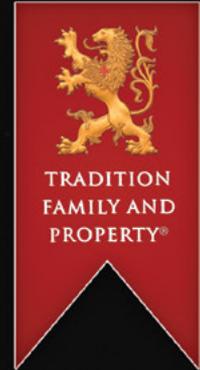


CRUSADE[®]

July/August 2022

MAGAZINE



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Our Lady Wept in
New Orleans

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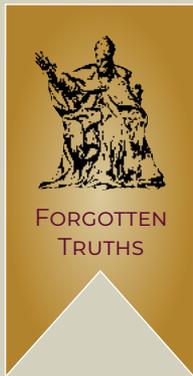
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Bless Us, O Lord



The Blessed Bishop Wittman of Ratisbon (1763–1833) said: “The neglect of the common grace at meals in families, may very probably be the cause of so many diseases now, which were formerly unknown, and it may also be the cause of so few temporal blessings in families.”

How can this be? According to traditional Catholic teaching, besides the rendering of thanks, the blessing over food has been understood since ancient times as a sort of exorcism. As the Patriarchs of the Church taught, the entire world is under the power of the evil one unless and until it is brought under the kingship of Christ. This idea comes from the New Testament itself: Satan is the “prince of this world” (John 14:30; 16:11); he is the “god of this world” (2 Cor. 4:4), the “prince of the power of the air” (Eph. 2:2).

Because “the whole world is under the sway of the evil one” (1 John 5:19), things taken out of that world ought to be prayed over before being put to use. Thus, when we are praying over our food, we are not only rendering thanks to God, but also invoking His name that the demons may be put to flight, that the food of this world may be eaten to the glory

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of God and purified of any potential demonic influence. It is a minor exorcism, the reality of which lives on in the more formal exorcisms which have been preserved in the rites for the blessings of salt and water in the Sacrament of Baptism.

Therefore, when we pray before our meals, let us give thanks to God, and invoking His most powerful name, implore Him to put the demons to flight, that the food which the earth has yielded might be utilized to the glory of God. ■

*Taken from: <http://www.unamsanctamcatholicam.com/spirituality/82-spirituality/429-why-do-we-bless-our-meals.html>

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CRUSADE

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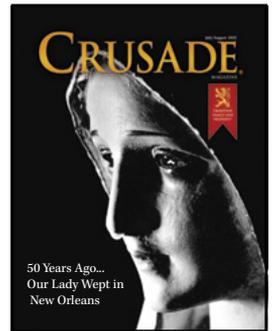
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THE AMERICAN TFP

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

Cover:
Photograph taken of the miraculous statue of Our Lady of Fatima that wept human tears in New Orleans, July, 1972.



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European merchants rediscover the human element in the economy



Take an inside look at a Fatima Home Visit

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On the feast of Saint Joseph, over 2,000 ANF Rally Captains prayed for a return to traditional marriage

Satanists hold first international conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, prompting 3-day vigil of protest and reparation



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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

One Judge Rules in Favor of Keeping Historic Columbus Statue

A New York judge ruled on March 11 that a monument dedicated to Christopher Columbus must stay in its current location in downtown Syracuse after the city mayor attempted to have it removed. The historic monument, which came from Italy and was dedicated in 1934 in the presence of some 40,000 citizens, came under attack

by liberal activists, who accused it of being a symbol of division and oppression. In 2020, mayor Ben Walsh announced plans to remove the statue, sparking a lawsuit by members of the Italian-American community, who wanted to preserve it.



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Poll Finds Conservatives More Likely than Liberals to Defend their Country

A recent Quinnipiac University poll asked Americans across the political spectrum what they would do if their country was invaded like Ukraine. Overall, 55% of respondents said they would stay and fight for their country while 38% stated they would flee. Among party lines, 68% of Republicans said they would stay and fight and 25% said they would flee. In contrast, 52% of Democrats said they would leave the country while 40% would stay and fight.

German Church’s “Synodal Path” Approves Blessings for Same-Sex “Marriages,” Women’s Ordination

The third session of the German Catholic Church’s ultra-progressivist “Synodal Path” concluded on February 5, 2022 with a preliminary vote on a series of official texts. Not surprisingly, the 213 members of the synodal assembly, comprised of bishops and lay persons, voted overwhelmingly in favor of blessings for homosexual relationships, changing the Church’s doctrine on sexual morality, the ordination of women and married men, and giving the laity a greater role in the governing of the Church. The Synodal Path has been condemned by numerous Catholic leaders and prelates, with many describing it as an ultra-liberal schismatic movement.

Russian Approval of Stalin Highest in 20 Years

Russian views towards Soviet dictator and mass-murderer Joseph Stalin have improved significantly over the years. According to a recent survey by Russia’s Levada Center, 56% of Russians agreed with the statement



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that “Stalin was a great leader” while 14% disagreed. In contrast, according to a poll taken by the Kiev Institute of Sociology a month later, only 16% of Ukrainians held the same opinion. According to the Levada Center, Russian approval for Stalin is at its highest level in twenty years.

Major Flaws Found in Sex Abuse Report

A group of academicians of the prestigious “Académie Catholique de France” (French Catholic Academy) criticized the findings of a landmark report dealing with sexual abuse within the French Catholic Church. The much-anticipated report, released in October 2021, claimed to have found over 330,000 cases of sexual abuse within the Catholic Church. According to the Academy, however, the report actually interviewed only 174 victims and 11 guilty clergymen in its research. The report inflated those numbers significantly to come up with a national “estimate” of victims. Besides denouncing the flawed “science” used to arrive at the total of 330,000 victims, the French Catholic Academy warned that many of the proposals included in the report, such as abolishing the seal of Confession, combined with the derisive media campaign against the Church, appears to have the destruction of the Catholic Church as its aim rather than the finding of a remedy to the sex abuse crisis.

Battles Over Abortion and Transgenderism Heat Up Across the United States

Inspired by the 2021 “Texas Heartbeat Bill,” Republican-led legislatures in the states of Idaho, Florida, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wyoming and West Virginia have approved pro-life bills restricting or prohibiting most abortions. Growing backlash against gender ideology has also led to a wave of new legislation. In February, Texas Governor Greg Abbot ordered all state agencies to treat transgender hormone drugs and “sex change” surgeries for minors as child abuse under state law, while the state of Florida enacted a law banning the indoctrination of young children into transgender ideology in schools.



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Anglican Bishops Become Catholic

Since the end of 2021, four prominent bishops of the Church of England have announced their decision to convert to Catholicism. Three of the converts, Michael Nazir-Ali, the former bishop of Rochester who was considered a candidate for the archbishop of Canterbury, Jonathan Goodall, the bishop of Ebbsfleet, and John Goddard, the former bishop of Burnley, have been ordained Catholic priests. In an interview with Catholic News Service, Father Michael Nazir-Ali explained that he and his fellow converts were motivated by the convictions they had about authority within the Church, where it rested and how that authority was exercised. ■



CHRIST IN
THE HOME

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10 Reasons to Hold a Family Meal

1 Create the Sense of Family

When we talk about the “sense of family,” what do we mean, exactly? The “sense of family” is the sense of oneness, of belonging to a unique family in which each member is individually valued.

2 A Chance to Talk, to Listen, to Bond

Family meal time is the best of quality time. It is a time when, after all are served and appetites are appeased, parents have a chance to calmly listen to and converse with their children about what is important to them. These are the times when joy is promoted, trust is nurtured and growth is supported.

3 Foster Appreciation and Confidence

Little by little, children will begin to feel more appreciated because of the fact that mom and, sometimes dad, go to the effort of cooking a homemade meal for them every day. An important part of this is a well set table. When a friend invites you out, it is a treat. But when you arrive and realize the meeting place is a fine restaurant, with the best of china and service, you indeed feel valued in the friendship. In the same way, in a family, children who are treated to a daily well-prepared meal on a well-set table, begin to feel that they are worth it.

4 A Time for Instruction

Few places are better for instruction than the family table. The table is a place where parents can instruct their children in what we call Christian civilization. A good way to begin is by encouraging good manners. “Susan, let me show you how to hold your fork,” and “Tommy, say please when you ask for the salt.”

5 Discipline

As children grow older, they must be taught to control their animal appetite:

- To wait until all are served and to not pile a huge amount of food onto their plates.

- To use a napkin and not the table cloth, shirt sleeves or arms to wipe their mouths.
- To sit up straight and not stick their faces in their food.
- To wait to begin until the last one is served their dessert is equal to a Masters in self-discipline.

6 Organize One’s Day

Meal time is a set time and it is important to strive to keep to the schedule. This will not only help the sense of order in their young minds, but will also keep a sense of consistency, stability and accountability.

7 Good Taste in Food

I once commented to my mother that three brothers who are my friends, are very good cooks. My mother’s reply was: “I know their mother and she cooks very well. They grew up knowing what good food tastes like, so they strive in their adult lives to duplicate it.”

8 Eat Healthy

A family meal a day is a way to ensure that the family enjoys not only good food but healthy food. A healthy meal goes a long way in avoiding medical bills. And in this world of fast food and preservatives, this is crucial. The meal is therefore a benefit for soul and body.

9 Instill the Sense of God and Gratitude for His Benefits

A family meal should always begin and end with grace, blessing and thanking God for what He has given us. The idea that we owe the daily bounty to God is a crucial concept to instill in children, the concept of gratitude and religion.

10 Learn the Art of Conversation

While enjoying a meal (minus electronic devices), we also learn to take notice of others and interact. This is a prime opportunity to develop the art of conversation. But how? This is the topic for Crusade Magazine’s next Christ in the Home: Learning Communication Skills. ■



Is There a Future for Chitchat Checkouts?

BY JOHN HORVAT II



With so much buying happening online or through self-service kiosks, the art of shopping has lost much of its attraction. Shopping has become so impersonal with scarcely a chance to interact with others. Indeed, it is no longer an art but a mechanical process.

Rare are the open-air markets where shopping was not only a financial but social interaction. Today, many people rush in and out with their purchases with no concern for human contact.

For some people, something important is missing.

Today, many people rush in and out with their purchases with no concern for human contact. For some people, something important is missing.

Finding a Place for Social Interaction

Evidently, some market-savvy executives noticed this shortcoming.

Jumbo, the Dutch supermarket chain, recently introduced slow checkouts when it discovered some people enjoy chatting while paying for their goods. The added personal touch is helping many people, especially the elderly, deal with loneliness. The move has proven so successful that Jumbo plans to install what it calls Kletskassas in 200 stores.

Carrefour, the giant French supermarket chain, is following suit with special checkout lanes for people who want to socialize. Other French retailers, Système U and Auchan, are not far behind with their own slowed-down checkouts.

Chitchat Checkouts and Blablaba Tills

These small-talk cashier lanes are gaining popularity. They are called “chitchat” checkouts. The French name, blablaba caisses, is a bit more expressive.

About 150 of the chain’s French stores have opened blablaba caisses, with plans to have at least one till in every location by the end of March. The lanes are marked for only those who want to talk with cashiers. There are no time limits for the customer, although most try to respect those waiting in line. The lanes come at no extra cost to the consumer.

Shoppers are encouraged to take their time on the slow checkouts; cashiers greet with “bonjour” and can ask about the family or the weather. No managers will be around to speed the process up. The aim is to slow it down.

Benefits to Consumers. . . and Cashiers

For some shoppers, the slow checkouts bring back the lost human element. Slow shopping takes away the cold mechanical aspect and turns the routine chore into a meaningful experience. The small talk may appear insignificant, but it is like a lubricant that plays a vital role in breaking the isolation of lonely people.

A lively and inviting market scene. In a true Organic Christian society, the economy goes beyond the mere material sustenance of man, seeking also to reflect and develop his social, cultural and spiritual sides.

One unexpected benefit from the chitchat checkouts is the excellent effect upon the cashiers. The fast-paced checkout lines force them to work like machines to process customers quickly. Courtesy and respect are often sacrificed. At the end of the day, many cashiers feel exhausted and unappreciated.

Blablabla cashiers report a new sense of self-esteem and happiness from working at the slow checkouts. It comes from the joy of interacting and being the cause of joy for other people. One cashier reported she did not notice the hours passing. The personal touch made it seem that she was working in her own little business.

Why Limit Chitchat to Supermarkets?

The launch of chitchat checkouts does not mean the death of fast-paced shopping. The big trend in the industry is toward faster, automated systems, and self-service checkouts in supermarkets are multiplying by leaps and bounds. Retailers are recruiting customers to do the jobs of cashiers who efficiently check out their purchases without time for chitchat.

However, the slight concession of a few chitchat checkouts shows that the concept has a future. It is not a lot of blah-blah-blah. It shows that people naturally crave human contact. The sterile atmosphere of modern online shopping does not satisfy. Social interaction is invaluable and has no price tag. If only business leaders would take note. There must be many other areas where this chitchat concept might take hold. Many customers are tired of

Cold, mechanistic, and fast-paced self-service systems cannot replace the simple and authentic joys of direct human contact



Each person has another side that is spiritual and superior.

talking to machines or being referred to online options. As social beings, they want to talk to real people.

Addressing Spiritual Needs

The success of chitchat checkouts helps show that economics is not the most important human field. Indeed, man does not live by bread alone (Lk. 4:4). Each person has another side that is spiritual and superior. This superior side gives rise to political, social, cultural and religious activities and sciences that tower above mere material economic sustenance and deal more directly with spiritual needs and ultimately eternal salvation. These spiritual needs and desires need to be reflected in the economy. Perhaps a good start would be giving everyone the chitchat option. ■



Tears: A Miraculous Warning

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

On July 21, 1972, the newspaper *Folha de São Paulo* published a photograph from New Orleans showing a statue of Our Lady of Fatima shedding tears. The report sparked keen interest in the Brazilian public and I think many readers will welcome more information on the topic.

The best source of information on the matter is found in an article with a typical American title: “The Tears of Our Lady Wet My Finger,” by Fr. Elmo Romagosa. It was published on July 20 in the *Clarion Herald*, a New Orleans weekly, distributed in eleven Louisiana parishes or counties.

The background to this event is universally known. In 1917, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco had visions of Our Lady at Fatima. The authenticity of these visions was confirmed by the Miracle of the Sun, witnessed by a whole multitude even as the Virgin spoke to the three children.

In general terms, Our Lady charged the little shepherds to tell the world that she was deeply upset by the wickedness and corruption of men. She warned that if men did not amend, a terrible chastisement would come that would annihilate many nations. Russia would spread its errors throughout the world. The Holy Father would have much to suffer.

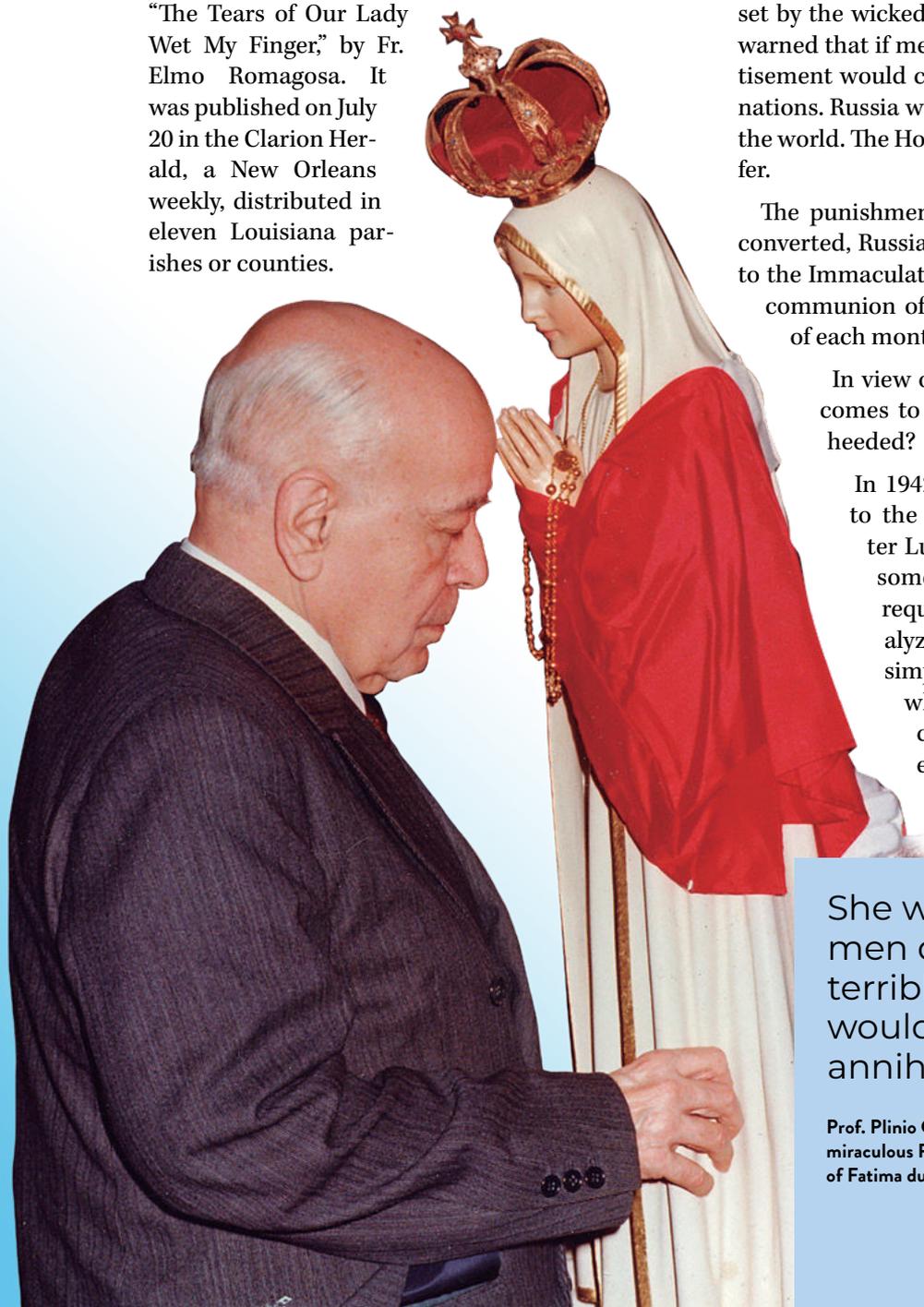
The punishment could only be avoided if men converted, Russia and the world were consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and men did the communion of reparation on the first Saturday of each month.

In view of the above, a question naturally comes to mind: Were Our Lady’s requests heeded?

In 1942, Pius XI consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Sister Lucia said the consecration lacked some characteristics Our Lady had requested. I do not intend to analyze this complex subject here. I simply mention, in passing, that whether Our Lady’s request for the consecration of Russia was heeded is open to debate.

She warned that if men did not amend, a terrible chastisement would come that would annihilate many nations.

Prof. Plinio Correa de Oliveira venerating the miraculous Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima during one of her visits in Brazil.



As for Our Lady's second request for an amendment of life, it has so obviously been neglected that no further comment is necessary.

Our Lady stated that obedience to her requests was a condition to avoid the apocalyptic punishments that she predicted. Therefore, it is logical that God's vengeful and purifying wrath should fall upon mankind before it converts and the Reign of Mary is established.

Of the three Fatima children, only Lucia survived beyond her childhood. She was a Carmelite nun in Coimbra. Under her supervision, a sculptor carved two statues that reproduced as closely as possible the facial expression of the Most Holy Virgin as she appeared at Fatima. Both of them were called "Pilgrim Virgin" statues and have been taken around the world by priests and laity. One was in New Orleans, where it shed tears.

Father Romagosa, author of the abovementioned report, was told of the statue's tears by Fr. Joseph Breault, M. P., the statue's custodian. However, he was reluctant to admit the miracle and thus asked Father Breault to call him if any further weeping occurred.

Father Breault noticed moisture in the eyes of the Pilgrim Virgin statue on July 17 and immediately called Father Romagosa, who reached the statue at 9:30 p.m., bringing along photographers and reporters. In fact, they all noticed the moisture in the eyes of the statue, which was soon photographed. Father Romagosa then touched his finger on the moist surface and collected a drop, which was also photographed. According to Father Breault, this was the thirteenth weeping he had witnessed.

At 6:15 a.m. the next morning, Father Breault called Father Romagosa saying that the statue had been crying since 4:00 in the morning. Father Romagosa arrived shortly afterwards. In his words: "I saw much liquid in the statue's eyes, and a large drop hanging from the tip of her nose." This drop, so graciously hanging, was captured in the famous photograph that came out in the press.

Father Romagosa adds that he saw "a tear move as it slowly formed on the lower eyelid."

However, he wanted to eliminate all doubt. He noticed that the statue had a crown fixed on its head by a small metal connecting rod and thought:

"Can it be that water was poured into the hole where the crown is fixed on the statue, and this water drains into the eyes?"

Once the weeping ceased, Father Romagosa removed the crown from the statue: the metallic connecting rod was entirely dry. He then inserted into the hole a wire wrapped in a special paper which would absorb any liquid that might be there. The paper remained absolutely dry.

These mysterious tears show Our Lady of Fatima crying over the modern world, as Our Lord once cried over Jerusalem.

Still not satisfied with his efforts, he poured some water into the hole. Yet the eyes remained absolutely dry. Father Romagosa then turned the statue upside down. The water he had poured into the hole drained normally. He was finally convinced that no water could come through the hole in the statue's head into her eyes, and there simply was no other hole.

Father Romagosa knelt. At last, he believed.

These mysterious tears show Our Lady of Fatima crying over the modern world, as Our Lord once cried over Jerusalem. Tears of most tender affection, tears of deep pain for the punishment that will come.

It will come to the men of the twentieth century, if they do not reject immorality and corruption. It will come if they do not fight especially against the self-destruction of the Church, the cursed smoke of Satan that according to Paul VI has penetrated even into the sacred places.

Reader, there is still time, therefore, to stop the punishment!

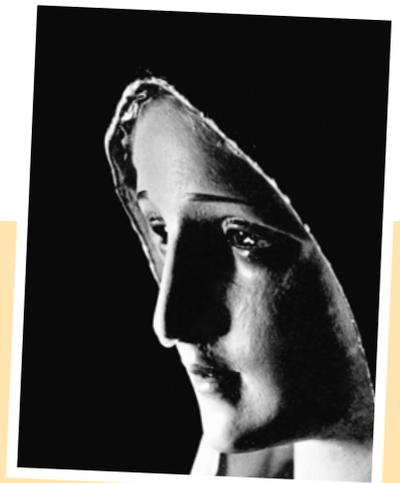
But, some will say, these thoughts are not those for a pleasant Sunday afternoon. I answer: Is it not better to read this article now under the tender manifestation of our Mother's prophetic sadness than to live through the days of tragic bitterness that will come if we do not amend?

If they come, I am convinced a special mercy will be shown to those who, in their personal lives, have taken the miraculous warning of Mary seriously.

I offer my readers this article so they may benefit from that mercy. ■

For a FREE 8"x10" photo of Our Lady in Tears,

please go to:
<https://americaneedsfatima.org/free-devotionals/our-lady-in-tears-photo>



Statue of the International Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima photographed in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1972 miraculously weeping real human tears.

50 YEARS AGO... OUR LADY WEPT IN NEW ORLEANS

The Cathedral-Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France, stands over Jackson Square, New Orleans, Louisiana.

© Wealing01 | Dreamstime.com



BY BEN BROUSSARD

She wept. The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima had been on pilgrimage for decades. She had touched millions of people around the world. Tears of love and repentance flowed from souls wherever she went.

And yet here, she wept.

Her messages had been heard by many—and ignored by so many others. The Miracle of the Sun was followed by many other miracles, at Fatima and around the world.

But men did not stop sinning. For this, she wept.

Prayer, sacrifice and amendment of life. These simple requests transformed the lives of three small children. The disasters, chastisements, and worldwide calamities she foretold in 1917 should have been a wakeup call.

The world would not heed the call. Would it heed her tears?

On July 16, 1972, photos were taken of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima that made headlines around the world. The statue had been photographed many times before—but never shedding tears. The tears

were confirmed as authentic, and no human explanation could be found for the statue's weeping.

With the passing of 50 years, let us look back on what led up to this miracle, and what has happened in the intervening years. The tears of the Queen of Heaven point to the chastisements still to come.

The Continuation of the Fatima Message

Of the three children who saw Our Lady appear at Fatima, Lucia dos Santos was the only one to survive into adulthood. Learning to read and write from the Dorothean Sisters, Lucia wrote down everything about the apparitions just as Our Lady instructed.

Our Lady's messages began to spread, first in Portugal. Translated into other languages, the Fatima apparitions soon became known throughout the world.

Lucia joined the Dorothean Sisters in 1925, taking the name Maria das Dores (Mary of Sorrows). She moved to their convent in Tuy, Spain. It was here she received private revelations of Our Lord and Our Lady. In 1929, Our Lady re-

lated the formal request for the devotion of the Five First Saturdays and the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Sister faithfully recorded all of this in obedience to her superiors.

In 1946, Sister obtained permission to enter the Carmelite Convent in Coimbra, Portugal, taking the name of Sister Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. With the spread of the Fatima devotion, artists depicting the apparitions sought permission to consult her. Jose Thedim, a renowned Portuguese sculptor, received detailed instructions from her as he fashioned a new statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

In a letter the following year, Sister requested this statue become a Pilgrim Statue, so as to further spread Our Lady's messages. On October 13, 1947, marking 30 years since the Miracle of the Sun, the Bishop of Leiria solemnly blessed the completed statue. Her pilgrim journeys around the world soon commenced.

After the first five years of travels, Pope Pius XII remarked: "In 1946, I crowned Our Lady of Fatima as Queen of the World and the following year, through the Pilgrim Virgin, She set forth as though to claim Her dominion, and the favors She performs along the way are such that we can hardly believe what we are seeing with our eyes."

Our Lady of Fatima in New Orleans

Father Joseph Breault served as the third custodian for the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue. In July 1972, he arranged the first visit of the statue to the Archdiocese of New Orleans. From July 6 to 16, Fr. Breault brought Our Lady of Fatima to churches large and small. Public processions, rosaries, a Marian Triduum and many Masses were all part of the devotions.

Terrible news was on everyone's minds: not long before, a deranged man wielding a hammer attacked Michelangelo's *Pietà* in St. Peter's Basilica. This horrible sacrilege underscored the needs for prayer in reparation.

Msgr. Elmo Romagosa, editor of the *Clarion Herald* archdi-

ocesan newspaper, spoke with Fr. Breault at the conclusion of this tour. As he later wrote:

A voice on the phone said: "Father, you told me to let you know if the Pilgrim Statue would weep. It is weeping now."

The time was 9:15 pm. The date was July 17 and the voice was that of Fr. Joseph Breault, M.A.P., custodian of the Fatima Pilgrim Virgin statue which was venerated in a number of churches in this area between July 6 and 16.

I hastily got my camera and lights, phoned *Clarion Herald* editor Hal Ledet to come with his camera equipment as well and rushed to see for myself whether the statue was really weeping.

It was 9:10 pm when Fr. Breault first noticed moisture welling up in the statue's eyes. I joined him about 9:30 pm and saw for myself that some liquid had gathered in the eyes.

Hal Ledet and I shot photos in black and white and in color. We were hardly finished when the eyes seemed suddenly to begin drying out. Fr. Breault invited me to touch the still-wet eyes with my finger and upon so doing a droplet of the fluid clung to the tip of my finger. It was clearly visible to all.

Within a few minutes the eyes were totally dry. Fr. Breault told us this was the 13th time he had witnessed this phenomenon.

It was not to be the last. The next day, July 17, Msgr. Romagosa again received word from Fr. Breault:

The following morning, the phone rang about 6:15 with word that the statue had been weeping since four o'clock. And could I come out to take some more photos? I apologized saying I could not make it because I was scheduled to offer the 6:30 am Mass.

At 7:00 am, the phone rang again stating that the statue was still weeping. Once more I gathered my camera and lights and upon arrival at 7:30 am, I saw an abundance of fluid in the statue's eyes and a large drop of liquid at the tip of the statue's nose.

As I proceeded to shoot the pictures, I clearly saw movement of the fluid as it oozed forth under the lower eyelid.





A scene from the 2019 Southern Decadence in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Msgr. Romagosa then ran several tests to assure there was no natural explanation for what he witnessed. (see article on page 8 by Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira). Fully satisfied as to the miraculous nature of the tears, all knelt and recited a decade of the rosary.

As Msgr. Romagosa packed up his camera equipment and prepared to leave, Fr. Breault presciently told him, “Father, the Virgin has a message for the world, but so few want to listen.”

Word of the Miracle Spreads

Msgr. Romagosa’s photos would soon be published, and then spread far and wide. Local interest in New Orleans resulted in a petition drive to have the statue return again. Archbishop Hannan ordered an investigation, wherein the previous findings of Msgr. Romagosa were confirmed. Laboratory analysts determined the liquid from the statue’s eyes were actual human tears. All doubts as to the miraculous nature of the tears were pushed aside.

Other publications in the US and abroad quickly took up the story. Given all that was happening in the world at the time, Catholics were not slow in acknowledging the significance.

Why Does Our Lady Weep?

Photographs and physical evidence confirmed the shedding of tears. The obvious question then arose: why?

Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira wrote concerning the sorrows of the Blessed Mother:

Who, my Lady, seeing thee shed such tears would dare to ask thee why thou weapest? Neither the earth, nor the sea, nor all the heavens can serve as a term of comparison to thy sorrow.

When Our Lady appeared at Fatima, her last words to the three children summed up the entirety of the messages: “*Let them offend Our Lord no more, Who is already so much offended.*”

With the passing of time, it is clear that men did not heed her words. What more could she do than cry over her wayward children?

She wept in the city of New Orleans, long known as a destination for sin and vice. Mardi Gras extravagance would increase in immorality during the 1970s. It was 1978 when participants began exposing themselves for beads. It is es-

timated that this occurs 1,000 times every three minutes during Carnival in New Orleans.

August of 1972, just one month after Our Lady wept tears, marked the first *Southern Decadence* in the French Quarter. Starting small, this festival has grown to be one of the largest homosexual events in the world, with sins of impurity and nudity occurring in public. It is estimated 250,000 participated in this celebration of debauchery in 2018.

In 2005, New Orleans was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Imagery of flooded streets and breached levies captured the world’s attention.



A fishing boat, and someone’s livelihood, capsizes in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, August, 2005.

In an interview after the hurricane passed, retired Archbishop Hannan of New Orleans stated:

“I’ve been speaking at local parishes, and here’s what I kept telling the people. I say, look, we are responsible not only for our individual actions to God, but in addition to that, we are also citizens of a nation and in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament, it says that a nation has a destiny and we are responsible whether we cause it or not for the course of morality in that nation. We are responsible as citizens for the sexual attitude, disregard of family rights, drug addiction, the killing of 45 million unborn babies, the scandalous behavior of some priests — so we have to understand that certainly the Lord has a right to chastisement.... We have reached a depth of immorality that we have never reached before. And the chastisement was Katrina...”

Writing about Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Mr. Luiz Solim-eo wrote:

“With every passing year, New Orleans became increasingly a symbol for those who ignore Our Lady of Fatima’s message of conversion. Could Our Lady have chosen New Orleans for this miraculous weeping because, in weeping over New Orleans, She was weeping over everything it would come to symbolize?”



One house is blown 20 feet from its foundation during Hurricane Katrina, among the greatest of natural disasters to ever strike the United States.

A Flood of the Worst Kind

The moral degradation was by no means limited to New Orleans.

It would be bad enough if the immorality that has spread in American society was limited to personal sin. Tragically, in recent decades whole movements have formed to normalize all manner of perversion and corrupt the innocent.

In July 1972 when Our Lady wept in New Orleans, the Supreme Court of the United States was deciding the case of *Roe v. Wade*. With this decision, the high court paved the way for abortion on demand nationwide. Since that decision was released in 1973, millions of babies have been killed.

Slowly and stealthily, public expressions of the Catholic Faith disappeared from the American landscape. Public processions ceased. Parishes closed as large numbers of priests and religious abandoned their vocations. Catholic schools abandoned their mission to form students in the Faith.

The enemies of the Church were emboldened to directly attack the Faith. Blasphemous attacks against the sacred persons of Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Mother increased in America. *Hail Mary* and *The Last Temptation of Christ* are but two blasphemous films that appeared in the 1980s.



America Needs Fatima

With high-profile blasphemous entertainment taking aim at Our Lady herself in the 1980s, the America Needs Fatima TFP would not stand idly by. The America Needs Fatima campaign began to oppose the overt anti-Catholic push in society. Starting small, gradually more and more Catholics stepped forward to defend the Faith.

Home visitations with replicas of Our Lady's Pilgrim Statue began. Custodians urged as many Americans as possible to heed Our Lady's requests. All across America, thousands have responded to her call to prayer, sacrifice and amendment of life.

America Needs Fatima was founded with an important mission: win the United States for Mary Most Holy. Though our country has become the loudspeaker for the spread of immorality, America Needs Fatima is at the forefront of raising up the reaction.

Public Square Rosary Rallies have multiplied. Protests, both in person and online, have effectively opposed one anti-Catholic blasphemy after another. Millions of rosaries and devotional materials have been distributed across America.

Catholics young and old, from all walks of life around the country have stepped up to heed Our Lady's requests. Through their dedication and sacrifices, they have shown they want the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary—in America and throughout the world.

The fight for the soul of America continues in spite of all odds. As Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira said, "A man does not love his country for how it is, but for how it should be. And he fights to make it like it should be."

Is it any wonder that the Mother of Mankind weeps still as she sees nearly 64 million of her children brutally destroyed through legalized abortion in the United State of America?

Fatima—Far from Over

At the Wedding at Cana, the Blessed Virgin Mary said to the waiters, “Do whatever He tells you.” (John 2:5) These are the last words of hers recorded in the Scriptures.

In spite of the failure of sinful humanity, Our Lady continually renews this counsel. In the 20th century, she most famously gave her program to avoid chastisement: prayer, sacrifice and amendment of life.

Parts of Our Lady’s prophecies at Fatima have already come to pass. During the apparition of July 13, 1917, she said:

“The war [World War I] is going to end; but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the Pontificate of Pius XI [World War II].”

Other parts of her warnings have yet to happen. Later in the same apparition, she told the children:

“If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, Russia will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated.”

As this article goes to press, Russia has invaded Ukraine. Millions have had to flee their homes and seek shelter in neighboring countries. Countless others live in fear that the conflict could spread to other parts of the world.

More than any previous year, 2022 has seen more Americans wondering if we are on the brink of World War III.

Within the United States, divisions in society are increasing. Parents objecting to the corruption of the innocence of their children are maligned and called “domestic terrorists.” The month of June, traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is blasphemously labeled “Pride Month” across the country. Open displays of the Satanic are on the rise. Anyone not celebrating the perversion of society runs the risk of becoming a victim of the cancel culture. More than ever, Americans are talking about another civil war.



Our Lady’s apparitions in Fatima occurred 105 years ago and continue to be a beacon of supernatural light through which we can make sense of the world around us.



Stained glass depiction of Our Lord’s first miracle and Our Lady’s last recorded words in Holy Scripture.

Higher Perspective

Any Catholic looking at this situation should naturally be upset. But let us have a higher perspective: how does Our Lady feel? All these years later, the best solution for the world’s problems lies in consoling her Immaculate Heart. Rosaries of reparation, both public and private, the Five First Saturdays devotion, offering up sacrifices both great and small, amending our lives and getting others to do so as well—these efforts can go a long way to aid Our Lady’s plan to bring a heavenly solution.

She spoke to three shepherd children about the chastisements facing the world. She shed miraculous tears to further warn of impending dangers. Fifty years later, it is clear we are living in the era she foretold—an era of punishment, to be followed by an era of triumph.

To conclude, let us heed the words of Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, trusting in Our Lady’s action:

“Yes, we turn our eyes to Our Lady of Fatima, requesting of her the contrition that will obtain for us the great pardons, the strength to wage the great battles, and the abnegation to be detached in the great victories that will bring the establishing of her Reign. We desire these victories with our whole heart, even if to reach them, the Church and the human race must undergo the apocalyptic—but how just, regenerating, and merciful—chastisements she predicted in 1917 at the Cova da Iria.” ■



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA.®

JULY / AUGUST 2022

PROGRESS REPORT



Defending Innocent Children from Drag Queen Story Hour

TFP-ANF supporters showed that prayer and bagpipes are a formidable combination when they hosted two rosary rallies protesting “Tea & Biscuits with Miss Amie” in Hanover, Pennsylvania, at the Hanover YWCA. The protest rallies had sixty-five prayer warriors in total. These rallies were held outside the location which hosted two Drag Queen Story Hours.

Captains Pat and Irene organized these rallies against a man calling himself “Miss Amie” reading books promoting the transgender and homosexual sinful lifestyles to children.

TFP volunteers played music to drown out a counter-protest by LGBTQ supporters. Irene’s husband, Jerry, said, “The



bagpipes and drum combination really neutralized the boom box of the LGBTQ-ers and honestly left some of them a bit open-mouthed. It was the last thing they were expecting.”

Irene said, “It was a peaceful, prayerful rally. We did not see many story hour participants; perhaps only three or four groups of parents with children went in.”

Pat said, “It was absolutely wonderful to have the TFP participants. I am still in awe to be in the presence of such young men standing for Our Lady. They were true men of Mary on the front lines.” ■



TAKEN FROM ANF'S PUBLICATION, *BATTLELINES*

Alaska Rosary Rally Protests Satanic Invocation

Thirty-two TFP-ANF supporters held a peaceful protest outside the Kenai Peninsula Borough Building in Kenai, Alaska, to make reparation against a Satanic invocation that was given during the borough assembly meeting.

Although it was only twenty degrees outside, Rally Captain Toby and his group stood resolutely in the open and recited at least two rosaries. He also delivered a TFP-ANF petition signed by 41,530 people to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly, requesting the removal of Satanic invocations from the meetings.

Rally Captain Toby encourages others to hold their own rallies. "As the fearsome uptick in demonic activity increases throughout our locality and country at large, more Catholic faithful have responded to the call realizing the need to beseech Our Lady and Lord to spare us from the demonic forces and crush the serpent's head. It is very heartening to see the 'remnant' grow and respond just when it is most needed."

May Our Lady reward Toby and his prayer warriors for rejecting Satan in Alaska.

Answering the Call to Honor Law Enforcement

Although Rally Captain Amy hadn't been in touch with ANF for twenty years, she knew she had to be a captain when she heard about our Rosary for the Police campaign.

Amy, along with Rally Captain Craig from Littleton, Colorado, conducted her first Rosary for the Police Rally. Nearly fifty people attended, many in their public defender uniform. After introductions and a warm welcome, Craig began the Joyful Mysteries. After the rosary, Amy and Craig ensured that blessed Saint Michael medals were distributed to law enforcement personnel and rally attendees who have family members serving in law enforcement.



The rally was so well received that Amy and Craig have another one scheduled for September. You can be like Craig and Amy and offer your own rosary rally. All you need is your rosary and confidence in Our Lady!

Stopping Satanism in Scottsdale

When the Satanic Temple announced its three-day convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, many Catholics across the country knew they needed to do everything they could to stop it. Local organizer Jesse Romero mobilized hundreds of faithful Catholics to attend hours of peaceful and prayerful protests outside the Saguaro Hotel during the three hot days. And we can thank Our Lady for inspiring ANF Rally Captain Mary Kay, who courageously answered the call to lead the rosary rally of protest on Saturday.

Mr. Jesse Romero wrote in *Crisis Magazine*: "Members of the Scottsdale Police Department conveyed to me that when the Satanists were leaving the hotel on Sunday, they appeared to be arguing with each other, having heated debates with each other as they entered their cars and left the hotel. The police told me the Satanists were not happy, they were not smiling. They were frowning and visibly upset and distressed. I believe with complete certainty that this was the result of our prayers."

Mary Kay said, "It was so awe-inspiring to see all these people coming together in prayer. They were beautiful prayers and so strong and powerful against Satan. It's important to be there to pray when these things are happening. I would encourage anyone considering hosting a rally to sign up."

Several rally captains were unable to go to Scottsdale, but wanted to ask Our Lady and Saint Michael to make this a successful protest. At our suggestion, these Champions of Mary led rosary rallies in their cities across the nation. In addition, thousands of faithful Catholics called the hotel to voice their opposition and concern, made sacrifices and offered special prayers in reparation for this Satanic atrocity. Our Lady crushed the serpent's head! ■

Public prayer makes a difference!
Call (844) 830-3570 or e-mail Protest@TFP.org
to become a rosary rally captain today.



America Belongs to God



BY STACIE HISERMAN

If you tune into the media only to be disheartened by the rampant disorder in our society, you are not alone. From where does all of this disharmony stem? If we want to see harmony and order restored to America, we must begin with the most basic building block of society—the family.

Unfortunately, the radical homosexual movement and the Satanists also target the family as their foremost victim to promote their agenda. For this reason, faithful Catholics nationwide took a public stand in March and April to proclaim: “America—and our families—belong to God.”

On March 19, the feast of Saint Joseph, patron of families, over two thousand America Needs Fatima rosary rally captains and friends, adults and children alike, gathered around the country to defend true marriage and the traditional family. Never was there a more holy marriage than that of Saint Joseph and Our Lady, and therefore, his blessing and protection has been sought after to help restore God’s marriage between one man and one woman.

Although the media would have us believe those in favor of traditional marriage are the minority, the rallies surprisingly received little opposition. The majority of honks and thumbs up let us know that most Americans still support traditional marriage and not the unnatural and sinful homosexual lifestyles that are now called same-sex “families.”

But this is not the only way faithful Catholics have needed to defend the family. Satanists have weaved their way into indoctrinating our children through “activities” such as after-school Satan clubs. We cannot remain one nation under God and, at the same time, children of His great enemy, the devil. And so, America Needs Fatima has designated its April

rosary rallies to the theme of combatting Satanism in America. Participants of these rallies gathered at noon on April 16 to publicly declare: “Holy Mary crushes the serpent’s head.”

Yes, for too long, Satanists have brazenly paraded their demon Baphomet statues across America. In response, apart from the April rosary rallies, Catholics everywhere have risen to the occasion to take a stand against the devil and his nefarious works.

Over three million have joined America Needs Fatima’s Rosary Crusade for an end to Satanism in America. These generous souls have committed to praying one rosary a day, week or month, adding their prayers to others across the country.

At Fatima, Our Lady asked us to pray the Rosary; this is our weapon against Satan and all his followers. This is why America Needs Fatima’s Rosary Crusade says NO to Satan in the public square, NO to Satan in our school, NO to Satan in our City Councils, NO to Satan anywhere in America.

We cannot stand idly by while the unimaginable has come to pass—devil worship is mainstreamed into our culture, even invited into our nation’s schools. Together, with Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, we must continue to proclaim, “Be gone Satan. You don’t belong in America. America belongs to God and His Holy Mother.”

If you love our great country...

Will you join over three million Catholics in praying the Rosary to end Satanism in America? ■

Sign up now: americaneedsfatima.org/rosary-pledges/rosary-campaign-to-end-satanism-ih



Across the country, thousands of rosary rallies like this one proclaimed the truth that marriage still is, and always will be, one man and one woman.



Our Readers Write



ANF Apostolate

"I am so grateful for ANF. Your books are always read cover-to-cover and passed on. Please pray for my family, we are in great need of prayer to cure addictions."

J.M., Scottsdale, Arizona

"I find it amazing how you come to me with articles on topics that have been in my thoughts and prayers. With all that is going on, with all the blasphemies that hurt our sweet Mother Mary and Our Lord and the hurt I feel seeing and hearing all this . . . I cry for their forgiveness to stop the pain it causes them."

R.M., Surprise, Arizona

"In 2015, I received a picture of Mother Mary from your organization. As I opened it, a rush of love emanated from it. I had just finished doing a thirty-three-day retreat for the consecration to Jesus through Mary. This picture hangs on my wall next to my bed. This was a very difficult time in my life and that signal grace was such a gift for me. I just wanted to give you that testimony about how Our Lady has affected my life. Actually, in 2012, praying the Rosary was a big part of my conversion. Mother Mary is such a beautiful gift from God to me and the whole world. May God bless you and your efforts to do His will."

J.J., Pensacola, Florida

"Thank you for all you do in spreading the Gospel message and for all the beautiful things you have sent us over the years."

D.B., Anderson, South Carolina

"When I pray the Rosary, I pray for all the intentions you state in your letters and especially for Mary to protect America."

L.B., Butler, Pennsylvania

Fatima Calendar 2022

"I receive about 16 calendars a year but ANF's is MY calendar. I always use it and love it! I look forward to your calendar! Thank you!"

J.H., Cincinnati, Ohio

"The calendar is so beautiful. It is my personal calendar to

keep forever. Pictures of Our Lady are so very beautiful in it. I just love it."

M.W., Sulphur, Louisiana

"I've always loved the calendars from you all. The pictures are so beautiful. Mother Mary is beautiful beyond words.

I just had to write you after I read all you said about homes having no pictures of Mary, Jesus and so many heavenly ones, or any statues either. I never really thought about homes having no such pictures. I believe it has to do a lot with the way children are raised, what they do when they grow up.

When my little grandchildren come to my house, they already know that we will all say a Rosary before bedtime. I teach them that we are not praying to or loving a picture, but rather we pray to and love who the picture represents or depicts. It's instilled in them. I believe that 'that is how it begins' and will live in them as time goes on. Start them young—it will grow old with and in them.

I wish with all my heart that all people on earth would put Jesus and Mary in their lives and their children's lives, and always put them first! If only they would know what they are missing. May Jesus and Mary love you for all you do for people like us to stay close to them. I know it's a lot of work, but it will be well rewarded. That's the truth!"

P.T., New Iberia, Louisiana

"Yours is the only calendar I use year after year!"

P.B., Rochester, New York

"I am choosing to use your calendar from all others! It spiritually motivates me to do the right thing every time, come heck or high water."

L.B., Los Angeles, California

"The calendar is beautiful and for this I am truly grateful and appreciate the powerful messages each of your calendar months bring."

S.A., Austin, Texas ■





CUSTODIAN'S CORNER A Hostess's Perspective

BY STACIE HISERMAN

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is visiting our area next month,” my husband informed me one day as he ended a phone call with Rose, a volunteer from America Needs Fatima. “Do you want to host her?”

Having fostered a devotion to Our Lady of Fatima for quite some time, it was with no hesitancy that we agreed to welcome her into our home for an evening. In our three and a half years of marriage, we have had a home blessing and consecration, but never the favor of a visitation from Our Lady. We invited our friends to join us for this special (perhaps once-in-a-lifetime) occasion.

On the evening of the visit, we were delighted to meet Mr. Celso Costa, a Fatima custodian residing in New Orleans. I admired his dedication to the cause of bringing Our Lady to the south over a period of decades. Within that last week, he had made the drive across state borders to visit ten different homes in our area. Ours was his last stop. “Do you always travel alone?” I inquired. “Not always—this time I travel with my guardian angel,” he responded affably.

Mr. Celso carried through our front door the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, a beautiful forty-eight-inch replica of the original Pilgrim Virgin statue designed by Sr. Lucia dos Santos, one of the Fatima seers. I arranged two simple bouquets of fresh flowers to adorn her altar. As our guests settled into their seats, the custodian removed an exquisite red velvet and gold crown from a wooden box. I was asked, as “queen of the house,” to crown the Queen of Heaven. What an honor!

All of this was preceded by an edifying video presentation on Fatima and Mary’s urgent message of prayer, penance and conversion. The day of the visit was Monday, February 28, 2022. We could not help but ponder what a day it was to refresh ourselves on Our Lady’s warnings at Fatima, when just days earlier, Russia had launched a large-scale invasion of



The Hiserman family welcomed Mr. Celso de Costa into their home, along with his traveling companion, a beautiful statue of Our Lady of Fatima.



Ukraine. “Russia will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church,” Mr. Celso reminded us of Our Lady’s words, “but in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” He told us of Our Lady’s often-overlooked promise during her first Fatima apparition: “Afterward, I will return here a seventh time.” It is a wonder that after her six apparitions to the shepherd children, Our Lady will make a future return to that very spot in Fatima, Portugal.

After the presentation, we prayed the Holy Rosary as a group and were given the opportunity to write down our intentions, which would be sent directly to Fatima. As we prayed, Our Lady’s presence commanded the room. Devotion shone in the eyes of even the youngest children present. Our toddler carried a rosary around the room and, once in a while, would stop, gaze at the statue and smile. “Isn’t she beautiful?” I whispered in his ear.

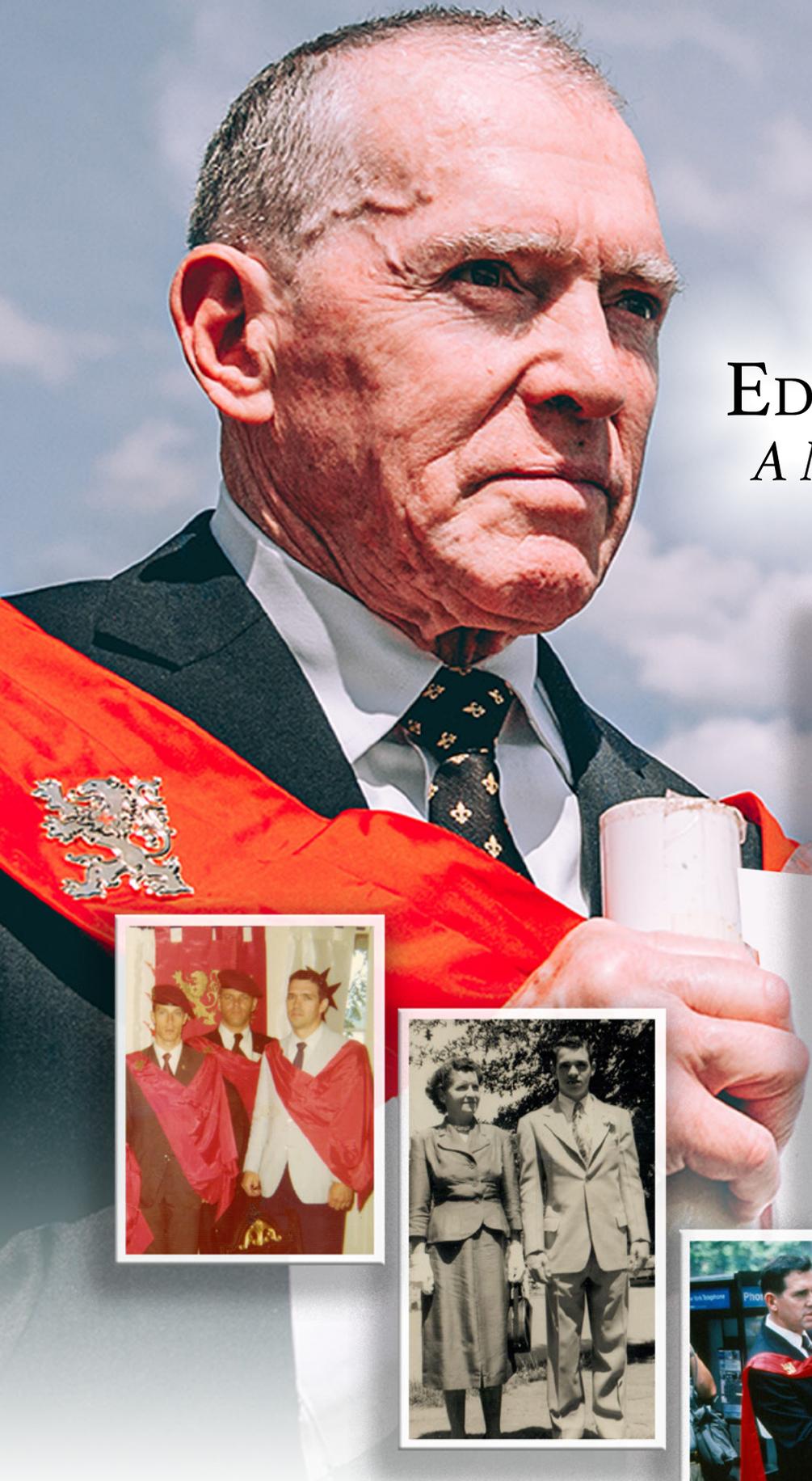
All agreed that the visit was an inspiration, especially to the young people present. After prayers, Mr. Celso presented an engaging video on TFP’s Call to Chivalry camps. “Do you want to be a knight of Our Lady?” he asked the young men. Yes, they nodded their heads.

Grateful for this occasion of grace, we closed the evening with a bottle of wine, other refreshments and spirited conversation. So, would I recommend a Fatima home visit to my friends and family? In a heartbeat. One may never know of the graces waiting for them or their guests until they open their door, literally, to Our Lady. ■

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INVITE OUR
LADY INTO YOUR HOME?
REQUEST A FATIMA HOME VISIT!
CALL (888) 460-7371 OR SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE
AT: www.americaneedsfatima.org/fatima-home-visitation-program/request-a-fatima-home-visit



Remembering
EDWARD RITCHIE
*A Man of Resolution
and Zeal*



On March 19, 2022, Edward Ritchie fought his last battle on this side of eternity. The eighty-six-year-old New York native was a veteran member of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). He died on the feast of Saint Joseph after a fierce battle with dementia. He will be greatly missed.

Edward Ritchie was born in Mount Kisco, New York, on February 18, 1936, in a humble home to blue-collar parents. While still a boy, the Ritchie family moved to the Bronx. He received little Catholic education and was only baptized at the age of ten. However, devout practices like the quiet recitation of the Rosary by his Catholic mother Elizabeth left a deep impression on him.

One day on a train platform when he was twenty-six, an acquaintance asked him why he was not a serious Catholic and what would happen if he passed into eternity at that moment. That impromptu meeting was an occasion of a signal grace that made him study his Faith and begin to apply his tenacity to fight for the truth.

On August 22, 1964, he married the most devout Catholic he could find, Maria Rose Koestner, also from the Bronx. With the postwar era optimism, they both had illusions of peacefully raising a large Catholic family.

Hope in Fatima

But that peace was shattered with the explosion of the sexual revolution that threatened society and his growing family. With the promise of Our Lady at Fatima that, “In Portugal, the dogma of the faith will always be preserved,” he and his wife spent every last dime and traveled to Fatima in September 1973. They were searching for a country and community close to Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart with Catholic values to raise a family. A newspaper ad of Youth Needs Fatima advertising the presence of Americans living in Fatima led to his spontaneous decision to look overseas for the answer.

Little did Mr. Ritchie know, but Youth Needs Fatima was composed of a loose network of American Catholic families oriented by representatives of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). Once he and his wife arrived in Portugal, it took days of searching to encounter these families. Once they did, they were highly impressed with the décor of their homes and the children’s behavior. When he asked the director of Youth Needs Fatima Philip Moran, “How do you get your children to behave so well?” The swift answer was, “We follow the orientation of TFP.” Mr. Moran then promised to put him in touch with the TFP in the United States.

Portugal was contaminated with the same “errors of Russia” and the Cultural Revolution that had infected America. Thus the best option would be to return home and help form a new movement with his newly-met Catholic friends. Indeed, only months after he returned to the United States, communism took over Portugal very violently.



Mr. Edward Ritchie with his children and grandchildren at the Bladensburg Cross during a rosary rally of reparation on July 9, 2021.

In February 1975, he went to Brazil for the first time to meet TFP founder Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira. He was overawed at meeting the great counter-revolutionary Catholic leader, which cemented his commitment to dedicate his life to defending the Church.

The Resolute Activist

Those who knew Mr. Ritchie will remember him as an activist. He never felt better than when he was in the middle of one of the TFP’s signature street campaigns. He could not get enough of the standards blowing in the wind, the bagpipes blazing or the excitement of a lively debate.

His activism was not limited to physical presence. Mr. Ritchie would spend long hours on the phone with his reassuring voice to promote America Needs Fatima. He would recruit, fundraise and inform those who shared his devotion. His dogged insistence could overcome the most challenging obstacles as he mobilized people to participate in campaigns and rosary rallies.

Slave of Our Lady

Of all the titles that one might confer upon him at death, he would appreciate most that of “slave of Mary.” Upon joining the Counter-revolution, he consecrated himself to Our Lady as a slave of love according to the method of Saint Louis de Montfort. He took this consecration seriously and developed a tender devotion to the Blessed Mother.

He loved to pray the Rosary—both privately and in the public square. In the hospital before his death, the staff asked about this man who always prayed so much. A small statue of Our Lady of Good Success watched over him during his final illness. He was her slave to the very end, disposed to accept the suffering given him.

Many other qualities could be mentioned to mark the forty-eight years he dedicated to the Counter-revolution. However, everything in his life revolved around that resolution to serve Our Lady and the Catholic cause with all his strength, come what may. He knew what he wanted and grabbed on to it. He never let go. ■



Battling Satan in Scottsdale

BY DAVID DUNLAP

On February 11-13, 2022, where many witnessed the clash of the powers of heaven with the forces of hell. At the Saguardo Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona, The Satanic Temple held the first Satan Conference.

The program was shocking. Topics discussed were “Abortion as a (Religious) Right,” how to start “After School Satan Clubs” and “Raising Children in a Satanic Household.”

The theme of this Satanic conference was Lupercalia, a festival of pagan Rome that “was a bloody, violent and sexually charged celebration awash with animal sacrifice, random matchmaking and coupling,” according to *History.com*.

A protest was organized in part by the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP), which supplied the banners and program materials. Local organizer Jesse Romero mobilized the faithful and led the rallies. Thus, hundreds of faithful Catholics responded to this Satanic outrage by attending three hours of peaceful and prayerful protests for three hot days outside the Saguardo Hotel.

Overwhelming Support from and for Scottsdale

“It seems that almost everyone who drives by is smiling or giving a thumbs up or something like that. There were a couple of middle fingers, curses, devil horns and people walking by trying to intimidate us, but I expect that from Satanists, and it didn’t faze us,” said Joseph, a tireless protester who attended the rallies.

Honks, waves, thumbs-up, words of encouragement and thanks greeted the crowds of Catholics from the cars and pedestrians on E. Indian School Rd near the hotel. One woman laid on her horn continuously for many passes and afterward joined the protest.

Most of the 300 protest participants were locals who were sick of Satanism. Since 2016, Scottsdale has been battling Satanists who demanded to lead an invocation at its city council meeting. That is why when locals heard that Jesse Romero was organizing a Rosary Rally of reparation against this Satanic conference, they were overjoyed.

From noon until 3:00 pm for three consecutive days, hundreds of devout Catholics offered songs and prayers of reparation outside of the convention center used by Satanists from around the country.

In addition, people flew and drove from all over the country, from Minnesota to Texas and California to New York.

The Program on the First Day

At noon on Friday, faithful prayer warriors met for instructions and opening prayer at the Scottsdale City Hall. From there, they marched to and processed around the Saguardo Hotel with a statue of Our Lady held high on their shoulders, bagpipes playing and people praying.

The marchers then halted in front of the hotel to finish the three hours of prayer. A TFP standard glowed red in the Arizona afternoon sun. Banners declaring the purpose of the protest were everywhere.

To finish, Jesse Romero gave an inspirational talk to encourage Catholics and thank everyone who braved the hot weather to battle Satanism. The crowd was such that those who led the Rosary or spoke had to use a megaphone so the crowd could hear. Father David Nix then blessed the sprawling crowd.

The Second Day

Once again, the Queen of the Angels led the column of faithful prayer warriors into the fray at midday. Participants braved another day of prayers and reparation in the hot af-



ternoon sun. Their sacrifice and bravery attracted the angels to their side.

The rally's only active opposition came not from the Satanists but from an unexpected group of loud Protestants, who took issue with the Catholic devotion to the Blessed Mother of God.

They intruded with a very loud speaker yelling insults against her Queenship and her powerful intercession. When given a choice between joining forces with the Catholics to shut down the Satanists or attacking God's Mother, they chose the latter. Police asked them to leave.

The Final Day

Sunday was by far the day with the most enthusiasm. People were praying and singing louder; they boldly faced the street unashamed and proudly manifested their opposition to Satan.

Everyone had the impression that Our Lady and her heavenly hosts had conquered Scottsdale. The protesters became more determined. Men knelt to pray the Rosary with their arms in the form of a cross. People held their rosaries up high when they prayed.

TFP supporter Leo Fitzsimmons rallied the troops with a rousing singing of the "Ave" after each decade of the Rosary.

After the final rally, many felt a camaraderie that came from suffering together for a cause. People were almost reluctant to leave.

The Continuous Fight

In 1917, Our Lady of Fatima foretold that, without a complete universal conversion initiated by the consecration of Russia to her most Immaculate Heart, the errors of Russia would spread throughout the entire world. The Scottsdale Satanist convention is a symptom of the devil's offensive in today's world.

Our Lady also foretold her triumph, which will only be obtained through prayer, sacrifice and faithfulness to Christ, His Blessed Mother and His Church.

This Rosary Rally led by Jesse Romero shows that it is possible to rally around Our Lady to serve her Son in the fight against sinful disorder in the world. The fight goes on. Where will you be when the forces of evil attack the City of God next?

To paraphrase Pope Callixtus III, "Beloved son! Continue to defend the Catholic Faith; God, for whom you fight, will not abandon His cause. He will, I am confident, grant success against [Satan] and the other unbelievers to you and the rest of the Christians with great glory and honor." ■



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courage and even more going to an area less affected by the conflict."

"What testimonies could you highlight from people who were consoled by the medal of Our Lady?"

"What impressed me the most is the gratitude of the people for the medal. Ukrainian Catholics have suffered persecution and martyrdom for decades, they have a very deep faith as it was forged in blood. And knowing that other countries are praying for them and that this medal is the symbol of that unity in prayer, it has moved their hearts. It must be said that the medals are very well minted and made of good metal and this makes them even more appreciated. 'For God the best,' as Saint Francis of Assisi said."

"How did this experience help you spiritually and to what extent did you feel protected by Our Lady?"

"To meet a people suffering the horrors of war and to see them pray for peace with this deep faith and trust in God, through the Virgin Mary, to whom they are very devoted, makes me reflect on how we live so tepidly in our countries of the West. I will give you an example. The Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima is in the largest Greek-Catholic parish in the country. Every afternoon they make the procession praying the Rosary around the church. When the anti-aircraft sirens sound, the procession is not suspended . . . it continues in the basement of the church."

"To what extent do you see the solution to the ills of humanity in the triumph of the Heart of Mary?"

"The bishops of Ukraine saw very clearly that with the conversion of men's hearts, problems are solved. If there is no conversion, man's sin will continue to produce greater evils. That is why the Virgin of Fatima asked for the consecration of Russia and also for penance and conversion. This is the path she indicated so that we can see her Immaculate Heart triumph as quickly as possible."

The Catholic, Marian note in Ukraine's resistance to the Russian invasion is a source of encouragement, comfort and certainty that they are on the right path.

May Our Lady keep Ukraine free from Putin's clutches and free from the Orthodox Church that in the past was the mainstay of Bolshevism and today is the support of Putinism. ■



At a Ukrainian convent, a young sister joyfully sews miraculous medals donated by the TFP into vests made by the nuns for the Ukrainian army.

Hope for Ukraine: TFP Brings Thousands of Miraculous Medals to Ukraine

BY SOUZA LEÃO



Despite the risk of being caught in crossfire and bombings, in early April 2022, Italian TFP member Miguel Angel Gutierrez made a daring foray into Ukraine to deliver thousands of Miraculous Medals to beleaguered Catholics in the cities of Kiev and Lviv. Made possible by the Italian TFP's campaign Luci sull'Est (Light Over the East) and the Fédération Pro Europa Christiana, Mr. Gutierrez hauled 50,000 Miraculous Medals into the war-torn region. Javier Navascués interviewed Mr. Gutierrez upon his return to Rome.

“Why did the Fédération Pro Europa Christiana decide to send a large number of Miraculous Medals to Ukraine?”

“The bishops of Ukraine asked to consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and asked the Fatima shrine to have a statue of the Virgin in the country. This gave us the certainty that the drama of war is fought above all in the spiritual field. Hence the idea of sending and distributing the medal of Our Lady that has given the most graces, “the Miraculous Medal.”

“How many medals were there exactly and how were they distributed?”

“Right now we have 50,000. As you can imagine, it's hard to get to small



towns. So we sent 20,000 to Kiev and 20,000 to the Auxiliary Bishop of Lviv, Archbishop Kava, who, being a conventual Franciscan, follows the spirituality of Saint Maximilian Kolbe to spread the Miraculous Medal. The rest were distributed to the faithful in the churches of Lviv, mainly where the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima is.”

“Were you afraid of having to enter a country at war with the sword of Damocles over your head, of possible bombings, tanks...?”

“When I received the message from a priest friend, Father Paulo Vyskosky, an OMI missionary, that he and his community were in Kiev to give spiritual and charitable assistance to trapped people, I thought that if they had that courage and zeal for souls while being in an area very close to the front, I had to arm myself with that (continued inside - page 23)

