

CRUSADE[®]

September/October 2021

MAGAZINE



TRADITION
FAMILY AND
PROPERTY[®]

THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Core of the Fatima Message



The Christian Institution of the Family: A Dynamic Force to Regenerate Society

Why does it seem that the family is under attack on every front imaginable? From abortion and pornography to fatherlessness and transgenderism—each of today’s predominant evils are a direct attack on the building block of every stable society, otherwise known as the family.

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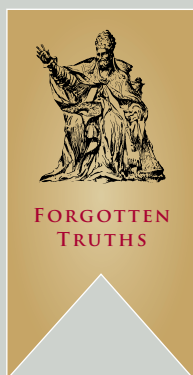
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Instruct the Ignorant, Admonish the Sinner

BY THOMAS RYDER



A simple gesture of reproach, given charitably, is a spiritual work of mercy and may prevent a soul from committing future sins.

A parish priest once related an incident in which he was distributing Holy Communion to the faithful who knelt along an altar rail. Carefully, reverently, he moved from one end to the other, until he came across a young woman with so

little on, that he could not bring himself to administer Our Sacramental Lord to her. As he approached the immodestly clad young woman, he gently skipped her. Not a word was spoken.

The following day, a knock sounded on the rectory door. Opening it, the parish priest found that the same young woman stood before him. She made no sign that she wished to enter, but instead began speaking. “Father, I don’t want to come in. I came here to tell you that I know exactly why you denied me Communion yesterday, and I want to thank you for it.” With those words, she wished the priest good day and departed. This reaction

was highly unexpected, but the priest praised God for having touched a soul in such a way.

And so, a silent instruction conveyed the correct message. It may have prevented many more sins which could potentially bring a soul to lose itself. It may have also prevented disastrous ripple effects of those sins—namely, sins of lust.

Currently in our country, there is a major discussion regarding whether or not pro-abortion politicians should be allowed to receive the Holy Eucharist. The discussion itself is shocking, for Our Lord Jesus Christ clearly commanded His disciples to “go forth and preach to all nations.” Preach what? The answer is, preach the Truth.

It is a great misfortune that the faithful suffer the misguidance of those who are called to teach and preach the truth. This reticence to instruct and admonish the faithful has its result in mass confusion, with lamentable eternal consequences.

Why do priests, the ministers of Christ, not teach the Truth? Why do they fear the immoral and perverse culture of our day, which has infiltrated their flock? Have they forgotten to practice the Spiritual Works of Mercy, “Instruct the Ignorant” and “Admonish the Sinner”? For their sakes and ours, let us hope they will remember their duty. ■



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Photo of statue of Our Lady of Fatima taken at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica, Chicago, Illinois Courtesy of Order of Friar Servants of Mary, USA Province, Inc.



In view of his American Families Plan, one must ask if President Biden even knows the definition of "family."



Defending the Holy Cross, sign of our salvation.



Asking the Pure Maid of France to intercede for America's youth.



Fifty young Catholic men gather in Houston, Texas, for a student conference.

CRUSADE

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THE AMERICAN TFP

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

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



IN BRIEF

Young Catholics Rebuke Pro-LGBT Church in Austria

In defiance of the Vatican's declaration that the Church could not bless same-sex unions, the medieval church of St. Rupert, Vienna's oldest Catholic church, chose to unfurl a rainbow "pride flag" from its bell tower. In response, a group of faithful Catholics decided to issue a bold response that made waves in the news. In an April 26, 2021 video posted on YouTube, the young Catholics are shown clandestinely climbing up the side of the church at night and attaching a large banner next to the rainbow flag declaring, "God cannot bless sin, *Roma locuta, causa finita*" (Rome has spoken, the case is closed). The ancient Latin phrase proclaims the truth that the Church has the authority to judge on matters of faith and morals and once a doctrinal issue has been settled, Catholics must assent.



Mortal Remains of Catholic Chaplain and War Hero Found

On March 4, 2021, the U.S. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that the remains of Servant of God Father Emil J. Kapaun have been identified, nearly seventy years after his death during the Korean War. Father Kapaun served as an army chaplain both in World War II and the Korean War before he

was captured and imprisoned by Chinese communist troops. During his captivity, he worked tirelessly to aid and comfort fellow POWs, provide the Sacraments and help them to resist communist propaganda, until he died in captivity on May 23, 1951. In 2013, Father Kapaun was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in the U.S. military. A canonization process has also been opened for him in the Vatican.

Canadian Catholic Schools Vote to Fly Rainbow Flag in Opposition to Church Teaching

In a clear breaking with Catholic moral teaching and despite protests from concerned parents and clergy, at least nine out of thirty-eight Catholic school boards in the province of Ontario, Canada voted in favor of flying the homosexual rainbow flag at their schools every year during "Pride Month." Other Catholic school boards have mandated that all staff undergo LGBT sensitivity training. Those that have declined to raise the flag faced intense pressure from homosexual activists and threats of legal action from the government. Most Reverend Marcel Dampousse, Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall, called the decision a "political statement that endorses behaviors and lifestyles contradicting the Catholic

Church's teaching." He added: "Our Catholic schools, and those who represent the participants in our Catholic schools, have a duty to uphold and promote what the Catholic Church teaches."

Texas City Becomes Largest "Sanctuary City for the Unborn"

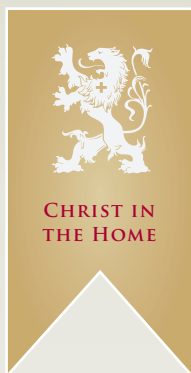
On May 1, 2021, citizens of the city of Lubbock, Texas voted sixty-two percent to thirty-seven percent to pass an enforceable ordinance which stated that "It shall be unlawful for any person to procure or perform an abortion of any type and at any stage of pregnancy in the City of Lubbock, Texas." With more than 250,000 residents, this made Lubbock the largest city in the United States so far, and the twenty-sixth city overall, to declare itself a "sanctuary city for the unborn," as well as the first to do so by popular vote. Planned Parenthood, which operates a clinic in the city, immediately sued to block the ordinance, but the lawsuit was dismissed by a federal judge on June 1.

Widespread Starvation Continues to Grip Socialist Venezuela

In socialist dictator Nicholas Maduro's Venezuela, decades of extreme corruption and socialist mismanagement of the economy has ravaged what was formerly one of the wealthiest countries in Latin America. Since at least 2016, a crumbling economy and hyperinflation has contributed to a scarcity of basic goods such as food and toiletries, leading to high levels of starvation and malnutrition. The most recent study on the topic, published in 2021 by the Venezuelan Observatory for Food Security and Nutrition (OVSN), found that just nine percent of Venezuelans reported having guaranteed access to food. Fifty-five percent of Venezuelans said they "restrict their consumption of food" to ensure they have something to eat in the future. About sixty-nine percent stated they were sacrificing clothing, education or other basic needs to be able to afford food. ■

Earning a Child's Trust

BY FR. RAOUL PLUS, S.J.



It is necessary to earn the confidence of a child. Nothing is so sad as when parents and children are divided, causing them to lead lives practically isolated from each other, with no contact of soul, no intimacy between them. Difficult moments will come, temptations will arise, decisions will have to be made and action determined. If children have no confidence in their parents, to what dangers they will be exposed!

This confidence is difficult to get. One important reason for the difficulty arises from the physical or moral temperament of the parents and of the children. The parents must know how to calm their little ones' fears, be open to their advances and be unafraid to give in. Sometimes this confidence is blocked by other reasons which parents only too often overlook.

There are, for example, parents who openly show more affection for one child than another or give fewer marks of affection to one child. The child who believes himself slighted may turn inward and become sullen and jealous. Again, there are parents who are unbalanced in their punishments or fail to be just. There are others who are woefully ignorant of psychology and as a consequence, seriously wound the self-respect of a child. He retaliates by closing up his heart.

A mother once laughed at a candid confidence her little boy revealed to her. He was deeply hurt.

"Papa," he said, "I don't love mamma anymore."
"What's that! Is it possible? Why not?"
"Why?...Well, that's just how it is. I don't want to tell her anything anymore...never anymore."
The father tried in vain to reason with him, but he remained obstinate.
"No, that's the end. I don't love mamma anymore!"

It may have been mere moodiness and doubtless it was; time would probably clear it up. Yet, who knows? Like all fragile things, the child's heart is easily scarred. And as with all things that have been marred, it is not easy to restore the lustre, to efface all the blemishes.

Like all fragile things, the child's heart is easily scarred. And as with all things that have been marred, it is not easy to restore the lustre, to efface all the blemishes.



The leader of the future is often forged in intimate moments spent nestled securely in the crook of his parent's arm, where his confidence is established and values are formed.

Parents who want their children's confidence must know how to listen, to listen untiringly. They must be able to show interest in their triumphant little stories as well as in their grievances. They may never ridicule them, never rebuff them through irritation or nervousness and never deceive them.

They must know how to read their children without trying in any way to force an entry into their hearts or consciences; rather, they must be clever at inviting a confidence, dispelling a cloud, evoking a smile, creating a diversion in case of a mishap or tempest.

They must always show understanding and make the children feel that they can tell them everything. Not that they

approve of everything, but that they take everything into consideration; if then adjustments are called for, they make them; if rewards are merited, they bestow them. And when they must punish, they do so with only the good of the child in mind so that, if the age of the child warrants it, they will explain the reason for their actions. If in spite of all this, a child still persists in being withdrawn and uncommunicative, reserved as a hermit, there is nothing else to do but pray.

Parents should not grow discouraged. Of course, they should try to discover whether this reticence is the result of temperament or conscience worries. It might even be necessary to turn to someone else for help, someone who will be more successful because they are more competent. In many cases, this could be a priest. It is a great mistake for parents to want to be the only recipients of their children's confidence. The child or teenager must be able to confide in someone. If we are not the one, and someone else is, let us accept the fact humbly. Such renunciation is very meritorious, especially for the mother. ■

The Family Is the Only Thing Missing in Biden's "American Families Plan"

BY JOHN HORVAT II



The latest liberal plan to save the nation is the Biden Administration's American Families Plan. It is heralded as a lifesaver for struggling families. Finally, Americans can supposedly enjoy the long-overdue benefits similar to those enjoyed by citizens benefiting from Europe's extensive social safety net.

The Plan's wish list is impressive. There is affordable child care for everyone. Add free pre-school for all three- and four-year-olds, paid leave for new parents, extended tax credits, health benefits and two years of free community college. There is something for everyone in this Plan. What is there not to like in this program that only the most hardened scrooge can hate?

A Hefty Price Tag

The Plan's \$1.6 trillion price tag is a bit hefty. However, President Biden claims it can be recouped with higher taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals. The rich will be made to pay because they are rich. Moreover, the government is big and has unlimited possibilities for expanding its low-interest debt.

With such deep-pocketed resources, liberals argue, there is no limit as to what can be done to improve the lives of millions of American families. They claim it matters little if the government gets bigger as long as American families benefit. Think of it as an investment in the future and the Plan will not appear so bad.

The Limits of Money

However, the American Families Plan has two major defects. The first is that it frames the debate in economic terms. The left holds the absurd belief that any problem can be resolved if enough money is spent.

Indeed, the debate is all about money—or more precisely about free money and other people's money. The discussion is how to transfer more money from the taxpayers' pockets to the government's coffers.

Opponents to the Plan have responded in kind.

They rightly notice the grave injustice in taxing the rich to foot the bill for the left's wish list. Tax hikes can only go so far before they weigh down the economy. Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) criticized the Plan, saying it will initiate "the biggest job-killing tax hikes in a generation."

The problem with limiting the discussion to economic consideration is that it neglects the most important moral arguments against the Plan. It ignores the Plan's most vulnerable flank. Money will not solve the moral problems that so ail today's families.

Refusing to Define the Family

Thus, the second and most important defect of the American Families Plan is its refusal to deal with the notion of what the family is. The Biden Administration's programs typically exclude what is highlighted in their titles. Most of his stimulus plan was not about stimulus. The infrastructure scheme has very little infrastructure spending in it. Likewise, this American Families Plan has next to nothing in it for the family.

The family has gone missing in Biden's Plan. He adopts the modern individualist concepts of the family as defined by Kant, who called it a complex of purposeful and legal relations. Today's liberals also include the postmodern notions of a family being whatever individuals declare it to be. It assumes no permanent commitment. Any group of individuals might qualify.

Aristotle defined the family as the original natural community for the creation and maintenance of life. Saint Thomas Aquinas called it the first and smallest social union. Leo XIII said it is a small but real society through which the individual enters society. It stands



President Biden's ambitious \$1.6 trillion spending plan will ultimately do very little to help the American family. Instead of addressing the root causes of broken families, the government absorbs the family into its care.

between the individual and the State. The family presupposes a stable fruitful marriage and the development and education of offspring to carry forward society for future generations.

Thus, a family has an end, and any plan that works against this end jeopardizes its survival. Any definition outside this purpose is not a family but a group of individuals.

An Anti-Family Agenda

The Biden Plan works against the nature and purpose of the family.

To start with, judging from the Administration's LGBTQ+ agenda, family for it is anything a person wants it to be.

The Plan offers affordable child care and universal preschool. However, such programs presuppose babies. The Administration is doing everything possible to expand the abortion agenda through government policy. Contrary to his professed Catholic Faith, the president is actively working against the family by denying the abundant births that should come from marriage. His program would be better labeled as one to benefit infant survivors and facilitate their care away from home.

A family plan should be about doing something about birth rates. The family is in crisis because of America's demographic meltdown, caused by the failure of families to replace the country's population. However, official government policy embraces the contraceptive mentality that destroys families.

Family presupposes a father and a mother that provide the best possible condition for children's solid physical and spiritual development. However, there is nothing in these programs that encourages more healthy families. There is nothing that helps defend them against the dangers of contraception, abortion, cohabitation and divorce.

While child care might be needed in some cases, nothing can replace the parent that bonds with children in the home. The universal placing of infants and children in daycare centers should not be a desired goal.

American Broken Family Plan

While traditional families might benefit from some parts of the Biden Plan, it does not address the essential issue of what makes up a family and how the stable family is the only way for individuals to get ahead.

Since its focus is only economic, the American Families Plan appears to target the broken family. The primary cause of poverty is not the lack of training or education but the broken families that fail to fulfill their responsibilities. Thus, government programs do not address single parenthood, absent fathers and rampant promiscuity destroying families everywhere. Tragically, the government often facilitates their perpetuation. Instead of aiding the family, the government absorbs it into its care.

Thus, the Biden program is self-defeating. The best possible way to help the family is to form healthy families: the healthier the family, the less need for government intervention. The family is an essential social unit, but it is also an economic powerhouse that creates and distributes wealth beyond anything that the government can provide.

The Church is a much better instrument for shaping healthy families than the State. The Church can provide moral advice, encourage fidelity and instill virtuous habits. All this can be done at little cost, yet great benefit to society. Instead of browbeating Catholic nuns into paying for contraception, a good family policy would focus on developing a moral climate for families to flourish.

What is ailing the American family is not money for the family. Without the correct notion of the family, no amount of money will fix American Families. What is needed is moral direction, and there is none in the Biden Plan. ■



What is ailing the American family is not money for the family. Without the correct notion of the family, no amount of money will fix American families.



We Stand with Mary by the Cross Always, Now and Forever

BY REX TEODOSIO

One of the most moving hymns is Stabat Mater. It describes what Mary Most Holy pondered in her heart as she stood by the Cross witnessing the death of Her Divine Son.

It is easy to imagine the scene around the Cross. Our Lady was not alone on top of Mount Calvary. There were the guards who ensured the state's will was followed to the letter. There were the Scribes, Pharisees and the chief priests who defied everything Jesus represented: truth, virtue and conversion from sin. Then there was the "woke" crowd, the people, the rulers and the elders who suddenly decided it was more popular to mock Jesus than to proclaim Him as king. Finally there were Mary's companions: Mary Cleopas, Mary Magdalene and Saint John the Evangelist.

Each group saw a different meaning to the Crucifixion. The guards were there to follow Pontius Pilate's order and only saw the Crucifixion as a secular event. The crowd and elders saw the event as a failed cultural and philosophical movement. The chief priests saw Jesus' death as the completion of their plot against the prophesied Messiah. It was nothing more than another act within a long history of defiance to God's will. They had killed prophets and holy men. Why not the Messiah?

Only Mary and her companions saw its true meaning. Jesus died on the Cross in order to redeem man from original sin, and to purchase the graces necessary for man to turn away from sin and convert to God. His Passion and Death on the Cross was a victory over the world, the devil, the flesh and eternal death.

Her act of standing by the Cross as Jesus died memorialized to all, for all times, what fidelity looks like. For only one who

truly believed in Christ could have stood by Him at the height of His apparent defeat.

This battle of meanings was repeated again in Bladensburg, Maryland. At the center of this battle is a 40-foot cross erected in 1925 to honor Prince George County's fallen. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June, 2019 in the case *American Legion et al v. American Humanist Association et al* that the cross is a symbol that "took on an added secular meaning when used in World War I memorials."¹ This effectively stripped the cross of its inherent religious meaning in the eyes of the state.

Following the logic of that ruling, The Satanic Temple decided to claim the cross in the name of all Satanist veterans in a public satanic ritual on July 9, 2021. There were approximately seventy of them dressed in black, many in black robes and some with horned headwear. In unison, they chanted incantations, raised their satanic salute toward the cross and bowed down in adoration of the devil. It may have been the largest public act of Satanism in history.² They certainly take pride in this event on their web site, claiming that it may have made the Bladensburg cross the second most important place of pilgrimage for Satanists worldwide.

It seems contradictory for Satanists to use the cross as the central focus of their ritual. To understand their viewpoint, the event can be likened, from their perspective, to their blasphemous use of sacred objects or even the Holy Eucharist in a satanic black mass.

Once again, in Bladensburg, as on Mount Calvary, there were those who stood with Mary by the cross.



Courageous Catholics young and old send a clear message to passersby in Bladensburg, Maryland.

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) and its America Needs Fatima campaign organized a rosary rally in protest of and in reparation for the satanic act. Approximately 120 faithful gathered to stand by the cross. At the head of our formation was Our Lady of Fatima on a litter carried by four young TFP members in full ceremonial garb. Next to them stood the president of the American TFP, Mr. Raymond Drake. Up along the road to the right were a mixture of people. Some were elderly who remained standing despite their age. Some were young TFP Student Action South caravan volunteers from as far away as Texas, Colorado and Illinois, who have spent the summer campaigning for God's cause. Others were children who happily held a sign asking people to "Honk for the Cross." There was a grandfather, accompanied by his children and grandchildren, who refused to drink water as an act of sacrifice. There was a girl who is battling cancer, who despite her fatigue insisted upon driving from Ohio to be there. There was the TFP band, alternating between playing Marian hymns on their drums and bagpipes, and shouting the prayers loudly through megaphones. Everyone stood by the cross with a rosary in hand and prayer in their mouths.

There was the TFP Grand Standard flying alongside the Stars and Stripes. It symbolized how the virtues of faith and patriotism are compatible. The Satanists, in contrast, flew the satanic American flag, a corrupted version of Old Glory having the pentagram in place of the stars.

All were there because they wanted to stand by the cross just as Mary did at the time of the Crucifixion. On that day, everyone put aside their comfort, entertainment, family and even health to stand with Mary by the cross.

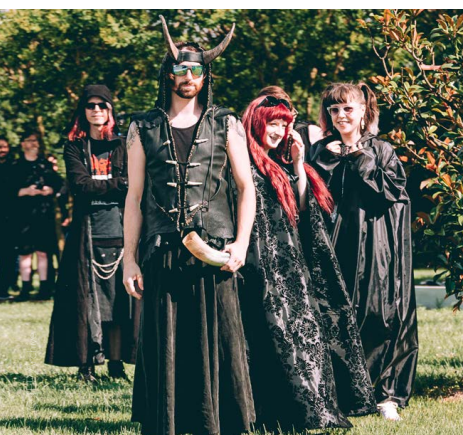
Above all, Our Lady of Fatima was there. She was lifted high on shoulders so the whole world and the Satanists could see Her clearly, since, in the fight against the serpent, no one is more powerful than the Virgin prophesied by God Himself in Genesis. (Gen. 3:15.)

Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, in his celebrated book, *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*, stated: "Starved not only of food but of ideas, what do these pitiable people understand of the free world? On meeting it, would they not clash with it? And what would result from this clash ... an immediate world of total anarchy, of chaos and horror, which we would not hesitate to call the Fifth Revolution?" Events are quickly unfolding in that direction.

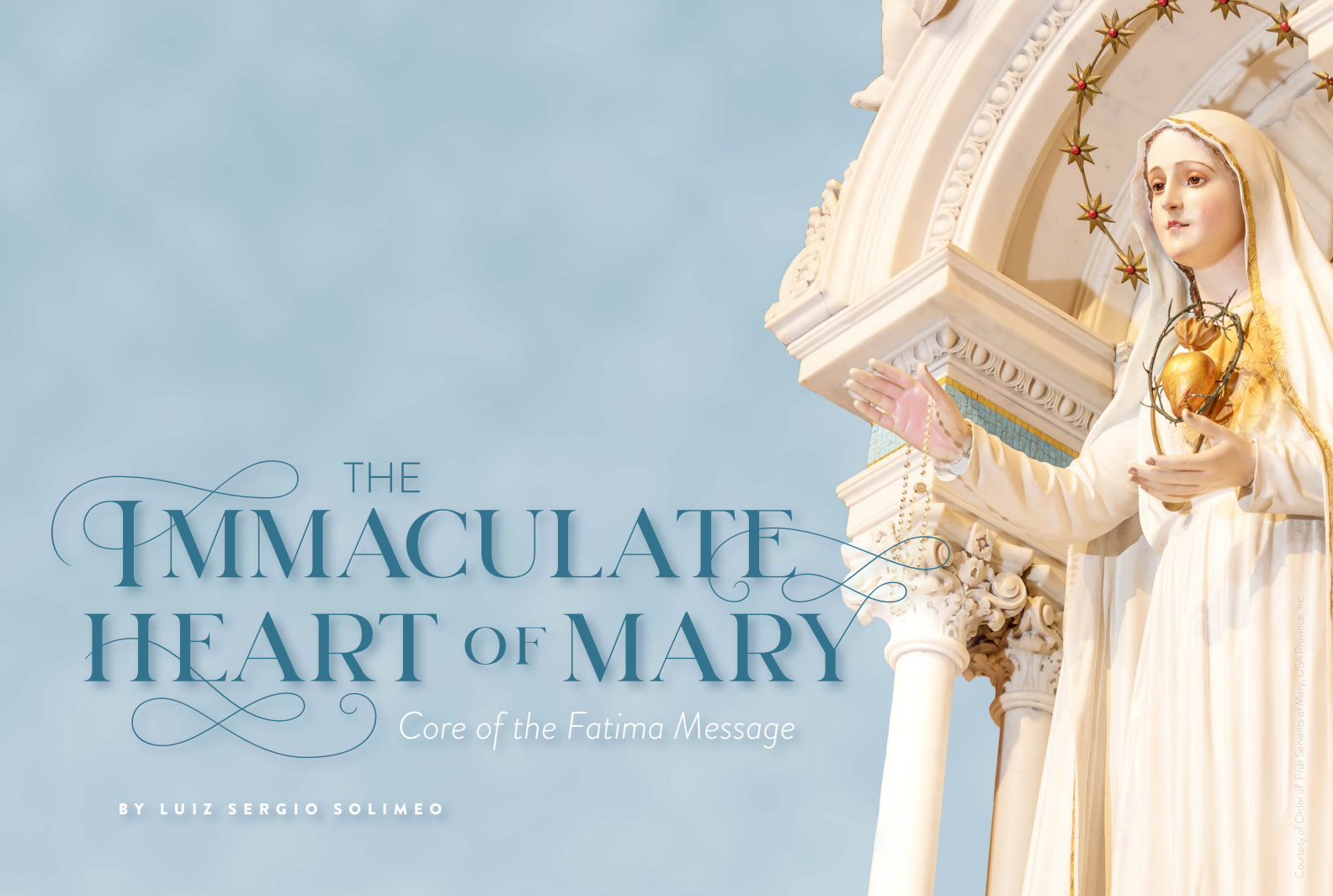
And, you, dear reader, when Satan raises his head again, will you stand with Mary by the cross as well? ■

Notes

1. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/18pdf/17-1717_4f14.pdf.
2. In the satanic event in Arkansas in 2015, there were about one hundred gathered visible in a YouTube video, but it was not a ritual. It was a public unveiling of a statue of Baphomet. The March 6, 2020 event at the steps of the Washington State capitol was a satanic ritual. About fifty participants can be counted in a YouTube video.



In the ongoing battle between the darkness of Satan and the Light of Christ, proponents of the former are always easy to spot.



THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Core of the Fatima Message

BY LUIZ SERGIO SOLIMEO



Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary permeates the whole story and message of Fatima. One may well say that it is the very core of the message, as well as the solution presented for the problems of today's world.

Jesus Wants Devotion to the Immaculate Heart

In 1916, the angel¹ who came to prepare the three shepherd children for the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin said to them, "The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplications."²

In another apparition, the angel repeated the message: "Pray, pray a lot. The Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy upon you."³

And the Mother of God herself, in the second apparition, told Lúcia:

"Jesus wants to use you to make me known and loved. He wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. To those who accept it, I promise salvation and those souls will be loved by God as flowers I have placed to embellish His Throne."⁴

Upon learning that she was going to be alone on earth after the death of her cousins, Lúcia was distressed. The Blessed Virgin consoled her, saying:

"I will never leave you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God."⁵

These two statements—that Jesus wants to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the world, and that her Immaculate Heart is the refuge of suffering souls and the path that leads to Heaven—summarize Fatima spirituality.

Devotion of Reparation

Due reparation for the continuous offenses perpetrated against the Immaculate Heart today is the essence of this devotion.

Thus, soon after Our Lady's words quoted above, the seers described what they saw, inside a bright light: "In front of the palm of Our Lady's right hand was a heart surrounded with thorns that appeared to be piercing it. We understood it was the Immaculate Heart of Mary, insulted by the sins of humanity, which wanted reparation."⁶

Our Lady gave her message on July 13, 1917, during the third and most important apparition. She insisted on the reparative aspect of the devotion:

*"Sacrifice yourselves for sinners and say very often, especially whenever you make some sacrifice, 'O Jesus, it is for Thy love, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.'"*⁷

Remedy to Save Souls and the World

After showing Hell to the little shepherds, Our Lady continued:

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

*"To prevent it [the war] I will come to ask the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are fulfilled, Russia will convert and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, promoting wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer and many nations will be annihilated. Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me and she will be converted and the world will be given a certain period of peace. In Portugal the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved, etc."*⁸

A Penitential Devotion

After the apparitions, one day when Lúcia was visiting Jacinta, who was already approaching her premature death, she said to Lúcia:

"Our Lady came to see us and said she will come to take Francisco to heaven very soon. And she asked me if I still wanted to convert more sinners. I told her yes. She said I would be going to a hospital where I would have much to suffer; that I should suffer for the conversion of sinners, in reparation for the sins against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the love of Jesus."⁹

In 1921, sometime after the death of her cousins, Lúcia moved to the Vilar Asylum in Porto, an institution of the Sisters of Saint Dorothy, where she continued her studies. In 1925, she joined that religious congregation and became a postulant in Pontevedra, Spain. It was then that she was tasked, in a vision, with asking for the reparative devotion of the First Saturdays.

Though it may sound odd to the modern reader, her narration is in the third person for humility's sake. She says:

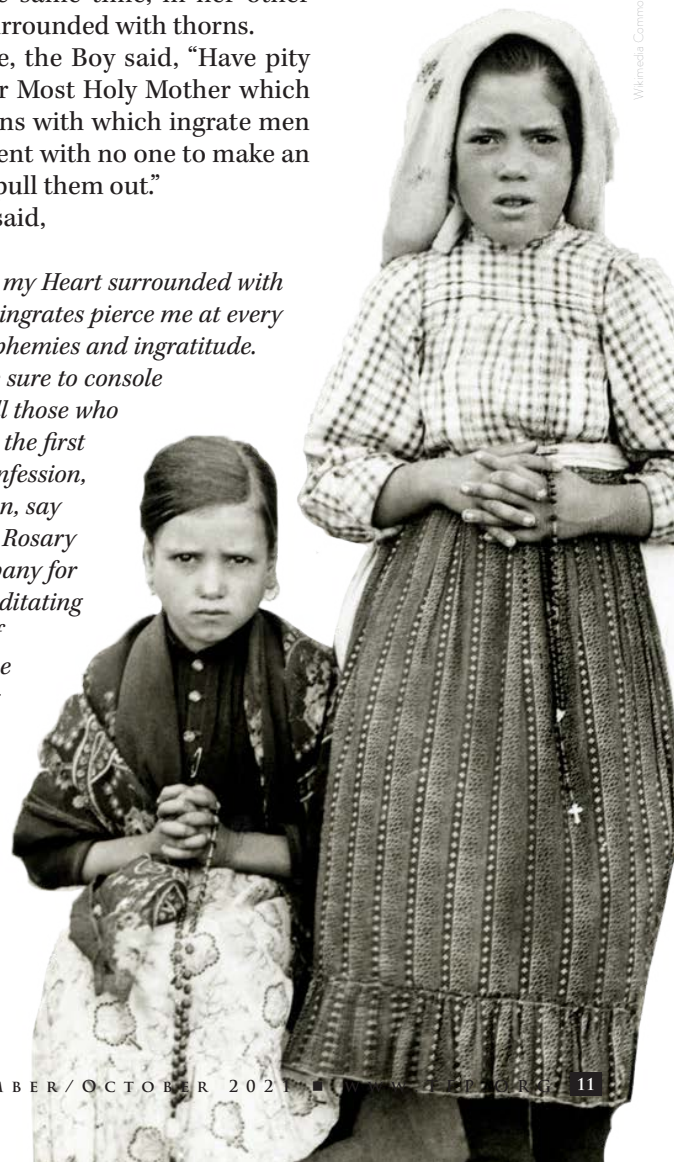
"On December 10, 1925, the Blessed Mother appeared to [Sister Lúcia] and beside her, suspended on a luminous cloud, was a Boy. The Blessed Mother rested her hand on Sister Lucia's shoulder and at the same time, in her other hand, was a heart surrounded with thorns.

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

Then, the Virgin said,

*"See, my daughter, my Heart surrounded with thorns with which ingrates pierce me at every moment with blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, make sure to console me and say that all those who for five months, on the first Saturday, go to Confession, receive Communion, say five decades of the Rosary and keep me company for fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the purpose of making reparation to me, I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls."*¹⁰

Fatima seers, Jacinta Marto (left) and Lucia dos Santos (right), cousins who practiced the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary with a seriousness beyond their years.



The Five Offenses Committed Against the Immaculate Heart

In a letter of June 12, 1930, to her confessor, answering his questions on the First Saturdays devotion, in particular, “Why does it have to be five Saturdays, and not nine or seven in honor of the sorrows of Our Lady?” Sister Lúcia explained:

“Staying in the chapel with Our Lord part of the night of the twenty-ninth to the thirtieth of the month of May 1930, and speaking to Our Lord, I suddenly felt more intimately possessed by the Divine Presence; and if I am not mistaken, the following was revealed to me,

“My daughter, the reason is simple. There are five kinds of offenses and blasphemies perpetrated against the Immaculate Heart of Mary: blasphemies against her Immaculate Conception; against her virginity; against her divine maternity, at the same time refusing to accept her as the Mother of men; those who publicly try to instill indifference, scorn and even hatred toward this Immaculate Mother in the hearts of children; and those who insult her directly in her sacred images.”¹¹

Symbolism of the Heart

Man expresses his ideas not only through concepts and words, but also through symbols.

Symbols are sensible signs that evoke or represent a higher and more abstract reality. For example, the national flag represents the homeland; the lily evokes purity; the scepter and crown represent royal power.

Of all symbols, the human heart is perhaps the most common and universal.

Closely linked to emotions that alter one’s heartbeat, the heart symbolizes one’s preference, and especially one’s love. A mother’s heart, for example, is a symbol of selfless love, full of affection and unconditionally capable of the greatest sacrifices. On the other hand, the epithet of Richard I of England (1157-1199), “the Lion-Hearted,” expresses his fearlessness, courage, indomitable prowess and indefatigable combativeness.

Heart Symbolism in Sacred Scripture

Father Maximo Peinador, CMF explains the symbolic use of the “heart” in Scripture:

“[The heart] is used very often to indicate man’s interior as opposed to his exterior, that is, his soul, his conscience . . . more frequently, to express emotions or feelings of the soul . . . and thus, we attribute to the heart blindness of mind and hardness of soul, desire, delight, joy, mercy, pain, etc. . . . The Bible speaks of the wise, prudent heart, of thoughts of the heart.”¹²

French exegete Father Xavier Léon-Dufour makes a similar commentary:

“In the Bible’s concrete and global anthropology, man’s heart is the very source of his conscious, intelligent and free personality, the place of his decisive choices, the place of unwritten Law (Rom. 2:15) and of the mysterious action of God. In the Old and New Testaments, the heart is the place where man meets God, an encounter that becomes permanent, effective in the human heart of the Son of God.”¹³

These two statements—that Jesus wants to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the world, and that her Immaculate Heart is the refuge of suffering souls and the path that leads to Heaven—summarize Fatima spirituality.



Biblical Texts

Several examples of the various symbolic meanings of the word **heart** are found in both the Old and New Testaments:

1. The Heart as Center of Human Decision-Making

*"[O]ut of the **abundance of the heart** the mouth speaks" (Matt. 12:34).*

*"But the things which proceed out of the mouth, **come forth from the heart**, and those things defile a man. For from the heart come forth evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false testimonies, blasphemies" (Matt. 15:19-20).*

*"A **perverse heart** is abominable to the Lord: and his will is in them that walk sincerely" (Prov. 11:20).*

*"He that is of a **perverse heart**, shall not find good: and he that perverted his tongue, shall fall into evil" (Prov. 17:20).*

*"The heart is **perverse** above all things, and **unsearchable**, who can know it? **I am the Lord who search the heart** and prove the reins: who give to every one according to his way, and according to the fruit of his devices" (Jer. 17:9).*

2. Inner Center of Man's Thoughts

*"And **these words** which I command thee this day, shall be in **thy heart**" (Deut. 6:6).*

*"Let not mercy and truth leave thee, put them about thy neck, and **write** them in the tablet of **thy heart**" (Prov. 3:3).*

*"A good man out of the good **treasure of his heart** bringeth forth that which is good: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth that which is evil" (Luke 6:45).*

3. Where Conversion Takes Place

*"Create a **clean heart** in me, O God: and renew a right spirit within my bowels" (Ps. 50:10).*

*"Let my heart be **undefiled** in thy justifications, that I may not be confounded" (Ps. 118:80).*

*"And **rend your hearts**, and **not your garments**, and turn to the Lord your God" (Joel 2:13).*

4. In Connection with Chastity and Upright Intentions

*"Who shall ascend into the mountain of the Lord: or who shall stand in his Holy place? The innocent in hands, and **clean of heart**, who hath not taken his soul in vain, nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbor" (Ps. 24:3-4).*

*"Blessed are the **clean of heart**: for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8).*

*"My son, **give me thy heart**: and let thy eyes keep my ways" (Prov. 23:26).*

5. Seat of Faith and Love

*"Let us draw near with a **true heart** in fullness of faith" (Heb. 10:22).*

*"That **Christ may dwell by faith in your hearts**" (Eph. 3:17).*

*"For if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and **believe in thy heart** that God hath raised him up from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For, with the heart, we believe unto justice; but, with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).*

6. Where the Natural Law Is Inscribed

*"For if our **heart reprehend** us, God is **greater than our heart**, and knows all things" (1 John 3:20).*

*"For when the Gentiles, who have not the law [of Moses], do by nature those things that are of the law; these having not the law are a law to themselves: Who show the work of **the law written in their hearts**, their conscience bearing witness to them, and their thoughts between themselves accusing, or also defending one another" (Rom. 2:14-15).*

7. Fountain of Life

*"With all watchfulness keep thy **heart**, because **life issued out from it**" (Prov. 4:23).*

*"[A]nd I will take away the **stony heart** out of your flesh, and will give you a **heart of flesh**" (Ezech. 36:26-27).*



A tale of two cities: (left) The City of God, built on order and exemplified by this protest against a blasphemous film, *The Testament of Mary* and (right) the City of the Devil, built on atheistic communism as represented by this banner carried in the Women's March (2017), Washington, D.C.

Message and Deserved Punishment

Many fervent Catholics around the world took Our Lady's Fatima message seriously. Unfortunately, however, the majority of people showed indifference, if not open contempt, for the warnings of the Mother of God. In their daily lives, they ignored Our Lady's call to prayer, penance and sacrifice.

A hundred years have passed since the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima and the world still rejects her twofold request for conversion and for an increase in devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

"The present moment is the most tragic the Church has seen since the catacombs," Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira observed. "This portentous scenario is dominated by Our Lady's appearance to the little shepherds. Everything else that happens in the world is in function of her: *Everything is unleashed because Our Lady was not heeded and her request was not obeyed.*"¹⁴

Consequences of Rejection

What were the consequences of rejecting Our Lady's message?

In Fatima, Our Lady clearly stated that wars are a punishment for the sins of nations. But during these hundred years, the moral decadence of peoples has only increased, and so the world has been punished with wars and other disasters.

We are not saying that many good and even excellent things did not occur during the past hundred years, both

in the Church and in society. Good things did happen. The generosity of the American people who sacrificed their lives and shed their blood in wars against Nazism and communism is a perfect example.

Nonetheless, we must always remember that the chastisements God sends us on this earth have two aspects: one is to make reparation for offenses committed against Him and the other is "medicinal." In their healing role, God's chastisements seek the conversion of sinners and the sanctification of the righteous. The purpose of these sufferings is to teach us detachment from sin and to instill the practice of virtue. This is how God acted in the Old Testament with the Chosen People when they prevaricated.

Let us consider some of the calamities—punishments from God—that have occurred since 1917 because of the world's refusal to heed the Blessed Mother's appeal. This will help us better grasp the seriousness of the Fatima message.¹⁵

List of Tragedies Since 1917

- Our Lady's last apparition at Fatima was on October 13, 1917. Within a month, the Bolshevik Communists seized power in Russia. From then until now, the satanic doctrine of communism has spread across the globe.¹⁶
- The First World War (1914–1918) resulted in the death of approximately

eighteen million people and it destroyed Europe's traditional order.

- As terrible as that war was, the punishment proved insufficient to bring the world to conversion. Soon after the cannons stopped thundering, a moral calamity swept through the world. Women's fashions abandoned modesty and delicacy, becoming sensual and extravagant. Relations between the sexes lost much of their courteous ceremony and became egalitarian and vulgar. The avid thirst for frenzied pleasures, expressed in dances like the Charleston, turned the 1920s into "the Roaring Twenties" in America, and "*les années folles*" (the crazy years) in France.
- The world economy collapsed with the Great Depression. At the same time, social unrest became widespread, almost paralyzing Germany, France, Italy and other countries.
- Amid the disorder, the false solutions of Fascism and Nazism emerged on the Old Continent. Both promised order, not true order that arises from a Christian organic society, but a totalitarian order imposed by an authoritarian state.¹⁷
- The 1930s were a long preparation for the Second World War, which caused over sixty million deaths. The atomic

bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki opened a new era: nuclear terror.

- Because of the February 1945 Yalta agreement between the governments of Britain, the United States and Russia, all of Eastern Europe fell under Soviet domination. It was a betrayal of the hopes of millions who had fought and died. In 1949, China, too, was betrayed and fell to communism. From there, it spread throughout Southeast Asia. Thus, Our Lady's prophecy at Fatima that the "errors of Russia" would spread around the world was being fulfilled.
- After World War II, just as in the 1920s, instead of heeding Our Lady's call to conversion, society again plunged into the pursuit of pleasure and material wealth. Unfortunately, America's wealth, prestige and influence were not matched by proportional spiritual progress.
- In the 1950s, the "wayward youth" phenomenon appeared. Intoxicated with the irrational excitement of rock n' roll, many youngsters revolted against a society that gave them everything—everything, that is, except the things that give life purpose and meaning. Although these liberals were a minority among American youth, films like *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955) and *Rock Around the Clock* (1956) spread that way of being all over the world.
- *Rebel Without a Cause* prepared the way for student revolt, sexual revolution and the "counterculture" of the 1960s, blending sexual freedom and political anarchism. That mix gave rise to the hippie, feminist and homosexual movements. The groundwork was laid for the irrationality of today's same-sex "marriage" and transgender tyranny.
- Between 1950 and 1953, the Korean War claimed more than 600,000 victims. Roughly at the same time (1946–1954), the French waged war in Indochina against communist troops armed and supported by Red

China. More than 400,000 soldiers and civilians died during the conflict.

- Still in the 1950s, communist guerrilla warfare began in Latin America. In 1959, under the dictatorship of brothers Fidel and Raul Castro, Cuba became the first communist country in the Western Hemisphere. The enslavement of the Cuban people continues to this day. An estimated 100,000 people have perished trying to escape the Island Prison by sea.
- In 1965, the American phase of the Vietnam War began—a "no-win war" as the Korean War had been before it. It ended with the withdrawal of U.S. troops and the fall of Saigon in 1975. The war served as a pretext for the left to promote violent protests and riots in the United States. The death toll of the Vietnam War, including soldiers and non-combatants, was 1,313,000.
- According to estimates published by *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression*¹⁸, those killed by communism throughout the world, from 1917 until today, total ninety-four million.
- Throughout most of the twentieth century, a Modernist crisis festered just beneath the surface of the Catholic Church. After the Second Vatican Council (1962–1965), this Modernist crisis erupted into plain view. In the years immediately following the Council, tens of thousands of priests, and men and women religious, left the ministry throughout the world. The number of priestly and religious vocations dropped dramatically. In the United States, the number of priests dropped from 58,632 in 1965 to 38,275 in 2010; the number of women religious, from about 200,000 in 1965 to 56,000 in 2010; their average age is now 74. Attendance at Sunday Mass fell from fifty-five

percent in 1965 to a mere twenty-four percent in 2010.¹⁹

- Latin America suffered the rise of "liberation theology,"²⁰ a strongly Marxist-oriented movement that, in addition to social strife, triggered a massive exodus of Catholics to other religions. In Brazil, the world's largest Catholic country, the Catholic population fell from 93.1% in 1960 to 64.6% in 2010.
- In 1968, when the Encyclical *Humanae Vitae* was published condemning contraception (birth control through mechanical devices, chemical drugs or surgery), it encountered stiff resistance worldwide from liberal bishops and clergy, and the (not-so) faithful that listened to them.
- Today, the Church is rife with public discord among cardinals and bishops over fundamental teachings of the Catholic Faith: for example, the giving of Holy Communion to people living objectively in the state of adultery, i.e. public mortal sin. We see the same discord regarding homosexual sin and same-sex "marriage."²¹
- A new type of war afflicts the world. Some call it "asymmetric warfare." Others say that we are already in "World War III." Today's wars involve not just nation-states (as the First and Second Gulf Wars did), but also new (and especially Islamist) terrorist organizations that fight against nations. As we all know, Al Qaeda and ISIS (Islamic State) are active in the Middle East and Africa,

We must always remember that the chastisements God sends us on this earth have two aspects: one is to make reparation for offenses committed against Him and the other is "medicinal."

as well as in Europe and the United States.

- Europe is being “softly” invaded by migrants and refugees from predominantly Muslim countries. Simultaneously, terrorist attacks, including “rape jihad” (abuse of Western Christian women in the name of Islam), have increased in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands and other countries.
- Today, the sexual revolution of the sixties is now manifesting itself in ever-more shocking ways such as can be seen in the promotion of the transgender and identity issues that destroys the distinctions between the sexes and introduces all sort of new “genders” and behaviors that are contrary to Christian morality.

These events acquire new meaning when pondered in the light of Fatima. It appears that a contraction of divine grace has occurred as a result of the refusal to heed the Mother of God’s call to conversion.

There is, however, no reason to despair. The same message of Fatima promises the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. To hasten that triumph, we must pray, sacrifice and, above all, spread the devotion to the maternal Heart. ■



Endnotes

1. It was the “Angel of Peace” or “Angel of Portugal.”
2. Solimeo, *Fatima*, 25.
3. Ibid., 26.
4. Ibid., 41.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid., 47-8.
8. Ibid., 49-50.
9. Ibid., 94.
10. Ibid., 103-4.
11. Ibid., 105.
12. Maximo Peinador, CMF, *Teologia Biblica Cordimariana* (Madrid: Editorial Cocusa, 1959), 47. (Our translation.) See also Gen. 6:5; Psalms 32:11, Prov. 6:16, 15:14, 18:15; Eccles. 3:32, Luke 2:38; Eph. 1:18: “the eyes of your heart.”
13. Xavier Léon-Dufour, *Vocabulário de Teologia Bíblica* (Petrópolis: Vozes, 1992), 175. (Our translation.)
14. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, Lecture, Nov. 25, 1974 (Archives of the Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira Commission). (Our emphasis.)
15. As the complete list of tragedies would be excessive in length, here we mention only wars and social upheavals that we consider more directly linked to the Fatima message.
16. By our Gregorian calendar, the Bolshevik Revolution took place on November 7, 1917; but according to the Julian calendar then used in Russia, it was still October 25. Hence it was called the “October Revolution.”
17. Cf. John Horvat II, *Return to Order: From a Frenzied Economy to an Organic Christian Society—Where We’ve Been, How We Got Here, and Where We Need to Go* (York, Penn.: York Press, 2013).
18. Stéphane Courtois et al, *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression*, ed. Mark Kramer (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1999).
19. Cf. Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, *Frequently Requested Church Statistics*, accessed Mar. 14, 2016, <http://cara.georgetown.edu/frequently-requested-church-statistics/>; Michael Wineripdec, “The Vanishing of the Nuns,” *New York Times*, Dec. 2, 2012, accessed Mar. 14, 2016, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/02/booming/the-vanishing-of-the-nuns.html>.
20. Cf. Gustavo Antonio Solimeo and Luiz Sérgio Solimeo, *Grassroots Church Communities (GRCGs): Perestroika in Latin America?* (Carmel, N.Y.: Western Hemisphere Cultural Society, Inc., 1991) Chapter II — “Liberation Theology: The Doctrine of the Grassroots.”
21. Cf. Nicole Winfield and Ines San Martin, “Cardinals Publicly Battling over Divorce,” accessed Mar. 14, 2016, <http://www.cruxnow.com/church/2014/09/18/walter-kasper-cardinals-debate-marriage-ahead-of-crucial-meeting/>.

Heart of the Home

With deep trust in Our Lord’s promise to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque: “I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored,” America Needs Fatima mailed 365,000 vibrant, full-color wall calendars featuring the Sacred Heart of Jesus to a broad range of friends and supporters throughout the United States.

Each month for eighteen months, the moving depictions of the Heart of Jesus, as well as stunning photographs of sacred places dedicated to the Sacred Heart, will captivate the viewer. As plans and appointments are written upon the calendar from July 2021 through December 2022, each family member will be reminded that Our Lord is truly at the heart of his home.

To order your own FREE Sacred Heart calendar, call (888) 317-5571.



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

PROGRESS REPORT

BE A PART OF THE FATIMA SOLUTION

*Our Lady
Needs You!*

**Be a Rally Captain for the 2021
Public Square Rosary Rallies**



TFP Archive

To become a rally captain

Please go to www.ANF.org and click on the "2021 Rosary Rally Campaign Sign Up" button today. OR call (866) 584-6012 and our friendly Rosary Rally Volunteers will be happy to answer your questions.

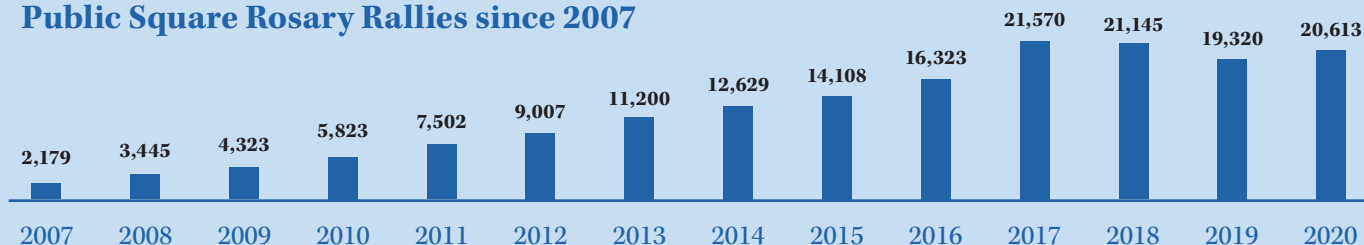
On Saturday, October 16, 2021, at noon local time, tens of thousands of Catholics just like you will be gathering with friends to pray the rosary for America. On street corners, church steps and in public parks everywhere, children of Our Lady will respond to their Mother's call to:

*"Pray the Rosary . . . in order to
obtain peace for the world."* -July 13, 1917

In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, people are searching for a solution to the chaos everywhere. As they see you—praying the rosary with your friends in a public place—Our Lady will fill their hearts with the grace to see that her message of prayer and amendment of life is the solution.

And THAT is how you can join America Needs Fatima to win the heart and soul of America for Our Lady!

Public Square Rosary Rallies since 2007





Our Readers Write



Child of Mary Monthly Donors

"Your books are always so welcome. The one you sent me last year—*Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*—was WONDERFUL. Thank you so much. I'm a monthly donor with the *Child of Mary* program and proud of it."

J.A., East Windsor, New Jersey

"I'm currently a member of your *Child of Mary* program, happy to support you monthly. I realize that our society is in trouble, and I continue to pray that it will eventually turn back to God for guidance and support."

D.G., Beloit, Kansas

"I love my *Child of Mary* pin—and I wear it every day!"

F.M., Honolulu, Hawaii



Mary in Every Home Campaign

"A number of years ago, I received a photo from you of the Blessed Mother. I had it in a drawer. When they closed down our churches due to the coronavirus, I couldn't go to Mass anymore. So a group of us set up a conference call to pray together. For these phone calls, I set up this picture of Our Lady and lit a votive candle while

we prayed. I also led the rosary for us on Monday and Wednesday nights. ***Praying in front of this particular image of Our Lady for many months has softened my heart.*** I imagine her in the room with me as a form of meditation, and I have fallen more deeply in love with her as my Mother. Having this beautiful experience with the Blessed Mother, I definitely want to have my consecration to Her Immaculate Heart pledge card taken to Fatima. I feel honored and privileged that you would do this for me. God bless you and all the work you do. Peace be with you!"

E.G., Cleveland, Ohio



Saint Michael... Defend Us in Battle

Rally Report: Pray for Our Police!

On April 17, 2021, a thousand Public Square Rosary Rallies took place all across America. These rallies were held in support of law enforcement officials and to pray to their patron, Saint Michael the Archangel, to watch over and protect them in their courageous efforts to maintain law and order amid the current climate of chaos, rioting and ongoing violence. Rally participants fervently asked Our Lady to inspire our law enforcement officers with the virtues of fortitude, confidence and justice.

The response of the public was overwhelmingly positive, with a tiny minority of negatives. Every sane, reasonable person knows that society needs the police to protect him and keep our communities safe and orderly. Law enforcement is grateful for the support, which is denied by the media and culture at large:

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart! This means the world to us!! God bless and keep up the awesome work that you are doing."

A Police Chief in Oklahoma

"Thank you so much for reaching out! This will be a big morale booster for our officers!"

A Police Chief in Washington

"Thank you for your support and prayers. The police officers are God's answer to a troubled world."

A Police Chief in New York

As evil advances in our society and attacks against essential institutions increase, let us redouble our gratitude for the police officers, showing them our support with continuing rallies, prayers and sacrifices whenever the opportunity presents itself. ■

Send us your feedback by writing to Crusade@TFP.org





Dear Saint Anthony...

Please Come Around; Someone is Lost and Cannot Be Found.

Over the centuries, Saint Anthony of Padua has a reputation for finding lost items. It is part and parcel of Catholic culture and tradition to pray to Saint Anthony when something is lost, but how often has his intercession been sought for *someone* who is lost?

One of the most troubling aspects of our times is the mass exodus of souls from the Catholic Faith. At America Needs Fatima, Saint Anthony has been appointed as THE saint to find lost souls. In Saint Anthony, we have a real ally, a saint who will help bring back those lost sheep who wander from the fold.

For this reason, we have launched a direct mail and online campaign called "Saint Anthony and the Lost Sheep." Thousands of people have sent their

intentions to Saint Anthony for the conversion of their friends and family members. In June of 2021, during the Thirteen Tuesdays Devotion to Saint Anthony, their intentions were delivered swiftly and safely to the tomb of the "miracle worker" at his shrine in Padua, Italy. These people were, in fact, joining our America Needs Fatima ambassadors in a spiritual way during their pilgrimage to the burial place of Saint Anthony on the 790th anniversary of his death.

If Saint Anthony is the ultimate finder of lost things, which are of minimal value, we have faith that he will find these lost souls, which has infinite value. ■



On the 790th anniversary of his death, representatives from America Needs Fatima delivered thousands of intentions to the tomb of Saint Anthony of Padua, patron of souls who are lost through sin.

Saint Joan of Arc, Pray for America!

BY BEN BROUSSARD

New Orleans is home to a golden equestrian statue of Saint Joan of Arc. A gift from the people of Orleans, France, today she stands prominently in a small park in the French Quarter.

In 2017, amid the controversy over public statues in New Orleans, Saint Joan of Arc was desecrated. "Tear it down" was scrawled on her monument in black spray paint.

Ever since, the American TFP and faithful Catholics gathered on her feast day to pray in reparation and ask for her powerful intercession.

On May 30, 2021, three dozen Catholics again united to ask for Saint Joan of Arc's powerful help. Several passersby joined in the prayers of the Rosary or made the Sign of the Cross as they walked along. Other curious onlookers stopped to take photos.

Participants finished singing "Pure Maid of France" to the bagpipe tune

played when Saint Joan entered in triumph into Orleans. The words of the refrain rang out for all to hear:

*Saint Joan of Arc,
Come now to our aid!
Free our land from sin and vice,
We ask through your great sacrifice.
Make us all pure, strong
Faithful and brave.
Jesus, Mary! Lead the way
To win the battles of today.*

Saint Joan of Arc, during her short life, radiated the angelic virtue of purity wherever she went. In New Orleans, which has become a destination for sins of impurity, Saint Joan of Arc's intercession is needed more than ever.

By promoting devotion to this heroic saint, may God raise up young heroes to build a culture of purity. ■



TAKEN FROM ANF'S PUBLICATION, *BATTLELINES*

“She Shall Crush Thy Head...” (Gen 3:15)

Hail Satan? NOT in Alaska

Hearing that a Satanic invocation had been given at the Kenai Borough Hall, Toby gathered his family outside on Friday, April 9, 2021 to pray a rosary of reparation. Toby, a rally captain of eleven years, his wife and their eight children held their rally that morning despite the frigid 4°F temperature! With such short notice, they were the only attendees, but Toby promised another rally: “We needed to take action since we were notified only last minute that this was happening—but a larger and better-organized reparation effort will be coming soon!”

They received much support from motorists passing by, and the Borough mayor’s chief of staff personally thanked them. “The Satanic rituals are mocking Christian invocations that are traditionally held—there has been an atheistic section that wants to get rid of God altogether,” said Toby. “Endgame is to get rid of all invocations—playing right into the hands of those who want to get rid of them completely.”

America has taken a grave step by allowing public satanic invocations. Just as Toby told *Battlelines*, we need to counter it by calling Mary to be our intercessor and crush the head of the serpent. Toby affirmed, “These invocations to Satan are dangerous and offensive to God—and as Catholics, we are remiss to ignore them.”



In Kenai, Alaska, local Catholics braved subzero temperatures to make reparation for a satanic invocation that took place at the town hall.



Energetic Catholics publicly say “no!” to Seton Hall University for broadcasting satanic music on its Catholic radio station. The support they received was encouraging.

Seton Hall University: Satanic and Obscene Broadcasts Protested by Faithful Gathering

On March 20, 2021, thirty-five prayer warriors gathered outside of Seton Hall Catholic University in New Jersey to protest the University’s radio station, WSOU, which broadcasts satanic and violently obscene content. This blasphemy goes against Catholic teaching; Catholic schools should be a place where virtue and purity are nourished and celebrated.

America Needs Fatima Rally Coordinator Jose Ferraz attended the event to help local Rally Captain Maria. He noted the support from the passing cars was overwhelming, saying, “Almost all the cars honked in support of our message.”

The rally of protest and reparation for the unacceptable, wayward actions of Seton Hall was supported by hundreds of passersby. Such programming should never be allowed in any school—much less a Catholic one! ■

Is there something like this happening in your area? Don't be silent! Contact Jose at 844-830-3570 or e-mail Protest@TFP.org, and we will help you organize your rally!



CUSTODIAN'S CORNER

When Our Lady Touches a Soul

For almost three decades, America Needs Fatima custodians have been visiting thousands of American homes every year, bringing the Fatima message to families. All our custodians travel with a beautiful 48" statue of Our Lady of Fatima and a well-prepared presentation on the apparitions and Our Lady's message to the world.

One such custodian was Mr. José Walter Ferraz, father of seven children, started making Fatima visits in 1997. It so happened that one of his sons fell very ill and had to be admitted to the hospital. The situation was so serious that Mr. Ferraz requested a break from his visits and left for Pennsylvania, leaving the statue in the safe hands of a good couple in New Port Richey, Florida. The story that follows is one that shows what amazing things Our Lady does when we least expect them.

— The Editor

Fatima custodian Mr. José Walter Ferraz was honored to bring Our Lady to the homes of Americans for over two decades.



Dear custodian José,

I want to thank you again for the wonderful visit we had with the Pilgrim Statue of Fatima and for the extra pleasure of having her live in our home for a week. It was truly a wonderful experience and brought forth a miracle that I would like to relay to you. I don't know if you remember us; you have so many visits to make. I am sure, after a while, they all run together. However, you asked us to keep the Blessed Statue while you flew back to Pennsylvania to visit with your son. We were more than delighted to do so.

For the time that you were in Pennsylvania, the beautiful Virgin Statue of Fatima was enthroned in our living room on a table resplendent with a white lace tablecloth, flowers and candles. I need to interject here that my husband, Ron, had been away from the Church for over thirty years, although I go to Mass daily. One morning, my husband asked if I said, "good morning," to the Blessed Virgin; and I said I hadn't even thought about it. He then told me he talked with her every morning.

This was a surprise to me, because I had to coerce him to attend the service as that was his poker night. On the Saturday before Palm Sunday, while the statue was still in our home, my husband told me he was going to confession! I was floored! Ronny went to confession on Saturday and returned to Holy Mass and the Catholic Faith on Palm Sunday and is now steeped in faith and belief in the miracle of the Blessed Mother. He said she called him to come home. Thank you, dear Lady of Fatima; that's my miracle! I thought you might like to know the glorious work you are doing, and the miracle you are bringing to others.

Yours in Christ,
D.E., New Port Richey, Florida



Your Support at Work: Resisting Evil Nationwide

Catholics Respond to Desecration

Early on February 26, 2021, a vandal desecrated the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Youngstown, Ohio, causing massive damage to almost twenty statues on the church grounds. First-time Rally Captain Kelley quickly and enthusiastically organized a rally on March 21, 2021, joined by fifteen faithful souls, including some from out of state, to pray in reparation by the Basilica's statue of Our Lady.

"Our group was small, but our hearts were sincere," Kelley said. "Thank you for the opportunity you gave me to lead this public rosary rally!"

With the rise of vandalism on church property, it is more important than ever to hold public rallies of reparation, to comfort the suffering Hearts of Our Lord and Our Lady. We must alert society to these acts of sacrilege!

Has something similar happened in your area? Contact José at Protest@TFP.org or call toll-free at (844) 830-3570.

Family Opposes DQSH in New Milford

By Michael Miller

On March 27, 2021, a Catholic family stood praying the rosary on a busy street in New Milford, Connecticut, in front of a bookstore hosting a Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH). The reactions from the passers-by were all positive, including one driver who stopped and asked what they were doing. When told about the DQSH, he honked in support. Soon after, a man asked what organization they were with and what they were doing. He was unaware that the DQSH was being held at the bookstore and was grateful to see the brave opposition to the disturbing event. Later, he came back to tell the participants that he had done some research and was even more enthusiastic about their efforts. He told the rally participants their rosary rally of opposition and reparation had much support from the surrounding businesses. He was so thankful for the rally, that he bought lunch for the participants! While the numbers in this faithful Catholic family were few, the graces were abundant, inspiring hope and courage in the many witnesses in New Milford!

Reparation in Boston

"It was a prayer warrior crowd," said Sheila, a Boston rally captain, describing the rosary rally of reparation she held on March 27, 2021. "It was lovely!"

In the South Boston area, a vandal attacked multiple parish properties. Some properties had their locks destroyed so that no one could get in to pray, and a statue of the Blessed Mother was thrown face-first into the dirt,

after having just been repaired from a previous attack!

Sheila and a dozen faithful Catholics gathered to pray the rosary across the street from one of the desecrated churches. "We prayed for healing as well as reparation," she said. "The priests and parishioners have suffered because of this."

"Damage to her [Our Lady's] statue and turning children away from the Blessed Mother is a terrible sin and a terrible tragedy," Sheila continued. "I am glad America Needs Fatima holds rallies of reparation for these acts, because no other organization does!"



Champions of Mary Fight Blasphemy at Dayton University

By Pat Ashcraft, Champion of Mary

My wife and I were asked by America Needs Fatima to host a rosary rally of reparation at the University of Dayton (UD) in response to the blasphemies the university was promoting against the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord. The offensive "LGBTQ Stations of the Cross" there twist the true meaning of Our Lord's sacred Passion, in what the university says is its attempt to make LGBTQ students feel included or accepted on the Catholic campus.

Thirty folks, including a half-dozen students, joined us in prayerful reparation on March 27, 2021, at noon, on the public sidewalk at the main entrance to the university campus. The responses from passersby were overwhelmingly positive, yet not without negative reactions from most, if not all, high school and university-age students.

This was our most profound rosary rally against blasphemy thus far. Our Lady laid everything out for us; all we had to do was respond to her direction. How can we ever thank God and Our Lady enough for allowing us to serve Them as They have allowed us to do? What an incredible gift—for us to be *Champions of Mary*!! ■

Texas Student Conference Presents Fatima's Solutions for Woke and Cancel Culture

BY JOSEPH GENSENS



In true Texas fashion, fifty young men from around the country gathered at a ranch outside of Houston for a special conference on "Defeating Our Cancel and Woke Culture with Our Lady of Fatima's Future." The event, hosted by TFP Student Action, a campaign of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP), focused on the Fatima message and how it applies to modern culture.

The April 9–12, 2021 conference required a good deal of faith and effort. "This conference was a small miracle," said Cesar Franco of TFP-Texas, who helped organize the event. "We weren't sure how everything would work out. There were many variables. Texas still had Covid-19 restrictions, and we didn't have a lot of time to prepare. We didn't know if students would show up," he confessed. "But we trusted in Our Lady, and got ready. And everything fell into place."

Rediscovering Our Lady of Fatima's Message in 2021

Rex Teodosio from TFP Wisconsin gave the first talk, concerning, "What Our Lady of Fatima Requested." He focused on how Our Lady desires repentance from sin and the praying of the Holy Rosary. To be truly effective, Mr. Teodosio explained, the Rosary should include meditation.

Cesar Franco with TFP-Texas captivated the attention of all with his talk entitled, "Crisis in the Church: The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail," in which he presented hope for the

future by showing that the Church as a Divine Institution cannot be destroyed, although it endures many crises.

Washington D.C. TFP member James Bascom focused his talk on the "Errors of Russia and the Coming Chastisement." He conveyed how Our Lady of Fatima's words about the spreading of the "errors of Russia" are being fulfilled with the renewed expansion of communist and socialist ideas throughout the world.

Taking Our Lady's Message into the Streets

For many students, the greatest part of the conference was the April 11 street campaign in Houston. Participants gathered at Hermann Park, equipped with signs defending God's marriage between one man and one woman. Students also protested against the sin of abortion.

The enthusiasm of the students was palpable as they chanted slogans such as, "Moral values are Texas values," "Every child needs a mother and a father!" and "Smile! You survived abortion!" The locals were mostly supportive and showed their approval with honks and words of encouragement.

"It's important to stand up for real Catholic culture," declared a student from Texas A&M University, while standing in the hot sun with his friends; "Go out and make a stand." After an hour and a half of campaigning, Timothy, a student from the Dallas area, remarked, "I wish the campaign had gone on longer. I could have stayed here all day!"

Our Lady Wants Her Children to Confide and Fight!

Everyone who attended the conference was encouraged and strengthened in their resolve to oppose the oppressive cancel and woke culture.

The conference was a call to embrace the Cross of suffering and engage in the spiritual battle for the Church and society. A very poignant moment was the unveiling and veneration of a relic of the True Cross of Our Lord amid the singing of hymns. Like the crusader saints, we must march forward *per Crucem ad lucem* (through the Cross to the light).

We ask your prayers for these young men, that they confide in Our Lady of Fatima, embrace the Cross of suffering and engage in the spiritual battle to restore the Church and Christian civilization. ***Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!*** ■



For the young students, the talks served to strengthen their resolve to confront the oppressive woke culture and teach them how to become better activists.

CIVILIZATION IN AN EGG

BY EVAN OLWELL

What is small, white, oval and has a miniature replica of the Russian Gatchina Palace inside? You are not mistaken if you initially thought of an egg. Of course, the Gatchina Palace Fabergé Egg is not your average grade A large white egg that you would buy in a carton at the supermarket. Fabergé Eggs are anything but average. They are, in a word, sublime.

The egg in question was made by Mikhail Perkhin in 1901 for Tsar Nicholas II, who gave it to his mother, the Dowager Empress Marie Fedorovna, as an Easter present. Mikhail Perkhin was a work master in the House of Fabergé, the jewelry firm started by Gustav Fabergé, a German jeweler who settled in St. Petersburg. It was Gustav's son, Peter Carl Fabergé, who was the initial creator of the highly celebrated Fabergé Eggs.

The detail of the Gatchina Palace egg is stunning. At a mere three inches tall, the cannons, windows, trees and flag of the palace are clearly distinguishable. The exterior of the egg is skillfully crafted of gold, enamel, silver-gilt, diamonds, rock crystal and seed pearls. These precious materials are individually treasured, but using them together to create a single object makes them priceless. However, what makes the Fabergé Egg so valuable is not the monetary price of the materials, but the skill and mastery of craftsmanship used to create it.



According to Sir Edmund Burke, “The sublime is the strongest emotion which the mind is capable of feeling.” In his book *Return to Order*, John Horvat II defines the sublime as: “those things of transcendent excellence that cause souls to be overawed by their magnificence.” These are moments when panoramas, works of art, architecture or even excellent cuisine provoke a jaw-dropping and enthusiastic “Wow!” to escape from our lips. A Fabergé Egg provokes the same reaction.

Why make something so precious in the form of an egg? The answer is simple: this is a fruit of Christian civilization. Civilization works precisely in this manner. It takes that which is ordinary and makes it extraordinary. Civilization uplifts and elevates even the most common and practical aspects of life. In the Middle Ages, Christian civilization flourished throughout Europe, and gave rise to the establishment of universities, the construction of grandiose cathedrals and the end of slavery. It goes to show that, because of Christian civilization, even a form as plain as an egg can be made into a treasure worthy of a king. ■