

September/October 2016

CRUSADE[®]

MAGAZINE



Terrible as an Army in Battle Array

The Siege of Czestochowa

A Message More Urgent than Ever

Fatima is the key to navigating our challenging times, and in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, “without doubt, the most prophetic of all modern apparitions.”

Our book, *Fatima: A Message More Urgent than Ever*, is a one-of-a-kind. It provides a powerful account of the events with a deep analysis of their importance but not without first helping the reader immerse himself into the Portuguese culture and village life where the three shepherds to whom Our Lady appeared lived.

Basing most of his book on *The Memoirs of Sister Lucia dos Santos*, author Luis S. Solimeo offers the reader an insightful, detailed account of their story, Our Lady’s message, and its continual relevance for our times.

The book is richly illustrated in full color.

Retail: \$8.95 . . . Item # B58



Call (888) 317-5571
today and get 40% off!
(mention code FNL143)

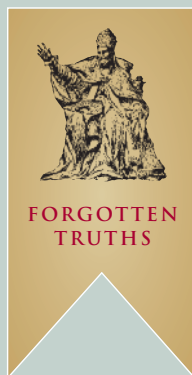
The Little Number of Those Who are Saved

EXCERPT FROM A SERMON BY ST. LEONARD OF PORT MAURICE

It is not vain curiosity but salutary precaution to proclaim from the height of the pulpit certain truths which serve wonderfully to contain the indolence of libertines. They are always talking about the mercy of God and about how easy it is to convert. They live plunged in all sorts of sins and are soundly sleeping on the road to hell. To disillusion them and waken them from their torpor, today let us examine this great question: Is the number of Christians who are saved greater than the number of Christians who are damned?

First let us consult the theologians recognized as examining things most carefully and as not exaggerating in their teaching; let us listen to two learned cardinals, Cajetan and Bellarmine. They teach that the greater number of Christian adults are damned, and if I had the time to point out the reasons upon which they base themselves, you would be convinced of it yourselves. But I will limit myself here to quoting Suarez. After consulting all the theologians and making a diligent study of the matter, he wrote, “Among Christians, there are more damned souls than predestined souls.”

You will hear Saint Gregory saying clearly, “Many attain to faith, but few to the heavenly kingdom.” Saint Anselm declares, “There are few who are saved.” Saint Augustine states even more clearly, “Therefore, few are saved in comparison to

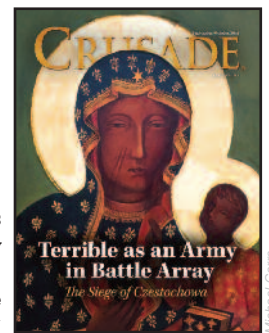


those who are damned.” The most terrifying, however, is Saint Jerome. At the end of his life, in the presence of his disciples, he spoke these dreadful words: “Out of one hundred thousand people whose lives have always been bad, you will find barely one who is worthy of indulgence.”

Look in to the Old and New Testaments, and you will find a multitude of figures, symbols and words that clearly point out this truth: very few are saved. In the time of Noah, the entire human race was submerged by the Deluge, and only eight people were saved in the Ark. Saint Peter says, “This ark was the figure of the Church,” while Saint Augustine adds, “And these eight people who were saved signify that very few Christians are saved, because there are very few who sincerely renounce the world, and those who renounce it only in words do not belong to the mystery represented by that ark.” The Bible also tells us that only two Hebrews out of two million entered the Promised Land after going out of Egypt, and that only four escaped the fire of Sodom and the other burning cities that perished with it. All of this means that the number of the damned who will be cast into fire like straw is far greater than that of the saved, whom the heavenly Father will one day gather into His barns like precious wheat. ■

CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016



Cover:

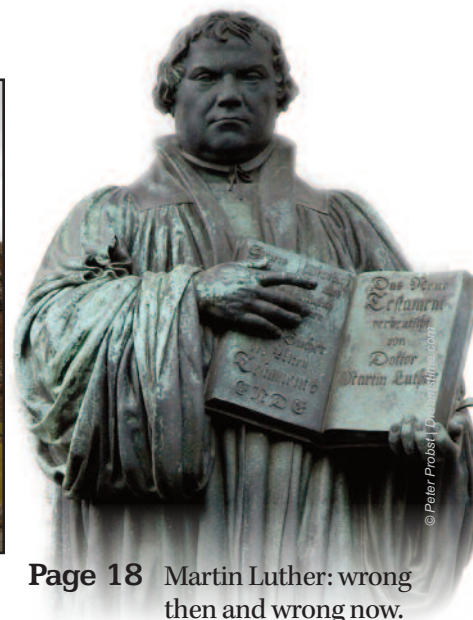
The miraculous image of Our Lady of Czestochowa, known as the "Black Madonna."

IN BRIEF	4
CHRIST IN THE HOME	
Instilling Good Habits in Children	5
RETURN TO ORDER	
What the Bathroom Wars Are Really All About	6
COMMENTARY	
Satan's Ultimate Goal: The Destruction of the Catholic Church	8
COVER STORY	
Terrible as an Army in Battle Array: The Siege of Czestochowa	9
ANF PROGRESS REPORT	
♦ National Rosary for Marriage a Great Success	15
♦ Stopped! Satanic Prayer at Scottsdale City Council	16
♦ Our Readers Write	17
COMMENTARY	
Pope Francis' Symbolic Gesture Commemorating Heretic Luther	18
TFP IN ACTION	
Call to Chivalry 2016	23
BACK COVER	
Dear Officers	24



Courtesy of Felipe Barandarian

Page 8 The devil's plan to "leave the Church in ruins"



© Peter Prebst / iStockphoto.com

Page 18 Martin Luther: wrong then and wrong now.



Courtesy of Michael Gorre

Page 23 Answering the Call to Chivalry

Crusade Magazine is a publication of The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP). Direct all requests and inquiries to: *Crusade Magazine*, P.O. Box 341, Hanover, PA 17331 or e-mail to: crusade@TFP.org. Web: www.TFP.org, Tel.: (888) 317-5571, Fax: (570) 450-6352. © 2016 by The Foundation for a Christian Civilization, Inc. This publication may include images from iStockphoto™ which are protected by copyright laws of the U.S. and elsewhere. ISSN 1096-3782 LCCN 98-641433 M-143

CRUSADE

Editor: C. Preston Noell III

Associate Editors: John Horvat II, Michael Drake, Norman Fulkerson, Kenneth Murphy, Vincent Gorre

Photography: Gary Isbell, Michael Gorre

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

THE AMERICAN TFP

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

Little Sisters of the Poor Win Big in Supreme Court Decision

The U.S. Supreme Court decided unanimously that the Little Sisters of the Poor cannot be fined for not complying with the “contraceptive mandate” provision of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). Sister Loraine Marie Maguire, mother provincial of the order, stated after the decision: “All we have ever



wanted to do is to serve the neediest among us as if they were Christ Himself. We look forward to serving the elderly poor for another 175 years to come.” The decision paved the way for other similar organizations to be exempt from the HHS mandate.

French Priest Murdered by ISIS Soldiers While Saying Mass

The early morning Mass on Tuesday, July 26, 2016, at the Eglise Saint Etienne Church in Northern France, was offered in honor of the feast of Saints Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Before the Mass ended, two knife-wielding, ISIS-sworn Muslims stormed into the church and abruptly interrupted the peaceful Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Chanting *Allahu akbar* (“God is great”), the two forced Father Jacques Hamel to his knees, stabbed him in the chest and slit his throat killing the 86-year-old priest on the spot. The horrified Mass attendees—two nuns and three laypeople—were then held hostage with one stabbed and still clinging for her life before police arrived and shot the two Muslims dead after failing to surrender. This evil act in the midst of a Catholic Mass resonated throughout the world as not just about a Christian martyr meeting his heavenly reward, but as a reminder of the stark contrast between Islamic and Christian values; that indeed, a war is going on, and it is a religious war, contrary to what others may be saying; and that the civilized world is facing an enemy that defies basic human values and reasoning.

High School Students Reject Ban on Prayer at Graduation Ceremony

The graduating students of East Liverpool High School in East Liverpool, Ohio, decided that they were not going to break the school’s 70-year tradition

of praying the Lord’s Prayer during their graduation ceremony despite being ordered to do so by school authorities. Instead of singing the prayer, the class valedictorian took the stage and led the graduates in



© Stephen Coburn | Dreamstime.com

reciting the Lord’s Prayer. The school decided to stop the practice in response to a challenge made by an organization advocating separation between church and state.

Satanic Temple “Prayer” at Council Meetings Banned by City in Arizona

City officials of Scottsdale, Arizona, officially informed the local chapter of the Satanic Temple that they will not be allowed to lead an invocation prayer at the start of any council meeting. City spokesman Kelly Corsette said that “only representatives from institutions that have a substantial connection to the Scottsdale community will be allowed to give the invocation.” This decision of the city council reverses their previous approval of the Satanists’ request. America Needs Fatima ran a successful online protest against this event, gathering 23,000 signatures opposing satanic influence in state government.



Push for Homosexual “Marriage” Results in Defeat for Mexico’s Ruling Party

Mexico’s dominant political party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), suffered a crushing defeat in the country’s recent elections. Polls indicate that Mexicans are dissatisfied with both President Enrique Peña Nieto’s presidency and his initiative to amend the constitution to create homosexual “marriage.” Despite the president’s massive propaganda campaign promoting homosexuality and transgenderism as normal and morally acceptable, the opposition led by the Catholic Church and the over a thousand-strong coalition called National Front for the Family resoundingly defeated the initiative and resulted in PRI’s loss of its majority in state governorships for the first time since 1929.

Instilling Good Habits in Children



TAKEN FROM THE SERMON "ADVICE TO PARENTS" BY SAINT ALPHONSUS DE LIGUORI



CHRIST IN
THE HOME

Let us consider the means of bringing up children in the practice of virtue. I beg you, fathers and mothers, to remember what I now say to you, for on it depends the eternal salvation of your own souls and of the souls of your children.

Saint Paul teaches sufficiently, in a few words, in what the proper education of children consists. He says that it consists in discipline and correction. "And you, fathers, provoke not your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and correction of the Lord." (Ephesians 5:4) Discipline, which is the same as the religious regulation of the morals of children, implies an obligation of educating them in habits of virtue by word and example. First, by words: A good father should often assemble his children and instill into them the holy fear of God.

The wise man says that a well-educated son is the support and consolation of his father. "Instruct your son, and he will refresh you, and will give delight to your soul." (Proverbs 29:17) But as a well-instructed son is the delight of his father's soul, so an ignorant child is a source of sorrow to a father's heart, for the ignorance of his obligations as a Christian is always accompanied with a bad life.

In the first place, a parent ought to instruct his children in the truths of the Faith, and particularly in the four principle mysteries: First, that there is

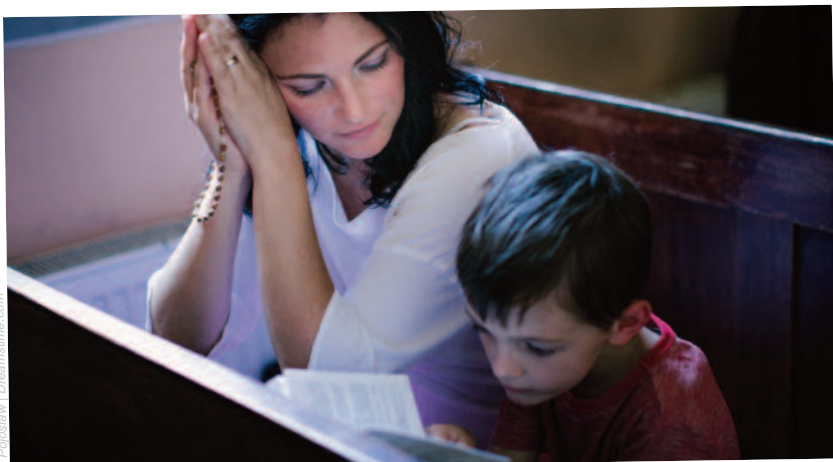
but One God, the Creator and Lord of all things; secondly, that this God is the Just Judge, Who, in the next life, will reward the good with the eternal glory of Paradise, and will punish the wicked with the everlasting torments of Hell; thirdly, the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, that is, that in God there are Three Persons, Who are only One God, because They have but One Essence; fourthly, the mystery of the Incarnation of the Divine Word, the Son of God, and True God, Who became Man in the womb of Mary, and suffered and died for our salvation.

Should a father or mother say, "I myself do not know these mysteries," can such an excuse be admitted? Can one sin excuse another? If you are ignorant of these mysteries, you are obliged to learn them, and afterwards to teach them to your children. At least send your children to a worthy catechist. What a miserable thing to see so many parents who are unable to instruct their children in the most necessary truths of the Faith. Instead of sending their sons and daughters to Christian doctrine, they employ them in occupations of little account. When the children are grown up, they do not know what is meant by mortal sin, by Hell, or eternity. They do not even know the Creed, the "Our Father," or the "Hail Mary," which every Christian is bound to learn under pain of mortal sin.

Religious parents not only instruct their children in these things, which are the most important, but they also teach them the acts that ought to be made every morning after rising. They teach them first to thank God for having preserved their life during the night; secondly to offer to God all their good actions which they will perform, and all the pains they will suffer during the day; thirdly, to implore of Jesus Christ and Our Most Holy Mother Mary to preserve them from all sin during the day. They teach them to make, every evening, an examination of conscience and an act of contrition. They also teach them to make every day the acts of Faith, Hope and Charity, to recite the Rosary, and to visit the Blessed Sacrament.

Endeavor to train them from their infancy to these religious habits, and when they grow up, they will persevere in them. ■

Parents please God when teaching habits of devotion to their children.



© Wojciech | Dreamstime.com

What the Bathroom Wars Are Really All About

BY JOHN HORVAT II

The so-called bathroom wars have nothing to do with bathrooms, but are all about war. The push to allow a person to use the bathroom of his or her choice is merely the latest phase of the sexual revolution. It is part of a relentless war to bring about an irrational equality that now seeks to break down the final public barriers that make the sexes different.

Let's face it. Once it is held that anyone can use the bathroom that he or she feels comfortable with, the words "men" and "women" on the door are meaningless since anyone can enter. According to the strange logic of the bathroom warriors, either you build equal bathrooms for every "gender" that appears on the scene—and there are some 60 of them out there—or you integrate them all into one (or two) bathroom that everyone can use indiscriminately. Obviously, the latter is the only economically viable solution.

Thus, this is more than just making people feel comfortable; it is the beginning of the end of sex-



segregated bathrooms, locker rooms or other private places. It is a true culture shift that turns one's biological sex from a social and public reality to a mere private opinion, whim or fantasy.

The so-called bathroom wars are not only about sexual predators, as many maintain. There will definitely be those who use the new bathroom rules to open doors to prey upon their victims. However, it is all about taking away the vestiges of modesty, decency and the sense of shame that remain in society.

This strong layer of protection for both men and women in their most private moments is removed.

The virtue of modesty is part of a moral framework that serves as a reasonable restraint on the less violent human passions. Modesty governs exterior actions so that they might conform to the demands of decency, propriety and decorousness that come from human nature and social mores. Attire, manner of speech, the relationships between the sexes all enter into this framework to

When natural decency and modesty are not respected, the dignity of human nature is easily degraded to brutish levels.

Making new accommodations for each person's delusions leads to confusion and chaos.



© Elliot Burlingame and © Maximmm | Dreamstime.com



It is a true culture shift that turns one's biological sex from a social and public reality to a mere private opinion, whim or fantasy.

keep society balanced and virtuous. When natural decency and modesty are not respected, the dignity of human nature is easily degraded to brutish levels.

Thus, it is no surprise in today's hyper-sexualized and violent world that there would be those who call for throwing off all restraints and taboos. They would target modesty since it is that natural and delicate sense of restraint to all acts that give rise to shame. All that safeguards a much-needed chastity must be destroyed.

Thus, contrary to the propaganda, this is not about forcing people to be uncomfortable. There never has been, nor will there be, police checking identities or self-identities at every bathroom door. This is all about honoring and preserving those time-tested rules that enable society to function and that help individuals maintain their personal dignity.

Finally, the so-called bathroom wars have nothing to do with reality. They have everything to do with empowering the fantasies of those who wish to escape the restraints of identity and reason.

This new activism involves the empowering of fantasy, which by definition is the power or process of creating unrealistic or improbable mental images in response to psychological whims. In times past, those with fantasies were called down to the

reality found in society and nature. Today, society as a whole is being asked to pander to and be complicit with the unnatural fantasies of a few.

Yes, the so-called bathroom war is not about bathrooms and all about war. It is a new phase of the Culture War. Those who thought the war was over with their surrender to same-sex "marriage" will come to see that it is only the beginning.

This new phase is an extension and radicalization of what came before. The difference is that the old phase destroyed external structures—tradition, custom, or community—that hindered self-fulfillment and pleasure. The new phase seeks to destroy those internal structures—reason, identity, and the sense of being—that impede the "right" to instant gratification.

The old phase of the Culture War still worked inside the social structures that it destroyed and thus offered more opportunities for people to resist. The new phase assaults the very core of being and identity. It is more tyrannical and allows for little opposition. Anyone who disagrees is immediately and furiously attacked—individuals, businesses and even whole states. If there is to be a return to order, then society must recognize this new development for what it is. This is no frivolous bathroom war but a Culture War so total that it extends even to the use of the bathroom. ■

As seen on crisismagazine.com

Above: Celebrating what is authentically feminine brings fulfillment, dignity and social graces. Left: Forcing gender ideology on society brings perversion, indecency and moral corruption.



COMMENTARY

SATAN'S ULTIMATE GOAL: The Destruction of the Catholic Church

BY VINCENT GORRE

The rise in satanic activity of all sorts can be seen today, not only in America but worldwide. Even the mainstream media cannot ignore the upsurge of Satanism in our culture, entertainment, and politics and in public demonstrations of worship of the devil himself.

What is not reported, however, is that the real target of the satanic revolution is the destruction of the Catholic Church and the values and principles that it stands for. As one ex-Satanist revealed in an interview on www.themediareport.com, "Satanism is about indulgence, and destroying the Church and traditional morality."

Attacks against the Catholic Church nowadays come in many shapes and forms. With its teachings on marriage, contraception, sex, gender roles, priestly celibacy and other traditional moral values, the church naturally becomes the prime target of those who want to promote the evil one's dominance in the world. Consider a few examples below.

The sex-abuse scandals that the media covers often suggest that Catholic priests are the only ones guilty of child molestation. However, surveys and studies made by different credible organizations reveal that the problem is much worse in other denominations and other institutions, such as in the schools. The Oscar-award-winning movie "Spotlight" is one example of Hollywood's persistent anti-Catholic bias with its glorification of the investigative process of a Catholic priest's abuse story, which reportedly included

fabricated episodes.

Mockery of Catholic values has become a trending activity in Hollywood. An ABC-TV show called "The Real O'Neals" portrays a "perfect Catholic family" as extremists "coping with their anti-gay bigotry while they steal, lie, violently attack people and have sex out of wedlock." Other programs such as "Lucifer," "Law and Order: SVU" and "You, Me, and the Apocalypse" all had episodes that convey anti-Catholic messages.

Black masses are secretly held all over the country on a regular basis. A public black mass and an attack on the Blessed Virgin Mary have taken place and worse, they were sanctioned by local authorities. The black mass in Oklahoma City was held in a public building with a valid permit issued by city officials. The desecration of an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary was also given a permit and held in front of a Catholic Church on Christmas Eve. The Satanists are planning another public black mass on August 15th, the feast of the Assumption. Mere coincidence?

Ambiguous pronouncements from church authorities are taken advantage of and used to promote leftist agendas. The standards set by the Catholic Church come from the teachings of Our

Lord Jesus Christ Himself, its founder. They are continuously assaulted and degraded by His enemies. Therefore, any sign of easing up or of a potential deviation in the church's doctrines quickly becomes a welcome opportunity for those out to destroy her. Unfortunately, many of these initiatives have been triggered from within the church itself. Politicians and celebrities from all over the world can be seen rushing to the Vatican to gain media attention and thereby gain credibility and much-needed publicity to their revolutionary causes.

Because Catholic morality is the bedrock of a stable and just society, there is no doubt that Satan and his minions aim at nothing less than the destruction of the Catholic Church and what it stands for. Nevertheless, the hope of the future lies in those strong and faithful Catholics who are undeterred by even the most atrocious assault that Satanism and its allied movements may bring to bear. We have an arsenal of spiritual weapons—the holy rosary, the various sacramentals, the sacraments—at our disposal and are protected by our guardian angels and patron saints. Inspired by the guarantee of victory as promised by Our Lady of Fatima, we know how the battle will ultimately end.

But the most reassuring promise of all is the one that Christ Himself made to the very first head of the Roman Catholic Church, when He said, "And I say to thee: That thou art Peter; and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18) ■

Terrible as an Army in Battle Array

THE SIEGE OF CZESTOCHOWA

The account of the siege of Czestochowa which we present here is based on the Memoirs of the Siege of Czestochowa by Father Augustyn Kordecki and the reflections of Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira.

Introduction: Siege of Czestochowa

Poland stands in the middle of vast plains and rolling hills. With few natural barriers, armies have overrun the country many times through history. Strong fortifications became the norm for castles, important towns, and even monasteries.

During the religious wars of the 17th century, the Protestant and Catholic powers vied for dominance in Europe. In 1655, King Charles X Gustav of Sweden launched an invasion known as The Deluge. Protestant Swedish soldiers soon overran Catholic Poland, desecrating churches and plundering the countryside.

The monastery of Jasna Gora (Polish for Bright Mountain) stood like a bastion in the medieval city of Czestochowa, the last remaining holdout. This symbolic heart of Poland was home to the miraculous icon of the Black Madonna of Czestochowa. With only 70 religious, a handful of nobles and their servants, and 160 infantrymen, Father Augustyn Kordecki led a heroic resistance against overwhelming odds. In one of the greatest interventions of Our Lady in history, the Siege of Czestochowa shows the power of confidence in the Mother of God to change certain defeat into a stunning victory.

The Black Madonna of Our Lady of Czestochowa, said to have been painted by Saint Luke. Since 1382, the icon has resided at Jasna Gora Monastery in Poland. A looter once struck the image twice with a sword before falling down dead (see cover image). The wounds on Our Lady's face are still visible though artists have tried to paint over them. Centuries of soot from votive candles have caused the painting to turn black.

Tensions were high. The news was not good. The Protestant Swedish army had swept through Catholic Poland, virtually unchallenged. Now, after conquering Krakow in the far south, King Charles X. Gustav of Sweden ordered an army of 2,250+ men with 19 cannons, under the command of General Burchard Miller, to take the fortress—sanctuary of Czestochowa.

"We must not let them take her!" Father Augustyn Kordecki's clenched fist hit the thick slab of wood that served as a table with a thud. The men gathered around him and rose as one. They knew they

must protect her at all costs—The Black Madonna of Jasna Gora.

Friends and Foes Approach

Many of the Catholic nobility fleeing before the Swedish advance sought refuge in Jasna Gora. One of them, Count Stephan Zamoyski, counseled the religious not to give in to the enemy, and affirmed that those who sought refuge there were prepared to die in defense of the holy place.

Stanislaw Warszycki, noble lord of the Castle of Krakow and First Senator of the Crown, provided help by sending provisions and 12 cannons. Meanwhile, Count Jan Wejchard of Wrzeszczewicz, a noble of less noble ideals, in order to win the good graces of the advancing King, demanded that the monks hand over Jasna Gora to the Swedes. Father Kordecki, calling together the council of the monastery, communicated his decision to stand firm. The monks unanimously approved: "It is better to die worthily, than to live impiously."

Preparing for Battle

Far from relying on material resources alone, Father Kordecki encouraged all to place their hopes in the Blessed Virgin, "who in such an extreme





Father Augustyn Kordecki rallies the Catholic forces to the banner of Our Lady of Czestochowa against the invading Protestant Swedes.

necessity would not fail them with her help.” He asked them to be present at the Mass he would offer before the sacred Image of Our Lady of Czestochowa. He also ordered that the Blessed Sacrament be carried in procession along the walls and bastions. Father Kordecki personally blessed the cannons, cannonballs, bullets, and barrels of powder!

In November of 1655, the Swedish army reached the foot of the monastery. General Miller sent a written peace proposal to the monks, urging the surrender of Jasna Gora so as to avoid “unnecessary bloodshed.” The troops of General Miller were already in position for the siege, and his soldiers studying the positions of the cannons of the fortress. “It did not seem fitting to answer that letter in writing,” reported Father Kordecki. “It was no longer the time to write, but the time to take up arms... We answered by the muzzles of our cannons...” The answer was so convincing that General Miller was forced to beg for a truce. He sent another delegate to try to convince the Friars to surrender, warning them that the resistance of Jasna Gora was unreasonable in view of the fact that the entire country had already surrendered.

It was nighttime, and the following day being Sunday and a Feast of Our Lady, there were various ceremonies lined up; among them a procession with the Blessed Sacrament, inside the walls. Far be it from these devout men of God to allow a war to interrupt their traditional devotions to God and Mary Most Holy. In view of this, the Swedes had to wait until midday for their answer, which was, again, a resounding “No!”

The Battle of Jasna Gora Begins

Infuriated, the Protestant army concentrated a three-day attack on Jasna Gora, launching grenades and cannonballs, trying to set fire to the monastery. By night, they dug trenches leading toward the walls.

In the midst of the noise of the bombardment, a pious and sacral hymn was mysteriously heard, coming from the height of the tower of the sanctuary, and giving new energy to the defenders. From then on, it became customary to hear in the midst of the fight, hymns which emanated from the majestic tower.

A bomb, launched at the chapel where the miraculous picture of Our Lady of Czestochowa miraculously “turned back toward the enemy as if it had been touched by an invisible force, spreading a terrible fire through the air.”

Catholic “Commando” Raid

One of the five nobles who defended Jasna Gora, Sir Piotr Czarniecki, Commandant of Kiev, decided on a bold strike against the Swedes. Sallying forth at night with a detachment of soldiers, he managed to get into the rearguard of the enemy camps without being detected. Commander Czarniecki dispatched the commandant of artillery with various officers and soldiers. The skirmish was successful; after seizing two cannons he returned to the monastery within the walls.

This incident resulted in great confusion and panic among the Swedes, many of them coming out into the open. The cannon of Jasna Gora completed Czarniecki’s blow by eliminating more of the besiegers. Meanwhile, Czarniecki lost only one of his men in the expedition.

Convinced that it would not be easy for him to take the fortress, General Miller sent a message to Count Arvid Wittenberg, commander of the Swedish armies in Krakow, asking him to send a cannon powerful enough to break down the walls and additional infantry.

Psychological Warfare

Awaiting military aid, General Miller employed more deceptive tactics. A respectable Polish noble, unsuspected at first, was sent to the fortress. Attempting to persuade its defenders to surrender, he said, “I consider that it is a pretension beyond the bounds of reason for a monastery to wish to resist the Swedish power, when the whole country has buckled under... the continuation of the resistance can only stir up the violence of vengeanceAct as the others have done, for your own good. Moreover, the aim of a religious order is to abstain from temporal matters... Ponder it well, lest the

arms which you brandish instead of your Rosaries, carry you to perdition.”

General Miller knew that his messages were presented before all the monks and many of the civilian defenders as well. In this way, he played on public opinion against Father Kordecki.

The following day, Father Kordecki was informed that some members of the garrison were plotting to flee. Acting immediately, he expelled the chiefs of the revolt from the fortress, increased the salaries of the garrison, and obliged all to swear an oath that they would fight until the last drop of their blood.

A Hostage Situation

To gain time, two religious were sent to the Swedish camp, under the pretext of studying the proposals of General Miller. The Father Prior continuously tried to entertain the enemy with this exchanging of messages. Part of his strategy was to delay things so as to push the siege until winter became more intense, or reinforcements arrived.

General Miller received the two delegates with open arms, gave them six great fish as a sign of his “generosity,” and sent them back with his conditions for a treaty: “the monks must recognize the Swedish King and abjure King Jan Kazimierz.”

Father Kordecki sent him the following answer, with the two monks: “By no means can we deny the rights and protection of King Jan Kazimierz.... If some have abandoned our legitimate King, by no means may this proposal to us be an example, to us who are ready to seal with our blood our fidelity to our Lord.”

Angered, General Miller imprisoned the two religious. The general affirmed that he would have the hostages executed if the defenders of the monastery fired on his soldiers. The besieging army began to move their cannons to positions nearer the walls, always repeating the slogan “shoot and we will eliminate your monks.”

Father Prior did everything possible to rescue the hostages, accusing General Miller of violating the law of nations, the right of immunity of delegates, of showing himself a man without honor. The strategy had an impact on General Miller and he freed one of the hostages.

The Protestant General hoped the hostage would tell what he had seen in the enemy camp. This in fact took place and after relating what he had witnessed, the monk concluded by saying it was madness to continue resisting in the face of such a powerful enemy. Nevertheless, the monk also declared that he was prepared to give his life if his superiors decided otherwise. Thus, the first hostage returned to the Swedish camp, prepared

to sacrifice himself for the glory of God.

General Miller pondered the situation and decided to send the second hostage, only to get the same results. The second hostage was returned to him proclaiming his willingness to die for his God and his country. Both were to be executed the next day by hanging. They exclaimed to the shock of the Swedes: “Why may we not die today, if we must be immolated tomorrow for God, for the King and for our Fatherland?” On the following day, the execution was postponed indefinitely.

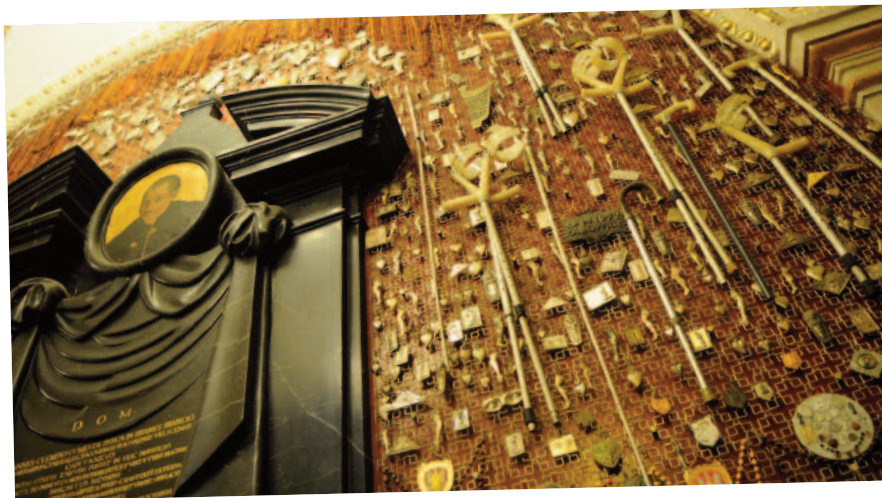
In spite of all this, General Miller sent yet another messenger demanding surrender. Father Kordecki answered him by asking: what guaranty could he have that the Swedes would fulfill the agreements they made, if they kept his delegates hostage? Disappointed in his hopes to take Jasna Gora by peaceful means, General Miller ordered the freeing of the two hostages.

Our Lady Sends Encouraging News

On the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, another Polish noble was sent to the fortress to press the monks to surrender. But to the great surprise of the monks of Jasna Gora, he encouraged them not to give up, saying that the invading armies had begun to suffer their first defeats, and that the violence of the Swedes—sacking of the nobles, murders of priests, profanations of churches, violations of women—were stirring up great reactions in the country.

The following day, one of the villagers, disguised as a Swedish soldier, reached the walls and informed its defenders that the besieging army was about to receive six heavy cannons from Krakow plus reinforcements of 200 infantrymen. On a more positive note, the monks learned that the Tartars, a Turkic people living in Asia and Europe, were joining the ranks of the Polish army, increasing the

Ex votos, testimonials left in thanksgiving for favors received, line the walls of Our Lady’s shrine at Czestochowa, Poland.





Courtesy of Michael Gorre

Interior view of the baroque basilica of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

chances of a Catholic victory. He also threw in a letter signed by the prior of the Paulist Convent in Krakow, which described the atrocities committed by the heretics and recommended Father Kordecki not be deceived by General Miller's promises.

A little later, a Tartar, permitted to come within the walls, after contemplating the sanctuary, surprised the monks with words of encouragement, urging them not to permit that "perjurers occupy the place consecrated to the Most Pure Virgin." With all these events, the Catholics recovered their confidence.

The Battle Rages On

With the peaceful strategy having failed, General Miller decided to launch a brutal attack upon the walls of Jasna Gora. The bombardment of the monastery took on a terrible fury and it was as if "hell itself was vomiting against the sacred icon." Undeterred, the monks carried out their customary ceremonies in honor of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Holy Eucharist was carried in a procession along the walls. Father Kordecki said that the cannonballs passed close to the heads of the defenders, but that only after the ceremonies did they respond to the attack.

About midday, the enemy ceased fire and sent a message asking the monks to accept the protection of the Swedish king. But the Prior was not in a hurry: he told them that he would send his answer the next day. Immediately, the Swedes renewed the heavy bombardment. The following day, the scene was repeated, and the monks responded once again: "such important matters must be pondered at length..."

By now, the winter was becoming more intense, so the Swedish soldiers lit bonfires at night. In this way they revealed their positions, becoming easy targets. They quickly learned that, between cold and death, it was better to be cold.

The Swedes were easily repelled, because their movements showed up against the snow. But a dense fog covered the mountain, making it possible for them to move their assault machinery closer, unperceived. To combat the fog, the Prior selected one of the religious to "cry out for help from the powers of God against the spells of the enemy." This tactic cleared the darkness from the air, and once again the Swedes were exposed.

The Enemy Within

Some of the nobles who had taken refuge began suggesting to the Prior that he reach an agreement with the enemy. The Swedes have dominated the whole country, they said, and will not be intimidated. We have no prospects of receiving reinforcements. So, why not accept an accord with the Swedes, while our situation is still good?

Father Kordecki answered: "...but the enemy will not concede all that we demand; we desire that the place consecrated to the Virgin Most Pure never be stained by the impious feet of the heretics. You, dear sirs, overcome by adversities, desire to reach an accord so that, relieving yourselves of the unhappiness of the siege and the discomforts of the war, you will then be able to enjoy an agreeable peace... do you think that, if we surrender, you will be free? The capitulation will become for you, then, a spring of misfortunes and defeats; but if, on the contrary, bearing the slight inconveniences, we

A bomb, launched at the chapel where the miraculous picture of Our Lady of Czestochowa was, miraculously "turned back toward the enemy as if it had been touched by an invisible force, spreading a terrible fire through the air."



Pilgrims from Poland and around the world come to Czestochowa to beg Our Lady's powerful help.

overcome the obstinacy of our enemies with the help of God, then we should surely win a certain stable peace."

A Gathering Darkness

The defenders of Jasna Gora saw on the horizon wagons loaded with gunpowder, and heavy guns coming from Krakow. Fear once again came to dominate the besieged. Many nobles tried to convince the monks to surrender. "Is it right for a religious, who has renounced the world and consecrated himself to the spiritual service of Christ, to take up the sword and shed blood?"

The older monks, however, were of exactly the opposite opinion, and they managed to make their counsels prevail. "If we once give in to the enemy, then there will be no more possibility of correcting our error...That most glorious Lady will extend her hand once again, so that we may understand that the Kingdom of Poland will recover its ancient grandeur only by the power and the protection of its Queen."

It was now Christmas Eve and the religious spent all night awake: some watching on the walls, others encouraging the garrison; but the majority stayed in the church praying.

A Christmas to Remember

More intense movement in the enemy camp and more campfires presaged something menacing for that Christmas Day. At midday, the massive attack commenced. "The cannons to the north thundered, and the balls struck with such force on the walls of the cloister, that, in many places they went right through them, flying and bouncing around amid the debris and dust scattering in the corridors and stairways, and causing such fear among its residents that no one had the courage to look out the window."

Father Kordecki reported that, at nightfall, finally, one of the heavy guns which was doing the most damage, burst, putting an end to the attack. A report from an eye witness related that the last shot from that cannon had bounced back from the wall hitting the cannon, destroying it and killing the gunner.

Never allowing the discomforts of war to interfere with their devotions, the monks continued the commemorations of the Nativity, with chants and ceremonies. In hearing hymns of praise, rather than cries of defeat, the Swedish troops thought that it was the celebration of some victory, and began to abandon their positions. The officers concluded in their turn, that the besieged forces must be very well provisioned in food and in munitions, to permit themselves such festivities. Thirty-eight days after the beginning of the siege, the heavy guns were retired from their positions; the next morning, the commanders withdrew.

"Terrible as an Army Set in Battle Array" (Cant. 6:10)

According to the direct testimony of the Protestant Swedes themselves, it is clear that Jasna Gora was defended miraculously. Lord Grodzicki, Commandant of artillery, revealed that General Miller had said that the only motive which led him to end the siege of Jasna Gora was the word and the menacing face of a noble lady, who appeared before him, leaving him perturbed. The report circulating among the Swedes was that General Miller lifted the siege because he was deceived by a maiden at the service of the monks. What was said among the people, however, was that the general was severely warned by a lady who appeared to him.

Invited to eat with some Swedish commanders, Father Blazej Wadowski heard such blasphemies



Above: Jasna Gora monastery today. This sanctuary-fortress still attracts multitudes who come to venerate the Black Madonna. **Right:** Mosaic depicting Our Lady of Czestochowa as Queen of Poland.



from the mouths of the Swedes as: “What witch is this that is to be found in your cloister of Czestochowa, who covered with a blue mantle sallies from the cloister and walks along the walls, resting from time to time on the bastions—and whose sight makes our people drop with terror?”

Father Kordecki himself writes, “The Swedes affirmed that some of them saw a Lady on the walls, pointing the cannons and furnishing with her own hands the necessary arms to the defenders who were in the trenches; This was also heard from the Swedes by Sir Aleksy Sztzalkowski, who told it to the monks, on his word of honor.”

Another reliable source of Our Lady’s intervention comes from letters of the Dominican nuns to the sisters who were in Jasna Gora. They contain the following facts: “Gen. Miller observed with great attention, here in the church, the picture of Our Lady of Czestochowa, and since his interpreter asked us to give him a small copy of the image, we gave it to him, and Miller took it from

his hands. Thus it became clear to us that General Miller wanted to find out if the vision he had at night was similar to the picture.” Upon viewing the image, General Miller said the following: “It is absolutely not comparable to that virgin who appeared to me; for it is not possible to see anything comparable on earth. Something of the celestial and divine, which frightened me from the beginning, shone in her face.”

Queen Mother of Poland

Once the faithful forces had been gathered together, the King of Poland made his way to the Cathedral of Lwow, and there proclaimed Our Lady of Czestochowa Queen and Mother of Poland.

The act was carried out before the altar of the Most Holy Virgin with the following words:

“Great Mother of God and Most Holy Virgin! I, John Casmir II, by the grace of Thy Son, the King of Kings, and by Thy Grace, I, the King, casting myself on my knees at Thy Most Holy feet, take Thee today as my Patroness and Queen of my dominions... I cry humbly, from this pitiful and devastated state of my Kingdom, for Thy mercy and assistance against the enemies of the Holy Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church, and, grateful for the immense benefits conferred by Thee, I sense with the nation, a commanding desire to serve Thee zealously, and, in my name and in that of the administrators and of the people, I promise to Thee and to Thy Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord, I will spread Thy glory though all

the countries of our Kingdom....Grant, Oh most loving Queen and Lady, that I obtain the grace of Thy Son to do all that I propose, to which Thou Thyself has inspired me!”

The people wept with emotion on hearing the words of the King, realizing that, from then on, the Blessed Virgin would be recognized as Queen of Poland.

Our Fight Today

The Catholic Church today is embroiled in a battle; She is besieged on all sides in the cultural war. Sadly, there are even those within Her walls that, with saccharine voices, tell her to surrender. Let us take courage from the monks of Jasna Gora. Let us continue the fight and never cease our hymns of praise, knowing full well that Our Lady is right here amongst us. As she did in 1655, she will surely today put the enemy to flight, securing the fulfillment of her promise at Fatima: “Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!” ■



AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA[®]

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

PROGRESS REPORT

National Rosary for Marriage a Great Success

BY ROBERT RITCHIE

Public rosaries were prayed in 2,201 locations in reparation for the national sin of legalized same-sex “marriage.”

America Needs Fatima Rally Captains led the public recitation of the Rosary in 2,201 locations on June 25, 2016, one year after the apocalyptic legalization of the sin of homosexual “marriage” by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The basic message expressed in the rallies was upbeat and simple: “God save natural marriage.” Without natural marriage, human life is impossible. And homosexual “marriage” is a grave sin that mocks God’s plan for life and opens the floodgates to other even worse sins.

Rally Captains held clear, colorful signs that said: “HONK for God’s marriage,” and “HONK for traditional marriage,” which sparked waves of beeps from passing car traffic. Captains also displayed a beautiful banner with a bright, large image of the Holy Family and the slogan: “God’s Marriage = 1 Man + 1 Woman.”

By praying the Rosary for Marriage in so many cities across America, Rally Captains prayerfully moved God and the Blessed Mother to intervene and save true, natural marriage from the escalating attacks of the homosexual movement.

Rally Captains are now gearing up for the annual Public Square Rosary Crusade planned for October 15 in 15,000 places of high visibility—large intersections of car traffic, major roads and near malls and superstores.



In public spaces throughout the country, Catholics gathered to defend traditional marriage and pray for America.

The encouraging hope and truth is this: we will win the historic spiritual battle because we believe in the accomplishment of the Virgin Mary’s promise at Fatima:

“Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!”

Her triumph is coming. Until then, when Rally Captains stand on the street corners, praying and defending God’s marriage, they represent the hope, the voice and the certainty in her triumph to the world. ■

**To become a Rally Captain on October 15, 2016,
call (866)684-6012 for immediate enrollment.**





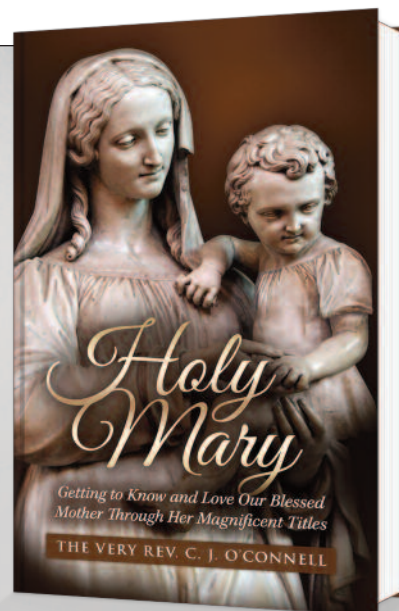
Holy Mary

"All Generations Shall Call Me Blessed"

House of Gold. Morning Star. Queen of Angels. The titles of Our Lady are beautifully explained by Fr. C. J. O'Connell. *Holy Mary—Getting to Know and Love Our Blessed Mother Through Her Magnificent Titles* gives profound insights into each invocation. Each short chapter addresses Our Lady's sublime status using Scripture, tradition, and the testimonies of the saints. Now back in print, this new edition is illustrated with sacred art from around the world. *Holy Mary* provides a great opportunity to know Mary better, to love her more, and to make her known. Makes a great gift! ■

Item# B81. . . . \$8.95
Softcover, fully illustrated

Call (888) 317-5571 to order.



STOPPED!

Satanic Prayer at Scottsdale City Council

BY JACK BURNHAM

Americans have a good dose of practicality in their national psyche. Unfortunately, because of this, many good souls are tempted to not join ANF petitions to governments, businesses, play houses, book publishers, TV programs and other entities; fearing what they believe is the impracticality of effecting any "real" change.

At America Needs Fatima, we choose to protest a particular blasphemy because God's order must be defended by His faithful children, regardless of the "practical" outcome.

In this vein, with the intransigence of Saint Michael the Archangel—and a battle cry of "GOD ALWAYS! SATAN NEVER!"—America Needs Fatima members participated in the action of Our Lady's heel crushing the head of Satan in Scottsdale, AZ.

Barred from offering a satanic invocation at the city council meeting in Phoenix earlier this year, the Satanic Temple tried to do so in nearby Scottsdale, Arizona. A February 9 report published by azcentral.com stated that Scottsdale Mayor Jim Lane thought "the time spent on the issue in Phoenix was an 'unfortunate

situation' and 'we hope to avoid that.'"

However, America Needs Fatima believes that allowing satanic invocations in America is just one more manifestation of "the errors of Russia" (satanic communism) being spread throughout the world.

Therefore, on March 14, 2016, ANF joined the fray and launched our *Stop the Satanic "Prayer"* protest. Nine days later, on March 23, azcentral.com reported that "Thousands of emails have filled Scottsdale officials' inboxes over the prayer issue, and religious groups are organizing in protest. A Pennsylvania-based group called America Needs Fatima claims to have gathered nearly 23,000 online signatures in opposition to the Satanic Temple invocation, according to its website."

Then, on May 24, *The Arizona Republic* reported "The city of Scottsdale, Ariz., will bar the Satanic Temple from leading a scheduled prayer at a City Council meeting in July, city officials an-

nounced Monday."

We thank our friends for joining us and sharing this petition. "GOD ALWAYS! SATAN NEVER!" ■



Americans must never be afraid to take a public stand to defend God's honor.



Our Readers Write...

The Book of Confidence

Thank you for sending me *The Book of Confidence*. This book has enriched my love of Jesus and all my prayers to help me to build my trust and confidence in Him!

R. B., Natick, Mass.

at this particular time. A sign of hope! Thank you.

E. O., Dracut, Mass.

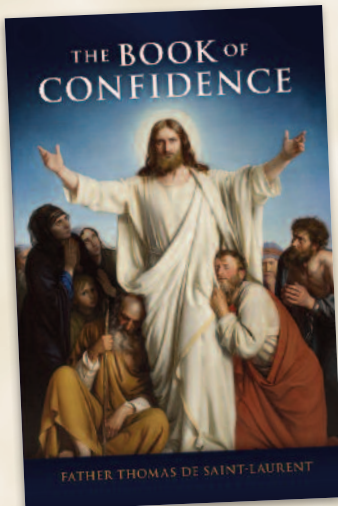
Thank you, thank you so much for our calendar. I cried when I opened it. You see, our son died in a drowning accident two years ago and he had always helped us financially. So last year I just couldn't afford a holy calendar and I did so miss having one with the holydays, etc. But this year, your calendar arrived. We will treasure it. God bless you.

B. M., Lewiston, Me.

I have been preparing for a consecration to Jesus through Mary. I have done almost half the retreat but wasn't positive I would do it. I asked God the Father to guide me on this journey of consecration by giving me encouragement. The America Needs Fatima packet with your calendar came in the mail that afternoon. I think that about says it all. May God bless the work of America Needs Fatima.

D. S., Warrensburg, Ill.

A week ago, I was wishing I could find a good Catholic calendar. I am an 80 year old widow and life-long Catholic. I hoped the calendar I'd been wishing to find would help me with all the feasts,



To order *The Book of Confidence*, call (888) 317-5571.

Receiving this book has opened my eyes to the power of prayer. An answered one indeed. I have been questioning about my confidence lately because I have been scared of something and trying to figure it out. Thank you so much for this gift.

V. G., Duson, La.

The Book of Confidence is such a blessing—my prayer habits and my faith have increased tremendously, as have my blessings.

S. R., La Place, La.

This book is certainly a treasure! I'm starting my "second read" I liked it so much.

C. B., Bell, Fla.

This book is a Godsend. I certainly would like many of my fellow church parishioners to read it. I am 85 years old and do not read very much, but when I started reading this book, I had to read and re-read it. It's very inspirational. Thanks so much. May God bless you and all those around you.

J. S., Jeannette, Pa.

2016 Calendar

I write with great appreciation and gratitude for the thoughtful gift of the 2016 America Needs Fatima calendar. I also appreciate your message and faithfulness to the authentic Catholic teachings and promotion of Marian devotion.

Fr. E. S., Winchester, Va.

This calendar came with wonderful timing. It was like a gift from heaven. My husband has been diagnosed with cancer and right now is having a very hard time. It was a real inspiration to get this

days of obligation, and the First Fridays/Saturdays. This calendar you sent me fulfilled all my wishes. I love Our Lady so the pictures and messages of her in your calendar were another wonderful gift to me. I'm ordering two more as gifts for my sons.

R. R., Clarkston, Mich.



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



COMMENTARY

Pope Francis' Symbolic Gesture Commemorating Heretic Luther

BY LUIZ SÉRGIO SOLIMEO

Symbolic acts and gestures often have greater power than words and reasoning, though one completes the other. This is why the Divine Savior constantly used both symbolic gestures and parables.

This is also why the Church has always surrounded herself with symbols to make visible the beauty of her doctrine, the sacredness of her liturgy, and the dignity and authority of her hierarchs. For example, the pope was solemnly crowned to symbolize the power given to him by Our Lord as the successor of Saint Peter in the governance of the Church and guidance of Christendom.

Teaching by Symbolic Acts

The current Pope uses many symbolic gestures and teaches more through acts and attitudes than actual words, although unfortunately the words are often employed in a confused and even scandalous way, such as his famous “Who am I to judge?”

Along the lines of his teaching through acts and gestures, his announced participation in the commemoration of the revolt by

the apostate and heretical monk Martin Luther is of the utmost gravity.

As reported by the Vatican Informative Service on January 25th, this year Pope Francis will go to the city of Lund, Sweden, where together with Lutheran leaders he “will preside at a joint commemoration of the Reformation on 31 October.”¹ As you will recall, it was on this date in 1517 that Luther is said to have posted his ninety-five theses on the door of the church of Wittenberg castle.²

Commemorating a historical fact is not merely recalling it as one would in a history lesson. It is a festive remembrance and praise of something deemed worthy of admiration, imitation or even devotion. That is why in 2017 the Catholic world will commemorate the centennial of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.

How can Pope Francis actively participate in commemorations of Luther's revolt against the Church and the papacy without giving Catholics and non-Catholics the impression that he admires the action and doctrines of that heretic?

Solemn Condemnation of Luther's Errors

It is well to recall that Pope Leo X, with the *Bull Exsurge Domine* of June 15, 1520, invoking the Divine authority and that of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul and his own, solemnly condemned forty-one errors advocated by Luther in 1517:

[W]e condemn, reprobate, and reject completely each of these theses or errors as either heretical, scandalous, false, offensive to pious ears or seductive of simple minds, and against Catholic truth. By listing them, we decree and declare that all the faithful of both sexes must regard them as condemned, reprobated, and rejected . . . We restrain all in the virtue of holy obedience and under the penalty of an automatic major excommunication.

In like manner, the Pope then condemned

The errors of Martin Luther still need to be combatted today.





Left: Pope Leo X condemned the errors of Martin Luther over four centuries ago.

Above: Because of his excessive pride, Martin Luther refused to renounce his errors, which led to his excommunication.

the Antichrist,” which proclaimed:

You then, Leo X, you cardinals and the rest of you at Rome, I tell you to your faces.... I call upon you to renounce your diabolical blasphemy and audacious impiety, and, if you will not, we shall all hold your seat as possessed and oppressed by Satan, the damned seat of Antichrist.⁴

Luther’s wrath against the papacy led him to use more and more vulgarity, going so far as to promote unimaginably offensive engravings.

With an apology to the reader, we quote here a sample. It is an assessment by a Protestant historian of Luther’s libel *Against the Papacy at Rome, Founded by the Devil*, published by the review of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, *Concordia Theological Quarterly*:

Luther outdid even the violence and vulgarity of *Against Hanswurst* [attacking the Catholic Duke Henry of Brunswick.] in his 1545 *Against*

[W]e condemn, reprobate, and reject completely each of these theses or errors as either heretical, scandalous, false, offensive to pious ears or seductive of simple minds, and against Catholic truth. —Pope Leo X

other writings by Luther:

Moreover, because the preceding errors and many others are contained in the books or writings of Martin Luther, we likewise condemn, reprobate, and reject completely the books and all the writings and sermons of the said Martin, whether in Latin or any other language, containing the said errors or any one of them; and we wish them to be regarded as utterly condemned, reprobated, and rejected. We forbid each and every one of the faithful of either sex, in virtue of holy obedience and under the above penalties to be incurred automatically, to read, assert, preach, praise, print, publish, or defend them.³

Furor Against the Papacy

In his arrogant and vulgar style, the heretic’s response was a pamphlet on November 4 of the same year titled, “Against the Execrable Bull of

the Papacy at Rome, Founded by the Devil. On the heels of these treatises he published a series of scatological and violent woodcuts that, in most graphic terms, suggested how good Christians should treat the papacy. In these and other treatises, Luther bestialized his opponents, most frequently likening them to pigs or asses, or called them liars, murderers, and hypocrites. They were all minions of the devil. He directed the devil to his ass, he renamed the papal decretals “decraptals” [*Drecketalen*] and the Farnese pope “Fart-ass” (*farlz Esel*) and “Her Sodomitical Hellishness Pope Paula III,” [Pope Paul III, 1534-1549] and he threw around words for excrement with great abandon. In the woodcuts by Lucas Cranach that Luther commissioned at the end of his life, he had the papal church depicted as being expelled from the anus of an enormous she-devil and suggested, once again in picture, that the pope, cardinals, and bishops should be hung from gallows with their tongues nailed alongside.⁵

The same article reports:

When asked why he had published the cartoons, Luther replied that he realized that he did not have long to live and yet he still had much which ought to be revealed about the papacy and its kingdom. For this reason he had published the pictures, each a whole book’s worth of what ought to be written about the papacy. It was, he stated, his testament.⁶

Saint Peter and his successors were given the mission of securing the deposit of faith. What was condemned by previous popes is still condemned today.



In 1529, Luther proclaimed:

Under popery we were possessed by one hundred thousand devils.⁷

One of Luther’s mildest criticisms of the Pope is found in this commentary in *Table Talk*:

Antichrist is the pope and the Turk together; a beast full of life must have a body and soul; the spirit or soul of antichrist is the pope, his flesh or body the Turk. The latter wastes and assails and persecutes God’s church corporally; the former spiritually and corporally too, with hanging, burning, murdering, etc.⁸

Doctrine of False Mercy

The essence of Luther’s doctrine is justification by faith alone. But the consequence of that doctrine is a false concept of God’s mercy. Father Serafino Lanzetta, analyzing the book of Walter Cardinal Kasper, *Mercy: The Essence of the Gospel and the Key to Christian Life*, writes:

Historically, in Kasper’s judgement, supported by O. H. Pesch, “the idea of a chastising and vindictive God has cast many into anguish regarding their eternal salvation. The most well-known case, and a harbinger of grave consequences for History, is that of the young Martin Luther, who was for a long time tormented by the question: ‘How can I find a kind God’?, until he recognized one day that, in the sense of the Bible, God’s Justice is not his punitive justice, but his justifying justice and, therefore, his Mercy.”⁹

This doctrine is summed up in the famous letter of 1521 by the apostate monk to Melanchthon:

God does not save those who are only imaginary sinners. Be a sinner, and let your sins be strong ...No sin can separate us from Him, even if we were to kill or commit adultery thousands of times each day.¹⁰

Elsewhere, Luther wrote:

It is fitting that we become unjust and sinful so that God might be justified in his words.¹¹

Some writers, even Catholics, seek to present these words of Luther as mere hyperbole, since

Notes:

1. <http://www.news.va/en/news/joint-ecumenical-commemoration-of-the-reformation> (All emphasis ours unless noted otherwise).

2. In his book on Luther, historian Father Ricardo Garcia-Villoslada, S.J., presents very convincing arguments and documentation that this did not happen. Luther fails to mention it in his writings, and it was not recorded by contemporary chroniclers. Only after his death did Melanchthon, who was not present, mention the supposed posting. Had it really happened, as it was the eve of All Saints Day, a very popular feast day in the church of Wittenberg Castle, it would have called much attention and been mentioned in the chronicles (Ricardo Garcia-Villoslada, *Lutero El Frayle Hambriento de Dios*,

BAC, Madrid, 1973, v. 1, pp.334-338). But what matters is that, real or not, this “fact” became a symbol of the Lutheran revolt.

3. Pope Leo X, *Bull Exsurge Domine*, issued June 15, 1520, condemning the errors of Martin Luther. Retrieved from www.papalencyclicals.net/Leo10/110exdom.htm (accessed 1/27/16).

4. “Martin Luther’s Reply to the Papal Bull of Leo X,” Source: Roland H. Bainton, *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* (Hendrickson Classic, 1950) (pp. 153-155). Retrieved from <http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/luther/againstexcrablebull.html> (accessed 1/27/16).

5. Mark U. Edwards, Jr., *Luther’s Last Battles*, CONCORDIA

he also speaks against sin. However, this *pecca fortiter* (“sin boldly”) doctrine results from the “enlightenment” he received in the convent’s latrine, i.e. that faith alone, “*sola fide*” saves, without works.¹²

Back in 1516, before his public revolt, Luther wrote to his Augustinian colleague George Spenlein:

[Y]ea be a sinner in reality; for Christ abides only in sinners.¹³

In his pamphlet, “The Babylonian Captivity of the Church,” Luther makes it clear that the only sin for which a person can be lost is that of disbelief. As long as a person believes he will be saved, no matter how great a sinner he is:

See, how rich therefore is a Christian, the one who is baptized! Even if he wants to, he cannot lose his salvation, however much he sin, unless he will not believe. For no sin can condemn him save unbelief alone. All other sins—so long as the faith in God’s promise made in baptism returns or remains—all other sins, I say, are immediately blotted out through that same faith, or rather through the truth of God, because He cannot deny Himself.¹⁴

In a sermon in 1532, Luther preached:

Apart disbelief, there are no more sins: all the rest are trinkets. When my little Johnny goes to poop in the corner, we laugh and it’s over. *Fides facit ut stercus non feteat* [“Faith makes that feces doesn’t stink”]. Summary of summaries: unbelief is the only sin against the Son.¹⁵

Luther: Catholic Mass Worse than Brothel
In 1524, Luther preached:

Yes, I say; all public houses, which God has

severely condemned, all killings, murders, thefts and adultery are less harmful than the abomination of the papist Mass.¹⁶

In the above-cited pamphlet “The Babylonian Captivity of the Church,” Luther said that a priest “offering his masses as a sacrifice....is the height of perversity!”¹⁷

The Spirit of Truth Does Not Induce to Error

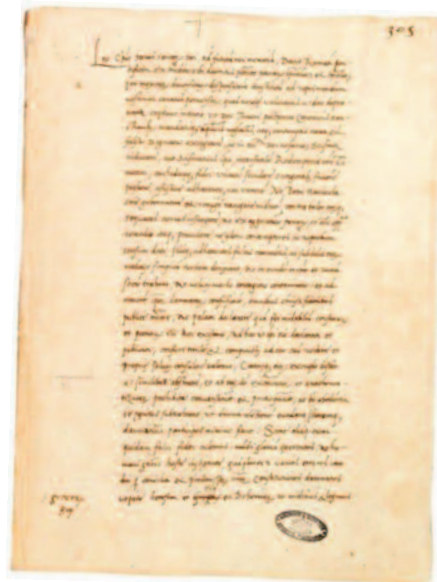
We could list further quotes, but the texts presented suffice to make clear that the doctrine and personality of the heretic, whose revolt swept entire nations out of the one fold of Christ, has nothing in common with the Catholic Church.

Therefore, one cannot understand why the present Pope, himself a member of the Society of Jesus, a religious order raised up by God to fight Protestantism, undertakes a trip to commemorate the quincentennial of a revolt against the Church.

The mission given to Saint Peter was to feed the sheep of Christ;¹⁸ his task, to confirm his brethren in the faith.¹⁹ He received the keys of the kingdom of Heaven²⁰ to lead souls to eternal bliss.

The First Vatican Council made it clear that,

the Holy Spirit was not promised to the successors of Peter that by His revelation they might disclose new doctrine, but that by His help they might guard sacredly the revelation transmitted through the apostles and the deposit of faith, and might faithfully set it forth. Indeed, all the venerable fathers have



The Bull “*Decet Romanum Pontificem*” of Leo X, excommunicating Martin Luther.

The essence of Luther’s doctrine is justification by faith alone. But the consequence of that doctrine is a false concept of God’s mercy.

(notes continued...)

THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY, Volume 48, Numbers 2 & 3 April-July, 1984, pp. 126-127 (emphasis in the original) www.ctsfw.net/media/pdfs/edwardslutherslastbattles.pdf, accessed Jan. 29, 2016.

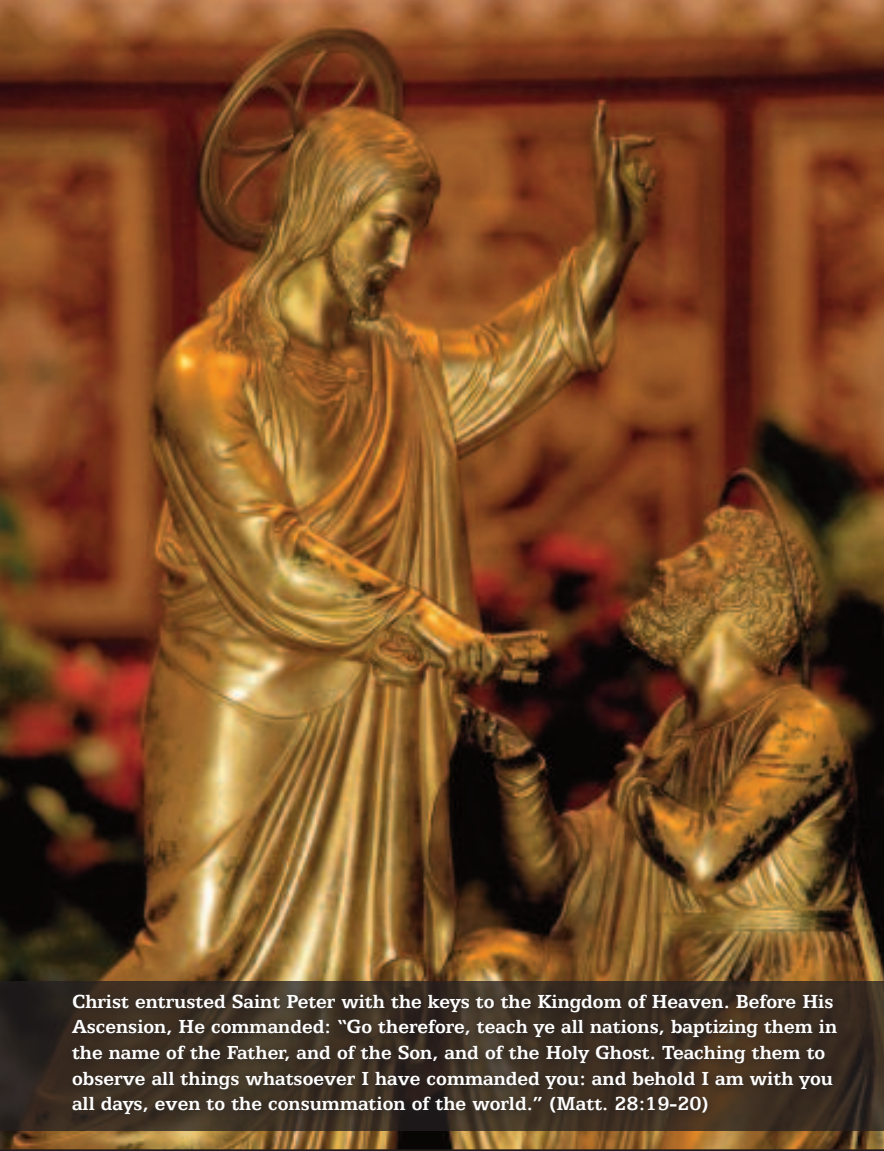
6. Ibid., p. 133.

7. Werke, t. XXVIII, p. 452, 11, apud J. Paquier, *Luther, Dictionnaire de Théologie Catholique*, v. IX, part I, col.1170.

8. *The Table-Talk of Martin Luther*, trans. William Hazlitt (Philadelphia: The Lutheran Publication Society, 1997) at http://reformed.org/master/index.html?mainframe=/documents/Table_talk/table_talk.html, (accessed Jan. 27, 2016).

9. Father Serafino M. Lanzetta, “Kasper’s Perplexing Notion of ‘Mercy’ Is Not What Church Has Always Taught—an Extensive Book Review, and its implications for Marriage,” at <http://rorate-caeli.blogspot.com/2014/09/kaspers-perplexing-notion-of-mercy-is.html>, accessed Feb. 1, 2016.

10. “Let Your Sins Be Strong: A Letter From Luther to Melanchthon,” Letter no. 99, August 1, 1521, from the *Wartburg Segment*, trans. Erika Bullmann Flores in Dr. Martin Luther’s *Saemtliche Schriften*, Johannes Georg Walch, Ed. (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, N.D.), vol. 15, cols. 2585-90. www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/text/wittenberg/luther/letsinsbe.txt (accessed Jan. 27, 2016).



Christ entrusted Saint Peter with the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Before His Ascension, He commanded: "Go therefore, teach ye all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." (Matt. 28:19-20)

embraced their apostolic doctrine, and the holy orthodox.²¹

Indeed, the Holy Spirit is a "Spirit of Truth"²² and cannot inspire error whether by words, acts, gestures or attitudes.

A Sinister Supermarket of Religions

In a similar situation, at the time of the quinquennial of the birth of the apostate monk in 1983,

Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, who dedicated his life to the defense of the Church and the papacy, wrote these words of warning:

I do not understand how men of the Church today, including some of the most cultured, learned, and illustrious, mythicize the figure of Luther, the heresiarch, in their zeal to favor an ecumenical rapprochement directly with Protestantism and indirectly with all the religions, schools of philosophy, and so forth.

And he concluded:

Do they not perceive the danger that is lying in wait for all of us at the end of this road, that is, the formation on a world-wide scale of a sinister supermarket of religions, philosophies, and systems of all sorts, in which truth and error will be broken up in pieces, mixed together in a cacophonous confusion? The only thing missing from the world would be—if we could reach such a point—the whole truth, that is, the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Faith, with neither spot nor wrinkle.²³

The Church Will Overcome This Crisis

In his luminous book *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*, the same Catholic thinker wrote these words full of hope:

Amid the storms through which she passes today, she could proudly and tranquilly say: "*Alios ego vidi ventos; alias prospexi animo procellas*" ("I have already seen other winds, I have already beheld other storms"). The Church has fought in other lands, against adversaries from among other peoples, and she will undoubtedly continue to face problems and enemies quite different from those of today until the end of time.²⁴

As the centennial of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima draws near, let us ask her to hasten the fulfillment of the promise made on that occasion:

"Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." ■

(notes continued...)

11. Werke, v. IV, p. 343, 22, apud J. Paquier, Luther, *Dictionnaire de Théologie Catholique*, v. IX, part I, col. 1212.

12. In 1532, Luther told his guests about it in *Table Talks*, "The Holy Spirit gave me this intuition in that cloaca" (T.R., t. II, n. 1681, t. III, n. 3232^a, in Paquier, col. 1207).

13. Enders, Luthers Briefwechsel, I, p. 29, in Hartmann Grisar, S.J., *Martin Luther: His Life and Work* (Newman Press, Westminster, Md., 1960), p. 68.

14. Martin Luther, *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church—A Prelude 1520*, 3.8, at www.lutherdansk.dk/Web-babylonian%20Captivitate/Martin%20Luther.htm (accessed Jan. 28, 2016).

15. Werke, t. XXXVI, p. 183, 7, in Paquier, col. 1249.

16. Werke, t. XV, p. 774, 18, apud J. Paquier, col. 1170.

17. The Babylonian Captivity of the Church, n.7.11, www.lutherdansk.dk/Web-babylonian%20Captivitate/Martin%20Luther.htm.

18. John 21:15-17.

19. Luke 22:32.

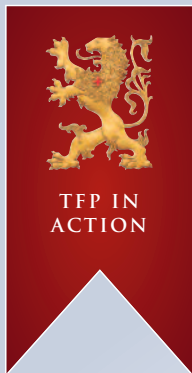
20. Matthew 16:19.

21. Denzinger 1836.

22. John 14:17.

23. "Luther Thought He Was Divine!" at <http://www.tfp.org/tfp-home/plinio-correa-de-oliveira/luther-thought-he-was-divine.html>.

24. Op. cit. Chapter XII: "The Church and the Counter-Revolution," at www.tfp.org/tfp-home/books/revolution-and-counter-revolution-v15-1370.html, accessed 1/28/16.



Call to Chivalry 2016

BY JOHN RITCHIE

"The age of chivalry is gone ..." cries an indignant Edmund Burke in his celebrated book, Reflections on the Revolution in France. But dozens of young boys found it alive and well in the rugged but serene hills of rural Pennsylvania, as the yearly Call to Chivalry summer camp got underway June 9 to 18, 2016. For nine days, boys ages 13–18, under the tutelage of members of the American TFP, learned and practiced what Edmund Burke so lamentably decried as gone forever—the ideals of Catholic militancy. These ideals were exemplified by the saints and many Catholic heroes who lived with honor, uprightness, purity, manly piety and as defenders of the Holy Catholic Church. To have an idea of what transpires in a typical Call to Chivalry camp, below is a partial account by TFP Student Action Director, Mr. John Ritchie.

In many ways, Saturday was the highlight of the camp. Divided into two teams the boys went to a big field near the Academy for the Medieval Games where they played shield ball, tug of war, French football, steal the bacon, mace and shield, and dodge ball. During that period they also prayed a rosary and had lunch on the game field.

The final contest of the day was the running of the obstacle course. Hurdles, ropes, a dark tunnel and other obstacles had to be negotiated at top speed through thick woods. Each team picked a patron saint whom they invoked throughout the day.

As the boys were spending every last drop of physical energy on the grueling competition—the games went from about 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.—the cooks were busy assembling all the ingredients that go into the famous Spanish paella: Spanish rice, chorizo, pork, chicken, onions, tomatoes, peppers, snow peas, regular peas, lobster, squid, clams, mussels, shrimp and many seasonings, in-

cluding fresh garlic, saffron, chicken and shellfish stock. The order in which all of these ingredients are added into the 40-inch circular pan is an art in itself. In sum, the paella preparation entailed about 40 hours of work which was rewarding because the boys (and dads) relished every bite. Also, Christian civilization is savored in the small details of the dish that make it authentic and reflect the people and culture that created it.

Then a trumpet blast announced the entrance of dessert, a cake made to look like Manzanares Castle. Its robust walls were soon demolished by all those hardy appetites.

Prizes and mementos were then distributed. The handmade prizes were really special and original this year. Mr. Alvaro Zapata carved them himself. When I saw his final work, I wished I was a boy again. Every camp participant received a bas-relief plaque with the image of El

Cid, the hero who embodies the Catholic fighting spirit of Spain.

After dinner, the camp came to a close. As a group we prayed in thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother and all the crusader saints for the successful camp. May the graces and blessings that God granted us during this event flourish in our souls and help awaken a new generation of American Catholic heroes who will fight the good fight, with the same spirit of the Spanish saints, to restore Christian civilization to our beloved nation.

Upon leaving the banquet tent a brass quintet greeted us with live music—Spanish *pasodobles* (music played at bullfights) and the Spanish Royal March (also known at camp as *La Virgen Maria*), among others. While the music started up, fireworks shot high into the evening sky; the familiar booms, crackles and sparkles added a festive note to the last conversations and farewells.

Yes, the virtues of chivalry do live on. ■

For a complete day-by-day account of the 2016 Pennsylvania Call to Chivalry Boys Summer camp, please visit: www.tfpstudentaction.org.

Courtesy of Michael Gorre



Courtesy of Joseph Jordan





Dear OFFICERS

BY REX TEODOSIO

Will you protect us from the evils in society?

Will you defend us when thieves break into our homes?

Will you patrol the streets at night to keep us safe from gangs?

Will you stop looters from setting our stores on fire when riots break out?

Will you look for us in the debris when disaster strikes?

Will you stop thugs and bullies from hurting us?

Will you stop drunk drivers from running head on into our car?

Will you stop drug pushers from destroying our children's future?

Will you look for our children when they are lost?

Will you respond quickly when the amber alert is broadcasted?

Will you risk taking a bullet when terrorists come into our schools?

Or, can you just tell us how to get to the corner of 5th and Main?

In short, will you watch our backs so we can live with peace of mind and enjoy the tranquility of order?

So, in return, dear officers, there's not much we can give you for your service: just our respect for your office, to honor your fallen dead, and our prayers, because, as you watch our backs, we know only God's angels can watch yours. ■

Following a series of attacks against our police officers, on July 16, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, America Needs Fatima sponsored over 5,000 Rosary Rallies across the country to pray for our police. The overwhelming support for these rallies showed that Americans are proud to support the brave officers who put their lives on the line each day.