and share the same philosophies. They may differ in methods but agree on the modern vision of humanity and history.

Both systems have advanced in decadence to the point that they now want to overthrow oppressive structures that restrain them. Liberal democracy intends to eliminate social structures that radicals claim promote systemic oppression. Autocratic regimes want to destroy international political structures (like NATO) that undergird the post-war order.

Thus this conflict is not a political disagreement but a paradigm shift to an anti-Western world.

## The Target Is the West

The target of the Ukrainian war is the destruction of the West as a concept. Indeed, the media are all reporting on the destruction of the post-Cold War order. They register the challenge to Western hegemony. No one contests this goal.

However, most media do not allude to the dangerous alternatives that will replace the West. Russia, China and their client states see the West as a repressive framework that must be supplanted by a deconstructed world that recycles old errors based upon nationalism, Marxism, Gnosticism and even mystical elements. Whether it be Russia's pan-Slavic Eurasianism (of Aleksandr Dugin) or Xi Jinping's "new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics," the overwhelming emphasis is anti-Western, anti-Catholic and pro-Marxist.

On their part, liberal democratic societies are questioning their Westernness. Critical Race theory and other schemes consider the West to be the root of all evil embedded in its institutions.

Thus, the West faces internal and external enemies that seek to bring down the geopolitical structures and military alliances sustaining Western hegemony. The attacks

This anti-Western hostility focuses on the tiny lingering remnants of the Christian order that built the West.

come at a moment of great Western decadence, pathetic leadership and pandemic disharmony.

## Why the West Is Targeted

The reason behind this laser focus on the West is not arbitrary. It is not a question of roughly equivalent geographic regions fighting among themselves. These autocratic regimes are not reacting to degenerate Western morals that deserve every condemnation. Indeed, they share the same depravity, although manifested differently.

This anti-Western hostility focuses on the tiny lingering remnants of the Christian order that built the West. The roots of Western civilization are based on the Christian institutions, morals and truths that make true order



Presidents Xi Jinping of China and Vladimir Putin of Russia. In the face of the apparent weakness and self-destruction of liberal democracies, attention is increasingly turning towards strongman, nationalist alternatives. Led by China and Russia, these rising powers aim to replace Western civilization with a new pro-Marxist, authoritarian world order.

and progress possible. Thus, the present conflict targets this moral framework now in ruins as well as Church-generated structures like the rule of law, hierarchy, classical logic and systematized thought that elevated the West and still exert influence. As long as this tiny platform exists, it must be safeguarded.

The West must be defended. This is not done by the conflict of two decadent strains of modernity. Their fight resolves nothing. The true objective should be to defend the remnants of Christian order in the West as a springboard to a full return to order. The West must oppose, internally and externally, the deconstructed errors that target these remnants and will throw the world into chaos.

However, the defense of the West can only be effective with a moral regeneration that must include Divine action as foreseen by Our Lady at Fatima.

The end of history has ended. History once again is moving. Will the West return to order? ■

# *Clothed in Light*



PLINIO  
CORRÊA DE  
OLIVEIRA

**O**ur Lady attracts by showing the beauty of purity. Imagine being just five feet away from Our Lady! Wouldn't it be great to be but five feet away from her? But, what about having Our Lord within us? If only we would think of this when we receive Holy Communion.

As Sister Lucia dos Santos recounts, when Our Lady appears, everything is white, everything is clean and everything is pure. She is, after all, the Virgin of virgins; entirely pure. The hymn *Ave Maris Stella* reminds us that Mary became the gate of heaven, while remaining a virgin. That is to say, it was through her that Christ, Our Lord, came into the world and yet her virginity suffered nothing. Always entirely pure, she attracts us by her purity.

---

*She was "a Lady dressed all in white, more brilliant than the sun, shedding a light that was clearer and more intense than that of a crystal goblet filled with crystalline water and struck by the rays of the most brilliant sun." Her face, indescribably beautiful, was "neither sad nor happy, but serious," with an air of mild reproach. Her hands, joined together as if she were praying, were resting on her breast and pointing upward. A rosary hung from her right hand. Her clothes seemed to be made of light. The tunic was white. The veil, white and edged with gold, covered the head of the Virgin and descended to her feet. Neither her hair nor her ears could be seen. . . .*

*Description of Our Lady by Sr. Lucia*

---

Also, we learn the way of an apostle through the example of Our Lady. When she appeared, she attracted us to the beauty of purity. Let us never make the mistake of adopting questionable customs as far as purity goes, in order that people will accept us. No! To invite people to be pure, we must first show them the beauty of purity. Impurity seeks all darkness to hide its evil deeds, but purity loves daylight and thrives in open air.

At Fatima, Our Lady spoke to an impure world using all the symbols of purity. Was that an invitation only to the little shepherds or was it to the world? She was dressed in white and bathed in light.

This reminds us of when Our Lord spoke of the lilies of the field: "But I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these" (Matt. 6:29). Likewise, no one in all his or her glory was ever dressed as Our Lady was: in light. ■

This article is taken from an informal address given by Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira on June 5, 1984. It has been translated and adapted for publication without his revision. –Ed.

---

***Impurity seeks all darkness to hide its evil deeds, but purity loves daylight and thrives in open air.***

---



COVER  
STORY

# Saint Anthony of Padua: The Rue of Relativists

BY FR. THOMAS DE SAINT-LAURENT\*



Apparition of the Virgin and Child to Saint Anthony, by Pedro Alexandrino, Church of the Magdalene, Lisbon, Portugal.

No sooner was Saint Anthony's body laid to rest in the Church of the Friars Minor in Padua when the faithful began to flock to his tomb.

**T**he pilgrims came from everywhere to venerate the remains of the extraordinary man who had inspired the crowd by his words and his miracles. They gathered around the glorious sepulcher with such respect that they removed their shoes when approaching it. Even the noblest of knights and the most distinguished people approached the remains of the man they considered a powerful protector.

Anthony did not forsake those devoted to him. He healed the sick and consoled the afflicted, multiplying signs and wonders. It is worthy of note that in order to receive his favor, one had to have first received the sacraments. So great was the flow of penitents that there were not enough religious in the convent to hear all the confessions.

Moved by these manifestations of popular devotion, after a thorough examination of his life, Pope Gregory IX solemnly canonized the servant of God on May 30, 1232. Less than a year had elapsed since the death of the new saint.

And this initial fervor did not abate. Devotion to Saint Anthony of Padua has spread to all of Christendom. Far from declining over time, it enjoyed renewed interest in the nineteenth century. A statue of this great miracle worker with the Divine Child in his arms is to be found in most churches throughout the world. Numerous testimonies attest to his intercessory power.

Saint Anthony enjoys immense influence with God, for he reached a high level of perfection. Yet his life was short: he died at thirty-six, and spent most of his lifetime in obscurity. He devoted a mere nine years to preaching, yet his apostolate,



Lithograph depicting Saint Anthony's public appeal and overwhelming sanctity

made fruitful by extraordinary virtue and miracles, has borne rich fruit throughout history.

### Seeking the Divine Will

The well-known miracle worker was born in Lisbon in 1195, and christened Fernando. His oldest biography recounts that he studied at the school of the cathedral adjacent to his father's house. There, prayer accompanied study. In this atmosphere of piety, he undoubtedly received his first religious experiences, so profound and yet so gentle in souls predestined to the priesthood.

Like other saints before him, Anthony experienced the "thorn in the flesh." The devil, envious of his virtue,

### Miracle Stories

*"Is quaeris miracula,"* intones an ancient verse, dear to the Franciscan Order, *"if you are looking for miracles" . . . seek the help of Saint Anthony, and your request will soon be granted.*

### The Heretic and the Mule

One day, Saint Anthony was speaking with a heretic concerning the Eucharist. The unfortunate man obstinately refused to admit the mystery of transubstantiation, for he perceived no change in the sacramental species after the words of consecration. In vain, Anthony presented proofs drawn from both Scripture and Tradition. When his efforts failed before the stubborn obstinacy of his interlocutor, he decided to alter his strategy.



tempted him with impure thoughts. Fernando opposed the enemy with the sovereign weapon of prayer.

One day, while the struggle was at its most intense, he took refuge in his beloved cathedral. Exhausted from struggling against temptation, he traced a cross on the wall of the stairwell that led to the cathedral's tower. Tradition has it that the stone softened under his fingers and retained the imprint of the sacred sign.

Our saint emerged victorious from these painful struggles. To his very death, he preserved his innocence.

Wanting at any cost to save his soul and preserve his heart for God, at the age of fifteen, Fernando entered the Canons Regular of Saint Augustine, occupying the Monastery of Saint Vincent Outside the Walls in Lisbon.

From his first day as a novice he faithfully observed the Rule. To preserve the quality of his interior life, he obtained permission from his Prior to be sent to Coimbra to the Monastery of *Santa Cruz* (Holy Cross) where the motherhouse of the Portuguese congregation of the Canons Regular was located.

Fernando possessed the power to recall information with incredible accuracy; he never forgot what he committed to memory. Consequently, he acquired such a thorough knowledge of Sacred Scripture that his teachers and religious brothers were astounded. Upon completion of his theological studies, our saint, now fully prepared for the extraordinary mission reserved for him by God, received Holy Orders.

### Five Franciscan Missionaries

After his ordination, Fernando was given the charge of hospitality at the guesthouse adjacent to the monastery. Such a modest task placed him in contact with the Friars Minor (Franciscans), who had settled in Portugal in 1217 and often came to the monastery for alms. As guest master, Fernando often welcomed the mendicant Friars. Thus it was that in 1219 he came to know five Franciscan missionaries that the patriarch of Assisi sent to Morocco to preach the Faith.

To reach infidel territory, the missionaries had passed through Coimbra and paused for a few days. Upon reaching Morocco, the Friars requested an audience with the Muslim

prince, who, at the time, was Abu-Jacob. They planned to share the dogmas of the Faith with him, but were denied the privilege. The Friars were not discouraged, but instead began to preach in the streets and public places. One day, as they were addressing a crowd, the monarch passed near them. The fearless missionaries did not balk, but continued their exposition of holy doctrine without hesitation. After they refused to leave the country, Abu-Jacob was furious. He had them imprisoned, then viciously tortured and martyred.



**Word of the death of these Franciscan preachers inspired Saint Anthony to become a martyr himself.**

Regular recognized the work of grace in his aspirations. They yielded to the divine will and generously authorized Fernando to go to the Franciscan militia. The saint donned the habit and withdrew into the small convent of Olivais, where his name was changed to Anthony.

## A Change of Plans

The Minors had only good things to say about such a recruit. Rather than enter as a simple novice, he was initiated

“You possess,” he told the man, “a mule that you ride often. I will present a consecrated host to it; if it falls on its knees before the Blessed Sacrament, will you recognize the real Presence of the Savior under His Eucharistic appearance?”

“Certainly,” responded the unbeliever, who felt confident that the outcome of such a proposition would be to the apostle’s detriment.

They agreed to attempt the test three days later. The

into the practices of his new religious family. Early in the fall of 1220, he was sent to Morocco, accompanied by a brother by the name of Phillip. Our saint departed from his native land, whence he was never to return. He left, his soul flooded with joy in the hope of soon fulfilling his dream of martyrdom.

As so often happens, Providence had other plans for him. As soon as he arrived, Anthony fell so seriously ill that he was bedridden for months. His extreme weakness, and perhaps also an order from his Superiors, forced him to return to Europe.

Assailed by a violent tempest on the return trip, the ship he had boarded with his companions could not reach the coast of Portugal, and was instead pushed all the way to Sicily by the storm.



**Saint Anthony’s aspirations of martyrdom were foiled by a storm that blew the Wonder Worker’s ship along a different path.**

There he learned of the convocation to the General Chapter meeting in Assisi. Saint Francis had summoned every brother who was not detained elsewhere by duty, and three thousand responded to the invitation.

After attending the meeting, Anthony was assigned to the little hermitage of Monte-Paolo, near Forli in northern Italy. Anthony would serve as chaplain to the religious engaged in solitary preparation for apostolic work. During this time, he led a life of pure contemplation for several months.

## From the Shadows of Obscurity

To his life of prayer, Anthony joined manual labor. He generously offered to take on the most menial of duties. He was seen, silent and smiling, sweeping the house and washing the dishes. He accomplished his tasks with so

heretic, in order to insure victory, starved the beast of all food. On the appointed day and set time, Anthony, who had prepared himself by doubling his prayer, left the church, carrying a ciborium in his hands. The skeptic arrived leading the famished animal by the bridle. A considerable crowd had gathered on the square, curious to attend such a remarkable sight. With a smile on his lips, the unbeliever, thinking that victory was already his, set a sack of oats before

much ease and such joy that no one around him thought him fit for anything else.

An unforeseen event abruptly interrupted this daily existence. The saint was asked to accompany some of the religious of Monte-Paolo going to Forli to receive Holy Orders. In the monastery of this town, he met young Dominicans, who had also arrived to take part in the upcoming priestly ordinations and whom the Friars Minor were graciously hosting.



**Photograph of the marble baptismal font at which the infant Anthony became a child of the Church**

It was a revelation for the Franciscan family. Friar Anthony, whom everyone took to be ignorant—was an incomparable master! One did not know what to admire the most in him: his knowledge, so vast and sure, or his incredible humility, which had buried such treasures in anonymity for so long. The Provincial of Romagna and the Patriarch of Assisi himself, were immediately informed.

the animal. But, given free rein, the mule turned away from the feed extended to it and instead bent down before the sacred Host. It did not straighten or stand up again until it had received permission from the saint to do so.

It is easy to imagine the effect the miracle produced. The heretic honored his word and converted. Several others who had shared his stubborn unbelief also abjured their errors.

From now on, the saint would devote himself entirely to preaching.

*Anthony brought to the controversy a solid doctrine, which challenged their minds, while the example of his holiness succeeded in drawing their hearts.*

Now, it was well known that Francis of Assisi, the founder of the Franciscan order, abhorred that false knowledge used by the mediocre to puff themselves up. On the other hand, true learning and piety he held in respectful awe. Saint Francis moved quickly to encourage the young speaker whose brilliant success had so newly inaugurated his career. He even assigned to him the task of teaching the Friars theology. The letter that Saint Francis wrote to Anthony on this occasion bore the following inscription: *Fratri Antonio, episcopo meo*. “Brother Anthony, my bishop.” This formula shows how highly the Founder regarded the sacred learning of his peer.

### **Master of Doctrine**

Anthony exercised his ministry in various countries, including what is today Italy and France. He engaged in a vigorous campaign against the Cathars and the Patarins. These heretics, direct descendants of the Manichean sects, all too often concealed their perversion of intelligence and mores beneath an apparent austerity. Unfortunately, they attracted numerous adherents. Efforts to bring them to repentance had garnered only mediocre results, since those who tried lacked the depth of knowledge necessary to win them back to the true Faith. Anthony brought to the controversy a solid doctrine, which challenged their minds, while the example of his holiness succeeded in drawing their hearts. Conversions abounded. Several of these souls who returned to the Faith, not content merely with renouncing error, entered into the way of perfection.

From 1224 to 1226, Anthony evangelized France. The Provincial Chapter, held in Arles at the end of the summer of 1226, brought Anthony to Provence. From Provence,

### **A Mysterious Occurrence**

Burdened by work and crushed by his apostolic labor, our miracle worker struggled at times in reconciling his duties as a religious with the ardor of his zeal. Though he fulfilled his monastic obligations in due time, he found it difficult to refuse requests to preach. In extreme cases, he used the miraculous powers he had been given.

Anthony returned to Italy for the last five years of his short life. He did not remain long there, but left such a lasting impression of his time that not even the intervening centuries have succeeded in erasing it.

Then Anthony came to Rome during the pontificate of Gregory IX. Quickly discerning his exceptional gifts, the illustrious Pontiff had him preach before the College of Cardinals then gathered for a Council in the Holy City. The Pope awarded him the highest praises, extolling his knowledge of the Scriptures, which Anthony knew by heart.

This was not the only assignment that Anthony fulfilled in the Eternal City. He gave several sermons there, and may even have preached during the entire season of Lent. Attracted by the magnificent solemnities of Holy Week, numerous pilgrims flocked to listen to him. Some, who did not understand Italian very well, came only to see this Friar Minor to whom so many miracles were attributed. God renewed in their favor the miracle of Pentecost: while the saint spoke, each of these foreigners heard him in his native language.

The saint did not settle permanently in Padua until 1229. In this powerful and rich city, given to pageantry, and made famous for its university, he surpassed himself. His activity doubled. His influence transformed the city that had been ravaged by the scourge of usury.

In France as in Italy, crowds inundated the churches where the saint spoke. At times, the numbers of the faithful were so great that the largest of the cathedrals could not contain the congregations. Then Anthony, instead of using the pulpit, would deliver his homily outdoors on a makeshift platform. His initial biographers reported that he would sometimes deliver his sermons before nearly thirty thousand people.

The preaching of Anthony was different in that he did not limit himself to merely exhorting his listeners. He instructed them. He gave to them a solid and profound doctrine. His written sermons testify to this. For instance, his sermons on



**Pope Gregory IX awarded Saint Anthony the highest praises, extolling his knowledge of the Scriptures, which Anthony knew by heart.**

the Blessed Virgin Mary are utterly remarkable from a dogmatic point of view.

He stood up against vice with fierce intensity, denouncing it with intrepid spirit. He especially denounced pride, sensuality and avarice. The latter roused his particular indignation, and rightly so: is there anything that offends Christ so thoroughly? The Master

has given us everything. He gave Himself up for us without counting the cost. Would He not spurn the hardened heart unmoved by his neighbor's distress?

The eloquence of the saint bore greater fruit than such fleeting encounters. Many conversions occurred. Enemies reconciled, while thieves and usurers restored ill-gotten goods to their rightful owners. Sinners turned to the Sacrament of Penance to receive forgiveness for transgressions.

## **Foundations of Apostolic Work**

So great a success can only be explained by the brilliance of the saint and the height of his holiness, but more especially by the wonderful atmosphere in which he moved. Throngs venerated him as a miracle worker. Indeed, he accomplished countless miracles of unquestionable authenticity. Miraculous events sometimes accompanied his words, thus stamping his preaching with the seal of the divine.

For the secret of his apostolic success one must probe Saint Anthony's interior life. Great evangelists are always great contemplatives, drawing from their union with Christ the divine sap, which makes their labor bear fruit. Anthony of Padua was no exception: to the utmost degree, he was a man of prayer and meditation, despite his busyness.

Death surprised him in one of these solitary retreats, so dear to his heart. At the end of the spring of 1231, he sought the rest and solace for which his soul longed in the

On Easter Sunday in 1224, he was to preach at the Cathedral of Montpellier and sing the gradual and the Alleluia at the High Mass of his monastery. He found the means to do both.

Calmly, he climbed the stairs into the pulpit. He spoke in front of the bishop, clergy and an immense crowd eager to hear him. Suddenly pausing, he covered his head and seemed absorbed in deep meditation. At that very moment, the Friars Minor also perceived him in their own chapel, prayerfully fulfilling his duty.

Meanwhile, at the cathedral, the congregation, astounded by such extraordinary silence, believed he had gone into ecstasy. After a few minutes, the preacher came to himself and finished his homily.

The faithful, sensing a mystery, sought to uncover what had really occurred. After inquiring into the matter, they quickly realized that the saintly man had accomplished one of those marvels of bilocation so rarely observed even in the lives of the greatest of saints.

countryside around Padua. He had withdrawn to the rural area of Camposampiero, belonging to Count Tiso. This nobleman welcomed the saint with joy. He endeavored to render his stay as pleasant as possible, having a kind of miniature cell fashioned high in the branches of a great walnut tree upon Saint Anthony's request. Upon coming down from his tree on June 13, he felt faint. In the little convent of Arcella in Padua where he had been rushed, the face of Anthony lit up in his agony and a smile brushed his lips. He seemed to be gazing into the Divine. The monk who witnessed this radiant transfiguration asked the dying man what he was seeing:

"I see," Anthony responded, "the Lord Jesus Christ calling me."

We know by his own admission, that on several occasions, he had received celestial visitations. In particular, Our Lady appeared to him on an Assumption vigil, while he was in the south of France.

The Immaculate Virgin also rescued her faithful servant by visible interventions. Twice, at Brive and at Padua, the demon assailed the ardent preacher who labored to reclaim so many of his victims. In desperation, Anthony called out to Mary. The Queen of Heaven appeared amidst a brilliant light and chased away the evil spirit.

The Savior also visited Saint Anthony who, as an ancient tradition reports, had received the hospitality of the Lord of Châteauneuf in the Limousin region of France. This lord proposed to attend carefully to the needs of the religious whose reputation awed him. At dusk, with indiscreet curiosity, he peeked into his guest's room to see what he was doing. He was witness to a grace-filled miracle: the divine Child rested in the arms of Anthony who adored Him reverently.

## Gift of Prophecy

As well as miracles, God granted the gift of prophecy to his servant. While Anthony was in Puy, he met a rich young attorney living a life of worldly pleasure. He worried little about his duties as a Christian and, finding the sermons depressing, he preferred the conversation of friends such as himself, who lived recklessly.

Curiously enough, Anthony recognized among the crowd the very attorney who had hardly given him



In imitation of his Divine Savior who reattached the severed ear of Malchus in the Garden of Gethsemane, Saint Anthony miraculously reattaches the entire foot of one young man.

a second thought. Whenever Anthony would see him, he bowed before him with respectful tenderness. The young man responded with naïve laughter, thinking the monk had mistakenly judged him on his comely appearance. After many such encounters, he began to wonder if the zealous religious were attempting to indirectly reproach him by such excessive demonstrations for his irresponsible behavior.

One day the two men found themselves suddenly face to face. As usual, Anthony bowed respectfully. The lawyer, furious, let fly his rage and angrily demanded from the Friar the reason for such extraordinary salutations.

"Know," the miracle worker responded, "that I venerate in you a future martyr for Christ. You will one day shed your blood for the Faith."

History confirmed the saint's prediction. Sometime later, the Holy Spirit melted the hardened and worldly heart of the attorney. He left on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. In a disputation with Muslims, he vehemently criticized their false prophet, and so valiantly defended our dogmas that they murdered him out of hatred for his faith.

The funeral of the incomparable apostle Anthony proved less an occasion for grief than a celebration of victory. The streets of the city were too narrow for the lengthy procession. The Franciscan chapel could not contain the crowd of those gathered there.

From the very first day, the pilgrims came from all over to pray at the gravesite, which God glorified by frequent miracles. Several months after the death of Anthony, the Roman Cardinals, charged with examining the cause of his canonization, retained forty-seven miracles as authentic among those submitted to their judgment. Gregory IX considered the number sufficient and rushed to enlist the humble friar in the catalog of saints.

## Conclusion

From century to century, Anthony granted to those who called on him, the wonderful power of his intercession. Down through the centuries, he has multiplied the miracles in favor of those who invoke him with confidence.

Also and often, one attributes to the saint lost objects found against all hope. Don Inigo Maurique, who was the bishop of Cordoba in the sixteenth century, had lost an ecclesial ring of great value. He had invoked Saint Anthony in vain. He related his frustration to his secretaries who were eating with him. "I have obtained great graces through the intercession of this illustrious miracle worker," he said to them, "but this time, I cannot acclaim his services." Hardly had he pronounced these words when an invisible hand dropped the lost ring onto the table. This vividly impressed the people so worthy of faith who witnessed the miracle.

In our troubled times, when morals have been tossed out the window and doctrine dismissed, how many need Saint Anthony's help. So great, indeed, are the goods and the faith in need of restoration! ■

\*This selection of text is a summary adapted from Saint Anthony of Padua, by Fr. Thomas de Saint-Laurent.



BOOK  
REVIEW

# Exorcist Reveals Strongest Weapons in War on Satan

BY EDWIN BENSON

America is a modern-day spiritual battlefield in which the influence of Satanism is growing. Satanic objects are readily available from retailers like Walmart. Satanists have hosted gatherings at places as diverse as Harvard University and Oklahoma City.

In 2014, secularists attempted to have a forty-foot-high World War I memorial in Bladensburg, Maryland, removed because it is in the shape of a cross. In 2021, Satanists tried to claim it as their own. Many participants did not correspond to the archetypical image of figures in black. Satanism is, unfortunately, becoming “mainstream.”

## Vital Information

In light of these developments, the Church must urgently use Her ancient tool to fight the demons: exorcism. For those who seek an introduction to the practice, Msgr. Stephen Rossetti’s new book, *Diary of an American Exorcist: Demons, Possession, and the Modern-Day Battle Against Ancient Evil*, is a fine place to start.

Msgr. Rossetti is the president of the Saint Michael Center for Spiritual Renewal and an associate professor at the Catholic University of America. In addition to being an exorcist, he is a licensed psychologist.

Indeed, demons do exist, and there are many of them. The author notes that “The Italian priest and mystic Padre Pio (1887-1968) said, ‘There are so many [demons] that if they were capable of assuming a form as tiny as a grain of sand, they would block out the sun.’”

## Characteristics of Demons

Demons despise all humans, even those who dedicate themselves to Satan’s service. “Demons are not your friends. They are vicious sadists and enjoy making people suffer,” says Msgr. Rossetti.

What characterizes demons is their overwhelming pride. The same pride that caused Lucifer to utter the momentous phrase “*Non serviam*,” exists in his underlings. Sharing angelic nature, they possess knowledge beyond human intelligence. This superior position unleashes in them boundless vanity and narcissism when dealing with human affairs.

While superior in nature, they do not possess wisdom because they cannot receive Divine Grace. Thus, the experienced exorcist—always relying on the Power of God—can often manipulate them into leaving or engaging in self-

destructive behaviors. Msgr. Rossetti provides many examples of this ability.

## No “White Magic” or “Good Witches”

Most so-called New Age spiritual practices, such as Reiki, find their source in Satanic activity. They are sometimes presented as routes to “self-discovery.” Such appearances are deceitful and dangerous. “The answer is simple: if you are not calling on the one true God and Jesus, His Son, then there is only one other spiritual option, and that is Satan.”

Msgr. Rossetti relates the story of one of his spiritual directees who was ill. She admitted that a friend had given her “healing crystals” to aid her recovery. Instead, she grew steadily sicker. Msgr. Rossetti told her to bring him the crystals, which he blessed and then disposed of appropriately. The woman immediately began to recover.

Any form of spirituality not firmly rooted in Catholicism gives Satan an invitation to enter into a person’s life.

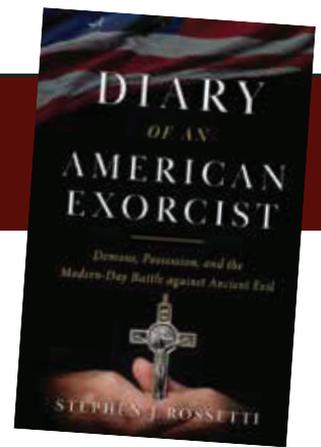
## Sin as an Invitation to Satan

Any sin gives Satan a degree of control over the sinner’s life. However, the devil can never force persons to sin against their will. “Our guardian angel inspires us to do good; demons tempt us to do evil. But both the angels and the demons have no control over human will and freedom. In the end, we alone are responsible for the choices that we make.”

Even relatively minor sins can limit one’s effectiveness against the devil. Msgr. Rossetti tells of an unexpectedly strong physical attack he received from a possessed person. The sudden attack caused him to lose his temper. From that point on, the demons no longer responded to Msgr. Rossetti’s prayers. He then recognized his error. “I stopped the session, went into the other room with one of the priests, and confessed the sin of losing my temper. The other priest absolved me, and we went back into the session. Once again, the demons started to react to the prayers.”

## Conclusion

The book’s great strength is that it explains its content simply and clearly. The author avoids the technical terms that would puzzle the average reader, aiming to inform, not convince the reader that he is especially wise or learned. Msgr. Rossetti does an excellent service for those who want to know more about the nature of the spiritual warfare that all serious Catholics face during these trying times. ■





# AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA<sup>®</sup>

MAY/JUNE 2022

**PROGRESS REPORT**

## A Hopeful Message on Busy Street Corners: *Celebrating Fifteen Years of Rosary Rallies*



Colorado Springs, Colorado

Maybe you have crossed a busy intersection in your city and noticed people holding signs. Your interest was piqued. What are they advertising? What are they protesting?

It is no secret that public gatherings draw attention, but the average American might be shocked to discover that many rallies happening at busy street corners and public halls are not for a secular purpose, but a heavenly one.

### Fifteen Years of Rosary Rallies

It all began in 2007, when ANF launched 2,107 Public Square Rosary Rallies on October 13, the anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun in 1917 in Fatima, Portugal. The rallies were

held at noon in public squares, busy intersections, city parks, in front of town halls or local abortion clinics, all across America. Over the years, the growth of the rallies continued to exceed expectations. ANF volunteers were hard at work making calls, inviting members to hold their very own rallies.

Their dedication has paid off, resulting in an astounding total of 186,465 October Public Square Rallies held across America.

### Encouraging Growth

The annual October Rosary Rally campaign was so successful that ANF decided to take it a step further by holding rallies on a monthly basis. In 2011, the first Traditional Marriage Crusade was held as a way to continue the momentum from the successful 2008 Saint Joseph Pro-Marriage Caravan in California. Then, since 2019, an noteworthy average of over one thousand rallies have been held each month, with even greater numbers surfacing when special

issues arise requiring an army of prayer warriors.

Each month has a theme, asking God in a special way for graces of repentance and conversion for America. In January, Rallies for Life are held across America for the unborn. February is designated as



Conway, Arkansas



the month honoring the two Fatima seers Saints Jacinta and Francisco. March is reserved for the Traditional Marriage Rosary Rally Crusades under the patronage of Saint Joseph, Pillar of Families. April draws rallies around the theme of combatting Satanism in America. During May, the month of Mary, rosary rallies are held in honor of Mother Mary's first Fatima Apparition, while June rallies are dedicated to the

Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Patriotic rallies are held in July to pray specifically for America. During August and September, monthly rallies are halted to allow for prayer and preparation for the National Public Square Rosary Rallies in October. Then in October, tens of thousands of Public Square Rallies are held each year. November brings with it rosary rallies in support of the police. Finally, in



Tomball, Texas

December, ANF sponsors Keep Christ in Christmas Rosary Rallies.

### Our "Why"

When the Mother of God appeared in Fatima in 1917, she told the shepherd children to sacrifice themselves for sinners. ANF has taken this request very seriously. The loving gaze of Our Lady of Fatima depicted on rally banners has prompted conversions and those who hear the prayers of the Holy Rosary proclaimed publicly have deepened their devotion to it. The joyful sacrifices of rally captains and participants will surely attract God's blessings upon America. ■

Are you interested in making history with America Needs Fatima?

**Come join us!**  
Sign up to become a Rosary Rally Captain!

Just call (866) 584-6012 and you will be provided with all the details.



## "I Will Hear their Weeping..."

BY ANNE DRAKE & LORA LUCAS-BAILIE

In honor of the Feast of Saints Jacinta and Francisco of Fatima, on February 20th, we travelled to Mexico City to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe on your behalf. Despite all the difficult circumstances due to COVID and personal challenges, we were determined to make this sublimely fragrant delivery to Our Lady.

15,120 beautifully arranged roses were presented to Our Lady of Guadalupe before her miraculous image at her Shrine in Mexico City. These roses were sent by thousands of mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, sons and daughters, as a tribute to our heavenly Mother and Patroness of the Americas. This effort focuses specifically on offering reparation for the sin of abortion and the blood-bath caused by the murder of millions of unborn children each year since the iniquitous *Roe v. Wade* decision of 1973.

In opposition to this crime and to make reparation for this sin "that cries out to heaven for vengeance," a massive array of roses was sent by ANF friends and supporters. This floral tribute symbolizes their immense love of God, their profound devotion to the Virgin Mary and their ardent commitment to protect the unborn.

Tens of thousands of personal intentions, concerns and petitions were also presented to the Virgin of Guadalupe. Presenting intentions in this place made sacred by the Mother of God has special significance. In 1531, Our Lady herself told San Juan Diego, "I am truly a merciful mother.... Here I will hear their weeping, their complaints and heal all their sorrows, hardships and sufferings."

Forty-nine votive candles were lit at the shrine, one for each year since the tragic decision of *Roe v Wade*. May these



offerings and prayers rise up to God Almighty, through the maternal heart of the Blessed Virgin of Guadalupe, Protectress of the Unborn, as a fervent and confident plea for the immediate end to this modern massacre of the innocent. ■



TAKEN FROM ANF'S PUBLICATION, *BATTLELINES*

**Aggressor in Louisville!**

On Saturday, December 4, Rally Captain Frank and his ten fellow protestors were peacefully praying a Rosary Rally of Reparation in Louisville, Kentucky for the film *Benedetta*, when a man leaving the blasphemous movie became aggressive. "He immediately tried to tear our banner in half, but we stopped him. A rally attendant shouted the protocol warning, 'Aggressor!' three times. Not knowing how far he would go, and with the help of our guardian angels, we subdued him. It was wild and funny, but no one was hurt. *Deo gratias!*" exclaimed Frank. Inspired with holy zeal, Frank held a second rally the following day at a different theater in Louisville.

**Praying with Angels**

Rally Captain Noemi decided to protest a Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH) at Brookside Gardens Center in Maryland. Previously, she had led others in the rosary to oppose DQSH at this same location, but this time she would be alone. "I was there and started the Rosary at 10:00 am," Noemi reported. "Then I realized I was not by myself. I felt that all of Heaven was with me!" Many cars entered the event

location, and some people snapped photos of her banners, which she had cleverly mounted on her car. Graces flowed as inspirational thoughts to give her confidence. "I started remembering that 'when two or more gather together in the name of God, He is there' and 'Everything you do for the least of mine, you do it to Me.'" Noemi told us she was grateful for the grace of knowing angels prayed with her!



**Benedetta: Explained and Opposed**

*Benedetta*, an anti-Catholic and blasphemous film, was released in the United States on December 3, 2021. The director, Paul Verhoeven, known for his violent and erotic films, included scenes of nudity, lesbianism and acts of blasphemy in *Benedetta*. The movie is loosely adapted from Judith C. Brown's 1986 book *Immodest Acts: The Life of a Lesbian Nun in Renaissance Italy*.

The filmmaker recognizes that not all in his adaption is true: "It's true, mostly. I mean, of course we changed a little bit." However, he does not

explain why he turned the book into a blasphemous and pornographic film.

In reparation and protest, hundreds of devout Catholics stood outside of theaters across the country that were showing the film. These faithful soldiers of Christ made it clear that they would not allow our Mother to be blasphemed or attacked. Below are comments from just a few of these valiant defenders of the Faith.

- Stacy found a theater near her in Brandon, Florida, that would be showing the *Benedetta* movie and immediately signed up to be a Rally Captain. Unfortunately, because of short notice, the America Needs Fatima protest banner would not be delivered on time. She was determined to hold the rally anyway, when she received a call from a friend who had met someone with the very banner she needed. "Mary always provides!" exclaimed Stacy.

- "Amazing....one blessing after another from Our Lady," is how Sergio described the rosary rally that he led in front of Tower Theater in Miami. He and twenty others were there protesting *Benedetta* in early December. Sergio said the "cascade of grace" began when a security guard told them to park in front of the theater and that she would look out for them as they prayed. Although not Catholic, the guard was delighted to accept Saint Michael medals from the group. Police on patrol were also supportive, sharing that they hated the blasphemy and "would have the backs" of the group during the rally. ■



Faithful Catholics in Louisville, Kentucky protest the blasphemous "Benedetta" film.



CUSTODIAN'S  
CORNER

# “No, I Am Not Catholic” Our Lady Visits a Protestant

BY DAMIEN MURPHY

At Fatima visits, we often say that Our Lady goes where she wants. This was brought home to me at an assisted-living apartment block in Taylor, Texas.

After waiting in the lobby for thirty minutes the lady who asked for the visit was in the hospital. Out of politeness, we told the manager of the apartment block the sad news, she asked who we were.

“Catholic missionaries,” was the reply. “We bring a statue of Our Lady—the Mother of God—to people’s homes, say prayers and watch a video on the Message of Fatima.” Then we asked her, “Are you Catholic?”

“No,” she replied with a look of disgust, “I am not Catholic.”

“I can show you the statue,” I said half joking, half serious.

For the first time, her suspicious

attitude changed. “I would love to see the statue,” she replied.

I was taken aback by the answer; her request was evidently sincere. She continued, “I’ve seen Protestants do missionary work, but never Catholics. I would like to hear what you have to say.”

Still a little surprised, I brought the statue into her office where it was crowned by her. Then we carried the statue in a little procession to the common room, where we showed the video. This mini procession brought a sizable group into the common room. For a little bit, the manager—don’t forget, she was not Catholic—gazed into the eyes of the life-like statue.

By now, her suspicious, almost unfriendly attitude had completely changed. She had almost become like a child, exuding happiness and contentment. Following the video, I explained how we always finish with three Hail Marys. “Oh,” she said,



Damien Murphy, the young author, is honored to be serving in the ranks of Our Lady as a Fatima custodian.

“I don’t know how to pray Hail Marys.” I lent her a prayer book to follow and with other Catholics in the room, we then prayed the three Hail Marys.

The manager was so happy that she even wanted to prolong the visit and delay the scheduled Bingo game, but others dissuaded her. All were touched however by the unexpected visit of Our Lady. To remind them of her visit, each received a small picture of the Blessed Mother.

Our Lady really does go where she wants. She knows where she is needed, whether that is to comfort, to encourage or in this particular case, to make a plea for conversion. ■

## Assemblymen, Remove Satan!

A total of Thirty-two people stood outside the Kenai Peninsula Borough Building in Alaska to protest and make reparation for the abominable Satanic invocation given during the borough assembly meeting on January 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Eight Knights of Columbus participated, bringing along their families, while other local Catholics resolved to join in prayer from their churches and homes. The Holy Rosary was the spiritual weapon of choice of all present. At the time, the weather was mild by Alaskan standards, being twenty degrees Fahrenheit (above zero) and calm. The gathering of Catholics was heartening and resolute. There were no counter protests to be found.

A few Catholics, including a priest, bravely gathered inside assembly chambers to oppose the invocation. A Catholic eyewitness relayed that several citizens got up and left before the invocation, a number stood and turned their back to the invocation—probably twenty or more individuals, while others refused to stand (as is the custom) to show their opposition. There appeared to be no one supporting the invocation.

A national petition in opposition to the invocation was delivered to the Borough clerk’s office on behalf of Tradition, Family and Property. The petition, signed by 41,530 individuals, urgently requests the assemblymen to remove all Satanic invocations from

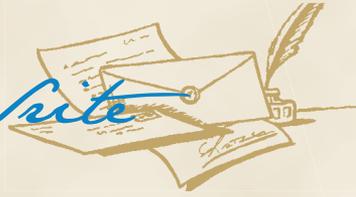


A public prayer to Satan, made during the borough assembly meeting, was denounced by these citizens of Kenai, Alaska. Later, a petition opposing this blasphemy and signed by over 40,000 citizens, was delivered to the borough’s clerk’s office.

their assembly meetings. The petition fervently states, “. . . This is offensive to God and numerous Christians who understand the danger that promoting Satan brings,” and ends with the cautionary words, “Better to offend the sensibilities of men than to offend the eternal, all-powerful God.” ■



## Our Readers Write



### Opposing Satanism

"I cannot believe Wal-Mart, which is a family store, would offer something like these [satanic] items stated! Very disappointed!!"

*D.R., Boynton Beach, Florida*

### ANF Apostolate

"You are doing a wonderful thing for God."

*E.G., Barstow, California*

"Thank you for the mailings of the rosaries and also the Saint Michael medal. I wish I could do more but I am grateful I can offer this donation in helping Our Lady's battle that we all are choosing to fight with her, at her side."

*K.B., Crystal Lake, Illinois*

"Thank you for all the work you are doing to spread the work of Our Lady of Fatima. I enjoy reading all the letters that you send. In Notre Dame, I remain..."

*C.Q., Santa Rita, Guam*

"Thank you for all you do to help us to be aware of the need for prayer—and sending the rosaries and books to help us grow in holiness."

*C.S., Cincinnati, Ohio*

"In the past, for many years, a group of us gathered every Saturday morning to pray the rosary in public before an abortion center. It finally closed down. So prayer and witness do count! I am thankful I have that experience to take to the Judgment Seat of God when the time comes. For we never know how many others were changed just by our witness. God bless you for your perseverance and your fidelity, Robert Ritchie!"

*I.C., Girard, Ohio*

### Our Lady of Fatima Rosary

"I want to let you know I pray the Rosary morning and night, and I see great changes in my family. I love my Fatima rosary!"

*M.B., Oakland, California*

"I gave the rosary to a mother, and she wanted to give it to her son! He's a freshman student enrolled at George Mason University. I have received all the items you have sent to me in good condition. The books I enjoy reading at bedtime. I thank you so much for everything."

*P.C., Aldie, Virginia*

I gave it [Our Lady of Fatima rosary] to a friend who is considering entering the Church!"

*A.R., Granville, Ohio*

"May God bless you for what you're doing. The Rosary is one of the most beautiful I have ever seen. It was as if there was a grace accompanying it, so that when I opened it, I was just in awe."

*M.G., Bloomfield, New Mexico*

"I seem to have clouds around me right now, so thank you so much for this gift."

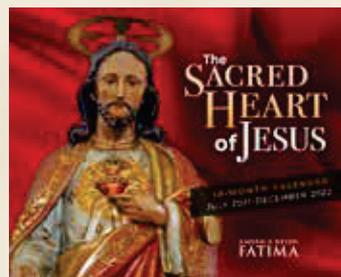
*H.C., Atlanta, Georgia*

"Just an FYI for you: I would like you to know that several of the rosaries that you have sent to me I have passed on to fallen away Catholics who have asked me how to pray the rosary. We make a good team, you and I!"

*C.D., Pleasant Hill, Missouri*

"A friend of mine was losing her battle with cancer and wanted to see a priest. I tried everyone I knew who might have a priest's phone number. I started the rosary and by the time I said the last 'Amen,' I got a phone call. The priest was at my friend's house! I could not believe my ears! He gave her the Last Rites and she died the very next day. Thank you, ANF!"

*J.S., Crosby, Minnesota*



### Sacred Heart Calendar

"I LOVE this calendar. Please do another for next year."

*R.H., Colorado Springs, Colorado*

"Thank you for the precious calendar. I have received much more from ANF than I have given. I say the rosary almost every day now. I was Lutheran. I am a convert to the Faith. I love what you are doing. God bless you."

*J.S., Minneapolis, Minnesota*

"Thank you for producing such beautiful calendar images. With them, I appreciate being informed of the feast days and other holy days."

*C.F., Fountain Valley, California*



Send us your feedback by writing to [Crusade@TFP.org](mailto:Crusade@TFP.org)



## Keep Satan Out of Christmas

BY DOMENICK GALATOLO

During the Christmas season, Christians the world over admire beautiful nativity scenes celebrating the birth of the Prince of Peace in a manger. The Illinois State Capitol has one on display. However, last year, a Satanic “baby” Baphomet figure (the devil depicted as half goat and half man) received government approval to go on display at the State House rotunda in Springfield, Illinois, right next to the nativity scene of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Only days before Christmas, The Satanic Temple announced that it would install the abomination on December 20, 2021. The Satanists cynically invited the bishop of Springfield to attend the event after he published a statement against the sinful act.

### Last Minute Crusade

After attending Sunday Mass on December 19, members of the American Society of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) found out about the blasphemy. TFP Student Action director John Ritchie decided that the fourteen-hour drive to Springfield to protest the disturbing event was still possible. In less than twenty-four hours, thirteen young TFP volunteers reached the capitol at 11:00 a.m., December 20.

### Quis Ut Deus: Who Is Like Unto God?

Once inside the capitol building, local Catholics joined TFP volunteers in prayer around the nativity scene in the rotunda. Two TFP members in their ceremonial habits stood next to the nativity scene holding a statue of the Infant Jesus on a golden damask pillow.

The recitation of the Rosary and Christmas carols echoed into the grand capitol’s cupola.

A group of Satanists arrived in the middle of the Rosary—what a stark contrast. On one side of the rotunda was a group of concerned Catholics holding the Prince of Peace, praying and singing. Just a few feet away stood about twenty Satanists dressed in macabre black, holding a hideous statue of a withered and twisted goat-like creature. All the Satanists shrieked together, “Hail Satan!” while flashing the devil symbol with their hands into the air. Pentagrams and occultist symbols marked their clothing, including the ubiquitous pro-LGBT rainbow flag. One Satanist wore a demon mask with horns.

At one point a Satanist tried to scream out a type of prayer to the devil. However, his attempt was drowned out by the Hail Marys recited by TFP Student Action volunteers. With



holy indignation, the young Catholics boldly chanted words such as:

“Together with Saint Michael, we cry: *Quis ut Deus!* Who is like unto God?”

“Long live the Prince of Peace. Down with the father of lies, a murderer from the beginning” (John 8:44).

### Adoration of the Child Jesus

The Satanic blasphemy did not last long. After a few minutes, the Satanists dispersed, leaving the appalling “baby” Baphomet imp on display next to the traditional nativity scene.

But the Catholics did not stop praying. After completing their Rosary, John Ritchie encouraged those present to come before the statue of the Christ Child and venerate Him. To the calm strains of “What Child Is This?” many stepped forward to kiss the feet of the Divine Infant. Three faithful prostrated themselves in the form of a cross on the rotunda floor in front of the Infant Jesus. One man was moved to tears by the spontaneous ceremony.

### “What Child Is This?”

There is a profound spiritual battle unfolding before us. The outcome of this conflict will shape the future of society. The agents of Lucifer are more and more brazen in their mockery of God. In the face of this constant barrage against Christ and Christian civilization, it is easy to become desensitized and forget what is at stake. The temptation is to ignore, disconnect and forget. However, we must not be indifferent but rather reject the sin committed with every fiber of our hearts and souls.

Let us gather before the Infant Jesus each Christmas until the end of time and beseech Him to send His angels to expel the forces of darkness working to destroy our beloved nation. ■



As faithful Catholics consoled the Infant Jesus with prayers and Christmas carols, satanists shrieked invocations to Lucifer and placed their repulsive Baphomet figure next to the nativity scene.

# TFP Conference Welcomes the Catholic Leaders of Tomorrow

By Michael Aguilera



As the crisis in society and the Church worsens, Catholic men the world over are looking for solutions. This common concern brought dozens of young men together at the headquarters of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) in Pennsylvania for TFP Student Action's New Year's Conference. The theme of the conference was, *Within a Sinful World, How Should We Prepare for God's Chastisement, Victory and the Reign of Mary?*

## Outstanding Lectures

Thought-provoking talks gave conference attendees persuasive reasons to engage in the struggle to restore Christian civilization and oppose the Revolutionary process that undermines order. Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira's incisive work *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*, served as a guide to understanding and responding to the multiple crises shaking civilization to its core.

In his talk, John Horvat II, vice president of TFP and author of *Return to Order*, offered practical and spiritual advice on how to face the present chaos with flexibility and daring.

Jose Antonio Ureta, author of *Pope Francis's "Paradigm Shift"*, spoke about the crisis inside the Catholic Church. Far from provoking discouragement, his talk was an invitation to resist progressivism and remain faithful to the perennial tradition of Holy Mother Church.

Other talks included *The Role of the Angels*, *Revelations That Speak of a Chastisement*, *Lessons on Leadership*, *Joy in the Fight* and *The Crusader Spirit*. Mr. Philip Calder's talk on *The Power of Music* demonstrated how music—from



In the chapel of the TFP headquarters, young Catholic men joyfully ushered in the New Year with hymns and prayers to Our Lady.

Gregorian chant to jazz—conveys a message for good or for evil.

Michael Gorre provided an overview of TFP activities worldwide. His gripping one-hour video presentation, *Report from the Battlefield*, was received with enthusiastic applause.

A hands-on presentation about medieval swordsmanship offered a welcome rest from the intellectual demands of the conference hall.

## "Blessed New Year"

Before midnight tolled on New Year's Eve, participants met in the headquarters chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As the secular world counted down to midnight, these Catholic men prayed to Our Lady, asking for more courage to fight for her Divine Son in 2022. As the world wished itself a "Happy New Year," these young men wished each other a "Blessed New Year."

After midnight prayers, refreshments were offered, followed by Christmas carols. According to TFP custom, the first bottle of champagne was opened with a swift sword stroke. Spirits were high as conversations extended into the night.

## Grace-Filled Event

Graces were palpable during the event, especially during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on January 2, 2022. At the final dinner, participants enjoyed a skit based on Edmond Rostand's play "Cyrano de Bergerac." Cyrano lives for a high ideal. He fights with wit, panache and joy, making him a role model for students who face leftist opposition on campus.

As a way to remember the lessons learned and graces received during the conference, each participant was given a depiction of the Battle of Lepanto painted by TFP member Jose Dias Tavares.

When will God's chastisement come? We don't know. What we do know, however, is that Catholic men must be ready to face the future like the Christian forces faced the enemy at the Battle of Lepanto. Full of courage. Full of faith. Full of confidence in the coming reign of Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. ■

# The Emperor's Throne

By Michael Gorre



“You are very fortunate to visit the Cathedral of Aachen today,” exclaimed our tour guide. “Three days ago, we took down all the scaffolding from a five year cleaning project.” Light streamed through kaleidoscopic stained glass windows, causing the multi-colored marble walls and sacred mosaics to glow. Transported into a world somewhere between the spiritual and the terrestrial, we pilgrims gazed heavenward with our souls uplifted. We stood in the chapel of one of the greatest monarchs of history, a monarch whose influence would provide the spiritual and cultural impetus for the Middle Ages.

Charles the Great, better known as Charlemagne, was the first ruler to unify western Europe after the fall of the Western Roman Empire. Pope Saint Leo III crowned the Frankish king inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Day in the year 800 A.D., making him the first Holy Roman Emperor. Hailed as the “Father of Europe,” Charlemagne led the spiritual and cultural ascension of Medieval Christendom.

We stood in Charlemagne's imperial chapel built under his direction, now the Cathedral of Aachen, Germany. Soon



*What material do you think Charlemagne used to build his throne?*

we reached the great emperor's throne in a section overlooking the main body of the octagon-shaped nave. Our guide pointed to the simple stone throne, “What material do you think Charlemagne used to make his throne?” Someone suggested it was some rare marble.

The contrast between the homely, beige stone and the rest of the cathedral stumped us. Endeavoring to raise our considerations to a different level, our guide inquired, “What in Charlemagne's mind was the most precious thing on earth?” A pause ensued as we wracked our brains. What could it be? “To Charlemagne,” our guide continued, “the most precious thing on earth was something touched by Our Lord Jesus Christ. He built his throne from pieces of the floor of Pontius Pilate's palace in Jerusalem, the floor on which Our Lord stood during His Passion.”

We stood in reverent awe at our guide's revelation. I thought to myself, “Not only are we fortunate to be here after the cleaning was done on the cathedral, but we are blessed to have a rare guide with flight of soul.” Pointing at the dome above Charlemagne's throne to the mosaic of the Emperor of Emperors looking down from His heavenly throne, our guide concluded, “Charlemagne's vision for the Empire was based on the Person of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Roman Empire was the fruit of His Passion and Cross.” ■