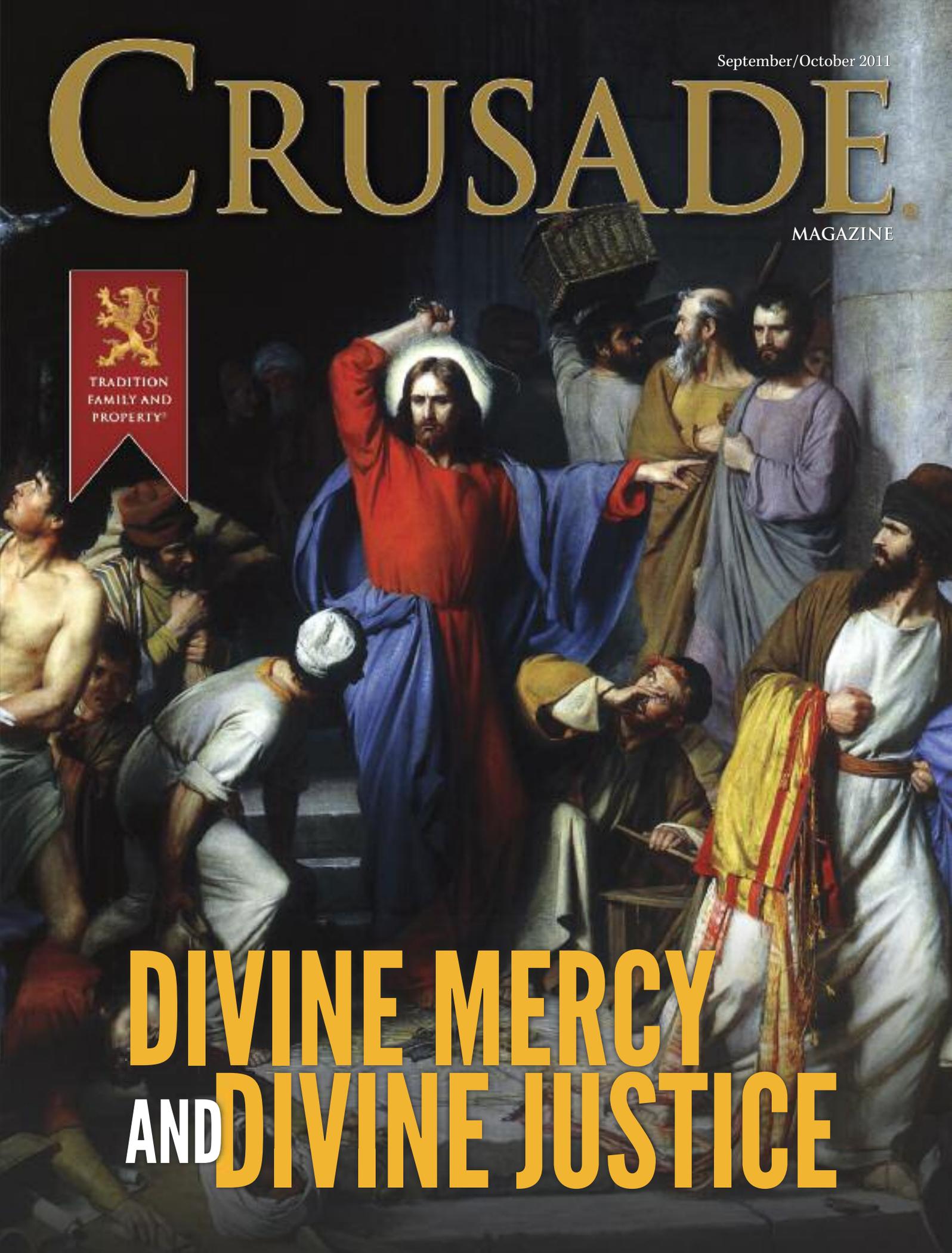
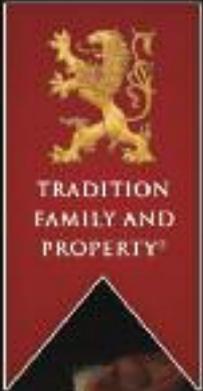


September/October 2011

# CRUSADE

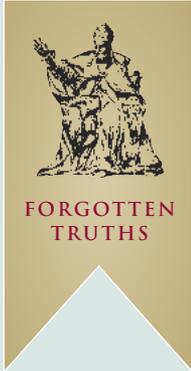
MAGAZINE



# DIVINE MERCY AND DIVINE JUSTICE

# The Minimalist Does Not Love

BY ST. PETER JULIAN EYMARD



Our Lord wants us to have a passionate love for Him. No virtue or thought that does not become a passion will ever produce anything great. Love triumphs only when it becomes a vital passion. Otherwise, isolated acts of love can be produced, but one's whole existence is neither conquered nor offered. For our love to become a passion it must abide by the laws of human passions. I speak of decent, naturally good passions, since passions are indifferent in themselves. We make them evil when we direct them towards evil; it is up to us to use them for the good.

A dominant passion concentrates a man's efforts and makes him work exclusively to attain his goal no matter what happens.

Also, in the order of salvation, we need to have a passion that dominates our life and makes it produce for



the glory of God all the fruits the Lord expects. Love a virtue, truth or mystery with a passion! Dedicate your life, thoughts and labors to it or you will never achieve anything. Look at the saints. Their burning love carries them away, makes them suffer, spends their strength, and causes their death. Exaggerated? What is love if not an exaggeration?

To exaggerate is to surpass the law. He who only fulfills his obligation does not love.

Let us love our good Savior for His own sake! Let us forget ourselves and immolate ourselves a little! Look at how candles are consumed, leaving nothing for themselves! ■

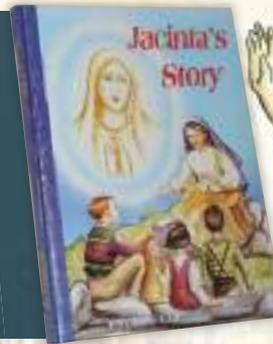
Adapted from St. Peter Julian Eymard's *The Eucharist and Christian Perfection, Part I* (Cleveland, Ohio: Eymard League, 1948), 115-117.

## Two Catholic Books Your Children Will Love!

Loaded with beautiful illustrations, these books will be impossible for your children to put down!

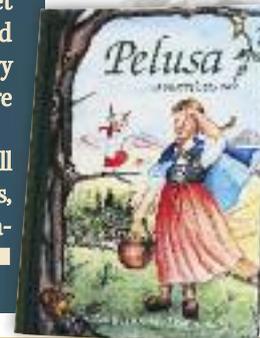
*Jacinta's Story* is the story of Fatima told in a fresh, unique way. Imaginatively placing the narrative on the lips of the youngest seer, Blessed Jacinta Marto, author Andrea Phillips gives a warmly personal, fascinating spin to the marvelous apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three young Portuguese shepherds.

Little Jacinta invites young readers to follow her as she takes them on a lively journey into the history of her country, introduces them to Aljustrel, her native town, and then delves into the wondrous apparition of the Angel of Portugal, and the six consecutive visits of the Mother of God. She shares all that happens to herself, her brother Francisco and cousin Lucia during and after the apparitions. ■



In *Pelusa*, nineteenth century writer Fr. Luis Coloma S.J., spins an exquisite religious "fairy" tale. A classic yet unique tale of good and evil, virtue and vice, struggle and conquest, *Pelusa* is the sprightly, devotional, moving story of a little princess who embarks on an exciting adventure to find her lost family and home.

Aided by Jesus, Mary and Joseph and a little angel-doll named Angelina, she conquers mountains and valleys, faces a fearsome giant, and overcomes amazing obstacles in this paragon of the Christian soul's journey. ■



**JACINTA'S STORY**  
Hardcover | 65 pages

Item B23 . . . . \$13.95

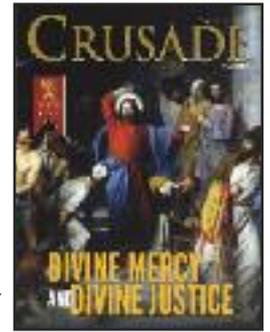
**PELUSA**  
Hardcover | 50 pages

Item B60 . . . . \$13.95

Order your books today! Call toll-free (888) 317-5571

# CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011



**Cover:**

*Christ Casting out the Money-Changers* by  
Carl Heinrich Bloch, 1879.

<b>IN BRIEF</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CHRIST IN THE HOME</b>	
10 Rules to Being Happy Parents	5
<b>TFP IN ACTION</b>	
True Role Models and Real Adventure	6
<b>COVER STORY</b>	
Divine Mercy and Divine Justice	8
<b>TFP IN ACTION</b>	
Creation Debunks Evolution at TFP Bureau	11
<b>COMMENTARY</b>	
Who Will Declare the Party's Over?	11
<b>ANF PROGRESS REPORT</b>	
♦ Australia Needs Fatima in Fiji	13
♦ New Book: <i>Francisco of Fatima</i>	14
♦ 'Corpus Christi' Blasphemy Not Welcome	14
♦ America Needs Fatima's Family Day	15
♦ A Timely Response to Our Lady's Request	15
♦ Our Readers Write	16
♦ My Trip to Fatima	16
<b>TFP IN ACTION</b>	
♦ Stomping the Culture of Death	17
♦ 2011 Pro-Life and Pro-Family March in Poland	17
♦ A Talk with the Bronx's 'Lone Marriage Supporter'	18
<b>INTERVIEW</b>	
How to be Pro-Life	20
<b>BACK COVER</b>	
Bringing the Hat Back to Charleston	24



**Page 6** A heroic summer camp.



**Page 13** Australia Needs Fatima  
in Fiji.



**Page 18**  
Marriage supporters are  
not alone.

*Crusade Magazine* is a publication of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). Direct all requests and inquiries to: *Crusade Magazine*, P.O. Box 341, Hanover, PA 17331 or e-mail to: [crusade@TFP.org](mailto:crusade@TFP.org). Web: [www.TFP.org](http://www.TFP.org), Tel.: 888-317-5571, Fax: (570) 450-6352. © 2011 by The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc. This publication may include images from iStockphoto™ which are protected by copyright laws of the U.S. and elsewhere. ISSN 1096-3782 LCCN 98-641433  
M-113

## CRUSADE

**Editor:** C. Preston Noell III

**Associate Editors:** John Horvat II, Michael Drake,  
Michael Whitcraft

**Photography:** Gary Isbell, Michael Gorre, Kenneth Murphy

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

## THE AMERICAN TFP

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) is an organization of lay Catholic Americans concerned about the moral crisis shaking the remnants of Christian civilization. Its 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

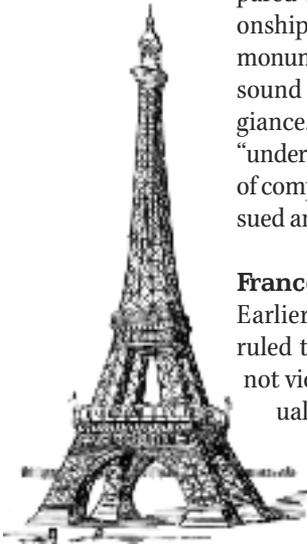
# IN BRIEF

## China: Christianity Helps Economies

Dr. William Jaynes, a senior fellow of the Princeton Witherspoon Institute and respected scholar of Asian governments, claims that China believes Christianity is responsible for much of the historic economic success of Western Europe and the United States. In a presentation to the Family Research Council in May, he said China's government will allow Christianity, but only if the Chinese government controls it, because Christianity is a threat to Communism.

## NBC Removes "God" Reference

NBC was swarmed with complaints after editing out "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance. In a prepared NBC trailer for the U.S. Open Golf Championship, video clips of the American flag, national monuments and golfing champions were played to the sound of children twice reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. However, in both recitations, the children's "under God" was replaced with silence. After the flood of complaints, NBC sports commentator Dan Hicks issued an official apology but claimed it was accidental.



## France Rejects Same-Sex "Marriage"

Earlier this year, the French Constitutional Court ruled that laws prohibiting same-sex "marriage" do not violate France's constitution and that homosexual "marriage" could only be approved by parliament. In June, the Socialist Party presented a bill that would legalize same-sex "marriage" but lawmakers rejected it by 293 votes to 222.

## New York Giants Hero for Marriage

Former New York Giants NFL star and father of six, David Tyree, became an activist for marriage during the lead up to New York's June vote on same-sex "marriage." In a video for the National Organization for Marriage, Tyree said, "I think there is nothing more honorable or worth fighting for, especially if we really care about our future generations. Marriage is one of those things that makes the backbone of society, so if you redefine it, it changes the way we educate our children. It changes the perception of what is good, what is right, what is just." Regarding same-sex parenting Tyree added, "You can't teach something that you don't have, so two men will never be able to show a girl how to be a woman."



## 2,500 LSU Students Stop Flag Burning

In May, following the killing of Osama Bin Laden, a Louisiana State University student stole and burned a US war memorial flag. Later another LSU student named Benjamin Haas wanted to publically burn an American flag. Over 2,500 outraged LSU students protested by chanting "U-S-A" and "hippies go to Berkeley." As ice and water balloons began to be thrown at Haas, campus and mounted police escorted him away for his own safety. LSU student government president, Coby Wells, said to Fox News reporters he disagreed with the use of water balloons but that "it's time for my generation and our society to start speaking up so that the minority voice does not always seem like the loudest voice."



Jennifer Parr

## 'Brain Dead' Woman Recovers

After weeks of being declared "brain-dead," fifty-six-year-old Gloria Cruz has regained consciousness thanks to her husband Tani Cruz. He refused to withdraw life support despite being told by doctors that her case was "hopeless." Patient advocates also urged him to do it to prevent unnecessary suffering. "I told them that God knows how much I love her - that I don't want her to suffer but I don't want her to leave us," Cruz said. "I'm a Catholic - I believe in miracles." Gloria Cruz is now alert, mobile, and on her way to full recovery.

## Telling Tennessee Teachers to Teach

In May, the Tennessee Senate passed a bill that would bar teachers from promoting homosexuality in elementary and middle schools. Dubbed by liberal media as the "don't say gay" bill, any sexual instruction in public classrooms will be "limited exclusively to age-appropriate, natural human reproduction science." The bill is expected to be presented before the Tennessee House in 2012.

# 10 RULES TO BEING HAPPY PARENTS

BY FATHER RAOUL PLUS, S.J.



CHRIST IN  
THE HOME

**1** Always appear before your family in good humor. Nothing is so depressing as a father or mother out of sorts. See that the family never has to suffer because of your nervousness or irritability.

**2** Never weary in cheering your family with your smile. It is not enough to avoid depressing them; you must brighten them up and let their spirits expand. Be especially vigilant when the little ones are around. Give them the alms of a smile, hard though it be at times. What a pity when children have to say, “I don’t like it at home.”

**3** What can be shared, speak of it openly. If something must not be told, then don’t tell it. Do share what you can so everyone profits by your experience, especially the family.

**4** Amiably show the greatest interest in the smallest things. Family problems are generally not affairs of state, but everything that concerns those we love most in this world should be worthy of interest: the baby’s first tooth, the honor ribbon won at school, the entrance of one of the little ones into the Holy Childhood Association.

**5** Banish exaggerated asceticism from your life. If your home is Christian and each member of the family is learning to carry his cross, then it is essential to avoid making others suffer by a too ostentatious or inopportune austerity. There is abundant opportunity for self-renunciation in devoting oneself to procuring joy for others. Marie Antoinette de Geuser used to sacrifice her great longing for recollection and her taste for a simple life by accompanying her brothers to evening affairs for which she wore dresses that she said “made her look vain.”

A happy home is filled with love and laughter.

**6** Be sure to treat all alike. Nothing is so disrupting to home life as favoritism for one or the other child. The same measure for all!

**7** Never think of yourself, but always of them in a joyous spirit. Henry the Fourth of France used to crawl around on all fours, with his children on his back, to enliven the family get-together. Louis Racine, son of the famous French playwright, author of “Athalie,” relates, “My father was never so happy as when he was free to leave the royal court and spend a few days with us. Even in the presence of strangers, he dared to be a father; he belonged to all our games.”

**8** Never begin an argument; always speak prudently. Discussion should not be banned unless it develops into bickering. A free habit of exchanging ideas on a broadening subject cannot but be profitable; the children should even be encouraged and led into it to develop in them a wise and discriminating mind and a habit of suspended judgment. Unsavory and disturbing subjects and those beyond their depth naturally ought to be avoided.

**9** Always act patiently and answer graciously. That it takes the “patience of an angel” to rule vigilantly over the little world of the family is beyond question. Affability is essential.

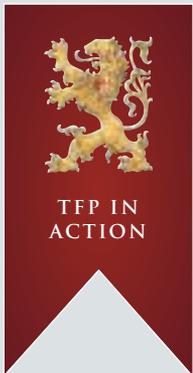
**10** By good will you will gain hearts and souls without exception. Loving much is the key to gain all.

These slogans for a happy home life are not marvels of prose, but do express a precious rule of wise family discipline. ■

Adapted from Father Raoul Plus, S.J.’s *Christ in the Home* (Colorado Springs, CO: Gardner Brothers, 1951), 241–243. *Christ in the Home* is a treasure chest of advice for Catholics on the practical and spiritual concerns of raising a family. To obtain a copy of *Christ in the Home* visit [www.GardnerBrothers.com](http://www.GardnerBrothers.com).



©iStock/HultonArchive



# True Role Models and Real Adventure

BY KENNETH MURPHY

Who should young Catholic men look up to as role models: rock stars, football players, actors? At the annual Louisiana Call to Chivalry Camp, boys are presented with true Catholic role models to admire and imitate.

Each camp has its own theme and this year's centered on the historical figures of the British Isles. Many skits and lively presentations brought life to heroes like Saint Patrick, Saint Kevin, Saint Columba, and Saint Brendon. The participants followed Saint Brendon on his voyage to the New World 300 years before Columbus. They met William Wallace, who insisted that he was not a barbarian as depicted in Hollywood's version, but rather was a champion of good who became the guardian of



A presentation on civilizations and customs.



A presentation on the hunted priests of England.



The beginning of the treasure hunt.



Daily reception of the sacraments.

Scotland. The participants then helped St. Patrick rescue a camp participant who was captured by druids. Armed with prayer and sheer numbers, they chased the druids away.

The camp encourages its participants to not only look up to true role models, but to become leaders like them as well. Canoe runs, obstacle courses, and group problem-solving drew out the leader in everyone. Games like "French Football," "Shield Ball" and "Capture the Flag" can only be won through teamwork and strategy.

Essential to true formation, the camp fostered piety through the daily reception of Holy Communion, the availability of confession, and by concluding each day with a rosary procession. Like the crusaders of old, all participated in a vigil of arms before a relic of the True Cross.

Our youth need good role models, not bad ones. ■

**If you are interested in learning more about the TFP's Call to Chivalry camps, please call Cesar Franco at (717) 521-8013.**

*Below:* The treasure chest. *Center:* Canoeing games. *Right:* The Medieval Castle Cake

*Right:* Tasty food.  
*Below:* Challenging games.



Thirty-six boys attended this years camp.



The march onto the USS Kidd for July 4th fireworks.



All participants receive a memento at the end of the camp.



# DIVINE MERCY AND DIVINE JUSTICE

BY LUIZ SÉRGIO SOLIMEO



Contemporary man feels more attracted to God's mercy than his forerunners in bygone eras.

## Man's Smallness, God's Infinity

Is this attraction due to the countless wars that marked the last century and still mark the present? Or is it an effect of the series of recent natural disasters? Be it as it may, what is certain is that both developments make man feel small in the face of situations that are way beyond his control.

Just like the huge moral crisis that shakes humanity, today's ambience of unprecedented immorality further stresses how weak and helpless man is without divine goodness. This brings to mind the clamor of the Prophet David, crying for his sin: "If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities: Lord, who shall stand it" (Psalm 130:3).

On the other hand, when looking at God's infinite perfection, one should also bear in mind His infinite goodness and endless mercy so that His perfections will not scare us but rather draw us to Him. Thus, a loving and confident consideration of divine mercy and a special devotion to it are abundantly justified; they support us and fill us with the hope of attaining eternal bliss, our final destination.

## Mercy and Justice Go Hand in Hand

Yet, since God is infinitely perfect, we cannot limit ourselves to looking at only one of His attributes while leaving aside the others, which are equally infinite. If God had only mercy and no justice, He would be missing something essential to every rational being, which is to act equitably. That would be absurd and would lead to a distorted notion of the Creator.

This is why the same Prophet David underlines God's infinite justice by saying, "He [The Lord] hath prepared his throne in judgment: And he shall judge the world in equity, he shall judge the people in justice" (Psalm 9:8-10). And also, "The Lord is just, and hath loved justice" (Psalm 10:8).

Obviously, there can be no contradiction between divine mercy and justice, but only harmony, as the same prophet emphasizes: "Mercy and truth have met each other: justice and peace have kissed" (Psalm 84:11).

Therefore, we must love God's justice as much as His mercy, as both are attributes of the same infinite God and reflect His boundless wisdom and love.

## Psychological Difficulties

Much of the difficulty in understanding the harmony

*In order for mercy to be a virtue and for the act of mercy to be virtuous, both must come from charity; because every supernatural virtue comes from the love of God.*

that exists between divine mercy and justice arises from an erroneous notion of human mercy. Hence we must first analyze the latter before going on to consider divine mercy.

Mercy is a feeling of compassion with someone's suffering and needs, along with a desire or readiness to help him according to one's possibilities. It is, therefore, more than a merely emotional sentiment that does not lead to action; nor is it mere philanthropy that turns aiding the needy into a quasi bureaucratic procedure.

Mercy must come from true charity toward neighbor and must be entirely subject to the guidance of reason, the judgment of the intelligence, and the dictates of justice. For, as Saint Augustine puts it, mercy is a virtuous act "in so far as that movement of the soul is obedient to reason," and "is bestowed without violating justice."<sup>1</sup>

### **A Summary of Christian Life**

In order for mercy to be a virtue and for the act of mercy to be virtuous, both must come from charity; because every supernatural virtue comes from the love of God.

Mercy, well understood, as Saint Thomas says, is the greatest virtue toward one's neighbor even though absolutely speaking, charity, which inspires it and unites us directly with God, is superior to it. According to the Angelic Doctor, mercy is, as it were, a summary of Christian life.<sup>2</sup>

### **Harmony among Virtues**

Together, the virtues form a single whole: the theological virtues (faith, hope and charity) guide the cardinal virtues (prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance); and it is this ensemble that guides our actions and directs us to God.

Thus, one who is not merciful does not really love justice; in like manner, a person who does not practice the virtue of fortitude will fail to be peaceful. Each person can shine more in one virtue than another, but Christian perfection consists in always seeking to practice the virtues in their ensemble.

A saint who has become a symbol of mercy is actually a good example of this love of virtues in their ensemble: Saint Vincent of Paul (1581-1660). In his charity for the poor he was a model of heroic self-denial while at the same time his zeal for the Faith led him to combat the nefarious errors of Jansenism (a kind of Calvinism infiltrating the Church) and Gallicanism (the Church of France's attitude of semi-independence in relation to the Pope). He also carried out an intensive

apostolate with members of the aristocracy and was one of the founders of a society of nobles, the Company of the Blessed Sacrament, whose aim was the practice of charity and the defense of the Faith. He also founded the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists) to teach in seminaries and preach to the crowds.

### **Mercy and Justice**

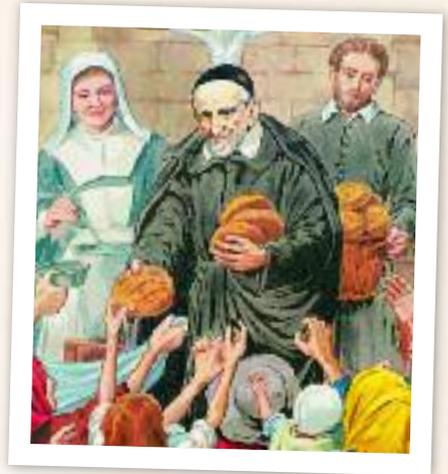
Mercy tempers justice by diminishing the punishment or by making its application more benign. But it cannot run counter to justice or eliminate it; for, as Saint Thomas states, "Mercy without justice is the mother of dissolution; justice without mercy is cruelty."<sup>3</sup>

Thus, when the balance between mercy and justice is lost, the wicked either are allowed to go unpunished or are punished with brutality. Both things lead to social chaos and cause confusion in people's minds. Indeed, failing to punish one who breaks divine or human laws weakens the notion of good and evil in people's consciences and leads to moral relativism. For its part, cruelty in punishment makes justice odious to the people.

A sinner or criminal should be adequately punished for his fault so that justice is done and the sense of justice remains alive in society. Without the sense of justice, life among men degenerates into the law of the jungle. However, along with justice, Saint Thomas says, the sinner should also be the object of mercy, taking into account some involuntary or not directly desired effects of his fault. This does not eliminate the punishment for the evil done but makes it more suave.<sup>4</sup>

### **To Correct the Sinner is a Work of Mercy**

We should bear in mind that the works of mercy with which we practice that virtue are both corporal (to give alms, visit the sick, etc.) and spiritual (teach the ignorant, give good advice, admonish sinners, pray for the deceased, etc.). Although both the corporal and spiritual works of mercy are necessary and important, Saint Thomas, following Church tradition, considers the spiritual works of mercy superior to the corporal ones, as they are more directly related to eternal salvation.



Saint Vincent de Paul combated heresy and practiced charity at the same time.



According to Saint Thomas Aquinas, mercy is even shown to those in hell because their punishment is short of what they deserve.

Of these spiritual works of mercy, to admonish sinners is very important “because thereby we drive out our brother’s evil, namely sin, the removal of which pertains to charity rather than the removal of an external loss, or of a bodily injury, in so much as the contrary good of virtue is more akin to charity than the good of the body or of external things.”<sup>5</sup>

### Justice and Mercy in God

Obviously, God being a pure spirit, His mercy toward us is not linked to a feeling of compassion. It comes solely from His infinite goodness and wisdom. It was by an act of mercy and of pure love that God created the whole universe and, in it, rational creatures (angels and men) to participate in His own happiness.

Justice and mercy appear in all of God’s works because He does everything with order and proportion, which implies the idea of justice. On the other hand, since divine goodness is the ultimate foundation of everything that exists, God’s infinite mercy is reflected in all His actions and even in His justice.

“Even in the damnation of the reprobate mercy is seen, which, though it does not totally remit, yet some-

*“Mercy without justice is the mother of dissolution; justice without mercy is cruelty.”*



what alleviates, in punishing short of what is deserved. In the justification of the ungodly, justice is seen, when God remits sins on account of love, though He Himself has mercifully infused that love. So we read of Mary Magdalene: ‘Many sins are forgiven her, because she hath loved much’ (Luke 7:47).”<sup>6</sup>

### Let us Love God in all His Perfections

While divine mercy attracts us greatly because we know that without it we are nothing and can do nothing, we should not separate this divine attribute from that of justice, as both are part and parcel of His infinite wisdom and love.

The Incarnation, Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He took our sins upon Himself in order to satisfy offended divine justice and mercifully merit for us eternal salvation, attest to God’s perfect mercy and justice.

Let us thus love God in all His perfections, in His mercy as well as His justice; for this is the only way for us to understand divine wisdom and sanctity and to be able to imitate them as much as we possibly can.

This is important not only for our spiritual life but also to enable us to make a balanced judgment of our neighbors and understand that mercy cannot destroy justice, otherwise society would be bound to complete collapse. ■

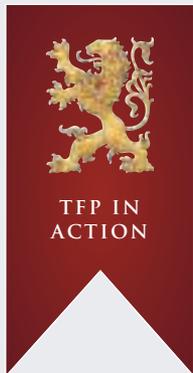
#### Notes:

1. Quoted by Saint Thomas Aquinas in the *Summa Theologica*, I-II, q. 59, a.1 ad 3.
2. *Ibid.*, II-II, q. 30, a. 4.
3. *Super Matthaicum*, Cap. V, l. 2.
4. Cf. *Summa Theologica*, II-II, q. 30, a. 1, ad. 1.
5. *Ibid.*, II-II, q. 33, a. 1, answer.
6. *Ibid.*, I, q. 21, a.4 ad 1.

According to recent statistics, there are some 42,000,000 abortions committed every year worldwide, and, in the United States alone, 3,700 human victims lose their innocent lives each day to the atrocious sin of abortion. No less grave is the spreading sin of homosexuality, a sin “that cries out to Heaven for vengeance.” Furthermore, the sin of sodomy is gaining legal status throughout the land, and is increasingly being imposed on our children in schools as something normal, thus corrupting their innocence.

# Creation Debunks Evolution at TFP Bureau

BY KENNETH MURPHY



On June 22, Hugh Owen, director of the Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation, spoke at the Washington TFP Bureau located in McLean, Va. Mr. Owen delivered an awe-inspiring presentation debunking the theory of evolution, showing the full harmony between natural science and divine revelation and the importance that Catholics see God as their Creator.

Two of the many examples Mr. Owen used to debunk evolution are butterflies and hummingbirds. To form a



Mr. Owen's presentation at the TFP's Washington Bureau.



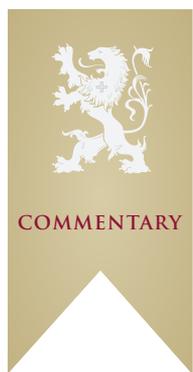
Hugh Owen is the director of the Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation.

butterfly, the caterpillar must first dissolve all of its organs while in its cocoon. How could a "gradual" slight successive evolution change the caterpillar over time? All the genetic information for metamorphosis must have been placed in the caterpillars from the beginning. Meanwhile, hummingbirds rely on their ability to hover in mid-air by rapidly flapping their wings 80 times per second, approximately 10 times faster than the RPM of any helicopter's main rotor. Like the transformation of the caterpillar, the hummingbird's marvel of aerodynamics is clearly the result of an intelligent designer.

Mr. Owen is the convert son of Sir David Owen, a former secretary general of International Planned Parenthood Federation. For the past 15 years, Hugh has dedicated his life to the service of the Church as a writer, editor, teacher, and lecturer. To learn more about his work visit [www.kolbecenter.org](http://www.kolbecenter.org). ■

## Who Will Declare the Party's Over?

BY JOHN HORVAT II



The continuing debate over the debt ceiling and the general state of the economy raises matters of such a magnitude that we tend to be overwhelmed and confused. Perhaps the best way to address these issues is to leave the almost surreal world of multi-trillion dollar liabilities and come down to earth with some basic observations.

There is obviously something seriously wrong going on here. Everyone knows we cannot live beyond our means. That is elementary economics. The real question is not how we can continue overspending but rather why we insist upon doing so. This is not an economic problem but a moral one that lies deep inside the soul of the nation.

As I see it, the life of our nation has increasingly taken on the atmosphere of a huge party. Everyone wants to

keep participating in the festivities. As a result, we have created a kind of unreal carnival-like atmosphere where we ignore aspects of reality.

Parties, of course, are by their very nature extraordinary events bordering on fantasy. They are times when we can take a break from the hard reality of making a living and indulge in celebration. Thus, the wine and food flow in quantities outside the normal rate of consumption. People dress up (or used to dress up) in their best outfits as a manifestation of celebration and social posturing. The revelry goes on late into the night as people let go of their concerns, at least for a short time, while everyone takes comfort in knowing that the host is picking up the tab.

However, our great American party is different. It began as occasional festivities to celebrate our achieve-

*Our never-ending party never addresses the morning after. As long as the party keeps going on, it really doesn't matter who will eventually have to pay. . .*

ments. But over the decades, the party has gradually taken on the character not of an exceptional event but the norm. It has almost become an entitlement where everyone claims their right to continual festivities – their right to be always happy. This attitude is found not just in government, but everywhere, as it has increasingly pervaded our culture and habits.

In our ongoing American party, there is an attitude of carefree consumption where we have the idea that the food and wine will flow forever. There is the idea that no one can suffer any want or privation but rather all must proclaim: I must have it and have it now! It is an atmosphere of casual relationships where if you are dancing with a partner for too long you can always change for another and dance as long as the band keeps playing.

Our partying society excels most in its entertainment. Everything must be enveloped in party fun and laughter. Entertainment has come to invade all aspects of our life so that we now have entertainment-news, entertainment-politics, entertainment-advertising and entertainment-everything. We are surrounded by dazzling spectacle, salacious scandal and flashy gadgetry to amuse us. There is always one more joke or one more extravaganza to keep the show going.

This seems to be the atmosphere in which we live. Life is a party, a carnival, a beach or a Hollywood movie. We are told to maximize our experience of fun while we can.

However, there are two tragic aspects of our American party that are killjoys to this vision of things.

The first is the fact that a party can only exist in an ambiance where we are all enjoying ourselves. We must show no concerns, sufferings or cares to others lest we spoil the party. While such an attitude may hide our hardships, it does not eliminate them. Thus, it creates the enormous suffering of pretending we are not suffering. Inside our lives, tragedy strikes us and yet all the while, we must put on the show that we are thoroughly enjoying ourselves.

The second tragic aspect is that someone must pick up the tab. The party thrives on the appearance

of limitless consumption and largesse. To keep the excitement going, the party needs constant infusions of novelty, thrills and money. In the exhilaration of the moment, we defer any idea of expense for the morning after.

Our never-ending party never addresses the morning after. As long as the party keeps going on, it really doesn't matter who will eventually have to pay – the government, our credit cards, second mortgages or any other financial magic that postpones the day of reckoning.

The day of reckoning is approaching. Just as any individual cannot afford to host a non-stop party, we can no longer sustain our party economy.

We cannot afford the American party anymore. More importantly, we ourselves cannot keep partying indefinitely. We reach a point of exhaustion that comes from the fact that even the best of parties can only last so long, after which there enters fatigue, rowdiness, boredom and frustration. No one dares to break the consensus and suggest that perhaps the party should not go on.

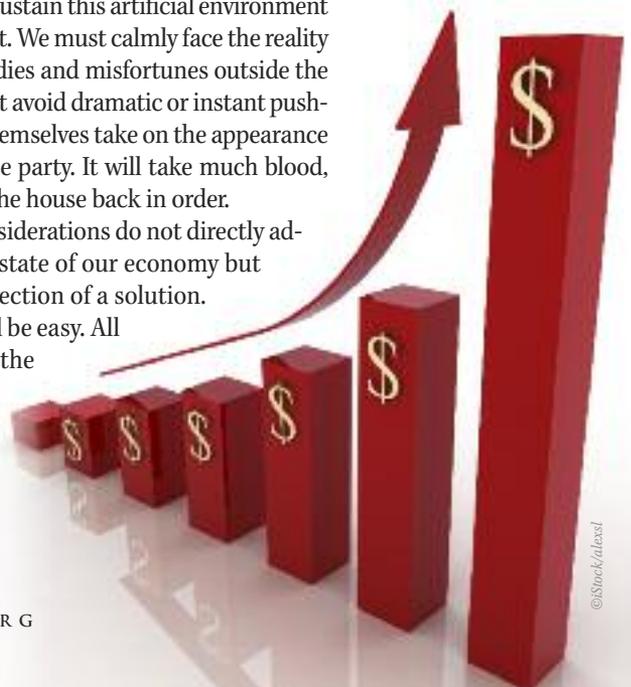
In fact, just the opposite is happening. The solutions being proposed do not address this problem. Everyone is looking for ways to prolong the party.

The liberals on the left, in socialist fashion, call for bringing down to the common dance floor those chic partiers who are upstairs. The conservatives, in Gospel wedding fashion, announce the time has come to start serving everyone the inferior wine. Neither dares to declare the party's over.

However, that is what we need to do. We need to face the fact that we cannot sustain this artificial environment of happiness entitlement. We must calmly face the reality of life's sufferings, tragedies and misfortunes outside the din of the party. We must avoid dramatic or instant push-button solutions that themselves take on the appearance of the great shows of the party. It will take much blood, sweat and tears to put the house back in order.

We realize these considerations do not directly address the deficit or the state of our economy but they do point in the direction of a solution.

We are not saying it will be easy. All we are saying is that the first step to a solution is to declare the party is over. ■





# AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA.

September/October 2011

PROGRESS REPORT

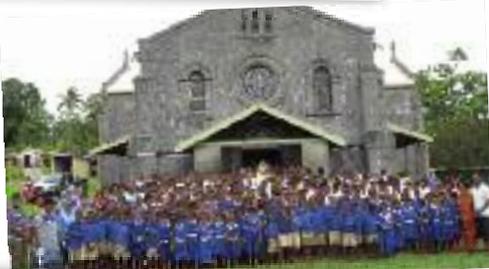
## Australia Needs Fatima in Fiji

BY PAUL FOLLEY

Australia Needs Fatima is a sister campaign of America Needs Fatima. Last year, as part of their Pacific Islands Mission, Australia Needs Fatima took a Pilgrim Virgin statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Fiji for seven weeks.

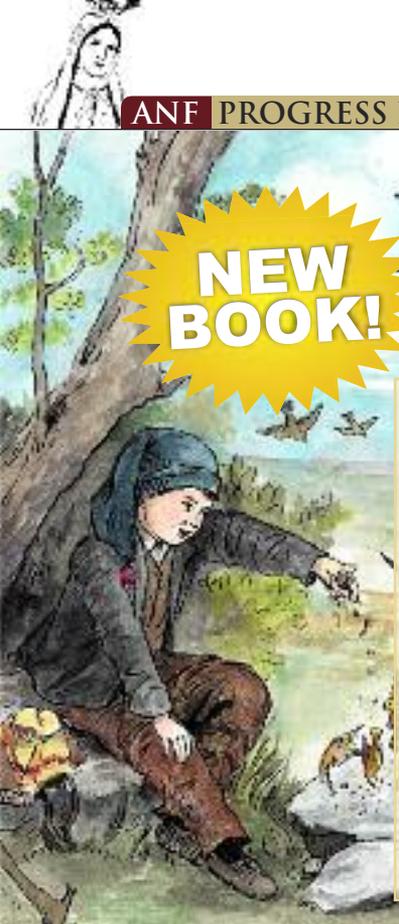
The itinerary for Our Lady was set up by a team of seven local people in Fiji appointed by Archbishop Petero Mataka of Suva. The hot tropical weather notwithstanding, the seven-week tour took in an astonishing 27 parishes, 45 schools, 40 villages, and over 100 hundred home visits throughout the Fiji islands of Viti Levu, Vanua Levu, Ovalau, and Kandavu. Our Lady traveled more than 1,500 miles by road and sea. The custodians distributed 37,000 beautiful pictures, rosary beads and medals.

From the accompanying photos one gets an idea of the fervor and enthusiasm of the Fijian people for Our Lady. True to Oceania culture, the Fijians are very kind, hospitable, courteous and formal. While their enthusiasm for Our Lady was constant, so too was their decorum, respect and sense of ceremony. ■



Our Lady was brought to over 100 homes.

Forty-five schools hosted Our Lady.



**NEW BOOK!**

# FRANCISCO

*of Fatima*

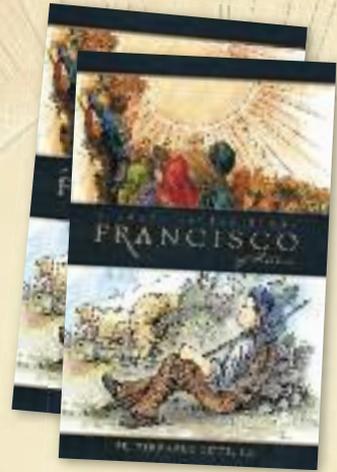
Over the years, *Jacinta's Story*, published by America Needs Fatima, has become a popular staple among people of all ages. We now have launched the first edition of *Francisco of Fatima*, a booklet by Fr. Fernando Leite, SJ.

The level of sanctity reached by young Francisco is astounding. It is difficult to imagine how such a young boy was able to develop such a fiery love of God and such a serious outlook on life in the space of less than two years.

In the story and message of Fatima, Our Blessed Mother's central request for the laity is prayer, sacrifice and conversion. But she also provided us with two splendid models: Jacinta and Francisco, whose stories can now be read.

We were pleased to mail *Francisco of Fatima* to more than 100,000 of our members, and hope many more will soon be able to own a copy and be inspired by such an example of holiness. ■

**Order your copy today! Call toll-free (888) 317-5571.**



## 'Corpus Christi' Blasphemy Not Welcome

BY CELSO COSTA

Close to 100 Catholics gathered in front of the San Pedro Playhouse in San Antonio, TX, to make public reparation against the blasphemous play called "Corpus Christi," which depicts "Our Lord" and the "apostles" as homosexuals.

Local members of America Needs Fatima and TFP were happy to join with members of the Defenders of the Magisterium and other local and out-of-state Catholics to offer this much needed act of public reparation.

A couple of pro-homosexual advocates tried to mingle with our group of prayer warriors, even raising one of their signs amid ours, trying to confuse the message of our rally. But our people responded with very spirited and loud slogans such as *Viva Cristo Rey!*

Cesar Franco, who led the Holy Rosary of reparation said that only 14 or 15 people went in to see the blasphemous play, and that in order to get into the playhouse, they had to cross in front of the crowd of prayer warriors and hear our prayers and songs.

I hope our presence gave them a good sting in the conscience!

We also fervently hope that Our Lord was consoled. We would have liked to do much more in the way of reparation. May Our Lord and Our Lady forgive any human imperfection mingled in with our action.

Above all, may the Blessed Virgin Mary obtain for our great nation graces of courage to reject the homosexual revolution that pushes society to accept unnatural sin, even daring to present "Our Lord" and the "apostles" as homosexuals. ■



**Left:** The protesters with their pictures of Our Lady, rosary beads, homemade crosses and signs.

**Right:** About 100 came to the prayerful protest.



# America Needs Fatima's Family Day

BY CATHERINE FERDINAND



*Above:* Cotton candy is served to more than 50 children. *Below:* This barbeque is a great way for like-minded families to meet.

The sun burned brightly on June 13, 2011, in Drums, Penn., for America Needs Fatima's 11th Annual Family Day Barbecue. The question of the day, "Will it rain this year?" was on everyone's lips as we assembled into the tent at the Ferraz home after Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church. Taking our seats for the talk given by Mr. Nelson Fragelli, a former director of France's leading prolife movement, *Droit de Naître*, the America Needs Fatima Family Day Barbecue began.

While Mr. Fragelli delivered his inspiring talk on family life, the great barbecue pits were lit for the cooking of beef, pork, fresh sausage and hot dogs. The grilled meats, along with various side dishes—the contribution of generous guests—satisfied appetites and inspired stimulating conversation among Catholics from all across the United States.

Though it did rain in the late afternoon, just as it has for the past ten years, the downpour didn't deter the children from playing, the cotton candy machine from whipping up fluffy clouds of spun sugar, or the adults from enjoying the selection of beer, wine and Sangria under the large tents.

The Pennsylvania Family Day Barbecue is only one of the many America Needs Fatima Family days across the U.S. These gatherings bring people together, united by the mutual desire to learn more about and appreciate our Catholic faith and to witness and participate in preserving tradition in this ultra-secular 21st century.

With the help of Our Lady and Her most beloved Son, next year's barbecue will be as successful and grace-filled as this year's. ■

## G USTODIAN'S

CORNER

# A Timely Response to Our Lady's Request

BY GODOFREDO SANTOS

While visiting a home in Ohio, I heard an amazing story about the Five First Saturdays devotion, which Our Lady requested at Fatima. She asked all Catholics to make reparation to her on the first Saturday of five consecutive months by going to confession, praying at least one rosary, making a fifteen minute meditation and receiving Communion. Our Lady promised that she would "...assist them at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation."

The family of good practicing Catholics which I visited in Ohio, decided to take up the devotion. However, as it often happens when one sets out to do God's will, all kinds of obstacles surface. On the Friday preceding the first Saturday they had a car accident. On the Saturday some were called to their jobs and some children fell ill. However, all still managed to fulfill Our Lady's devotion requests, including the father.

Their resolution to do Our Lady's request could not have been more timely. After completing the five month devotion, the father became extremely sick. Doctors found that he had cancer in an advanced stage and only had a few days to live.

The family asked their fellow parishioners for prayers and



The author, lower right, at a Fatima visit.

Masses for his intentions. Many family members began a round-the-clock vigil praying the rosary around his bed. For a whole week, those faithful prayer warriors continued to give him spiritual and psychological support with their generous vigil.

Through all the suffering, the completion of the Five First Saturdays devotion was a continuous source of consolation for the father and family. "I will see you in heaven," he reassured his children. Shortly before his death, a priest gave him last rites and he peacefully surrendered his soul to Our Lord. ■

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



# Our Readers Write...



## Fatima Home Visits

Thank you for coming to my home. My son and I both noticed a wonderful change in my sick husband. Being allergic to many allergens and finding it very difficult to manage the pain and discomfort, he had been very miserable. The last 16 months were the hardest.

He had not slept well in 6 years but now he sleeps most of the night!

home a couple of years ago changed our outlook on our lives and brought us back to our Mother Mary. Thank you!

*S.S., Columbus, Ohio*

I had a home visit and it was a truly spiritual and inspirational occasion just having Our Lady in the home. Thanks for coming.

*G.L., Odessa, Tex.*

## TFP Student Action

I happened to stumble upon your Student Action website while searching for prayers to Saint Michael. This is the greatest student activist organization that I've ever come across. Please keep up your work.

*W.L., Stoneham, Mass.*

I am writing from Canada to let you know we are inspired by what you are doing to preserve families and uphold the holy institution of marriage. Your organization is doing great things.

*D.F. via e-mail*

zation. However, I am very impressed. You and your fellow workers are definitely doing God's work. Our country and the entire world are in dire straights. We need more Christians like you guys.

*F.M., Dillsburg, Penn.*

I keep hearing of TFP Student Action's heroic stories telling the truth of God's marriage and I rejoice. May God Bless and keep you safe and if not, keep you in the state of grace so that you may always be on a ride to heaven.

*B.G., Bettendorf, Iowa*

I saw your work at Brown University in Providence, R.I. You are to be commended for the professionalism and calmness of your group.

*J.L., Swansea, Mass.*

I admire your work promoting real marriage, especially with all the abuse you have to endure. May God Bless you for all your good work

*L.B., via e-mail*



For us this is a small miracle! Writing this almost makes us sound like "kooks," but caring for him 24 hours a day, you would understand.

*M.V., Pittsburg, Penn.*

A Fatima home visit in my daughter's

I have never heard of you or your organi-

## My trip to Fatima

BY ANTONIO FRAGELLI

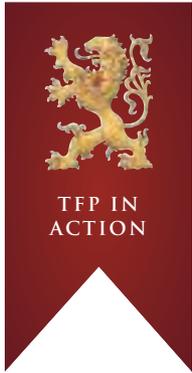
On June 24, 2011, I arrived in Fatima with my good friend Felipe Barandiaran to deliver a large cloth banner and several candles. Both represented thousands of America Needs Fatima devotees whose requests and prayers we laid at the feet of our Blessed Mother in Fatima.

We also presented to Our Lady thousands of petitions collected via email and the Web. This is a new way to ensure that people's intentions reach Fatima. You can send your prayer requests to America Needs Fatima by going to ANF.org. All of the intentions, taken to the exact place where Our Lady appeared to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta almost 100 years ago, were presented and offered to Our Lady as we prayed for the intentions. Later, for the privacy of the petitioners, the intention sheets were burned as usual. A large candle was also lit and offered in the name of all the petitioners.



Left: The large yellow banner at the Fatima shrine in Portugal. Right: Lighting the candle for all those who sent in a petition.

June 24 is the feast of Saint John the Baptist (a very popular feast in Catholic Portugal) and the shrine was even more packed with pilgrims from all over the world. As night fell, the customary candle procession took place, which is a very moving scene. A float covered with flowers, with a statue of Our Lady upon it, was carried by four men, and the pilgrims followed followed her around the huge esplanade with their individual candles, which altogether looked like an ocean of candles.



# STOMPING THE CULTURE OF DEATH

BY ROBERT RITCHIE

**O**n Pentecost Sunday, this past June 12, Reading, Penn., held its first Pro-Life march, with songs, speeches and a one mile parade which passed the city's Planned Parenthood center. About 750 attended the event, themed "Awaken the Dspirit."

The march began at Reading's Our Lady of the Rosary Church. The TFP, with its band and tall red banners, was invited to lead the march and play rousing marching tunes, was done in the spirit of Catholic joy to wake up the city with the message, that abortion destroys human life.

It was encouraging to see so many families with children holding signs like "Adoption is the Loving Option," "Soldiers of the Unborn" or "Honk for Life!" They shouted slogans, sang songs and prayed the rosary.

The march ended with speeches and songs on the esplanade of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church



The march began in the church of Our Lady of the Rosary and finished 1.2 miles away at the church of the Sacred Heart.

across the city. Fr. Peter West of Priests for Life and Karen Wallaesa and Maggie Sweet from "Silent No More" addressed the crowd.

In good liberal style, the local newspaper, the *Reading Eagle*, said nothing about the event. Their Monday editorial was on how end-of-life issues are now discussable thanks to "Dr. Death" Jack Kevorkian, but not one mention of 750 pro-life citizens marching for life.

Yet, the fact that the Reading March for Life went unreported is another sign of its success. After all, one does not only estimate the success of pro-life events by the enthusiasm and numbers of those who participate, but also by the silence of the opposition. And thanks to its organizers, the Reading March for Life is now well on its way to becoming a regular occurrence. ■



Top: Young families filled the march. Left: The march concluded with songs, hymns and speeches. Right: The TFP marching band leading the way.

## 2011 Pro-Life and Pro-Family March in Poland

BY BENNO HOFSCHULTE

**W**ith the theme, "Poland Appeals to the Consciences of her Inhabitants," thousands of Poles took to the streets of Warsaw on May 29 for the Sixth March in Defense of Life and Family. The march was an initiative of the TFP-inspired Fr. Piotr Skarga Association a Christian Civilization and the National Life Day Foundation.

A large crowd of nearly 20,000 shouted slogans in defense of the family and carried banners reading "stop abortion" and "grant every child a right to life." Whole families, including grandparents to grandchildren, joined the march with great enthusiasm.

Delegations from several TFPs and sister associations came from the United States, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Estonia, France, Germany, and Lithuania. Dozens of priests and nuns stood out



The banner of the TFP inspired group Fr. Piotr Skarga Association for a Christian Civilization.



20,000 attended the march.



Homemade signs filled the march.



Thousands of young adults and teens enthusiastically participated.

among the multitude. Several congressmen and leading political figures also attended.

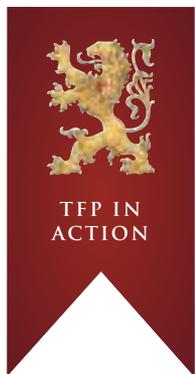
This year's march followed the success of a flash petition which gathered more than 500,000 signatures in only two weeks asking for

a complete ban on abortion in Poland. It was delivered to the Legislative Assembly in April. "Today our nation is facing many difficult social, economic and political problems. However, the basic problem lies in the moral order," reads the appeal to the congressmen. ■



# A Talk with the Bronx's 'LONE MARRIAGE SUPPORTER'

BY JOHN HORVAT II



For the month of June, members of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) campaigned on the streets of New York in favor of traditional marriage. As is our custom, our members gathered at busy intersections with signs clearly stating our position. As a means of engaging the motorists, signs ask them to "honk for traditional marriage." Often overwhelming numbers do honk in a symphony of support that is impressive and encouraging.

During one particular campaign in the Bronx, a man walked up to the members in the street with a very interesting story. He said that he had just passed our campaign in his car. He had read the sign and had even honked his support. However, as he passed he had some doubts. So many people were honking that he feared that he had misread the signs. He turned around, parked his car, and went to the campaign site to make sure he had gotten it right. He was very happy to see that he had.

He told our members that the reason for his doubt was that, despite the clearly visible message on the signs, he thought it was impossible that so many people had honked in favor of traditional marriage. The public pressure is so intense that he felt he was "the

only person that supported traditional marriage in the whole Bronx." Now he saw that thousands and thousands of his fellow New Yorkers in the Bronx thought like him.

The story is highly revealing. New Yorkers and Americans in general, are feeling the pressure to adopt a politically correct position on this issue. The media is bombarding the public with news items about gay pride marches, rainbow flag raisings and celebrity endorsements for same-sex "marriage." Pro-family events hardly get a decent mention. In the workplace, the



A member of TFP Student Action during a TV interview.



*Above:* Police always appreciate the TFP's peaceful and legal approach to street campaigns. *Top right:* Almost every day, members of the public would join the campaign and voice their support. *Right:* On the streets of Albany, the capital of New York.



schools and even the churches there is a steady stream of pro-homosexual propaganda that discourages anyone to speak out. Anyone who offers a contrary opinion risks being intolerantly labeled "intolerant" or being called a "bigot."

Thus, there is a silence around the issue since many reason it is easier to simply be silent than speak out. This silence manages to convey the idea to each traditional marriage supporter that they are alone; that no one thinks like they do. One has to ask how many other "lonely Bronx marriage supporters" are out there waiting to find others who think as they do.

That is why it is important that traditional marriage supporters speak out. Every protest in the streets shows just how false this impression is. Every referendum (now numbering 31) to enshrine traditional marriage in state constitutions shows just how unpopular the same-sex "marriage" message is.

When marriage supporters are vocal, they see amazing support. They see that friends, neighbors and fellow citizens who they never

imagined would favor marriage are on their side. If you have any doubts, ask the "only" traditional marriage supporter in the Bronx.

Unfortunately, on June 24, the New York senate voted 33 to 29 to legalize the sin of same-sex "marriage." The decision was imposed on the Empire State after Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a nominal Catholic, put relentless pressure on lawmakers to endorse the measure which destroys the keystone of society: traditional marriage.

Although the liberal media, political leaders and Hollywood darlings push the same-sex "marriage" agenda with increasing animosity for God's law, the majority of New Yorkers strongly oppose it, as the recent TFP tour for traditional marriage in the state attests. ■



*First Top:* Reading the TFP flier "10 Reasons Why Homosexual 'Marriage' is Harmful and Must be Opposed." *Second:* Extra signs are always available for those who wish to join. *Third:* Happy on campaign regardless of the weather. *Bottom:* A TFP member engaged in a discussion.

*Below:* Distributing the TFP's ten reasons to be against same-sex "marriage."



Those passing in cars honk or give thumbs up to show their support.



Many ask for additional fliers to give to others.



INTERVIEW

# HOW TO BE PRO-LIFE

*An Interview with Betty Caffrey, President of the Wyoming Valley Center for Pennsylvanians for Human Life*

On Friday, June 17, the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property, and America Needs Fatima had the honor to host an awards presentation for Mrs. Betty Caffrey and Mr. Chris Calore, both from the Wilkes-Barre Pro-Life Center in Wilkes-Barre, Penn. After both received statues of Our Lady of Fatima and the Sacred Heart, the Wilkes-Barre Pro-Life Center was presented with a large donation made possible by select TFP donors. Before a lively and enthusiastic crowd the awards were presented by Mr. Robert Ritchie, the director of America Needs Fatima, and Mr. Nelson Fragelli, a former director of France's leading pro-life movement, *Droit de Naître* (Right to Birth).

Mrs. Caffrey's involvement with the Pro-Life movement dates back to 1974 when she joined the pro-life group, Pennsylvanians for Human Life. Despite being a busy mother, she always felt a desire to do more for the unborn and their mothers. After much soul searching, she consulted a good friend and holy priest, Fr. Noviello, who encouraged her to start what is now the Wilkes-Barre, Penn. Pro-Life Center. Mrs. Caffrey has been the President of the Pro-Life center for over twenty years. She is the proud mother of three children, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Over the years, thanks to the help of its vice president, Mr. Chris Calore, the center's outreach program to pregnant mothers has become well known in Northeast Penn., and beyond. In 2010 alone the center gave support and guidance to over 300 expecting mothers. Only on Judgment Day will we know how many children are alive today because of all the tireless efforts and dedication of the Wilkes-Barre Pro-Life Center.

**Crusade:** You have been a leader in the pro-life movement for almost 40 years. In what areas do you believe the movement is advancing most?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** With young people. All across the nation they are not accepting abortion as their parents did. They are forming several enthusiastic groups. One I like very much is called "The Survivors" because they realize they might have been aborted. And they're making great inroads.

Another bright area is the medical field, with the advancement of technology and support. When we first started we didn't have ultrasound. Now we even have pictures to show what abortion really is.

Then there are crisis pregnancy centers staffed by energetic volunteers. Free help is vital. You can't just say, "Don't have an abortion" and offer no alternative. These centers far outnumber abortion clinics across the land, so in many cities a person will find it easier to get help rather than an abortion.

People are also beginning to look at the statistics of just how many mothers and babies abortion is killing and how it does not solve the problems of poverty, pregnancy-related deaths or anything else, but only causes problems.

Lastly, ample amounts of pro-life literature now explain euthanasia, contraception, embryonic stem cell research and infanticide. People often call us needing information and we can now mail them free DVDs, fliers, pictures and books.



Betty Caffrey, founder and president of the Wyoming Valley Center for Pennsylvanians for Human Life.

**Crusade:** Can you tell us more about your crisis pregnancy center?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** We are not state, federal, locally or diocesan funded. We have 30 rotating volunteers and are open 5 days a week. Our Lady has really blessed us with a good group of generous volunteers. Nobody gets any financial benefit, including myself; otherwise we could never do it.

All our volunteers are exceptional Catholics. We are daily communicants, our faith comes first, and that's why we're here. Clients are greeted by the open arms of our Sacred Heart statue.

Some think we are a Church group. Pennsylvanians for Human Life was actually formed, before I joined, as a non-denominational group with the hope that many from other faiths would join, but for the most part that has not happened.

When someone comes in we give her

first name only to our 100-member circle of prayer, which starts praying for her. We often get a single call from mothers thinking of abortion, and after hanging up all we can do is pray. Once, a client came in many weeks after giving us a call, and explained she then decided to give the child up for adoption, but the father heard of it and resolved they would keep their little girl, Lily. Prayer does work!

We also built up a list of mothers who, unfortunately, lost their children to abortion and who want to help others avoid the bad choices they made. When a client hesitates to trust us we ask if she wants to speak to one of them. We also have a network of mothers who placed their children up for adoption, and they help clients who might be willing to do the same.

We stay with our clients through tests, exams, and delivery. And we see the poorest of the poor. Our oldest client was 50; she needed moral support to continue with her pregnancy; she did, and now has a healthy child. Our youngest, aged 11 and a half had been pregnant for over 7 months. With the economic downturn, more and more clients are primarily concerned about money. Our center is also able to provide clothes and some foods, which really helps to put them at ease.

Like the TFP, we also enjoy doing campaigns. For ten years now we have been going to Wilkes-Barre with posters showing the results of abortion. I don't like them and hope no one does, but as Father Pavone says, "We have to show what abortion is in order to fight it."

We also place paid ads on roadside billboards and in colleges and newspapers, mostly offering help to pregnant women who have no one to turn to. And we pray outside the local Planned Parenthood center.

**Crusade:** What motivates you to keep working?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** When we hear about the lives we have saved we see how everything is worth it.

Recently I was at a store and the girl behind the counter began crying and hugged me, saying, "Betty, you helped me with my first child." I asked, "How old is he?" and she said, "Twenty-four." He must have been one of the first babies saved at this center. And she said, "Wait, I'll show you a picture of his college graduation. He just became a teacher."

There are so many stories like this. If God asked me to do it all over again and gave me another 40 years to do this work, I certainly would!



Baby and maternity clothing is always available for needy mothers at Betty Caffrey's pro-life center.

**Crusade:** Could you comment on the link between immoral fashions and abortion??

**Mrs. Caffrey:** I don't have any doubt that immoral dress, especially on the part of females, is an obvious contributor to abortions. It's proven by studies that when women show their bodies, men treat them as objects.

**Crusade:** To what extent are silent Catholics responsible for the perpetuation of abortion?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** I have a bumper sticker that says, "Pro-Choice Christians: giving Christ a bad name since 1973." I've always said that if our bishops and priests had stood up when needed, abortion would not have been legalized. Even today, if all of them got together and focused on this issue it would be over. The teaching of the Church needs to be promoted.

We do have a good number of dynamic priests who are essential for the pro-life movement, but too many priests and bishops still indicate they can't do anything. Yet they could put abortion in Mass intentions, talk about it and ask people to get involved. We should pray Obama's healthcare plan is overturned because it endangers the lives of the unborn and of the elderly.

Unfortunately, we don't get enough support from the congregations. Most churches help us with fundraisers like the carnation sales on Mother's Day, but we need prayer and action. There should be a petition in every Mass, as well as rosaries and holy hours to end abortion. When the U.S. was threatened by war,

*"We have to show what abortion is in order to fight it."*



Robert Ritchie, Director of America Needs Fatima, began the awards presentation by thanking Betty Caffrey for her work.



Betty Caffrey and Chris Calore receiving their awards.

people filled the churches. Now there is a war against the unborn. Where is the prayer?

Many volunteers complain that year after year they go to Mass with the same people and they like our work; but when it comes time to stand on the street or go to the Pro-Life March in DC they are nowhere to be found. The question is, "What does it take to get them to act?" The answer is, "they will act only when they decide human life is important."

**Crusade:** Is there a correlation between the deterioration in the family and abortion?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** Absolutely. Almost all our clients are from dysfunctional families. Many girls who come in barely know how to write their names, never had dental treatment, and don't know who their parents are. Without the love of a family they are more likely to get into bad relationships. Most girls seeking abortions are pregnant out of wedlock. Often, in our efforts to help someone avoid abortion, we are actually trying to help them clean up their whole life. I have no doubt that the deterioration of the family brings girls into these pregnancies.

**Crusade:** What has happened to embryonic stem cell research?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** We hardly hear about it anymore. The reason is that after all the testing and experimentation and money, it has produced no successful results and has saved no one. Embryonic stem cells are often rejected by the body or cause huge tumors.

President Bush stopped embryonic stem cell research because to get those cells you have to destroy a child. Obama overturned that and the whole focus was on how it would cure everything. But then the scientists began to see it was a dead end and turned to adult stem cells. These can come from many places in a living body, including fat, and Americans have plenty of that to spare, so let's use those cells instead of killing a child.

The list of successful cures with adult stem cells grows every year, so that debate is resolved. Hopefully, our next president will ban the use of embryonic stem cells.

**Crusade:** What should every Catholic do for life?

**Mrs. Caffrey:** We need to pray, offer sacrifices, fast and have Masses said to end abortion. God hears our prayers, but I fear He is not hearing from enough of us.

Next, I don't care who's out there, there is something you can do to help. Not everyone can be an activist but there are many groups working in different areas. If you can't volunteer, give them moral support and a couple dollars.

Pro-lifers also need to educate themselves. Read our free literature and have your facts straight when approached by someone who favors abortion or is thinking of having one. We also need to know how to vote and where our charity goes. The abortion industry gets a lot of free money because people don't know. ■

*"We need to pray, offer sacrifices, fast and have Masses said to end abortion. God hears our prayers, but I fear He is not hearing from enough of us."*

such as volunteering for Florence Crittenton Home for Unwed Mothers, Goodwill Collection for the Homeless, Debi's Kids/Salvation Army Toy Drive, and hat-making for children with cancer at the Medical University of South Carolina in downtown Charleston.

### Stark Contrast to Modern Dress

To the outside observer, the Hat Ladies in their elegant attire, escorted by men handsomely dressed in bow ties, jackets, and top-hats, would seem to be a lost remnant of a bygone, albeit picturesque era.

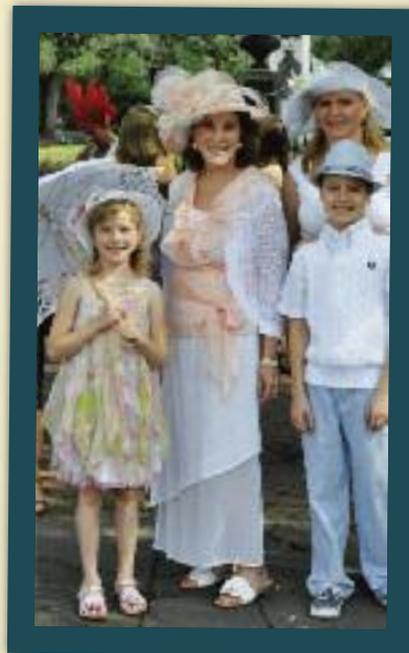
Yet, the ladies present a striking contrast to the tedious uniform of the day seen even in Charleston – shorts or jeans, tee-shirts, sneakers, and fanny-pack topped off with a baseball cap. Contemporary man has made comfort and practicality the supreme values that dictate fashions. Clothing no longer identifies a person's age, sex, wealth, education, occupation or social position. It is not uncommon to see a couple in their 60s or 70s in shorts and T-shirt taking their grandchildren for a walk, who in turn are also wearing shorts and a T-shirt.

In addition to being egalitarian, modern fashions sacrifice dignity and seriousness for perceived comfort. As fashions become more vulgar and immodest, especially women's fashions, they lead to the destruction of chastity and ultimately the family. Bad fashions work on our tendencies and lead man to immorality and scandal to our neighbor.<sup>1</sup>

In an apparition to Blessed Jacinta in 1919, Our Lady said, "Certain fashions will be introduced that will offend Our Lord very much." As a response to our Blessed Mother's message, we must guard against improper and indecent dress.

### Beauty and Elegance Are Contagious

Far from disliking the public display of traditional fashions, the vast majority of onlookers manifested their approval for



the Promenade with smiles, applause and well-wishes. Cameras flashed on the side lines from visitors touring the city via old-fashioned horse-drawn carriages. Many personally thanked the ladies.

Although it may seem that the hat is passé and looked upon with disdain by most people, experience has shown this to be utterly false. Since becoming Hat Ladies themselves, my wife and daughters have started wearing hats to Sunday Mass. No week goes by without their receiving a compliment from someone. Our Pastor has personally thanked them. The number of ladies wearing hats to Mass has noticeably increased.

*As fashions become more vulgar and immodest, especially women's fashions, they lead to the destruction of chastity and ultimately the family.*

Wearing a hat, even a beautiful one, by itself does not make a woman or man appropriately dressed or guard against immodesty. It does, however, contribute in a small but sure way to the restoration of traditional, modest fashions, and is a symbol of resistance to the seemingly inex-

orable tide of immodest ones. The hat also elevates man by framing and adorning the head, the highest and most noble part of the body.

Hats off to the Hat Ladies of Charleston for reviving this tradition of grace, beauty, and refinement. May we all follow their example of fashion and modesty in our own daily lives. ■

#### Note:

1. *Modesty of Dress and the Love of God: An Effective Way to Defend the Family*, <http://www.tfp.org/TFP-home/fighting-for-our-culture/modesty-of-dress-and-the-love-of-god-an-effective-way-to-defend-the-family.html>



# BRINGING THE HAT *Back to Charleston*

BY ROBERT BASCOM



AMBIENCES,  
CUSTOMS AND  
CIVILIZATIONS

On Saturday, April 23, over 200 women in their finest Easter apparel gathered in Washington Park in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. Some brought their husbands and children. Both young and young at heart came, united by a common purpose: to share with the public their love for a seemingly lost tradition—the hat.

The ladies are members of the Hat Ladies of Charleston, a 10 year-old organization founded by Archie Burkel. Its annual Easter Promenade, held every year on the Saturday before Easter, is its largest event. In the words of the Hat Ladies foundress, Archie Burkel, “It is called a promenade rather than a parade since it reflects the grace, gentility and traditions of Charleston.”

The ladies proceeded down Meeting Street to the end of the Peninsula in the heart of Old Charleston. The streets were lined with Charlestonians and visitors alike, taking photographs, applauding and enjoying the display of elegance and tradition.

After the promenade, the group gathered for

photographs and interviews at White Point Gardens, a lovely shaded park located between stately antebellum homes and the canon batteries used to protect Charleston during the Civil War. From there, the Hat Ladies continued on to The Palmer House Bed & Breakfast, a beautiful mansion in the heart of Old Charleston overlooking the harbor, for refreshments.

The day ended with lunch at Carolina’s Restaurant, where the Hat Ladies and their guests enjoyed elevated conversation and, of course, a traditional Southern meal of shrimp and grits.

## Who are the Hat Ladies?

The Hat Ladies of Charleston started in March 2001 when four ladies met on a Historic Charleston Foundation House tour, discovering a common interest in beautiful hats. They

celebrate their affection for hats by hosting “high teas” and luncheons. Today they boast a membership of approximately 200.

Promoting feminine elegance and grace is not their only passion. They also support Charleston through philanthropic activities



*Continued on inside back cover . .*