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November/December 2015
MAGAZINE



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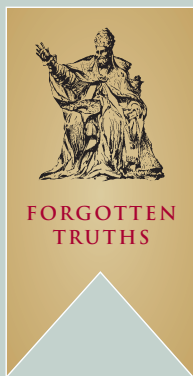
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America Needs Fatima artist Dias Tavares is unrivaled in his sculptures and paintings, and the *Prince of Peace* is no exception. For Christmas 2015, Mr. Tavares offers a unique and magnificent statue of the Infant Jesus to grace your home. From the luster in His eyes to the folds of His garment to the intricate halo around His head, the representation of the Prince of Peace is a masterpiece.

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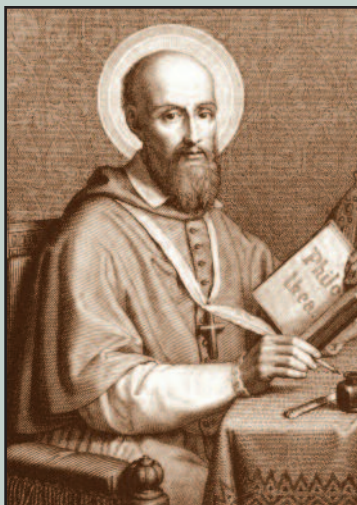
Do Not Mistake Piety for Weakness

Saint Francis of Sales, though one of the gentlest of the saints of God, knew how to defend himself from the swords of his enemies in the day of danger.

As a young man, the great saint took up residence in Padua, where his father sent him to pursue his studies. It happened that certain young men, who seemed to live for no other purpose than to gratify their evil passions, were offended at his humility and meekness. These virtues were a condemnation of their own sinful ways. They mocked the holy youth behind his back, attributing his good conduct to cowardice and effeminacy. In their wicked hearts they formed the design of waylaying him and giving him a severe beating.

To accomplish their design, they made plans for an ambush. They took up arms and hid in a thicket which the saintly youth had to pass on his return to his house. They, knowing his habitual gentleness, imagined that he would offer them no resistance, and that, after having beaten him severely, they would be able, by running speedily away, to make their escape without being recognized.

But in this they deceived themselves, for they had forgotten, or perhaps were not aware, that the virtue of religion which teaches meekness and humility of heart inspires also courage and intrepidity in the hour of need.



Saint Francis de Sales was known for his strength of character, kindness and patience.

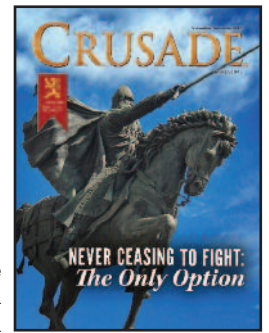
When Saint Francis had reached the spot where his assailants were waiting, they rushed out to attack him unawares, and began by trying to raise a quarrel; then they called him names, and finding all these of no avail to provoke him to anger, they prepared to inflict on him the bodily cruelties they had previously designed.

But the pious youth, knowing that here he owed himself the duty to resist, promptly drew his sword. Brandishing it over his cowardly aggressors, he caused them to beat a hasty retreat. Saint Francis pursued them for a time, then—surprise. Realizing their own danger, his attackers turned to him trembling in confusion. Falling to their knees, they implored the saint's forgiveness, and promised never to repeat such unpardonable conduct. ■

Taken from *The Catechism in Examples, Vol. III* by the Rev. D. Chisholm, pp. 273-275.

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Equestrian statue
of El Cid in
Burgos, Spain

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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

UN Report on World Population Debunks Claims of Demographic Catastrophe

A United Nations report cited by Jonathan Abbot of the Population Research Institute reveals that the increase in the world's population does not spell demographic disaster as population alarmists would have us believe. The report showed that despite the rise in the world's population by 2 billion in the past twenty-five years, people living in hunger dropped from 24% to 14% for the same period. The UN report also predicted that by 2100, infant and childhood mortalities in poor countries will fall by as much as 82%, and life expectancy worldwide will have risen to 85 years for women and 82 years for men.

Three Americans Who Stopped Armed Gunman Awarded Legion of Honor

France awarded the Legion of Honor, its highest award, to three Americans, Airman First Class Spencer Stone, 23; Alek Skarlatos, 22, a specialist in the Oregon National Guard; and their friend, Anthony Sadler, 23. They were joined by Chris Norman, 62, a British citizen. All four were responsible for subduing and disarming Ayoub El Khazzani, a heavily-armed Moroccan, who was about to commit an act of terrorism on board a high-speed train traveling from Amsterdam to Paris. The vacationing Americans, who were totally unarmed, wasted no time in stopping the Moroccan upon seeing him with his AK-47 rifle, a handgun and 300 rounds of ammunition, thus avoiding what would have been a tragic massacre of untold proportions.



Hotel Chain Forced to Remove All Pornography Channels after Public Pressure

LifeSiteNews.com reported that the worldwide Hilton hotel chain acquiesced to public pressure by removing all pornographic channels from its hotels in eighty-five countries. Pat Truman, CEO of the National Center of Sexual Exploitation, said that it was their organization's three-year public campaign that convinced Hilton to make the move. Top executives of the hotel chain received as many as 1,000 emails per week protesting the presence of pornography in the hotels. Truman also said that other chains had already dropped pornography as a result of his organization's efforts.

Priest Denies Holy Communion to a "Married" Homosexual Man

Father Mark Beard of St. Helena Catholic Church in Amite, Louisiana refused to give a known homosexual "married" man Holy Eucharist during

the funeral mass of the man's mother. The priest knew of the man's irregular "marriage" from the obituary in which it was stated that he was married to a man. The brave priest did not receive support from either the diocese of Baton Rouge or the Archbishop of New Orleans, both of whom offered apologies to the homosexual man.



New Polls Show Support for Same-sex "Marriage" Declining

After the U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing same-sex "marriage" throughout the United States, three separate national polls show reduced support for it. The *National Review* reported that Ipsos/Reuters and Gallup conducted polls just days after the decision and their results show a decline in the percentage of Americans who support same-sex "marriage." Another poll by the Associated Press also showed a decline of six points from their last poll on the same issue taken before the decision.

North Dakota Bishop Severs Ties with Boy Scouts Over Homosexual Leaders

Bishop David Kagan of Bismarck, North Dakota, pulled all diocesan organizations from the Boy Scouts effective immediately. A report by Lisa Bourne of LifeSiteNews.com said that the bishop, in explaining his decision, declared, "In conscience as the chief shepherd of the diocese of Bismarck, I cannot permit our Catholic institutions to accept and participate directly or indirectly in any organization, which has policies and methods, which contradict the authoritative moral teachings of the Catholic Church."

4,500 Fewer Abortions in Texas After Major Pro-life Laws Passed

Newly-enacted pro-life laws in Texas prevented more than 4,000 women from choosing abortion in 2013. Laws which require a 24-hour waiting period before an abortion; mandatory ultrasounds; laws requiring abortionists to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals; upgrade requirements to abortion facilities; and partial defunding of Planned Parenthood all contributed to the significant decline.

CHILDREN and Christmas

BY FATHER RAOUL PLUS, S.J.



It is easy to understand how enraptured children can become at the contemplation of a tiny Babe in a manger. To have God reduce Himself to their own status, to become a child like them, to need a mother, what more could they desire! They feel on the same footing with Him. The Almighty is of their soze!

We are told that on Christmas Eve, Saint John of the Cross used to carry a statue of the Infant Jesus in procession about the monastery. The procession would stop before each monk's cell asking hospitality for the Divine Babe. The cells, like the hearts of the monks, would open to faith and to love. Only then would the statue be carried to the Crib and the Divine Office begin.

Children share the simplicity of these holy monks. Nothing attracts them more than the Crib. This very attraction makes it imperative that they learn about it correctly.

Care must be taken not to mix in with the gospel mystery any details which the child will later come to recognize as false. The Gospel is sufficiently extraordinary in itself without our adding any of our own creations to it. If we do, we may well fear the child will become disgusted later at being deceived and reject everything.

Any charming legend or pious story we may want to tell them when they are very small should

be kept quite distinct and handled very differently from the dogmatic truths and authentic historical facts we teach them. Let us not introduce fairies into the story of Joan of Arc's childhood, nor put the legend of Saint Nicholas rescuing little children on the same level with the realities of the Redemption, with the facts of Our Lord's saving us from hell.

If, therefore, we are to capitalize on the child's attraction for the marvelous, let us avoid abusing his credulity; above all when dealing with the lives of the saints, with the Blessed Virgin and with Christ, let us not mix the false with the true. Let us always keep on a plane apart those truths which are to be forever the object of indelible belief.



There is, however, a positive suggestion to offer: Explain to the child how Baptism has made him a living Crib; not a wooden manger padded with straw, but a living Crib; not a crib where little Jesus slept, but a Crib where all Three Persons of the Holy Trinity dwell, the Three Divine Persons. Here, too, is a splendid opportunity to show the child the difference between the two presences—the presence of God in the soul through grace and the presence of Jesus in the stable through the Incarnation. ■

Taken from *Christ in the Home* by Father Raoul Plus, S.J.

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In Search of CHRISTMAS

BY PIERRE L'ERMITE

One Christmas night, Our Lord, denying Himself the comfort of visiting those households where He knows He is loved, came down to a modern city to see what sinners were doing.

Christmas!... Christmas!... Joy was universal. Everyone was celebrating. Christ encountered a policeman completely engrossed in directing traffic in a busy plaza. Christ stepped up to him and asked, "What does this holiday of Christmas mean?"

The policeman eyed Him: "Where do you come from?"

"From Bethlehem."

"Where?"

"Bethlehem."

"Oh? Wherever that is. Anyway, don't you know that Christmas is a holiday for kids? It's a holiday for everybody. On Christmas, everybody is somebody's kid!"

"What is the origin of this holiday?"

"Look, you ask too many questions. Can't you see I'm very busy? If you want to know more, go ask the chief."

Christmas!... Christmas!...

Every store glittered with worldly displays. Really, what was behind it?

Christ paused by a restaurant advertising "Christmas Party—\$50.00." Ladies and gentlemen in elegant evening attire were entering the place. He stepped inside. Tables, covered with white linen and lighted with red and green candles, were arranged in rows. Bottles of champagne, with gilded foil about their necks, were nestled in ice-filled silver pails. A woman, turning around and seeing Our Lord, gestured indignantly at one of the waiters: "What is this? You let panhandlers in here?"

The waiter, a man of forty or so, rushed over to Him. "What are you doing in here?" he demanded. "Begging is permitted only out on the sidewalk!"

Christ studied the man. "If only you knew what it is that I am 'begging' for..."

But He was already being shoved out into the street—as the woman playing the piano sang, "Peace on earth and mercy mild." Not even the Roman soldiers had been so hasty.

Outside, Christ allowed Himself to be swept along by the throng that flowed like a river between the stores and markets. He saw toys, and more toys, everywhere, and a few Santa Clauses, but rarely a manger scene.

Our Lord then caught sight of a married couple carrying a few small, precious bundles. They seemed to be good, middle-class, peace-loving souls, hurrying somewhere to celebrate Christmas. Christ followed them, invisible to their eyes. They entered their home and climbed the staircase to their apartment, where others had already gathered. He watched as they opened bottles, served pastries, and then as they ate and drank.

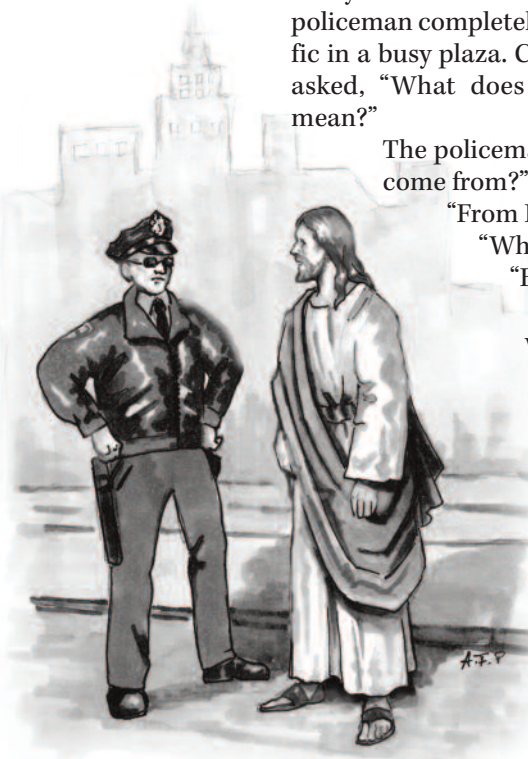
"Imagine," said one, "just for a change of pace, I went to Midnight Mass!"

"Oh?" said another, barely considering the remark, "And how was it?"

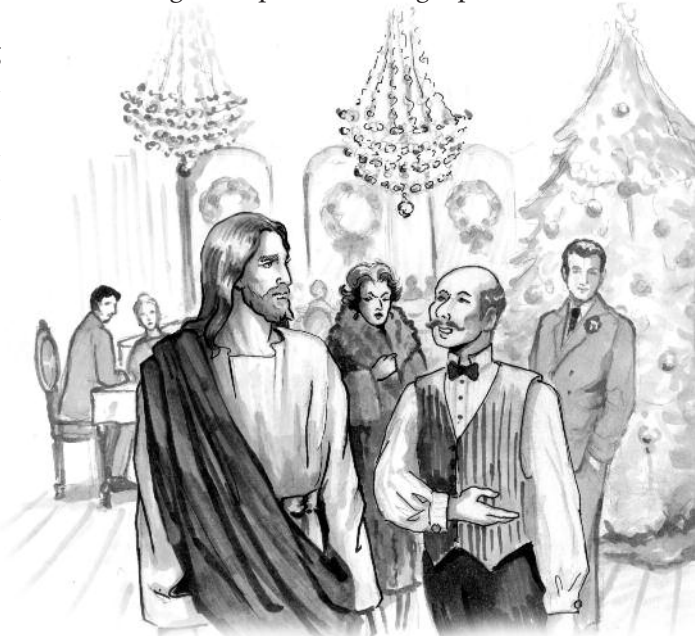
"Well, it wasn't as pleasant as a good concert, but quite amusing nevertheless. Saw a number of friends there..."

The apartment had neither a crucifix nor a manger scene. Christ could not long endure the senseless conversation, so He turned away and slowly descended the staircase.

A short distance down the road, Our Lord found Himself near the playground of a large school. Above the gate a prominent sign proclaimed,



Drawings by Andrea F. Phillips



“Christmas Party for the Children of District 10.”

Ah, children, little children! Our Lord went in.

There were hundreds of children inside, receiving toys, candy, and books. As they noisily ran and tumbled about, important-looking women hurried under the gaze of a headmistress. Again, neither a manger scene nor a crucifix could be seen, and nobody mentioned the name of the Child Jesus.

As Christ stood there, a feeling of isolation grew in His heart. He was a trespasser. Finally, He approached a young boy whose arms overflowed with toys. The boy reminded Him of His little friends of bygone days in Bethlehem.

“Do you love the Child Jesus who has given you so many nice toys?”

The boy stared at Him with a puzzled air: “Child Jesus?”

“Don’t you know Him?”

“No...”

The headmistress, as if sensing some danger afoot, rushed over.

“What did this Man say to you?” she frantically asked the boy. Upon learning what Our Lord had asked and what Name He had dared mention, her eyes glared with annoyance.

“Be so kind as to leave... At once!”

Christ again walked through the streets, no longer entering any of the places He passed. He wandered as His mother had in Bethlehem, on a night like this so long ago. He roamed through the endless streets, passing innumerable places where His creatures celebrated Christmas without knowing its true meaning. He hesitated to return to Heaven with such observations, for they would sadden the saints.

Weary, He came to the edge of a neglected suburb. A white building ablaze with tiny lights caught His eye. Approaching and looking through one of the windows, He saw His own image prominently displayed on the wall. His eyes brightened, as if reflecting the hundreds of lights outside, when He noticed that in one corner of the room was a simple, but attractively arranged, manger scene.

Just then the door opened and a boy came out, a boy like those who not infrequently come under the care of a parish. The boy stopped abruptly at the sight of the golden-haired man shivering in the darkness. Icy gusts blew around them.

“Sir, you could freeze out here! You need to get out of the cold.”

“I am quite cold,” answered Our Lord.

“Come in, then. We have a good fire going.”

And so Our Lord entered.

Near the fireplace, a group of children were closely gathered around a young priest. As the fire crackled and filled the room with its warmth and light, the priest told the children about the infinite grandeur hidden within the little figure of the Child Jesus in the manger. He stopped his tale the moment Our Lord entered the room.

“Come in! Oh, you look cold! Warm yourself here.”

The children promptly offered the newcomer a place close to the fire.

“Have you had anything to eat? Joseph, go ask your mother to prepare something hot for this gentleman.”

Christ’s gaze slowly passed over all of them, one by one, as if He were memorizing every little face. Above all, He gazed at the young priest.

“Are you alone, my friend?” asked the priest kindly.

“Yes.”



Seized by soul-stirring curiosity, all eyes turned inquisitively upon the stranger, waiting.

Christ did not speak. Very slowly, regally, Jesus’ hand moved. He extended it over their heads, reaching beyond the humble cottages of that neighborhood and encompassing that immense city whose miseries He had witnessed close up. In a tone of voice that none of those present would ever forget, He exclaimed: “*Misereor super turbas*”—I have pity upon these people!

Then, slowly, before their astonished eyes He disappeared.

“It was Jesus!” cried one of the boys.

The young priest nodded solemnly. “Yes... it must have been...” ■



The Martyr of Purity in America

BY FRANCIS SLOBODNIK

Saint Maria Goretti's relics visited a good portion of the eastern half of the United States from September 21st until November 11th of this year. The visit of her sacred relics couldn't have come at a more urgent time. America is saturated with the vice of impurity in just about every institution: social, religious, cultural, governmental, educational

America is saturated with the vice of impurity in just about every institution: social, religious, cultural, governmental. . .



Saint Maria Goretti's relics were on a "Pilgrimage of Mercy" tour of the United States. A statue in her likeness contains her holy remains.

and, tragically, even familial.

Saint Maria Goretti is a great saint and inspiring model for purity, an almost non-existent virtue today. Not only is she the model for purity, she could also be called the patroness of moral absolutes. As her sacred remains traveled to parishes in cities here in America, Catholics young and old were given the rare opportunity to seek her powerful intercession.

Heroic from a Young Age

Maria Goretti was born on July 6, 1890 in Corinaldo, Italy. When Maria was only nine years old, her mother became a widow and it was up to Maria to raise her five siblings while their mother worked the fields in order to earn a meager living for the family. Her neighbor, Giovanni, and his son, Alessandro, also worked in the fields. Alessandro took an impure interest in Maria and made crude and disgusting comments in her presence. He tried to pressure her to engage in impure acts with him, but was always met with a sound refusal by Maria.

When Maria was just eleven years old, she was alone one day while her mother was working the fields. Alessandro tried to force himself on her. Maria would not give in and shouted in a tone of moral absoluteness, "No! It is a sin! God does not want it!" In retribution for her proclamation of purity, the impure Alessandro then stabbed her fourteen times. She died twenty hours later from her wounds.

Like a Voice Crying Out in the Wilderness

Saint Maria Goretti died for a moral absolute. She gave her life rather than consent to an act of impurity. In the world of today, that would seem ludicrous. Saint Maria clearly understood that right is right and wrong is wrong and that the consequences for consenting to such a grave sin would be eternal death. She also understood that suffering even death in defense of purity, would merit eternal life. In our day, she would be like Saint John the Baptist, a lone voice defending



Stairs at the Goretti family house. Maria was sitting at the top of these stairs when she was attacked.



Saint Maria Goretti's mother, Assunta, at the canonization of her daughter. She was the first parent ever to attend the canonization of a child.



Novena Prayer to Saint Maria Goretti

O Saint Maria Goretti, who, strengthened by God's grace, did not hesitate, even at the age of eleven, to shed your blood and sacrifice life itself to defend your virginal purity, deign to look graciously on the unhappy human race which has strayed far from the path of eternal salvation. Teach us all, and especially our youth, the courage and promptness to flee for love of Jesus, anything that could offend Him or stain our souls with sin. Obtain for us from Our Lord and Our Lady Immaculate victory in temptation, comfort in the sorrows of life, purity in soul and body and the grace which we earnestly beg of thee (mention petitions here), so that we may one day enjoy with thee the imperishable glory of heaven. *Amen.*

(Recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be)

moral absolutes.

We should all pray and humbly beseech Saint Maria Goretti to grant us purity in thought, word and action. America is drowning in a morass of impure vices of every type: gender confusion, fornication, self-abuse, immodesty, lust, homosexuality, adultery, and vices that are too horrible to men-

We should all pray and humbly beseech Saint Maria Goretti to grant us purity in thought, word and action.

tion. We need the intercession of Our Lady, the angels, the saints and particularly saints like Saint Maria, who offered their very lives to defend the moral absolute of purity.

We live in a terminally ill society due to the saturation of this satanic vice. Why terminally ill? Because unforgiven sins of impurity lead to eternal death, and a society that is so infected with impurity can only result in eternal death for the multitudes.

Nearly 100 years ago, Our Lady of Fatima warned the young seer Jacinta that, "More souls go to hell because of sins of the flesh than for any other reason."

Giving Strength for Our Fight

Every Catholic is aware of how short the confession lines are despite the impure vices that tempt each and every day. One cannot go anywhere, sometimes not even in churches, without being assaulted by impurity, whether it be through immodest dress, speech or actions. We need so many extraordinary graces in these times to remain pure.

Saint Maria is commonly praised for her for-

givenness towards her murderer. That is indeed a very great thing; however, what is most admirable about Saint Maria was her combative intransigence towards the grave sin of impurity.

If we are to survive in a state of sanctifying grace today we must also have a combative intransigence toward impurity wherever it appears.

Through Saint Maria Goretti's intercession, countless souls have received the extraordinary graces needed to, first of all, understand what purity is and, secondly, to remain pure. In parish after parish where her body was brought, extraordinary testimonials bear witness to her powerful intercession for today's Americans fighting today's battles.

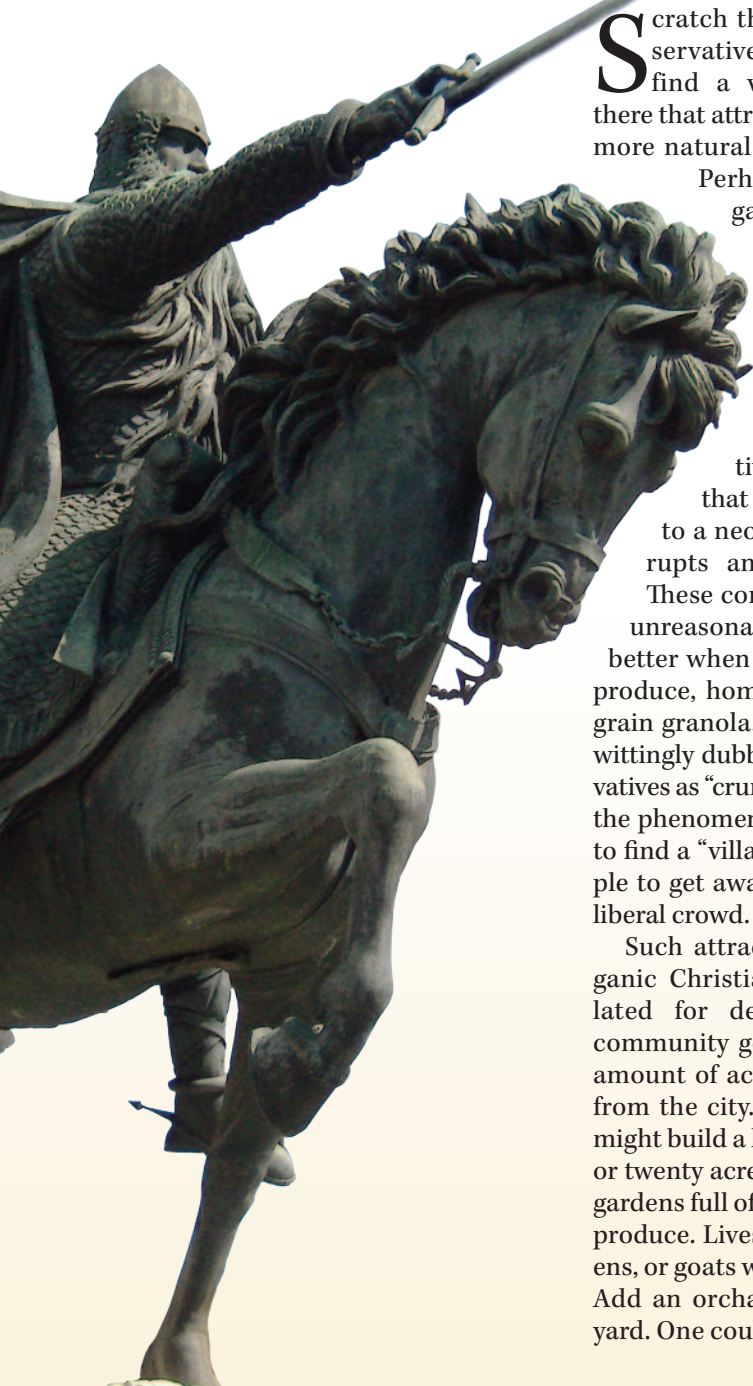
Let us, like Saint Maria Goretti, resist impurity and defend the pure. ■



COVER
STORY

NEVER CEASING TO FIGHT: *The Only Option*

BY JOHN HORVAT II



Scratch the soul of many a conservative and beneath you will find a villager. Something is there that attracts these Americans to more natural and simpler lifestyles.

Perhaps it is because organic and authentic things appear restful and reassuring in a world of uncertainties and anxieties.

However, what makes the organic option particularly attractive to conservatives is that it seems to be a solution to a neo-pagan world that corrupts and attacks family life. These conservatives believe, not unreasonably, that families fare better when surrounded by organic produce, home remedies and whole grain granola. Journalist Rod Dreher wittingly dubbed these rustic conservatives as “crunchy cons.” He described the phenomenon of those who desire to find a “village” of like-minded people to get away from the maddening liberal crowd.

Such attractive dreams of an organic Christian society have circulated for decades. The idealized community generally involves a fair amount of acreage far enough away from the city. Community members might build a homestead on some ten or twenty acres. There would be huge gardens full of organic vegetables and produce. Livestock, free-range chickens, or goats would supplement diets. Add an orchard and maybe a vineyard. One could make one’s own beer,

cider or wine. Self-sufficiency would reign as people would get off all the grids. There would be children aplenty to make things merry. One would simply walk away from secular society. There would be no time for sin and war, since all would be busy on their farms with wholesome work.

Of course, at the center of the village there would be a church, ideally a monastery, a Benedictine monastery, where holy priests would celebrate the Divine Liturgy and bells would call people to prayer. Monks would intercede before God for our sinful world. A sacredness would be conferred upon all society where a love of beauty in a God-centered life would propel men toward their final end. Eventually, a school or university would form around this community and a new culture would be born.

Indeed, such a community would be full of culture. Like-minded people would be gathering, singing, eating and praying together. People would rediscover poetry and wonder. Let the neo-pagan world party to its destruction, but let it leave us alone in our “backward” and godly bliss!

The idea of the Christian village has recently gained more traction with the defeat of Indiana’s religious liberty law, which is seen as a foretaste of a coming persecution. Writers like Rod Dreher are urging people to make a strategic withdrawal from modern society that would allow Christians to reassess their situation and explore their identity in a liturgy-rich context. It need not be the full village version, but it does entail something of a with-

not dialogue with the barbarians, but chopped down the great oak tree which they worshiped as their god, and brought them to the knowledge of the true Faith. To Boniface can be added legions of saints like Patrick in Ireland or Remigius in France, all of who overcame the barbarian and secured Benedict's peace.

It would be wrong to assume that Boniface plays only a temporary role inside a B-option. Successive waves of barbarians followed after Boniface's triumph. Sainly kings, knights and crusaders rose to the occasion to engage and defeat them. Even our modern times saw the need to defend the West from yesterday's Nazi and communist brutes and today's Islamic beheading savages.

In this vale of tears, we must be continually engaged in the fight for order since there will always be those who oppose God's law and undermine the family, marriage, and all those other institutions that make up the heart and soul of an economy, a culture and the Christian village. There will always be those who never live and let live and will seek us out.

Like it or not, when we cease to fight for our Christian culture, we prepare ourselves for defeat. Unless there be Bonifaces with the fortitude needed to confront this great struggle, all our efforts

Today, the great Saint Benedict is the patron saint of Europe because he took on the challenge of boldly evangelizing an entire continent.



Rejecting FALSE Solutions

Mr. John Horvat II, vice-president of the American TFP and author of the award-winning book *Return to Order*, has studied the crises facing the United States for more than two decades. His keen insights into Catholic solutions for modern problems have met with wide acclaim among diverse audiences. With the growing appeal of the so-called Benedict Option, Mr. Horvat recently took time to answer some questions for *Crusade Magazine* about why Catholics today should reject this false solution and strive to actively confront American culture.

Crusade: First of all, thanks for taking time to answer some questions about fighting for our culture. To start off, what would be your advice for those who feel overwhelmed at the thought of "confronting the barbarians?"

Mr. Horvat: It is very easy to feel overwhelmed by our neo-barbarian culture. I think we need to begin by defining things and putting this struggle in context.

By "barbarians" we mean those who have departed from the norms of Christian civilization and natural law and then adopted aggressive attitudes and lifestyles that threaten our own. This can be seen today in the case of our cul-

ture of death and the constant attacks on the traditional family.

Many say the best thing would be to "write off" the barbarians and form close-knit communities in which we would intensify our Catholic faith. The solution has been called the Benedict Option since it seems to imitate the strategy of Saint Benedict in the face of decadent Rome. There are many variations of the B-option that range from an attitude of complete isolation to others of limited engagement with the culture.

I believe this is a wrong strategy for two reasons.

First, we need the "barbarians." Many

of our most fervent Catholics today are those who were once "barbarians" in the sense that they embraced our culture of death. These same people were mugged by reality and saw the futility of our secular culture and enthusiastically entered the Church.

Every year, over 100,000 people convert to the Church, many after wandering long in our postmodern wilderness. This would not happen if we withdrew and failed to reach out to them. People are looking for the Church; we need to be out there to help them.

The second reason not to take the Benedict Option is that the Church never "wrote off" the "barbarians." Quite the contrary, the Church through her missionaries went to the ends of the earth in search of "barbarians" and converted many of them. In a similar way, we should not write off our modern neo-barbarians, but rather confront the culture and eventually seek their conversion.

Crusade: History is filled with examples of when men had to fight for Christian

will come to nothing.

Indeed, an organic order only becomes possible when there are those who, by their spirit of self-sacrifice and dedication, practice fortitude to the highest degree. This can be seen in the dedicated spirit of the soldier who leaves everything to face suffering, separation from family, and even imprisonment or death to defend the West against the barbarian. It can be found in today's cultural warrior who endures so much scorn and risks everything to defend life, marriage and ordered liberty. It needs to be seen in those representative figures in society who make the great sacrifice of setting the tone and being role models for all society. When such key figures practice forti-

Like it or not, when we cease to fight for our Christian culture, we prepare ourselves for defeat.

tude to a high degree, all society becomes permeated by this virtue, thus fortifying the whole social order.

When Benedict and Boniface are fused together in grace and fortitude, it sets the stage for a Christian society that is practically indestructible. The barbarian can then be subdued by the arm of Christian fortitude and converted by the sublime call of Christ. Because of their intense dynamism, the converted barbarians often become vibrant Christians. We might even say that it is in the crucible of combating the neo-barbarian at the gates and restraining our own

disordered passions (the barbarian within) that we will find the elements of a true culture that will meld people together into communities.

If we truly desire the B-option, then let us not withdraw from modernity, for strategic retreats easily turn into routs. Let us rather engage our neo-barbarian culture by both cultivating our Benedictine identity while projecting Boniface's strength. It is the only option. ■

Courtesy of *Crisis Magazine*. This article was originally published in *Crisis Magazine* under the title "The 'Benedict Option' and the Barbarian Challenge," June 23, 2015 and it is republished here with permission.

civilization. What do you think are some of the most inspiring historical examples for our fight today?

Mr. Horvat: The history of the Church is full of inspiring examples of saints, such as Saint Patrick, Saint Boniface or Saint Isaac Jogues, who confronted pagan cultures and sought out the "barbarians." There are others like Saint Louis IX who fought for the Faith and protected Christian civilization. Both are necessary for the Faith to flourish.

However, perhaps the best example of one who engaged the culture and did not exercise the Benedict Option was Saint Benedict himself.

Contrary to what is believed, Saint Benedict did not move out into the wilderness and detach himself from society completely and write off decadent Rome.

Quite the contrary, his main monastery in Monte Cassino was on one of the great highways to southern Italy, which brought it into frequent communication with the outside pagan world. His monasteries became centers of influence and culture wherever they were established. The monks established schools, developed agriculture and preached to the people. Saint Benedict himself overthrew the idols in one region and converted the population to the



Author John Horvat II speaks often to his fellow Americans about rejecting false solutions to today's crises. He recently gave an interview to *Crusade* giving reasons conservatives should reject the idea of retreating from the fight.

Faith. We can thank God that Saint Benedict did not exercise the Benedict Option.

Crusade: How should our readers respond to those who say that the Benedict Option is the easiest and most secure solution to today's crises?

Mr. Horvat: Some say the situation has become so bad that the best and easiest way out is isolation.

The problem with isolation is that it is not always the easy way out. It as-

sumes that you can escape the bad influences of the modern world. This is clearly impossible since these bad influences will find you whether it be through big government, big media or big iPhones. In addition, those opposing Christian civilization will seek us out and not let us alone. Those isolating themselves often bring the errors of society in with them.

Our own American history is full of failed agrarian and Christian experiments where people thought they could



Desiring a more organic lifestyle is good, but cannot become an end in itself. We must not become complacent when our culture is under attack.

isolate themselves from bad influences by gathering together in communities. Since their unifying principle was escape and not principles, they often ended by fighting among themselves.

The best and easiest option is to fight against the opposing culture because that confronts reality head on without illusions.

Crusade: What about the children? Would not a retreat from our neo-pagan culture protect them from its harmful influence?

Mr. Horvat: We need to make a distinction between protect and retreat.

Parents should do everything they can to protect their children from sin and corruption. This means providing a wholesome atmosphere at home which excludes the influence of our decadent culture.

However, parents should also teach their children to fight against the culture. This is because sooner or later all children will be exposed to the sins of our culture of death. If they are in retreat, they will not know how to fight the culture (and the reasons for doing so). They will not know how to react and more easily succumb to it.

Crusade: Are you opposed to living a more organic and rural lifestyle somewhat isolated from today's neo-pagan society?

Mr. Horvat: No, there is nothing

wrong with living in a rural area and enjoying organic lifestyles. I myself grew up this way. There is nothing wrong with banding together with others to better engage the culture. We can even form a kind of community to help one another.

However, there is a problem when these things become the goal, and not the means for defying the culture. It becomes problematic when people become complacent and do nothing when the Church is in crisis and being attacked.

Crusade: What are some practical things we can do now in order to better confront the barbarians?

Mr. Horvat: I would recommend two practical things you can do to better confront the barbarians.

First, know clearly what you are fighting for. If there was one thing I learned when researching and writing *Return to Order*, it was that the Church has marvelous solutions to social and even economic problems that lie hidden. We should search these solutions out and learn to present them well with enthusiasm and beauty. In this way, we can easier fight for the Faith that we know and love.

The second thing is never to hide or water down the practice of our Faith in the hope of attracting others. A mediocre presentation and practice of the Faith will attract no one and especially the "neo-barbarian" who is often searching for something of substance to fill the

void of life in postmodern society.

Crusade: While not forgetting about the barbarians, how can we also cultivate our Benedictine identity?

Mr. Horvat: We should definitely cultivate our Benedictine identity for it is the life of grace that must sustain us in our actions and our quest for salvation and sanctification. The love of God is the core of all that we live for and desire. Families should therefore cultivate a vibrant sacramental and prayer life. They should practice a strong and manly expression of the Faith in the public square. A tender and true devotion to the Blessed Mother, especially according to the method of Saint Louis de Montfort, is also essential for survival.

All these means are indispensable for a true return to order. It is also this interior life that will attract others (like neo-barbarians) and change lives. How many times have people converted by seeing people pray in front of abortion clinics and other places? How often has the beauty of our liturgy moved people in the very depths of their souls?

The two sides are not exclusive, but complementary. We need both an intense spiritual life and a vibrant active life. That is the true balance.

Crusade: Finally, what would be your response to those who would argue that prayer is the only thing necessary?

Mr. Horvat: Prayer is extremely important in the fight for our culture. But it cannot be the only thing. Rather, prayer should be the powerhouse that gives us the strength and courage we need to act in society. The Benedictine motto says it well: Prayer and Work.

What is lacking in society today is balance. Everyone has to have everything now, instantly, regardless of the consequences. They want push button solutions and apps as solutions for problems that are much more complex. We need to cultivate a life of temperance to oppose the frenetic intemperance of our day if we are to see, as I believe we will, a return to order. ■



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

PROGRESS REPORT

Defending the Papacy in Milwaukee: Not Turning the Other Cheek

BY JOSEPH JORDAN

On Sunday, August 9th, fifteen volunteers of the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) braved hot weather and blazing sunshine to hold a Rosary Rally and defend the papacy in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The volunteers had just finished a boys' Call to Chivalry Camp in the same state and were making their way back to the national headquarters in Spring Grove, Pennsylvania when they held the prayerful rally in front of the Milwaukee Art Museum.

The reason for the rally was to make an act of reparation for a blasphemous "art" exhibit called "Eggs Benedict" which is made of 17,000 contraceptives depicting a portrait of Pope Benedict XVI. Niki Johnson, the "artist" of the blasphemy, said that the work was in protest

to what the former pope had said about the use of contraceptives in Africa to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Pope Benedict XVI said that the use of contraceptives would only exacerbate the spread of HIV and AIDS. This statement has been found correct on all accounts. A promiscuous lifestyle with the psychological "shield" of contraceptives only leads to more promiscuity, thus increasing the chances of contracting such diseases. The real solution to the HIV/AIDS epidemic is purity, which has always been the stance of the Catholic Church.

While the members of the TFP held a statue of Our Lady and prayed the rosary on the public sidewalk, some passersby joined the rally. Some who had received a call before the rally brought banners from the yearly Rosary Rallies held across the nation every October.

For the most part, it did not seem that the blasphemy had much publicity. Many motorists drove by without a reaction and the much-anticipated counter demonstration that is common at such events never came. It was as if those who hosted the blasphemy wanted it to be more known outside of Milwaukee than in the city.

Fortunately, this insult to the doctrine of the Catholic Church and the pa-



Above: America Needs Fatima volunteers stood for hours in the hot sun offering up prayers of reparation before the Milwaukee Art Museum, which hosted a blasphemous exhibit against Pope Benedict XVI. Their presence showed all those passing by that Catholics are willing to stand up and defend the papacy.

pacry did not go unanswered. Those that make such mockeries of things sacred and holy often feel uninhibited because Catholics feel it their duty to "turn the other cheek." What we seem to forget is that this only applies to insults to our person and not offenses against God, the Church and the papacy. ■



Protesting the blasphemous "Eggs Benedict" exhibit at the Milwaukee Art Museum.



CUSTODIAN'S

CORNER

A Sure Sign of Our Lady's Smile

BY BEN BROUSSARD

It was a breezy Saturday in March as I pulled up to the second visit of the day. Travels brought me to Harrisburg, PA. This particular visit began in the usual way, the young family gathered in their home to crown Our Lady and listen to the presentation. After about thirty minutes, several relatives and guests from the local parish arrived. The larger and livelier crowd listened attentively, and we concluded praying the Rosary. It was then that Tamara stood up and told her amazing story.

Originally from Haiti, Tamara was living in Harrisburg to attend school. Having completed her studies in nursing, she had just returned from a visit to Haiti. While travelling with a friend to a remote village, she was struck by the poverty of the place: no running water, dirt floors, no electricity. To her surprise, a stranger approached and asked her to follow him. He led her to a remote part of the village where there was a two-story brick building, the only one of its kind in the area. The man pointed at Tamara and said, "This place was meant for you."

The building he had led her to was a clinic built by American missionaries which had been vacant for over a decade. Getting in touch with the owner of the clinic in Miami, to her shock Tamara was given full ownership of it after a few brief conversations.

As she told us this, she pulled out the deed for the clinic that had just arrived in the mail. She showed all present the document giving her ownership of the place,

written in both English and Creole.

Tamara admitted she felt quite blessed but also overwhelmed, not certain how to begin. It was at that moment that another lady at the visit interjected, saying she knew just the man who could help her. Taking out her phone, she pulled up the contact information for a good friend who is a priest working in Haiti. This priest, also a medical doctor, for years has operated a hospital and orphanage in the capital, and has contacts throughout the country. She gave Tamara all of his information, and said he would certainly be glad to assist.

Tamara, overwhelmed with gratitude, could not stop expressing her thanks as she took down all the information. Getting up and spending several minutes praying before the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, she approached me with thanks for bringing the statue that day. With tears in her eyes, she said, "I know Our Lady will work everything out. Just from being here this afternoon, I can see for sure she is smiling on the work in Haiti."

As every Fatima custodian knows, there are no chance encounters with the Queen of Heaven. That afternoon in March, everyone gathered marveled at how Our Lady brought together total strangers to show she was pleased with Tamara's efforts. May many more of her children in America and throughout the world see Our Lady's smile as they strive to do the will of her Son.



Consider putting America Needs Fatima in your will! Your generosity will help win the

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ANF Online

NEW!



The Three Hail Marys Pledge Campaign

From time immemorial, the Church has promoted the devotion of the Three Hail Marys, and on August 15th this year, the feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, America Needs Fatima launched a new campaign asking people to pledge to say three Hail Marys every day for the rest of their lives.

The message read: “The goal of the Three Hail Marys Pledge is to cover America with the ‘incense’ of prayer, that constantly rises upward to Our Lord and His Mother.

“Saints and doctors of the Church assure us that the worth of one Hail Mary devoutly said is incalculable before God and that is because the Hail Mary is the prayer that issued in our Savior and our salvation.”

Listing the benefits, the campaign encouraged participants to persevere in the practice offering in this way one more opposition to the godless culture we live in. As this issue of *Crusade* goes to press, 7,293 pledges have been made.

The recitation of the Hail Mary has worked countless healings and conversions and we encourage you, dear reader, to go online and make the Three Hail Marys pledge at www.ANF.org. You can also go on Google search and type: The Three Hail Marys pledge.



The Angel Persecutes the Fallen Angel in Detroit

Since the attempt of a black mass at Harvard University and later a black mass at the Civic Center in Oklahoma City, the Satanic Temple has been pursuing its agenda of habituating America to the devil and its public recognition.

This past July, the Detroit chapter of the Satanic Temple announced the unveiling of a nine-foot statue of Baphomet, a devil with the head of a goat with a smiling boy and girl at its

feet. According to press reports, it was to take place at Bert’s Warehouse Theatre in “a night of chaos, noise, and debauchery at The Unveiling, a hedonistic celebration.”

Joining other concerned organizations, America Needs Fatima launched a massive online protest and within a short period of time 20,550 petitions were signed. The petitions were also sent to Brenda Jones, Detroit City Council President.

The immediate result to the waves of protest was that Bert’s Warehouse closed its doors and canceled its appointment with the Satanic Temple. The Satanic Temple then found a new location, but this time only ticket holders would be told of the new location and only on the day itself.

The unveiling of Satan did take place in an undisclosed place to the public but it became clear that the Angel of light forced the fallen angel to hide its ugly head in some obscure place.



In Defense of the Honor of the Papacy

In Africa in 2009, Pope Benedict XVI, with medical studies to back him up, warned that the use of prophylactics could make the African AIDS crisis worse and encouraged abstinence. The world decried his truthful words.

In response, as a piece of what is now considered “protest art,” Milwaukee artist Niki Johnson made a “portrait” of Benedict. It is made of over 17,000 colored prophylactics and is a 4-foot by 6-foot spectacle. “His words required an intervention of some kind,” Johnson told the *Daily News*. (NYDailyNews.com, 3/22/13)

The “art” is now owned by the Milwaukee Art Museum, and, according to Observer.com, “was donated to the museum from philanthropist and gay rights advocate Joseph Pabst, who originally bought the painting for \$25,000.” The museum announced it would display the piece in late fall of 2015 in its permanent collection.

America Needs Fatima sent out a protest email blast to its e-file and so far 26,512 petitions were registered to the Milwaukee Art Museum. America Needs Fatima also promoted a protest of reparation outside the Milwaukee Museum on August 9th (see page 15). ■

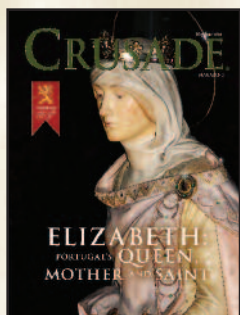


Our Readers Write...

Crusade Magazine

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the May/June 2015 issue of *Crusade Magazine*. Every article was outstanding! I had never known about Saint Elizabeth of Portugal and was so inspired as a wife and mother by reading her story. I am a part of a newly formed support group for Catholic mothers, and we chose the name Daughters of Saint Elizabeth of Portugal for our group as a result of your article. My children and I also really enjoyed the story about Grigio, Saint John Bosco's dog. Keep up the great work—your magazine is so encouraging and uplifting to read.

H. S., St. Louis, Mo.



and living a holier life.

I also want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to offer my petitions to Saint Thérèse in France. May Our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless you ever more with good Catholics to work with. And may He bless all your missions and goals in life, especially in that of making America Needs Fatima increasingly known so even unbelievers may come to follow.

Thank you very, very much, and God bless you and your dear family.

S. C., West Covina, Calif.

Thank you so much for your beautiful ministry! I love this awesome picture of the Sacred Heart. I treasure every gift you send that helps to deepen my faith and love for Jesus and Our Lady!

G. D., Cherry Hill, N.J.

I received the lovely Rosary and wish I had hundreds of dollars to donate to your worthy cause. As I opened your Rosary mailing and read the story inside, a beautiful calm came over me! On my modest income, I will give as I can, and feel very privileged to be a part of

Fatima's work. Each small doing and giving adds more to the whole. I do feel Mary's Immaculate Heart will reign as I see many lives change as hope comes to their sad eyes when they learn of Fatima and of the blessed works being done. I pray my parish will soon grow to become involved in Fatima works! Other Catholics that I invite to come home to church are responding with greater faith and hope, especially as they learn of the works of Fatima. So many do not know of the miraculous happening. I look forward to your letters. I'm learning and growing so much through them. I cherish each and every one of the letters.

C. L., Zephyrhills, Fla.

Mary in Every Home

I am writing to you to let you know how I received the picture of Our Lady. The lady you originally mailed it to is a very dear friend of ours; she gave us the picture and your letter. She belongs to our church here. I can't tell you how much the picture meant to me. Just seeing Our Lady's picture made me feel that I can talk to her and that I am not alone. Thank you. God bless.

P. F., San Antonio, Texas

America Needs Fatima

First of all, I want to thank you for your courage, sincerity and determination in guiding us and leading us to do the right thing for Our Lord Jesus Christ and in helping us in making our world a better place to live spiritually, through prayer

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

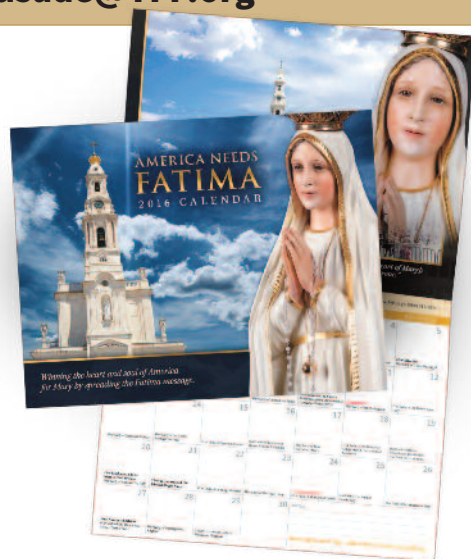
2016 Fatima Calendar

This year, America Needs Fatima mailed more than a half million of its well-known Fatima calendars, a most effective way of spreading the devotion and message of Our Lady of Fatima. For years, the calendar has always been a favorite among Fatima supporters. Superimposing scenery from the Fatima shrine with an image of Our Lady uplifts all who view the different scenes.

In addition to the beautiful photos, the

calendar contains all the major holidays, Holy Days of the Church, as well as the feast days of Our Lady. The calendar also includes inspiring quotes and prayers from the Fatima apparitions. They lead one to the inescapable conclusion that, as Saint Louis de Montfort said, Mary is the surest, safest and quickest way to reach Our Lord Jesus Christ. ■

To order the 2016 Fatima Calendar, call (888) 317-5571.





“Free Kim Davis Rally” Draws 1,000 Supporters

BY EVAN OLWELL

On September 5th, members of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) joined nearly 1,000 protesters at the “Free Kim Davis Rally” outside the Carter County Detention Center in Grayson, Kentucky.

The huge throng of local supporters dashed any

eral local officials addressed the crowd, including the mayor and sheriff of Grayson. Joe Davis spoke on behalf of his wife, saying, “She won’t bow, I promise you that. She wanted me to tell you, ‘All is well, tell them to hold their heads high, because I am!’”

Targeting the allegations against Mrs. Davis for breaking a nonexistent law, Michael Peroutka, a Maryland attorney, reminded the crowd that “The power to make laws resides in Congress, not in the Supreme Court! So we can say to these people, show me the ‘law’ or free Kim Davis!”

Randy Smith, a local pastor from Grayson, addressed the crowd, “How many of you are thankful that there’s someone who has a backbone to stand up against wickedness?” To shouts of agreement he continued, “It’s time to stop being politically correct and fearing backlash.”

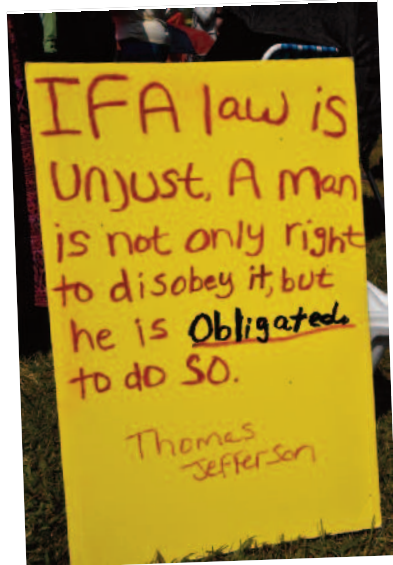
Although mainly representing the liberal side of the story, the media present could not ignore the huge grassroots reaction of ordinary Americans over the tyrannical imposition of same-sex “marriage” upon the country. This reaction was witnessed loud and clear on the streets of Grayson in the overwhelmingly favorable response to the TFP’s handout, “Ten Reasons Why Homosexual ‘Marriage’ Is Harmful and Must Be Opposed.” Distributed to the participants, it was received with gratitude and exclamations of, “This is exactly what’s happening!”

Despite the liberal acclamations of “love wins,” love is certainly not the sentiment of some of those opposing Kim Davis. Husband Joe Davis claims he and his wife received threats of death, physical assault and destruction of property. Hundreds of personal and online attacks have come from the same public who shout for “tolerance” and “acceptance.”

The large, decisive reaction to the jailing of Kim Davis shows that a spark has been struck in Grayson, Kentucky and it may soon be blown into a flame. ■



When Kim Davis was arrested, more than a dozen TFP Student Action volunteers rushed to the scene to show their support.



Homemade signs like the above could be seen in the hands of the Americans gathered to protest the unjust jailing of Kim Davis.

hopes of making Mrs. Davis’ case an “example” to discourage further resistance to same-sex “marriage.” The crowd’s attitude was peaceful, but resolute. Signs in support of the jailed county clerk waved above their heads, while participants voiced indignation at the unjust court order of Judge David Bunning with cries of, “Show me the law or free Kim Davis!”

Members of the TFP’s Holy Choir of Angels bagpipe and drum corps encouraged the crowd with patriotic songs, such as “God Bless America,” and “You’re a Grand Old Flag.” Sev-



Protesters were quick to point out the injustice of jailing Kim Davis. The crowd of over 1,000 gathered that afternoon had no illusions about the growing Christian persecution in America.

Catholics Worldwide ask Pope Francis to Dispel Moral Confusion at Synod

During Pope Francis' visit to Philadelphia, September 26-27, more than sixty volunteers from the American TFP and America Needs Fatima traveled to the metropolis to engage in a last-minute effort to collect signatures. Since January, a coalition of sixty-two pro-family organizations has been promoting a worldwide

petition called the "Filial Appeal to His Holiness Pope Francis on the Future of the Family," asking Pope Francis to reaffirm traditional Church teaching on marriage and family at the October 4-25 Ordinary Synod on the Family being held in Rome.

The American TFP's weekend street campaign garnered 13,204 more signatures, for a total of 203,641 signatures collected by the American TFP during this nine-month effort. On September 29, coalition representatives delivered 790,150 signatures at the Vatican. Signatures came from 178 countries and included 193 Cardinals, Archbishops and bishops.



September 29, 2015: 790,150 signatures from 178 countries delivered at the Vatican.



Petition signers frequently exclaimed: "Thank you for doing this!" and "Yes, we must defend the family!"

Rosary Rally for Lafayette Victims

BY THOMAS DRAKE

TFP-Louisiana and America Needs Fatima held its usual end-of-the-month Public Square Rosary in Lafayette. Gathering peacefully each month for nearly six years to pray for the families of Acadiana, for Louisiana and for the nation, this month's public rosary was especially poignant because of the horrific shootings at the Grand Cinema just a few days before. Remembering especially the victims and their families in the Rosary, our signs invited the public to do the same.

From the many expressions of friendly acknowledgment—sympathetic honks, "thumbs up," waving, signs of the cross—from those driving by, it was



clear the message was understood. There is already a long-established friendly familiarity between the Saturday drivers and those participating in the Public Square Rosary each month. It has become a regular feature of the life of the city of Lafayette.

We definitely need to pray the Rosary and to sanctify our lives. As the sense of

right and wrong erodes, our nation is witnessing a frightening spiral of random killings and cruelties just about anywhere.

God chose Mary Most Holy to overcome the devil, inspirer of all wickedness and evil (Genesis 3:15 and Revelation 12:17). So we must appeal to her to send God's holy angels.



TFP IN ACTION

Youth Was Not Made for Pleasure, BUT FOR HEROISM

BY DAMIEN MURPHY

Immorality, Satanism, same-sex “marriage,” and abortion are rampant in society today. The world is gorged with the husks of the devil and people are looking for a solution. This might be the reason why there was such an enthusiastic response to the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property’s (TFP) Call to Chivalry summer camp in Wisconsin. Twenty-two boys and five dads participated in a four-day summer camp between the 12th and 15th of August. Their days were packed with meetings, games and tournaments.

High Ideals, Real Challenges

Instead of foul talk, the air was filled with battle cries such as “Youth was not made for pleasure...but for heroism!” and “Advance, Always!” “Retreat, Never!”

And rather than overcoming phony challenges in a video game, boys overcame authentic challenges in the treasure hunt and in the obstacle course. Spurred on by the promise of candy, the boys used teamwork to overcome each clue until they finally uncovered the treasure chest. The obstacle course was a test in endurance and perseverance. All the boys succeeded in finishing the entire obstacle course, though a few thought they would never be able to do so.

One aspect which was unique for the Wisconsin camp was the fencing or sword fighting.



Call to Chivalry participants carry the statue of Our Lady of Fatima during an evening Rosary Procession.

Although the camp participants received only a few hours of fencing instruction, there were many lively fencing competitions, culminating in a final contest between the two best fencers.

Daily Meetings...

There were several meetings on topics ranging from Charlemagne and the French Revolution to current campaigns of the TFP. With such meetings giving food for thought, the dinner table was a place for lively conversation. In addition to the regular meetings for the boys, there were also meetings for the fathers.

...And Daily Rosaries

Housed in a beautiful chapel adjacent to the dormitories was the Blessed Sacrament. Every day, the whole summer camp would say the Rosary in front of the Blessed Sacrament to start off another packed day.

The summer camp ended with a solemn rosary procession from the statue of Our Lady of Graces to the Banquet Hall where a barbecue awaited the boys. As a way to remember the camp, participants received a souvenir as a reminder to hold fast and promote the principles of chivalry in a hostile world. Though the world may be rotten, the eager response to the Wisconsin Call to Chivalry Camp is evidence that Our Lady is sending graces to America. May Our Lady strengthen her sons who fight to make her reign in our hearts a reality. ■



Lively games provided excellent challenges for the young men.



The towering castle cake brought out at the conclusion of the Medieval Banquet looked too good to eat. Well... almost.



Wisconsin Call to Chivalry Camp promoters and participants after Holy Mass on the Feast of the Assumption, August 15.



Raising High the Standards of Truth

Traditional Marriage Caravan in the South

BY JOHN RITCHIE AND EVAN OLWELL



Traveling from state to state defending the sacred institution of marriage is an unusual way to spend the summer. Even more unusual is the sight of dozens of young Catholic volunteers campaigning for true marriage in the public square. But after the U.S. Supreme Court's immoral decision to legalize same-sex "marriage," more volunteers than ever have signed up to join the Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) tour for authentic marriage—the sacred union between one man and one woman—in the states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

The two-week tour kicked off on July 22nd in Montgomery in front of the Alabama State Capitol. As soon as the banner and signs went up under the hot sun at a busy intersection, cars began honking loudly in response to the sign: "Honk for traditional marriage—1 man + 1 woman." From setup to takedown, the support was emphatic, constant, upbeat and vocal.

The enthusiastic attitude was commonplace in the public's response to the campaign throughout the weeks and in every city.

This reaction illustrates how Americans are not happy with the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous decision to redefine the meaning of marriage. Even in unlikely places such as Austin, Texas, the tour received support.

In Beaumont, Texas, a local journalist showed up and watched the TFP campaign for about thirty minutes. After hearing all the honks of approval, she asked: "Do you ever get any negative responses?"

A Cause to Hope

Since the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, the American public has been opposing abortion. Every year, hundreds of thousands march for life all over the nation. Now, we are witnessing a similar attitude towards *Obergefell v. Hodges* on the streets of the United States. People from all walks of life are indignant over the Supreme Court's disdain for natural marriage and, therefore, are ready to defend the truth.

"Thank you! I wish I could join you and do what you're doing," said one young man from his car window at an intersection in Alabama.



Stopping to show their support, motorists were thrilled to see young men boldly defending the truth about marriage.

Others expressed similar sentiments of gratitude and warm approval.

“Everyone needs to start doing what you’re doing!” exclaimed a married couple in Tyler, Texas, who had parked their car to meet with the young men.

In Lafayette, Louisiana, a lady approached the group to offer encouragement. “I lived in Canada and I saw firsthand what the legalization of abortion did to the family. Now, when the Supreme Court handed down this decision [to legalize same-sex ‘marriage’], I was torn apart. And I decided we need to fight this.” She asked for two copies of the TFP flier, *10 Reasons Why Homosexual ‘Marriage’ is Harmful and Must be Opposed*.

When the campaign moved in front of the Texas State Capitol, a young man from Mexico approached the demonstration and gratefully said, “This is good because you are showing them that we have a voice too.”

Petitioning Pope Francis at the Alamo

During the course of the tour, the young volunteers gathered signatures in front of the Alamo for the worldwide petition: *Filial Appeal to Pope Francis on the Future of the Family*.

The historic building is the most visited place in Texas and a perfect location to hold a TFP campaign for marriage.

On every sidewalk near the Alamo, TFP volunteers engaged in conversation about the need to defend true marriage and moral values. “We were just married yesterday!” said one young couple joyfully. “Of course we’ll sign. Actually, this will be the first time we sign something as a married couple!”

Hundreds of Catholics and non-Catholics in front of the Alamo agreed that the homosexual movement is not only destroying the family, but the moral fabric of society. That’s why they didn’t

need to be convinced to sign the petition to Pope Francis, which prayerfully asks the Holy Father to reaffirm 2,000 years of Church teaching on marriage and family.

As we finished our final prayer in front of the Alamo, another young couple applauded with enthusiasm. “When I heard you praying the Hail Mary, I got goose bumps,” said the husband. “If I had known you were here, I would have joined you in prayer. I’m preparing to make my consecration to Mary.”

“Mary, Take Over”

Despite temperatures over 100 degrees, the discomforts of the road, and the insults and assaults of anti-family supporters, those who participated in the tour for marriage persevered, echoing in spirit the words of Our Lord, “Have confidence, I have overcome the world.”

During the two weeks of the campaign, the caravan was graciously provided food and lodging by many friends and supporters of America Needs Fatima. The motto of the caravan was inaugurated at the home of a family in Texas, when the conversation turned to the intercession of Our Blessed Mother. “Mary, Take Over” became the constant invocation of the group while on the streets.

May she act quickly in this current situation and bring an end to the many sins, blasphemies and sacrileges, which gravely offend Our Lord. As she promised, “Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” ■

To learn more about TFP Student Action, go to www.TFPStudentAction.org.



The caravan for traditional marriage met with enthusiastic support everywhere.



Above and right: At the Alamo in San Antonio, locals and tourists alike eagerly signed the Filial Appeal to Pope Francis.





Christmas 2015

While true Catholic families will celebrate Christmas this year of Our Lord, 2015, placing Christ at the center of their hearts and homes, we cannot turn a blind eye on the painful and sorrowful state of our ever growing, secularized nation and world. The moral decadence and abandonment of the Christian Way has reached shocking, barbaric levels in brutal contradiction to natural and divine law.

The following poem is taken from a very old inscription in the Cathedral of Lubeck, Germany.

You call Me Master and obey Me not,
You call Me Light and see Me not,
You call Me Way and walk Me not,
You call Me Life and desire Me not,
You call Me wise and follow Me not,
You call Me fair and love Me not,
You call Me rich and ask Me not,
You call Me eternal and seek Me not,
You call Me gracious and trust Me not,
You call Me noble and serve Me not,
You call Me mighty and honor Me not,
You call Me just and fear Me not,
If I condemn you, blame Me not. ■