

January/February 2014

CRUIADE[®]

MAGAZINE



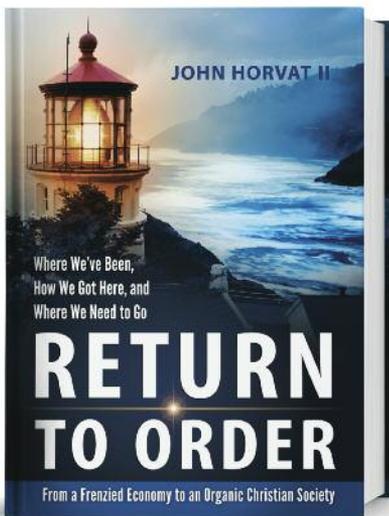
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VICTORY THROUGH THE ROSARY

Our Lady's Action in History and Today

How to fix the economy and restore the American soul

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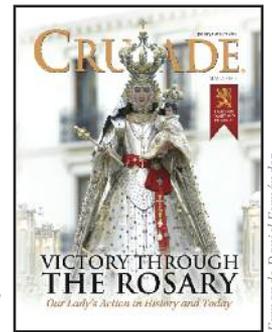
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CONTENTS

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014



Cover:
Statue of Our Lady of the
Rosary, Granada, Spain.

Fernando Daniel Fernández

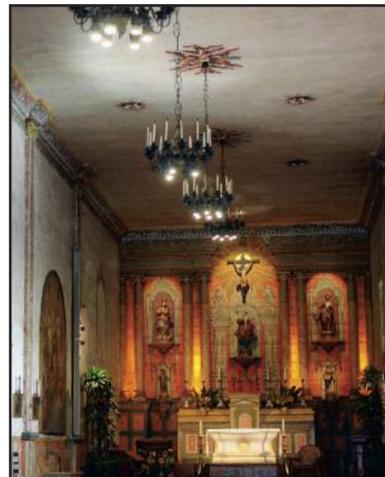
IN BRIEF	4
TFP IN ACTION	
TFP National Conference 2013: Where Warriors Meet	5
CHRIST IN THE HOME	
Parents of Saints	6
COVER STORY	
Victory Through the Rosary	7
ANF PROGRESS REPORT	
◆ 15,000 Roses to Fatima	13
◆ Petitions Delivered and Candles Lit	14
◆ Little Flowers for the Little Flower of Lisieux	14
◆ Save Traditional Marriage for Your Children	15
◆ "Let's Help John"	16
◆ Our Readers Write	17
◆ "I Could Do That!"	18
RETURN TO ORDER	
Return to Order in Charleston	19
Values Voter Summit	19
TFP IN ACTION	
Campaign for Traditional Marriage in Chicago	20
INTERVIEW	
What the Church Teaches	22
BACK COVER	
The Peacock and the Swan	24



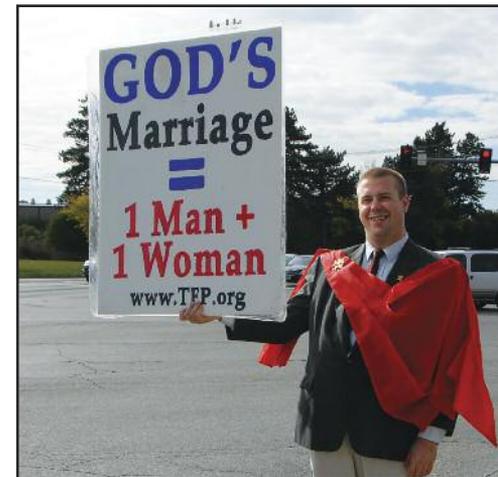
Page 5 A conference to
remember



Page 13 15,000 Roses for
Our Lady of Fatima



Page 16 From mission to
mission to conversion



Page 20 The honks were ringing
like a symphony

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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

Same-Sex "Marriage" Stopped in Estonia

The largest petition drive in Estonian history since being freed from the Soviet Union yielded a significant achievement for the Estonian Foundation for the Defense of Family and Tradition, a TFP-related organization. Over 38,000 signatures were collected against a same-sex "marriage" initiative in parliament that caused proponents to withdraw the bill. Vowing to continue to oppose the homosexual agenda, Varro Vooglaid, president of the foundation, said that "we have really

managed to change the rules of the game," as homosexual activists in Estonia are no longer the only voices being heard publicly. He said his group will continue to oppose their efforts, but "we will do it very calmly... with dignity, and with great respect for persons."



More Abortion Clinics Are Closing

According to a report by *Christianity Today*, forty-four clinics have closed so far in 2013 compared to thirty in 2011 and twenty-five in 2012. Among those that closed in 2013 have been major abortion providers, such as NOVA Women's Healthcare in Fairfax, Va. which performed 3,066 abortions in 2012 and 3,567 in 2011 according to a *Washington Post* report. The closings were attributed to the increasing state regulation and oversight of clinics, growth in pro-life opinion and activity; significant decline in abortion rates and retirement of abortion doctors. State legislatures passed sixty-nine pro-life laws so far in 2013 while forty-eight states considered 360 pro-life proposals in the same year. According to Americans United for Life, it is an upward trend in the enactment of "life-affirming measures," since over 100 became law between 2011 and 2012.

American Manufacturing Coming Back as United States Becomes World's Largest Oil Producer

CNNMoney reported recently that U.S. manufacturing companies are shifting their operations

back to the U.S. mainland from China. The report says that "the three main drivers of the trend are labor costs, product quality and a desire to be close to customers." America's energy prices and declining labor costs and China's changing dynamics are additional factors in the shift. In a related development, the United States is now poised to replace Russia and Saudi Arabia as the world's largest producer of oil and natural gas according to the Energy Information Administration.

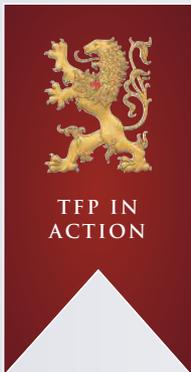
Homosexual Movement's "Martyr" Story Discredited

Matthew Shepard, a homosexual who was murdered violently fifteen years ago, became the poster boy of the homosexual movement's fight for hate crimes legislation. His story inspired several movies and a federal hate crime legislation signed into law by President Obama in 2009. A new book, however, seriously casts doubt on the story that he was a victim of a hate crime. *The Book of Matt: Hidden Truths about the Murder of Matthew Shepard*, by Stephen Jimenez, contradicts police testimony and public opinion about the motive of the murder. Jimenez told FoxNews.com that his book is based on "rigorous journalistic standards," and concluded that the murder was motivated by drugs and money.

Sports Star Proudly Declares His Virginity

In an interview with *Muscle & Fitness* magazine, Prince Amukamara, who plays professionally for the New York Giants, revealed that he's still a virgin. The twenty-four year old is the eldest son of a Nigerian chief and therefore earns the title "Prince." He explained his practice of avoiding pre-marital sex and alcohol by virtue of his Catholic upbringing. He is often called the "black Tim Tebow" in reference to another sports figure who famously said that he's still a virgin. Evidently, all his teammates support him. In interviews given to the media, one said, "There's more guys out there like that than you think. Negative publicity seems to get the headlines, but there's a lot of good guys out here doing a lot of good things."





TFP National Conference 2013: WHERE WARRIORS MEET

BY VINCENT GORRE

Unlike the two previous years, the TFP National Conference this year enjoyed near perfect fall weather, without a super storm or a heavy snowfall. This allowed the over 200 TFP friends and supporters to arrive safely in Spring Grove, Pa.

for this year's conference from October 26th to 27th. Coming from as far as Hawaii, California, Idaho, Kansas, and many other states, they participated in two days of lectures, meals, prayers, a rosary procession, a High Mass and a medieval banquet.

As always, the breaks between the lectures and the meals gave the participants, old and new friends alike, the opportunity to share their experiences and express their opinions on just about everything that is important and exciting in their common quest to fight for America's future. But despite the serious problems facing the country today, there was an air of joy present in the conference room and dining halls. As conference director Mr. Michael Drake noted in his opening remarks, "It's a truly Christian and Marian joy. . . the joy of warriors. . . who all meet together and share their experiences, their stories, their resolve and their dedication."

Many of the attendees are Rosary Rally Captains, who led some of the America Needs Fatima Public Square Rosary Rallies in 11,247 locations throughout the country on October 12, 2013. Others are involved in one way or another in various TFP campaigns, such as the Return to Order campaign, various anti-blaspemy campaigns and the fight against socialism, same-sex "marriage," and abortion, just to mention a few. Mr. Drake referred to them as "sons and daughters of the Church Militant."

This year's theme

Conference attendees appreciated the unique perspectives presented for bringing America back to order.



Prince Bertrand of Orleans-Braganza, direct descendant of King St. Louis IX, addresses the closing banquet.

was "Return to Order: Bringing America to Honor." The first lecture was given by TFP vice president Mr. John Horvat II, author of *Return to Order*, who expounded on "Wisdom: the Foundation of an Organic Christian Society." Veteran TFP members Mr. Luis Solimeo and Mr. Gary Isbell spoke next and discussed "The Tragic Role of the Crisis in the Church in the Same-Sex 'Marriage' Battle and How Catholics Must Fight Back." Mr. Matthias von Gersdorff, president of the German TFP, talked on "Pop: The Culture of Intemperance," and Mr. Norman Fulkerson, author of *An American Knight*, capped Saturday's talks with "When Men Dream, Heaven Is Closer."

On Sunday, Mr. John Horvat II came back with "Using the Map: Stories from *Return to Order*." Mr. James Bascom of TFP Student Action spoke next on "Examples from Organic Society." Fatima Custodian Mr. Rex Teodosio's topic was "Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother: the Irreplaceable Role of the Family in Society." And the last talk of the day was from Mr. Michael Whitcraft, head of TFP's southern California and Hawaii outreach, who spoke on "Role Models and How They Inspire Society."

This year, the High Mass was held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in downtown York, served by TFP members in ceremonial habit, with the TFP Choir and Mr. Philip Calder at the organ. After the beautiful solemn High Mass, the medieval banquet back at the TFP headquarters featured a motivational talk by Prince Bertrand of Orleans-Braganza,

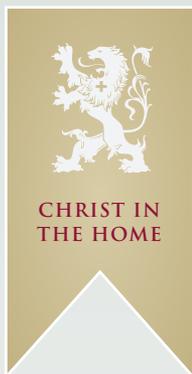
who came all the way from Brazil as a special guest. This marked the end of another memorable conference full of graces received, new friendships made, old ones strengthened and fresh ideas to reflect on—all essential weapons for the battles that lie ahead. ■



TFP's life-sized replica statue of Our Lady of Sorrows ("La Macarena") reigned over the candlelight rosary procession led by TFP members in ceremonial habit.

PARENTS *of* SAINTS

BY FATHER RAOUL PLUS, S.J.



Saint Francis de Sales was the first child of Madame de Boisy. Saint Paul of the Cross was the first of sixteen children. The saint in the family is not always the oldest. Saint Bernard was the third of seven. Saint Thomas Aquinas was the sixth child in the family. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus was the last of nine children. Saint Ignatius of Loyola the last of thirteen.

What glory would have been lost to the Church if the parents of these children had consulted their selfishness rather than their duty of parenthood and had left buried in the realms of nothingness these little beings destined to become saints! It brings to mind the conversation between two women, the one voluntarily sterile, the other surrounded by fine children. The first woman explained to the second that she just couldn't be tied down. The second responded with the classic argument: "And suppose that your father and mother had reasoned like that, where would you be?"

The saints come from large families for two reasons: the first, that there cannot be any sanctity without a habit of renunciation and this habit is much more readily acquired in a large family where each one must forget self to think of others; where the rubbing of character against character whittles down selfishness; where the parents do not have time to overwhelm their offspring with a foolish indulgence that spoils them. The second, that God gives the grace of a holy call, by preference, where there is an integral practice of virtue, where virtue is held

in honor, where the parents do not fear difficulty but trust in Divine Providence.

Saint Vincent de Paul was one of five children and Saint Vincent Ferrer, one of eight. Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Blessed Perboyre, Saint Bernadette were each one of eight children. In the family of the Cure of Ars there were six children; in that of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, seven; in that of Saint Benedict Joseph Labre, fifteen. In the family of Saint Catherine of Siena, there were twenty-two children of the same marriage. And how many more examples we could still find!

There is a charming Breton legend that carries an equally charming lesson. One day Amel, the fisherman, and his wife Penhov, who used to bring fresh fish to the monks, had left with their child to bring in the nets. They were overtaken by the tide. The water rose higher and higher and higher. "Wife, this is our last hour; put your two feet on my shoulders; in this way you will hold out longer. . . and love my memory." Penhov obeyed. Amel sunk into the sand like a post driven in with a hammer. Penhov seized the child and lifting it above her said, "Put your two feet on my shoulders; in this way you will hold out longer. And love deeply the memory of your father and mother." The mother too sank beneath the water and soon only the golden hair of the child floated on the water. An angel of God passed by. He seized the child's hair and pulled, saying "My, how heavy you are!" Another blond head appeared, that of Penhov who had not let go of her boy's feet. "How heavy you both are!" Then Amel appeared for he had not let go of his wife's feet. By the child, the father and mother had been saved!

Who knows whether or not some parents will enter Paradise because an angel has seized their child by the hair! What a beautiful letter of introduction for Heaven is a child and above all a canonized child! ■

Adapted from Raoul Plus, S.J.'s *Christ in the Home* (Colorado Springs, CO: Gardner Brothers, 1951). This book is a treasure chest of advice for Catholics on the practical and spiritual concerns of raising a family. To obtain a copy, visit www.GardnerBrothers.com.



A family "tree." The rubbing of character against character whittles down selfishness.



VICTORY THROUGH THE ROSARY

Our Lady's Action in History and Today

BY BEN BROUSSARD

"You will be granted all you ask of me by recitation of the rosary."

Since the time of Saint Dominic, the Most Holy Rosary has been the weapon by which Our Lady has brought about the greatest victories for the Church. On many occasions when all seemed lost humanly speaking, this act of trust in Our Lady has transformed what appeared to be certain failure into glorious triumph. The heroic conviction displayed by Catholics of generations past and present shows Our Lady's power and certain intercession in overcoming the greatest obstacles.

Will Our Lady grant a victory to Catholics in the twenty-first century as she has in the past? As Catholics of previous generations have testified, trusting in the certain victory of the Immaculate Heart of Mary through the rosary can defeat the forces of evil and change the course of history.

The Rosary and Saint Dominic Defeat Heresy

The rosary—as a spiritual weapon against evil—has a very long and precious history. In twelfth and thirteenth century France, a group of heretics known as the Albigensians was destroying the minds of the Catholic laity with its erroneous ideas. The Albigensians' teachings encouraged suicide, many times by self-induced starvation, because they believed that the body was an intrinsic evil and that the soul must be liberated from matter at all costs. However, as history often shows, Providence raises up great saints in times of dire crises. This time it was no different. Saint Dominic, born of noble lineage, received the Most Holy Rosary from the hands of Our Lady. She gave Saint Dominic the rosary as a

weapon to combat the awful Albigensian heresy.

Pope Innocent III proclaimed a crusade to rid France of the horrible influence of the Albigensian heretics. In September of 1213, Raymond of Toulouse was joined by Pedro II of Aragon to do battle against the crusading force which was vastly outnumbered. The two sides were camped outside of the garrison of Muret in the

south of France. The crusaders, a mere 800 men led by Simon de Montfort, spent the night praying the rosary for victory under the direction of Saint Dominic, and in the morning all went to confession and Holy Communion. The opposing armies, numbering over 20,000, indulged in a night of drunkenness and debauchery. The next morning, Simon de Montfort divided his cavalry into three squadrons and rushed on the disorganized bands of heretics. The rout was completed in less than twenty minutes, and thousands of the heretical sympathizers met their end on the battlefield. The Battle of Muret marked a decisive victory and ended the territorial expansion of Albigensianism. With the preaching of the rosary, this dangerous scourge of the Church was soon wiped out.

English Dominican Nicholas Trivet later wrote, "St. Dominic warred by prayer, de Montfort by arms. Simon de Montfort built the first chapel dedicated to the Rosary as an act of thanksgiving for the victory at Muret."

The Battle of Lepanto—the Rosary Saves Christendom

The Battle of Lepanto in 1571 was a crucial conflict between the defending Christians and the invading Ottoman Turks, one of the greatest naval battles of all time. The Christian lands around Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean were constantly being sacked by Muslim pirates, and Ottoman warships were capturing Christian ships and enslaving vast numbers of sailors. Pope Saint Pius V called on the Catholic powers of Europe to unite in a crusade against the



Stained glass depicting Saint Dominic of Guzman receiving the holy rosary from Our Lady with Pope Leo XIII allegorically standing by. *Basilica of Notre Dame de Montligeon, Basse-Normandie, France.*



Battle of Lepanto where Christian armies defeated the Turks in 1571. According to Muslim chronicles, a lady dressed in armor and holding a child appeared in the sky with a terrifying gaze. *Oil painting by Lucas Valdés, 1661-1724.*

enemy threatening Christendom. After raising a crusade, he asked every non-combatant across the whole Christian world to pray the rosary.

Even after this call to arms, the Christian fleet at Lepanto was greatly outnumbered by the Ottoman Turks. As the battle ensued, the Muslims were yelling, screaming, and banging anything that would make noise. In contrast, the Christians kept an ominous silence, weapons in one hand, and rosaries in the other. Soon after, the Christians and the Muslims were immersed in a bloody battle. Don Juan of Austria valiantly led the Christians from the bridge of his flagship. The Muslims took aim at the large crucifix on the main deck of his vessel, but as the cannonball approached, the body of Our Lord miraculously turned to avoid the collision.

Muslim chroniclers of the battle also reported seeing in the sky a lady dressed in armor holding a child, and with a terrible gaze. Terrified at the sight, the Turks began to lose control of the fleet, and the Christians pressed the attack. Thus it was that on October 7, 1571, the Christian fleet was blessed with a miraculous victory.

Pope Saint Pius V was blessed with a vision of the victory at Lepanto, and ordered public processions in thanksgiving. When messengers arrived in Rome a week later to report the victory

of the Christian fleet, they were quite surprised to find everyone already knew the outcome, the Holy Pontiff ordering all the bells in the city rung to announce the news. He immediately credited the victory to Our Lady, establishing the 7th of October as the feast of the Most Holy Rosary.

The Siege of La Rochelle—the Rosary Saves France from a Protestant Rebellion

In sixteenth and seventeenth century,

France was torn apart by a series of religious wars between ruling Catholics and Protestant Huguenots attempting to seize power. In 1598, King Henry IV, in an effort to establish peace, issued the Edict of Nantes which provided for the toleration of the Protestants while still maintaining Catholicism as the established religion in France.

However, the long-desired peace was short-lived. The Huguenots entered into formal rebellion in the western city of La Rochelle against the rule of the Catholic



Crowned Statue of Our Lady of the Rosary in Granada

The statue of Our Lady of the Rosary was given in 1552 by the Dukes of Gor to the Confraternity of the Rosary based in the Church of Saint Dominic in Granada, Spain. In addition to the statue, they also donated jewelry and the bridal gown premiered by the Duchess on her wedding day, turned into a mantle and skirt. Don Alvaro de Bazan, Marquis of Santa Cruz, a native of Granada, decided to take the statue with him on his galley to the Battle of Lepanto in 1571.

After the glorious victory over the Turks, there was a great wave of fervor for the precious statue, which only increased. A proof of this is the magnificent chapel and altar dedicated to her and the fact that in 1628, fifty-seven years after the battle, she was coated in hammered silver studded with precious stones.

King Louis XIII in the year 1628. The Protestants made an alliance with England. King Louis, unwilling to see his kingdom torn apart, made putting down this uprising his first priority.

Public rosaries and processions were held nightly in Catholic churches all over France during the eight-month duration of the siege. Dominican friars accompanied the king to the battlefield and preached to the armies of the French the necessity of praying the rosary daily for victory. The priests distributed more than 15,000 rosaries among the troops, with the soldiers praying together at set times during the day.

On October 28, 1628, the Huguenots unconditionally surrendered to the armies of King Louis XIII when the English were unable to come to their aid. The victorious French entered the city on November 1st, feast of All Saints, led by the Dominicans chanting the Litany of Loreto and carrying a large banner emblazoned with the image of Our Lady of the Rosary. The friars remained for three weeks and distributed more than 1,500 rosaries to those in La Rochelle who were reconciled to the Church.

King Louis XIII returned to Paris and financed construction of the shrine of Notre Dame des Victoires (Our Lady of Victories) in thanksgiving for Our Lady's intercession for the victory at La Rochelle.

La Naval de Manila—Our Lady Saves the Philippines from a Dutch Invasion

The war between the Spanish and the Dutch in Europe during the sixteenth century soon found its way to the other side of the globe. Through piracy and brute force, the Protestant Dutch had captured all Portuguese possessions in Southeast Asia by the year 1600. Their next objective was conquering the Philippines, the most distant outpost of the Spanish Empire.

The situation in the Philippines at the time was grim—volcanic eruptions in the 1630s led to food shortages which crippled Manila, an earthquake struck the city in 1645 which destroyed 150 structures, and numerous wrecks had diminished the naval strength of the is-



Our Lady of La Naval at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Santo Domingo Church, Quezon City, Philippines.

lands. The Spanish-Filipino fleet was left with only two aging vessels facing an armada of eighteen Dutch warships.

In 1646, Governor Fajardo in Manila ordered the two vessels deployed to confront the Dutch ships. Four Dominican priests were assigned as chaplains of the two ships, and all aboard went to confession and Holy Communion before departing. The soldiers made a vow to Our Lady of the Rosary to make a pilgrimage to her shrine in Manila should she grant them victory. Over the next six months, the men on both vessels recited the rosary daily on their knees, begging the Queen of Heaven for aid against overwhelming odds.

Through a series of five battles over a period of six months, the Spanish-Filipino fleet was able to put the Dutch to flight on each occasion. In their second encounter, the Protestant Dutch had the flagship of the Spanish surrounded. However, the Catholic soldiers remained undaunted, and later reported their cannons and muskets firing with smooth and uncanny accuracy. One cannoner attested that he fired nineteen cannon shots in succession without fail, rosary in one hand and torch in the other, while proclaiming loudly, "Viva La Virgen!"

Toward the end of the year, the retreating Dutch had suffered the loss of two vessels with three others severely damaged, and an estimated 500 soldiers



Routes of early Spanish expeditions in the Philippines. Spain's influence on its former colonies in Asia-Pacific is significant to this day. The majority of the people of the Philippines, Guam and the Mariana Islands belong to the Roman Catholic faith which was introduced by Spanish missionaries in the 16th and 17th centuries.

killed during the engagements. The invaders withdrew to their base in Indonesia, never to threaten the Philippines again. The victorious Spanish and Filipinos returned to Manila with only fifteen casualties. The soldiers fulfilled their vows and made a pilgrimage barefooted to the shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary in Manila as a solemn act of thanksgiving.

Every year for the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, a procession is held in thanksgiving for the miraculous victory given through the rosary by Our Lady of La Naval.

The Battle of Peterwardein—Putting an End to the Muslim Menace

After the Battle of Vienna in 1683, the Turks continued to provoke Europe. Prince Eugene of Savoy was given the mission of putting an end to the Muslim threat and restoring Hungarian lands occupied by the Turks for more than a century. Recalling the successes of his predecessors, Pope Clement XI renewed the call for all Catholics to pray the rosary for a decisive victory over the Turks.

The year 1716 marked a new Islamic

offensive into the hinterlands of the Holy Roman Empire. The fortress of Peterwardein, located in modern-day Serbia, was in danger of falling to the hands of the enemy. Prince Eugene descended on the city with a force of 60,000, only to find an opposing army more than twice that size led by the Turkish Grand Vizier. Prince Eugene, using quick thinking and sound strategy, was able to rout the invading armies, putting them to flight. The decisive victory resulted in a loss of 3,000 Christian troops, while the Muslims lost several times that number, including the Grand Vizier who was their commander. This battle marked a turning point, and put an end to the attempted large-scale Islamic invasions of continental Europe.

Pope Clement sent Prince Eugene a ceremonial sword encrusted with gems in thanksgiving for his bold defense of Christendom. In thanksgiving for this victory granted by Our Lady, the Holy Father ordered the Feast of the Holy Rosary, until then only celebrated in certain countries, to be added to the Church's universal calendar, so Catholics everywhere could pay honor to the Queen of Heaven for her many victories granted through the rosary.

Communists Expelled by the Rosary

After World War II, Austria was divided between four countries: America, France, the United Kingdom, and Russia, which was communist. The section of Austria controlled by the communists was the richest, and included the city of Vienna. The Viennese were subject to all the atrocities and tyrannies of communism.

With all of his country's problems weighing heavily on his heart, Capuchin Father Petrus Pavlicek made a pilgrimage to Mariazell, the principle Marian shrine in Austria. While deep in prayer before the miraculous image of Our Lady above the shrine's high altar, he was told by an interior voice: "Do as I say and there will be peace."

To obey this inspiration of Our Lady, Father Pavlicek founded the Holy Rosary Crusade of Reparation in 1947. This crusade consisted of the Viennese faithful



Austria was divided into four parts after WWII.

coming out of their homes in order to participate in a public rosary procession in the streets of the city. The intentions of the rosary were for the end of communism in their country and in the world. Father travelled throughout Austria with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima promoting the Rosary Crusade. At first, the processions were miniscule, but in time they grew to staggering proportions. The Prime Minister and other members of the Austrian government soon joined the ranks, along with all of the nation's bishops. In 1955, after eight years spreading the word about the Crusade throughout Austria, the rosary processions would reach sizes of half a million people, about one-tenth of the Austrian population. Finally, through the help of Our Lady, the Soviet forces pulled out of Austria in October of 1955, leaving the country for good.

Each year on September 12, the feast of the Holy Name of Mary, thousands gather in Vienna to thank the Mother of God for her intercession in freeing their country from communist domination.

Rosary Saves Man's Life on September 11, 2001

A man from New York who had fallen away from the Catholic Church and not gone to confession in years was met at a TFP Fatima presentation given by America Needs Fatima custodian Mr. Jose Ferraz.

After the visit, the New Yorker took home a rosary and rosary guide and started praying it and going to the sacraments again. Months later, on September 11, 2001, he was in the World Trade Center at the very moment when the terrorist attack took place.

Seeing the fireball and smoke from the crash, the man fled his office and tried running down the stairs to safety. However, he met a big obstacle. The fire doors had locked and he was trapped in the stairwell, listening to the screams of burning people who were still inside the building, unable to escape death. It was awful—horrific. Any attempt to pry open the fire doors with bare hands would be futile.

With Our Lady's help, instead of



A painting of Mariazell shrine, the most important Marian shrine in Austria, where Father Petrus Pavlicek received the inspiration to lead a Rosary Crusade to save his country.

panicking, he felt calm. He grabbed his rosary and started praying to the Blessed Mother for help. And within minutes, firemen reached his floor, broke down the fire doors and set him free. He ran downstairs to safety, his prayers answered thanks to the power of the Most Holy Rosary.

**Public Square Rosary Rallies—
Bringing About Our Lady’s
Victory Today**

On October 12, 2013, Catholics from all parts of the United States gathered in 11,247 public places to pray for the urgent conversion of America. Again starting with humble beginnings, Our Lady has given the grace to see this movement grow to impressive proportions, nearly 300,000 people praying the rosary in public around the nation.

What will be the outcome? Can Catholics in America today be certain Our Lady will hear their supplications? Will she send the graces needed to lead this growing army to victory?

Trusting in the Blessed Mother’s promises throughout history to those who are faithful to the rosary, the conversion of America so urgently needed is guaranteed by the graces Our Lady will most certainly send. The more desperate the situation becomes, the more pronounced the moral crisis, the more hopeless the circumstances, the greater confidence Catholics can have that the glorious Queen of the Most Holy Rosary will snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

This path to the conversion of our nation will not be easy, and Catholics today will need to fight for Our Lady even more valiantly than our forebears in ages past. But as the Blessed Mother has shown time and time again, this most powerful weapon she gave to Saint Dominic will save her children in every generation, and if we are faithful and persevere with these heavenly arms, the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is inevitable.

With the Catholics of ages past, let us not be afraid to publically beseech the holy Mother of God for heavenly solutions to our nation’s problems, both spiritual and temporal, through fervent recitation of the Holy Rosary. ■

**11,247 Public Square Rosary Rallies
were held on October 12, 2013, asking
Our Lady to save America through the
Rosary from the sins of abortion,
same sex “marriage” and blasphemy.**

“Thank you for this blessed opportunity. Also, many thanks for bringing a red rose to the Blessed Virgin at Fatima for me. I may never make it there myself. May the Mother of God answer all of our prayers.”

—Lisena from Asheville, NC



*“The day began with rain. However, around 11:30, the rain stopped and the sun came out. The rain resumed after we had finished praying the rosary. Everyone at the rally knew that this was the work of the Blessed Mother.”
—Nadine from Sugar Land, TX*



11,247 Public Square Rosary Rallies on October 12, 2013



*"I was pleasantly surprised at the fine turnout including an elderly man in a wheelchair. I told the children how happy the Blessed Mother must be to see them give up their play time to pray the rosary. It was a great idea to give out the card for the free book. So few people know of the Miracle of the Sun and Our Lady's message at Fatima."
-Mary Frances from Wynnewood, PA*



"It was wonderful to pray for the conversion of America. There was about 17 that attended. Everything you did and sent was wonderful. The banner is so beautiful. Keep up the good work. Everyone wanted to do this again next year. God bless you all."

—Roberta from Hugoton, KS



To sign up for the 2014 Rosary Rallies, go to www.ANF.org/2014Captain

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

January/February 2014

PROGRESS REPORT

15,000 Roses to Fatima

BY ANDREA F. PHILLIPS

When a gentleman gives his sweetheart a dozen roses, don't her eyes light up? If he wishes to make a deeper impression and doubles that number, can't he expect a tear? Imagine 1,250 times twelve and that is the number delivered this year to Our Lady at Fatima—15,000 roses! Perfect woman and princess that Mary is, can't we expect a smile on her lips, and a tear in her eye? Better still, can't we hope that the sight of that ocean of blooms wiped away a few of the many tears our sweet queen weeps for our sinful world?

But why 15,000 roses? For years now, America Needs Fatima delivers to Fatima, Portugal, a red rose for every person who commits to lead a Public Rosary Rally every October, and a white rose for every person who donates toward the nation-wide effort.

This year, there were 11,247 groups simultaneously praying for our country and the world all across America—2,000 more than in 2012. This amazing feat could not have been accomplished without the generous support of over 3,700 donors.

Felipe Barandiarán, our European correspondent, generously undertakes the daunting task of securing and delivering the roses to the Fatima Shrine. Maureen Coon and Katie Slobodnik also travelled to Fatima from the United States, bringing with them three banners inscribed with the number of Rosary Rallies. On these three banners were inscribed the names of all the Rosary Rally captains and donors. Maureen and Katie also brought with them thousands of petitions



Red and white roses delivered to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal reflecting 11,200+ Public Square Rosaries held in America on October 12, 2013, and the sponsors who made them possible.

of ANF members and friends, as well as several large candles made from thousands of tiny red candles sent in to be melted into large ones and lit at Fatima.

“As we entered the esplanade of Cova da Iria, on October 12, the day was cloudy, just like that day on October 13, 1917 when 70,000 awaited the miracle of the sun,” reports Felipe Barandiarán. As pilgrims gathered around attracted by the amazing number and beauty of the flowers, they were even more amazed to learn what each of those roses represented.

“They could not believe,” writes Felipe, “that each of those roses stood for a group, which, on October 12, at noon would be saying the rosary in the streets of America! They were also impressed by the number of white roses symbolizing each person who donated to make this effort possible.”

On the eve of October 13, thousands

upon thousands of people converge on Fatima. As the esplanade fills with pilgrims, and as night descends, each person lights his and her candle, and the rosary begins after which the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, on a bier, atop a cloud of white flowers, is processed to the sound of sacred hymns. The white effigy of the Immaculate above a sea of small lights is one of the most moving sights on earth.

Thanks to the members and friends of America Needs Fatima, on that day the Fatima Shrine was adorned with 15,000 extra roses from America for the joy and edification of those thousands of pilgrims. ■

*At the time the banners were printed, 11,200 rallies had been confirmed. By October 12, the actual day of the rallies, the number had risen to 11,247, therefore, the resulting discrepancy between the banner and the final number.



Petitions Delivered Candles Lit



Mrs. Maureen Coon and Miss Katie Slobodnik, both long-time members of America Needs Fatima, had the honor and privilege of delivering the thousands of petitions, intentions and consecration pledges to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the Chapel of Apparitions in Fatima, Portugal this year. Once again, America Needs Fatima fulfilled its commitment to bring all of the petition envelopes collected by ANF Custodians in their home visits to the place where Our Lady stood before three innocent children at Fatima. Also, many big candles made from the small red candles that ANF members sent in were lit at the shrine with special prayers for all of their intentions. Mrs. Coon and Miss Slobodnik also prayed at the tombs of Blesseds Jacinta and Francisco and at the spot where the Angel of Portugal appeared. ■

Mrs. Maureen Coon and Katie Slobodnik, valued members of America Needs Fatima, deliver large red candles and thousands of ANF prayer petitions to Fatima.

Little Flowers for the Little Flower of Lisieux

On October 1, 2013, the feast of Saint Therese of Lisieux, thousands of rosettes made into a large wreath were placed at her tomb in Lisieux, France. Representing prayers and intentions, each rosette came from one of the thousands of America Needs Fatima members and friends who responded when given the unique opportunity of sending their petitions directly to the place where she lived and died.

Considered the greatest saint of modern times by Pope

Saint Pius X, Saint Therese famously promised: "After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses" and "I will spend my heaven in doing good upon earth." These gracious words have been well fulfilled during the 116 years since her death, as innumerable graces have been attributed to her intercession. Every year, America Needs Fatima invites

its members and friends to invoke Saint Therese's intercession by means of the Saint Therese wreath. They are encouraged to ask for special graces, especially in fighting the evils confronting their families, such as rejection of the true Faith, pornography, abortion, immodest fashions, domestic violence, health issues both spiritual and physical and so on.

America Needs Fatima associate Fernando Nunez and colleagues took the special wreath and reverently placed it at scenes of special significance in the saint's short life and ultimately laid it at her final resting place. ■



Fernando Nunes and Antoine Burckhardt bring to Lisieux, France Saint Therese's rosette wreath offered by thousands of ANF members.



The Saint Therese wreath was also laid by the old tomb of Saint Therese where many pilgrims still visit.



Save traditional marriage for your children

Become a rally captain for the 2014 Saint Joseph Crusade for Traditional Marriage.

In a few short years, a small minority of homosexual activists have achieved the legalization of homosexual “marriage” in several states.

How? Because most Catholics did nothing and hoped the problem would “go away!”

But you know that “wishing evil away” doesn’t work. That’s why you’re invited to be a rally captain for the 2014 Saint Joseph Crusade for Traditional Marriage.

We’re planning 1,000 rallies for God’s marriage at noon on March 22, which is the Saturday closest to March 19, the feast day of Saint Joseph. They will be similar in format to the rosary rallies that we did on October 12, 2013. The rosary rallies were a huge success, and we will use the same model to quickly spread the Saint Joseph Crusade for Traditional Marriage to cities everywhere.

To learn more, call (866)584-6012.

After that, we’ll send you an instruction sheet and a free traditional marriage banner. You can also make “HONK” signs, as seen on page 20. We have found these to be VERY effective!

In a few short minutes, we can explain how easy it is to be a rally captain. It’s actually very simple and straightforward.

So please call (866)584-6012 and sign up to help save traditional marriage for your children.



G U S T O D I A N ' S C O R N E R

“Let’s Help John”

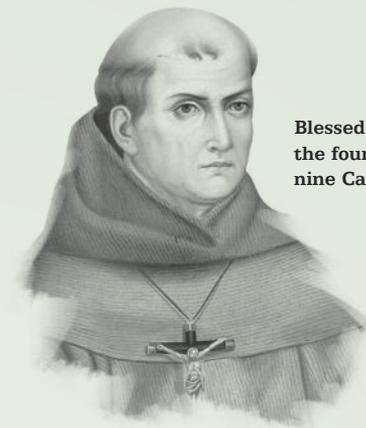
BY JOSEPH FERRARA

In September, I brought the statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the home of Mr. John Black and his family in King City, California. John shared with me the story of his conversion from Protestantism.

About thirteen years ago he was visiting one of the twenty-one Spanish missions in California. Though these are holy sites, they also serve as tourist attractions. “Who is this Junipero Serra anyways?” he asked, as the tour guide shared the history of the mission. “Well,” the guide responded, “you are standing on his grave!” Surprised, John looked down and read the inscription on the stone. Sure enough, Blessed Father Junipero Serra was buried right there. “I became electrified,” John told me, “I had to learn more about this man and about the missions.” The more he studied Blessed Serra, the founder of the first nine missions, the more impressed he became, and he decided to travel on foot to all twenty-one missions.

With the blessing of his wife, now left at home with their two infant sons, John left for his solo expedition, taking with him a single backpack, the bible and little money. He told me that at every mission he visited he felt the presence of Someone receiving him, even if the mission was empty. He felt this ambience in the missions so serene and uplifting, and began to realize it was the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament that made him feel so at home.

At one point, John collapsed from exhaustion near a mission run by Franciscans, who kindly lodged him for the night. Before he left the next day, one of the friars gave him a first-class relic of Blessed Junipero Serra. Since he was Protestant, John did not know what a relic was, but not wanting to appear



Blessed Junipero Serra, the founder of the first nine California missions.

rude, he accepted it. Not long after he left the Franciscans, John became lost in the wilderness in the middle of the night. Through his exhaustion and fear he heard a voice say, “Let’s help John.” He had the distinct feeling that Blessed Serra was guiding him, and gathered the strength and courage to continue. About six hours later, he stumbled upon the next mission. “It was kind of a miracle,” he said, “I was really lost!”

During his journey, John slowly came to a realization. “I know what you want from me, God,” he thought to himself one day, “you want me to become a Catholic. That is what this is all about!” However, he still had many questions about aspects of Catholicism that were rejected by Protestants—mainly about the Blessed Mother. Yet, from that point on he received answers to all of his questions, especially his reservations about devotion to Mary. “I realized that by having devotion to Mary, you love Our Lord even more,” he told me. With the help of Blessed Serra, one problem after another was resolved in the solitude of his travels. By the time John reached the final mission, he decided to become a Catholic.

John returned home, filled with zeal and enthusiasm for his new-found faith. He shared his astonishing experiences with his wife, and she too converted. “I feel at home in the Catholic Church,” John said, “and I have never loved Our Lord Jesus Christ more than I do now.”

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

Errata: We regret that a mistake was printed in this same section of the September-October issue of *Crusade Magazine*. Correction: The man who died in a car accident as a consequence of a heart attack and was assisted by a priest before the ambulance arrived was not Mrs. Ethelbert’s husband, but the husband of a friend of hers.



Map of the California Missions as travelled by John Black on his conversion to Catholicism.



Our Readers Write...



True Devotion to Mary

Wow!! I can't believe you sent me the *True Devotion to Mary* book. It must be a sign. My mother sent me this book while I was living in Europe. I was travelling with my husband on our motorcycle. I had to sneak read the book because he is not Catholic and I was not practicing. I could not stop reading the book. Every time he went away, no matter what, I grabbed the book and started reading feverishly. I never properly consecrated myself but have always made everything for Jesus through Mary. Thank you so much for the most powerful book. I sort of consecrated my kids. This gave me a new start.

P.L., Saint Paul, Or.

Thank you for the wonderful book about devotion to Mother Mary and your love of mankind through your gracious ministry.

C.T., Houston, Texas

Saint Therese Rosette

Saint Therese has been my "rose in nine days" novena buddy since I was 12 years old. I am now 83! She is my incredible "unlosable" friend. I know and have experienced her dynamic and I thank God each day that she is "my" link to Him!

T.C., Tacoma, Wash.

I have had devotion to the Little Flower since 1949 when a nurse introduced her to my mother. She has answered my many prayers—always with a rose. Saint Therese means too much to me.

I consider this rose an answer to my novena in progress now. Our daughter has been dealing with pancreatic cancer since April 2012. She remains happy, never complains, and has complete faith in God's plans for her. She says "His plans are perfect." She is loved and admired by everyone who has met her and some who have not met her but pray for her—all people of faith—many non Catholics.

M.B., Beaufort, N.C.

Testament of Mary Protest

I am bursting with pride in your defense of Our Blessed Mother's honor. I may not have been with you in person but I felt transported as I watched the video. Thank you and may the good Lord continue to shine upon all of

your work and Our Lady of the Rosary watch over you.
J.D., Brisbane, Australia

This was an outstanding show of support for the Blessed Mother. I heard horns blowing in support.

C.W., New York, N.Y.

I cried when I read about the so-called art in New York. My heart cries at this terrible hurt of my faith.

C.S., Glen Burnie, Md.

Thank you for the video and the pictures! I managed to participate: I am the gray-haired woman at the railing holding on to the "Defamation Is Not Free Speech" sign. Secretly I was hoping that perhaps the lights would go out at the theater, harming no one, but at least foiling the performance that evening. I am so glad I was there.

J.H., New York, N.Y.

I watched the video and my spirit soared, prayed and sang "Ave Maria" with all of you. I wish we could have been there.

E.C., Wilton, N.H.

A Return to the Faith

On October 19, 1993, my mother, sisters and a friend prayed the Rosary asking Mary to provide a kidney for me. I was not going to church and only sat down to pray because my mother wanted me to. I had no faith but my mother and sisters certainly did. The next day I received a call from Stony Brook Hospital in New York. There was a 90% match for me. I live in Puerto Rico and got on the plane that very afternoon. I had only been on dialysis for six weeks. People get on a list and wait for years.

It would be years before I would publicly acknowledge and thank Mary for her intervention and for this miracle. Today, October 21, 2013, I celebrate my other birthday. Thank you Mother for your forgiveness and love! Please keep your "Stories of Mary" emails coming. I share them with my friends and family. God bless you and your beautiful ministry.

A.T., Puerto Rico

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



“I COULD DO THAT!”

BY VINCENT GORRE

Kathy Worboys said that to herself after reading **K**about America Needs Fatima’s Public Rosary Rallies held annually around the country. She was particularly impressed when she saw a picture of a banner that read: “As human efforts fail to solve America’s key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, asking His help!” She wasted no time and called the number at the end of the article. “Those words captivated me,” she said. “I really wanted one of those banners, and I thought that assembling a public rosary rally was really a neat idea.” She immediately agreed to become a Rosary Rally Captain. That was four years ago, and every year since then she has organized her Public Rosary Rallies with great success each time at the Harry Allen Park in downtown Honeoye Falls, New York.

Her fourth Rosary Rally held October 12th, 2013, however, may be her last. She has been battling stage four breast cancer since March of 2012, and recently, her cancer has metastasized to her spine. Her doctor told her husband of twenty-nine years, that she

had only six months to live. But Kathy quipped, “that was seven months ago, so who but only God knows!” You see, Kathy strongly believes that her faith in God and the Blessed Virgin Mary is her strongest defense against her disease. “The rosary has been a powerful weapon,” she affirms.

Kathy’s desire to be closer to God started in 2006 when a friend gave her a book that recommended, among other things, eucharistic adoration. She immediately found a perpetual adoration chapel near her home and there she met Virginia Tondryk, who taught her how to pray the rosary. Since that day, both of them became close friends and are members of a prayer group that prays nightly rosaries at their parish church, Saint Paul of the Cross, and on Saturdays in front of an abortion clinic. However, something terribly unexpected happened to both of them on the exact same day in March of 2012. Virginia was diagnosed with acute leukemia and Kathy with breast cancer. Despite the setback in their health conditions however, they continued to pray and promote the rosary. This time, with an added purpose. “It helps us to fight our cancers with faith,” says Kathy. “We would not be able to face any of our trials without our faith,” she added.

In planning her Public Rosary Rallies, she relies mainly on Our Lady’s inspiration. She said, “She has certainly motivated me and kept me organized in all my efforts to promote the Rosary Rally.” This past October, her rally was attended by over 200 people, with full participation from a local chapter of the Knights of Columbus in their gala uniforms, and graced by the presence of Father Michael Upson of Saint Paul of the Cross parish, who gave an inspiring talk before the rosary.

Regardless of what the future holds, Kathy cannot forget the two devotions that changed her life. She proudly declares that “Eucharistic adoration is a powerful place and the rosary is a powerful weapon!” And one more thing, she quickly remembers, “That non-Catholic man I married twenty-nine years ago on the feast of the Immaculate Conception? He was baptized at an Easter Vigil Mass in 2012. You can’t tell me that Mary didn’t have a hand in that!” Kathy plans to continue with her devotion to and promotion of the rosary and was scheduled to go on a pilgrimage to Fatima, Portugal in November. ■



Top: Kathy (rt.) and Virginia (ctr.), with their parish pastor, pose with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Above: Kathy and Virginia, in spite of suffering from terminal illnesses, held a Public Square Rosary Rally with more than 200 participants.

Return to Order in Charleston

BY GARY ISBELL



Charleston and the book *Return to Order* seem to fit together naturally. South Carolina's premier city represents a traditional order of things that attracts people. Its splendid townhouses and restored downtown are proof that this order is not a relic of long ago but a dynamic force linked with its past that definitely has a future. Charlestonians can identify with a need for a return to those fundamental principles that sustain their traditional order.

Such was the backdrop of a short book tour by TFP author John Horvat II as he visited the city and presented his book, *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*.

Nearly seventy-five people gathered at the downtown Harbour Club for the Catholic Business Breakfast on October 2. The event was honored by the presence of the city's bishop, His Excellency Robert E. Guglielmo, who led the opening prayers. The popular meeting was well organized by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bascom and publicized by the local Catholic Radio Station WLTQ.

Mr. Horvat spoke on the need for Catholics not only to oppose the culture of death but also to envision the type of society and economy that Americans need for the future. He then outlined the basic Catholic principles for such a society and steps that should be taken to hasten a return to order. The talk was followed by a book signing and discussion.

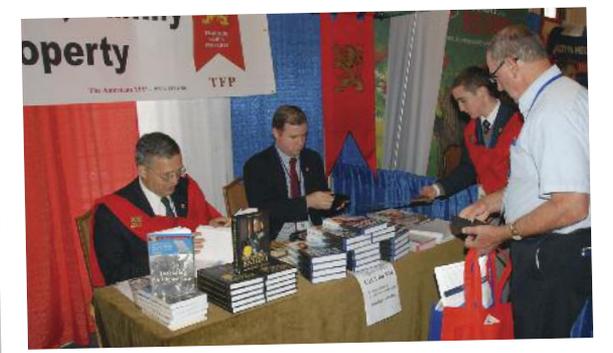
Mr. Horvat was also the guest on the Kelly Golden Show



Top: Animated conversation marked the Charleston book-signing tour. Above: Charleston's Harbour Club provided excellent ambiance for the *Return to Order* book presentation.

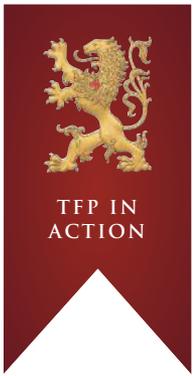
where he spoke on the frenetic intemperance of modern economy evidenced by an ever-earlier Christmas shopping push by retailers. The host took advantage of the occasion to invite the public to a second speaking and book signing event which took place on October 3, 2013 in nearby Summerville. This gathering marked the end of a short book tour filled with Southern hospitality. ■

Values Voter Summit



Return to Order author John Horvat II signing books at Values Voter conference.

The book, *Return to Order*, was offered at the Values Voter Summit held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC, on October 11-13. Nearly 2,500 Americans from around the country gathered at the event, which featured many of the nation's conservative leaders. At the exhibitor's table of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP), John Horvat II was available to sign copies of his book. ■



Campaign for Traditional Marriage in Chicago

BY VINCENT GORRE

TFP Student Action's Saint Joseph Caravan recently campaigned for traditional marriage in Chicago, Illinois. For five days, young TFP volunteers were at busy intersections and overpasses and in downtown street corners of the Windy City, as well as in the suburban cities of Rockford, Naperville and Des Plaines.

The mixed reactions from Chicagoans reflect the intense debate on a pending legislative bill that would make the state of Illinois recognize same-sex "marriages." Reporting from the "front lines,"

TFP volunteer Joseph Jordan said, "We were greeted with honks, cheers, words of encouragement from one side and jeers, obscenities, and insults from the other." Typical positive comments from supportive residents included "keep up the good work!" or "we need people like you!" and "homosexual 'marriage' does not work!" On average, however, the campaigners noticed that the majority of people still support traditional marriage. "Support for traditional marriage on the street is completely overwhelming compared to the negative feedback and insults," Jordan affirmed. "The honks were ringing like a symphony clamoring for the truth to be told about marriage, that is, that it is a union between one man and one woman, unchanging and unchangeable," he added.

From their interaction with the man on the street, TFP volunteers found that the one-sided mainstream media's mantra of "same-sex 'marriage' is inevitable" seemed to sweep to the margins those who would fight to protect traditional marriage. Lacking any valid argument in support



Members of TFP Student Action campaigning for traditional marriage on the streets of Chicago engage the public. The amount of honks in support were once again overwhelming.



“The honks were ringing like a symphony clamoring for the truth to be told about marriage, that is, that it is a union between one man and one woman, unchanging and unchangeable.”

of their stance, supporters of same-sex “marriage” resorted to name-calling, insults and vulgar gestures. This underscored the importance of proclaiming the truth and reaffirming solid arguments directly to the American public not only to clear the confusion, but most of all for the love of God as the Saint Joseph Caravan did.

As the members of the Saint Joseph Caravan ended their courageous campaign, they thanked those who gave them not only material support, but most importantly, spiritual support as well, which is so much needed in such a contentious and emotional issue as same-sex “marriage.” Addressing the campaign’s supporters, Joseph Jordan said, “your continued prayers and support helped very much in keeping us safe and out of harm’s way. May Our Lord and Our Lady repay you a hundredfold!” ■



Contrary to media bias, the support found on the streets of Chicago for marriage between one man and one woman was far greater than that supporting homosexual unions.



From October 22-28, 2013, ten TFP volunteers traveled to New Jersey to oppose socialist Obamacare. The caravan consisted of TFP members and students from St. Louis de Montfort Academy. With a banner reading “God’s Law Comes First, Repeal Socialist Obamacare!” and signs urging people to honk against Obamacare, the group stood on busy street corners encouraging passersby to reject socialist healthcare.

▶ SEE TFP STUDENT ACTION IN ACTION!
To watch video footage in defense of marriage and in opposition to socialist healthcare, go to www.youtube.com/TFPstudentaction.



INTERVIEW

What the Church Teaches

Mr. Luis Solimeo has been studying dogmatic, moral Catholic doctrine for fifty years. An author of many books, Mr. Solimeo is also a member of the TFP Committee on American Issues, which published *Defending a Higher Law—Why We Must Resist Same-Sex “Marriage” and the Homosexual Movement*. Given the confusion on the topic of homosexuality prevalent even in Catholic circles today, *Crusade Magazine* thought it beneficial to interview Mr. Solimeo, tapping his vast knowledge for clear direction in this matter.

Crusade: What does the Catholic Church teach about homosexual sin?

Mr. Solimeo: First, we must distinguish between the inclination to same-sex attraction and the homosexual act. The inclination, although not a sin, is intrinsically disordered, and, with the help of grace and self-mastery, must be resisted; the homosexual act is positively a grievous sin against chastity.

Homosexual sin is known as a “sin that cries out to heaven for vengeance” as manifested in God’s destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 18:20; 19:1-29). It is a sin against the nature of rational man and particularly offends God as the Author of that nature.

As with any sinner, we cannot be unjust or hateful towards those who fall into unnatural sin. But to be merciful with the sinner does not imply tolerance of the evil of the sin. True compassion and charity to homosexuals or other sinners consists in helping them to abandon sin and to recover God’s grace.

Crusade: What psychological and practical methods of propaganda has the homosexual movement used to gain acceptance for same-sex “marriage”?

Mr. Solimeo: In fact, the homosexual movement is well organized, and has the support of propaganda specialists. For example, in 1989, two Harvard experts wrote a manual for advancing the homosexual agenda entitled *After the Ball*. In this manual, they recommend that homosexuals try to look as normal as possible, avoiding the shocking dress and immoral postures of the “gay-pride” parades. They recommend that women (lesbians), rather than men, be used for the purposes of homosexual propaganda, deeming women less

shocking to the public.

Also, sympathizers of the homosexual agenda should be praised and opponents boycotted and demonized.

But their main strategy is to project homosexuals as misunderstood persons, persecuted solely because they are “different” and “diverse.” They exploit people’s sentiment of compassion, defining compassion as a “non-judgmental” attitude that does not condemn error or sin.

Presenting the vice of sodomy as a natural thing, they aggressively press for same-sex “marriage.” Misinterpreting the principle of equality and justice, they present as equal two different things: normal, traditional marriage, between a man and a woman, and same-sex “marriage.” Thus they claim it is unfair.

The lack of the sense of morality and of the sense of good and evil, as well as the excessive sexualizing of our society open the way for the homosexual propaganda and agenda.

Crusade: How do you respond to the “born homosexual” idea, the “gay gene” as some call it?

Mr. Solimeo: The “born this way” idea is a myth created by homosexual activists. The problem is that there is no scientific basis for this theory. If homosexuality was inborn, it would be genetic and there would be an identifiable “gay” gene. But even homosexual scientists such as Simon LeVay and others couldn’t prove the existence of a “gay” gene.

Also, if homosexuality was genetic, 100% of identical twins would have the same sexual orientation because they have the same DNA. But even the statistics presented by homosexual scientists show that this is not the case. Identical twins have the same genes or DNA. They are nurtured in equal prenatal conditions. If homosexuality was caused by genetics or prenatal conditions, and one twin turned out homosexual, the co-twin should also turn out the same way.

Dr. Neil Whitehead, PhD, specialist in biochemistry and statistics, notes that “Because they



The real goal of the homosexual movement is an attack on the innocence and purity of the young.

With the homosexual revolution, we are on the eve of the most brutal change of society and civilization since the triumph of Christianity over paganism.

[twins] have identical DNA, it ought to be 100%.” But the studies reveal another scenario. “If an identical twin has same-sex attraction,” says Dr. Whitehead, “the chances of the co-twin having the same sex attraction are only about 11% for men and 14% for women.” Because identical twins are always genetically identical, homosexuality cannot be genetically dictated. “Therefore,” Dr. Whitehead concludes, “no one is born gay. The predominant factors that produce homosexuality in one identical twin and not in the other must be post-birth.”*

Crusade: Is the goal of homosexual activists limited to obtaining legal status for their union?

Mr. Solimeo: No. The philosophy that is behind the homosexual agenda is a totally libertarian one. Since they reject the natural law that guides our actions to do good and to avoid evil, and since they reject divine Revelation, which confirms natural law, they establish the human will as the only norm of behavior.

Therefore, the homosexual movement supports transgenderism, or “change” of sexes, (the T in LGBT) and paves the way for pedophilia, necrophilia, gerontophilia, and any other kind of aberration. The rationale is: “If it’s good for me, I have the right to do it.” In short, they want to completely change society, its laws and its customs.

The states of New Jersey and California are contesting the rights of parents to obtain psychological treatment for their children with same-sex attraction. Lawsuits by homosexual “couples” are violating the freedom of people to uphold natural law and scripturally-based moral principles as in the cases of a bakery in Oregon and a photo studio in New Mexico. The owners of these businesses were punished for refusing their services to couples seeking same-sex “marriages.”

Also, from kindergarten to college, children and young people are obliged to learn that homosexuality and transgenderism are good, though both are based on principles and a worldview that are radically contrary to Christianity. With the homosexual revolution, we are on the verge of the most radical change of society and civilization since the triumph of Christianity over paganism. But this neo-pagan society is worse than ancient paganism because it once accepted the natural law that it now rejects.

Crusade: The homosexual movement and the liberal media insist on using the word

“gay” instead of the word “homosexual.” In your view, is there a specific reason for this?

Mr. Solimeo: The word “gay” sugarcoats the vice of sodomy, and the psychological, physical traumas and diseases that it causes. The term is also culturally charged with a sort of militant, flaunting pride. As Prof. Livio Melina of the Pontifical Lateran University of Rome claims, “The word gay is highly politicized and does not simply mean a homosexually-oriented person, but one who publicly adopts a homosexual ‘lifestyle’ and is committed to making society accept it as fully legitimate.” Therefore, we must avoid using this word.

Crusade: What is the most effective way for a Catholic to resist the advance of homosexual sin in our culture?

Mr. Solimeo: Our Lord commanded us to “be wise as serpents” (Matt 10:16). In order to resist the advance of the homosexual culture and agenda, we must be aware of its traps. We have to be prepared to identify and answer the sophisms of the homosexual movement and to denounce their true aims. To do this, we must have a good knowledge of Catholic moral doctrine, which is based on natural law, the law written in our hearts (Rom. 2:15) and God’s Revelation.

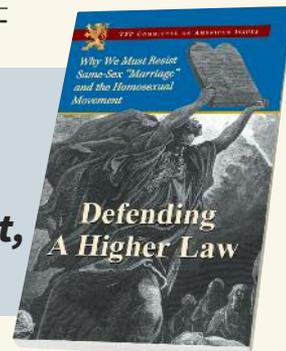
Homosexual acts are contrary to the rational nature of man, to human anatomy and psychology. We need to spread the notion of good and evil, of sin and virtue.

The widespread confusion among souls today, especially regarding morals, is one of the causes of the advancement of the homosexual movement.

Therefore, we must strive to draw attention to moral principles, which fundamentally teach that good must be pursued and evil avoided. We must insist that sin not only offends God but destroys virtue, which is the very foundation of social life. ■

*<http://www.narth.com/docs/whitehead2.html#!gay---born-that-way/cm6x>

For a free copy of *Defending a Higher Law—Why We Must Resist Same-Sex “Marriage” and the Homosexual Movement*, call toll free (888) 317-5571



THE PEACOCK AND THE SWAN

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

THE peacock, richly and intricately adorned, invites admiration and analysis. The swan, on the other hand, ornamented only with white, is noble in its extreme simplicity. Yet, white is the synthesis of all colors, so all the beauty inherent in the peacock is also present, however simply, in the swan.

The peacock was created to live on land; the swan, to live on water. Although no posture could be simpler than floating, the water exquisitely reflects the swan's gracefulness.

The peacock possesses luxuriant plumage, and how marvelous it is! But the swan's silhouette is much more elegant. The swan's slender neck, more than anything else, imparts this elegance as it curves gently backward and upward to its culmination. From the height of this graceful arc, the swan calmly searches for the tiny aquatic creatures that provide its nourishment.

How beautiful it is to behold one thing in nature moving another. And the more modest the mover, the more noble the movement. This correlation is admirably reflected in the movements of the swan. With the discreet motion of its feet, it glides smoothly over the water—leaving its human observers almost envious.

So we see that the peacock enjoys all the nobility and beauty inherent to complexity and talent, while the swan possesses a majesty born from its very simplicity.

Which of the two is the more noble?

The purity and simplicity of the swan, intrinsically high qualities, are indeed admirable, so it would be easy to say that it is the more beautiful because of its simplicity.

Imagine, however, a golden crown encrusted with precious stones and another crown of the same style, yet merely gilded. Which would be more attractive? Evidently, the one embellished with precious stones. Do the “precious stones” on the peacock's plumage not represent for it what precious stones represent on the crown? ■



*The peacock and the swan,
both having inherent
superiority, symbolize
nobility in different ways
and degrees.*