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## Memorable Moments in Pope's Visit to Fatima

With the passage of time, our memory of the pilgrimage of Pope Benedict XVI to Fatima is rekindled.

We recall the moment in the Little Chapel of Apparitions when he entrusted the Church to Mary: the Pope standing up before the statue of Our Lady, his countenance heavy due to the sufferings of the world, but at the same time light due to his trust of son in his Mother.

We recall a Pope kneeling before the statue of Our Lady, rosary in hand, deep in prayer. Like the Little Shepherds, he heard the invitation to pray the Rosary every day for peace, for the Church and for the conversion of sinners and he has obeyed.

We recall the moment when he consecrated the priests



to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, after Vespers (Evening Prayer), before the Blessed Sacrament. The Pope's heart pulsated like that of a shepherd looking after his flock, specially his priests.

Such high moments in the life of the Church, having as protagonist her universal Shepherd, will certainly lead many to conversion, through Mary, Mother of the Church.

*Fr. Virgílio Antunes, Rector*

## Benedict XVI: "Since Fatima is not present in the entire Catholic Church throughout the World..."

These words were addressed by Pope Benedict XVI to the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima.

In declarations to Ecclesia Agency for a television report six months after the Pope's visit to Fatima, Bishop Marto, of Leiria-Fatima, recalled a brief chat he had with the Supreme Pontiff on the night of May 12, at Fatima: "At the end of the candlelight procession, as he was leaving in his Popemobile in my company, he told

me all of sudden in German what I now translate literally: "Since Fatima is not present in the entire Catholic Church throughout the world..."

Bishop Marto recalls also his own reaction to this declaration of the Holy Father: "I was surprised and without words; only told him this: «You know the Catholic Church better than I; you know what you're saying»."

## Fatima school of charity

In a Pastoral Letter, the Most Rev. António Marto, Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima, to which the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, Portugal, belongs, proposes three great ob-



jectives for the Pastoral Year beginning in November: “to rediscover charity as a way (style) of being Christian both privately and publicly; to develop a spirituality of gratuity, availability, sharing and service to the brethren; to rethink and reorganize the social service in Christian communities”: Therefore, the first preoccupation of every community ought to be to sensitize, educate and form all its members to live and witness charity”.

Bishop Marto concludes reminding us that this pastoral year is the first of the seven years of preparation for the commemorations of the Centennial of the Apparitions and stresses that Fatima is “a school of charity and service to the brethren”, a town that received the visit of Our Lady “bringing a message of love and peace to a mankind divided by hate and fratricide wars”.

In this same document, whose purpose was to outline the course of action to which all are called, Bishop Antonio recalls several “gifts of consolation” received during the pastoral year that will soon end. Amongst them, the visit of Holy Father Benedict XVI to the Shrine of Fatima in May 2010: “As highlight of this year, I recall the unforgettable pilgrimage of the Holy Father to Fatima, which brought us a renewed faith and made us feel that the Church is alive, joyful and missionary”.

## The seriousness of the Message of Fatima

Six months after the pilgrimage of Benedict XVI to the Shrine of Fatima, this past May, we recall, in this issue, the words Fr. Federico Lombardi, spokesman for the Vatican, uttered a few days before this historic trip.

On Radio Vatican, of which he is the director, Fr. Lombardi stressed the importance and timeliness of the Message of Fatima for today’s world: “We need clear and innocent eyes in order to see ahead the road of the new millennium and to understand where its risks and its authentic hopes are. The Message of Fatima maintains all its seriousness throughout history”. This he told his audience at the end of his editorial called “Octava Dies”.

He went on: “John Paul II willed that the Third Secret of Fatima be revealed on the day the two Little Shepherds Francisco and Jacinta would be beatified, during Jubilee Year 2000, when

the world would pass from the second to the third millennium. We were at the end of a century characterized by great suffering, of which the visions of Fatima gave precisely a spiritual and at the same time dramatic and luminous interpretation: time of war and martyrdom, in which the Church and the Pope himself participated deeply in the suffering and in the thirst for the salvation of whole mankind”.

Fr. Lombardi recalled also the context of the 1917 apparitions and the force of the Message of Fatima: “To simple children in a forgotten town – as it is characteristic of great Marian events – had been entrusted a message that, in its simplicity, contained a spiritual force capable to jump borders and to be transmitted despite the most serious perturbations in the history of mankind”.

*Leopoldina Simões*

## Presentation of the

The Centennial commemorates an event that marks the life of faith of Catholics throughout the world. The objectives of this commemoration are essentially religious in their different aspects, namely celebrative, pastoral, spiritual, theological, catechetical, communitarian and social.

The Message of Fatima is dynamic and, therefore, looks to the present as well as to the future and has something to say about how we can live our Christian faith. That is why this commemoration of the Centennial must give a qualified contribution to deepen and update this Message and also be an encouragement for the renewal and strengthening of the faith and an aid for the spiritual growth of the people of God.

The pilgrimage of Pope Benedict XVI in May 2010, following in the footsteps of his predecessors, shows us somehow that in the Message of Fatima there is a set of elements which can make it a vehicle of evangelization and a way for

## Benedict

For some time now the Shrine of Fatima has been preparing the Centennial of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima; however, the pilgrimage of Holy Father Benedict XVI to this Shrine has brought new impetus to this initiative.

In a press conference held on August 12 at the Shrine of Fatima, the Bishop of Leiria-Fátima stressed the impetus given by the pontifical trip of May 2010: “The preparation of the Centennial of the Apparitions was something already being considered, but it received a big push from the recent and historic visit of the Holy Father to the Shrine of Fatima. This preparation will go on for seven years, inspired in the biblical symbology of number 7, which means totality, perfection, plenitude and, at the same time, a symbol of the seven days of the week, symbol of the days of man, that is, of the history of man, of the history of Salvation, of that history that has its origin in God, of the man who walks with Him and towards Him”.

Let us recall that, on May 13, right at the end of the homily of the Mass celebrated in the outdoor altar, in the Prayer Area, the Pope formulated a very special wish for the Centennial: “May the seven years which separate us from the centenary of the apparitions hasten the fulfilment of the prophecy of the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, to the glory of

# Centennial of Apparitions of Fatima

conversion and encounter with Christ.

We aren't, therefore, dealing simply with a historic event, whose repercussions affect only the past. The events of Fatima are a call to every person in our time. The commemoration of the Centennial serves, therefore, to bring this call to the fore and thus is, above all, a pastoral, spiritual and theological project. The cultural and social aspects have a place at these commemorations, but always subordinated to the religious dimension: as a privileged means to reach those whose affection for the Church has dimmed, as an expression of the reality of the faith being celebrated and as a Christian materialization of human realities.

It is on these grounds that the general objectives for the commemoration of the Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima were defined:

1. To stress the importance of the Apparitions of Fatima to the Church and to the world.

2. To spread the Message of Fatima nationwide and worldwide.
3. To deepen the fundamental thematic nuclei of the Message of Fatima, by bringing out its implications for the Christian life in our time as well as its prophetic dimension.
4. To contribute to the theological study of the Message of Fatima.
5. To develop pastoral proposals, in light of the Message of Fatima, for the Shrine and other ecclesial organisms and to offer support to the pastoral activities of the Church in Portugal.
6. To divulge concrete ways of living the spirituality of Fatima and to help dynamize spiritually all pilgrims and devotees of Fatima.
7. To make all the different agents connected with Fatima work together.
8. To propose a set of celebrative events: devotional, liturgical, cultural.
9. To emphasize the figures of the Little Shepherds as an aid to catechesis.



10. To develop the Marian dimension in the Christian expression of faith.

*Coordinating Committee  
for the Centennial of the Apparitions*

## XVI brings new impetus to Centennial



the Most Holy Trinity”.

In the same homily, Benedict XVI mentioned, in another place, the Centennial of the Apparitions: “In seven years you will return here to celebrate the centenary of the first visit made by the Lady ‘come from heaven’, the Teacher who introduced the little seers to a deep knowledge of the Love of the Blessed Trinity and led them to savour God himself as the most beautiful reality of human existence”.

### December 1, 2010

The official launching of the seven year period of preparation for the 2017 date is scheduled for December 1, which is a holiday in Portugal. The occasion will be marked by the presentation of the objectives and the itinerary (stages) proposed for this initiative.

In the editorial of the official newspaper of the Shrine “Voz da Fátima” (pub-

lished in Portuguese) of August 13, the Rector of this institution wrote about the main purpose of the celebration of the 100 years of the apparitions: “The objective of this celebration ought to have an eminently pastoral dimension. As a celebration of a marking event in the life of faith of Christians, it ought to follow a program that may lead them to renew their faith; therefore, it will not be content in only marking a historical date whose repercussions are reduced to a mere past event in history”.

In the same editorial, Fr. Virgílio Antunes stressed also the treasure trove Fatima represents to the much expected dynamism of evangelization: “When Pope Benedict XVI, in his speech to the Portuguese people, spoke of Fatima as a school of faith and place where Mary has set her teaching cathedra, he was presenting a very important proposal to the Church in Portugal: take advantage of the enormous treasure trove you have in your own home with all its potential for evangelization”.

*Leopoldina Simões*

# October Pilgrimage: Mary, Star of Evangelization

The Archbishop of São Salvador da Baía, Brazil, His Eminence Geraldo Majella Cardinal Agnello, presided over the International Anniversary Pilgrimage of October 2010 at the Shrine of Fatima, whose theme was: “Be intent on things above” (Cl 3, 2).

In his homily of the Mass of the 13th, the Cardinal spoke extensively on the expressions of Marian devotion that exist a little throughout the world: “Mary, Mother of Jesus Christ and of His disciples, has been near us, has taken us under Her protection, has cared for us under Her maternal protection. We have asked Her, as Mother, perfect disciple and catechist of the Evangelization, to teach us to be Her children in Her Son and to do whatever He tells us. The Virgin Mary is the splendid image of conformity to the project of Most Holy Trinity, which is fulfilled in Christ. From Her Immaculate Conception up until Her Assumption, She reminds us that the beauty of the human being consists entirely in the bond of love with the Trinity and that the fullness of our freedom consists in our positive response to It”.

And he concluded in form of prayer: “May the always close company of Most Holy Mary, full of understanding and love, help us! May She show us the blessed Fruit of Her womb and teach us to answer as She did in the mystery of the Annunciation and Incarnation. May She teach us to go out of ourselves to walk the road of sacrifice, of love and of service, as She did when visiting Her cousin Elizabeth, so that, pilgrims on the way, we may sing the wonders God has done in us, according to His promise”.



## Prayer for the miners of Chile

On October 13, when the rescue of the 33 miners of the San Jose Mine, Chile, began, they were remembered in Fatima, where the day before they were entrusted to Our Lady of Fatima.

At the end of the pilgrimage’s Mass, when the rescue was running its course, Bishop Antonio Marto, of Leiria-Fatima, had this to say: “At this moment our thoughts go with joy to Chile, where the miners are being rescued. (...) Let us thank God and Our Lady; we send our congratulations to our brothers in Chile”.

The pilgrims present in the Shrine of Fatima replied with applause to the words of the Bishop.

Signed up for this international pilgrimage were 136 groups from 29 countries.

Presided over by Cardinal Agnello, the Mass of October 13 was concelebrated by 12 bishops and 343 priests and deacons.

*LeopolDina Simões*

## Benedict XVI on Fatima’s last apparition

Benedict XVI recalled, on October 13, the last apparition of Our Lady.

On the morning of October 13, in Rome, during the general audience, Pope Benedict XVI recalled the last apparition of Our Lady at Fatima.

The Holy Father dedicated his catechesis to Italian mystic Angela de Foligno and alerted to the danger of living as if God didn’t exist. At the end of the audience in St. Peter’s Square, he mentioned Fatima: “My thoughts go to Our Lady of Fatima, whose last apparition we recall today. I entrust you, dear youths, to the Heavenly Mother of God, so that you may generously answer the Lord’s call. May Mary be for you, dear patients, comfort in your suffering. May She accompany you, dear newlyweds, at the beginning of your family life”.



His Eminence Peter Kodwo Appiah Cardinal Turkson presided, in Fatima, Portugal, over September’s Anniversary Pilgrimage.

## We have to trust in God

A native of Ghana and Archbishop of Cape Coast, Cardinal Turkson is the president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, organ of the Roman Curia, whose mission is to promote justice and peace throughout the world.

From this Portuguese shrine known as “Altar of the World”, Cardinal Turkson spoke to all men and appealed for trust in a Provident God Who “is able to provide for the needs of His children”.

During the homily of the Mass of September 13, Cardinal Turkson stressed that “the cares and concerns of life can become

veritable obstacles to our faith in God; and they can compromise badly our relationship with God, our religious life and our life of faith”.

“Significantly, it is not only for us, individual Christians and Christian communities, that the “cares and concerns of life and of those things on which our lives depend” constitute obstacles to faith in a provident God. They constitute veritable problems and obstacles to belief in God and his guidance of creation and humanity for national governments and world organizations, including the United Nations”, he also said.

# Shrine of Our Lady of Peace of Fatima in Kinshasa, Congo

The message sent by electronic mail by the Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Peace of Fatima in Kinshasa, Congo, was received with much joy on the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal. In it, Rector Fr. Christian Ngazain confirms and thanks the mailing of "Fatima Luz e Paz" (the Shrine's newsletter Fatima Light and Peace) and also attaches to it an information leaflet on the history and the program of the shrine for 2010-2011.

The leaflet reveals the general theme proposed to the shrine's pilgrims for these two years: "When Mary intercedes for us"; it also recalls the words of Holy Father Benedict XVI uttered in Fatima, at the time of his apostolic trip to Portugal (May 2010). In it we also see prayers, schedules of the main celebrations and some pastoral guidelines for pilgrims. The history of this place of Our Lady of Fatima in Congo is succinctly narrated:

"The Shrine of Our Lady of Peace of Fatima in the Archdiocese of Kinshasa, inaugurated on July 13, 2001, was built at the initiative of Frédéric Cardinal Etsou, then Archbishop of Kinshasa and

shrine be a place of retreat, meditation, hearing the word of God and celebration of the sacraments, specially the sacrament of Penance, in an atmosphere of intense prayer for peace in the world in general and in the Republic of Congo in particular.

That noble mission was entrusted to the shrine by Cardinal Etsou and approved by his successor, our current Archbishop Lawrence Monsengwo Pasinya, who wants us to believe that peace is a gift of God, which involves conversion of hearts and an opening to the evangelic virtues, including love, truth, humility, mutual forgiveness and reconciliation, amongst others.

In this common effort to seek peace we count on the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God and Queen of Peace".

President of Congo's Bishops Conference. This shrine was a pastoral response to the challenge posed by the wars and the respective preoccupation to return the country to a time of peace.

Cardinal Etsou wanted thus that this

*Leopoldina Simões*



## Fatima receives visit of delegation from East Timor

Headed by Mr. Duarte Nunes, president of the Committee for Foreign Affairs and Defense of the National Parliament of East Timor, a delegation from this East Timorese organ visited Fatima on October 14, accompanied by representatives of the Portuguese Republican National Guard.

On arrival, the group was received, in the Rectory, by the Rector of the Shrine, and then was given a guided tour of the Shrine's sites.

In the Little Chapel of Apparitions, some MP's took a moment to say some private prayers. Some then lighted candles and placed them in the candle burning apparatus.

The Rector of the Shrine recalled

then "the exceptional and extraordinary connection" between the Portuguese people and East Timor.

He also recalled the financial support offered by the Shrine of Fatima, through Mater Timor Foundation, towards the construction of the Maternity School Our Lady of Fatima in East Timor.

Then he said: "In you, I greet the people of East Ti-

mor, who have in their hands their present and their future".



## Bishop from Pakistan entrusts country to Our Lady

The Most Rev. Sebastian Shaw, Auxiliary Bishop of Lahore, Pakistan, was in Portugal from October 14 thru October 21, at the invitation of the Foundation Aid to the Church in Need.

Bishop Shaw visited the Shrine of Fatima on October 20, at which time he entrusted his country to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima.

Bishop Shaw, who presided over the English Mass in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, said that the purpose of his passage through Portugal was to alert for the extremism and the increase of violence against the Catholic Church in Pakistan, as well as for the drama of terrorism and the humanitarian crisis caused by recent floods.



## Czech Republic welcomes Congress on Message of Fatima and New Evangelization of Europe

The Czech Republic welcomed, on September 24 thru 28, the first International Congress of the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) for the European Continent. Under the theme "The New Evangelization of Europe and the Message of Fatima", there met representatives of 13 countries in order to reflect, pray and share, on light of the Gospel and of the Message of Our Lady of Fatima, new dynamisms of evangelization for the Old Continent.

The meeting, presided over by the International President of the World Apostolate of Fatima, enjoyed the presence of several bishops and priests, amongst them the Head of Office of the Pontifical Council for the Laity and the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima.

The holding of this congress in this Eastern country was symbolic, for it was once marked by atheistic communism, which was against any public manifestation of Christian faith. Today, Christians, although a minority, strongly witness their faith and entrust themselves, with filial love, to the Virgin Mother, Who never abandons Her children, as one could see during the several reli-



gious celebrations and the recitation of the Rosary.

The highlight of the Congress was the procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, followed by the consecration of Europe to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, presided over by the Archbishop of Prague and accompanied by a numerous crowd of faithful and devotees of Our Lady.

Amongst the several conclusions of the meeting stands out the need to invest more and more in Christian education, in daily prayer, pastoral ministry of youth, namely by means of programs such as Eucharistic Adoration, practice and spreading of the Five First Saturdays, in the service to the poor and specially to the sick.

Nuno Prazeres  
www.worldfatima.com

## Message of Fatima stressed in Africa

From October 6 to 11, members of the World Apostolate of Fatima from Nigeria, Tanzania, Botswana, Ghana, Gabon, Ivory Coast and Cameroon met in Abuja, capital of Nigeria, to attend the II Regional Congress in Africa.

The meeting served to interpret the Message of Fatima in light of the challenges presented by the last Synod of Bishops for Africa, thus permitting to prepare the pastoral activity of the association for the next years in this Continent.

Due to the high number of participants, the Congress was held outdoors, in the field used by Pope



John Paul II during his last visit to Nigeria, in 1998.

During the meeting, several topics related to the Message of Fatima were aired, namely the Rosary, the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Penance, Reparation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, respect for human life and the defense of the family.

These elements, when practiced, can become efficacious instruments of evangelization and of construction of peace amongst African communities.

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## Vice-Postulator for the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta in Spain

When we participated, as listeners, in one of the congresses held in Fatima, Portugal, on Blessed Jacinta and in another one organized by the Association of Organizers of Pilgrimages (Apoap), which no longer exists, we were fortunate to listen to talks on the canonization of the two seers by the Vice-Postulator for the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta Marto, Sister Ângela de Fátima Coelho, who took over the work done by now deceased Fr. Louis Kondor. The topic and the manner how it was explained were so extraordinary that Sister Ângela was invited to do the same in Spain.

The organizers of the Pilgrimage to Fatima of Adoración Nocturna (Nightly Adoration), the largest annual foreign pilgrimage to Fatima, coming from Spain and which is being held since 1987, invited Sister Ângela to do a talk in Vigo.

It was a success! The truth is that the event was widely publicized, but its success went beyond the expected. For that we have to thank Sister Ângela's theologi-

cal knowledge, her excellent communication skills and ability to keep the listeners' attention, thus turning the talk into a feast, into prayer and meditation.

Sister Ângela, always busy with a thousand tasks both in her religious community, the Alliance of St. Mary, and as professor in a theological institute, not forgetting her work as a doctor in a hospital, is a gifted lecturer.

During the large pilgrimage to Fatima, she gave a talk on the Eucharist in Paul VI's writings; more recently she gave a brilliant talk in Toledo; and, at the beginning of December, she will return to Spain to give a course on retreats, when she will talk to hundreds of people.

All this work of hers ought to lead us to intensify our prayer for the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta Marto, thus supporting her work. All for the glory of God!

*Jorge Lence, Spain*



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## Statue of Our Lady donated to Benin, Africa



Less than a year ago, a beautiful statue of the Virgin of Fatima was blessed and sent to the Republic of Benin, Africa, an initiative of the organizers of the yearly pilgrimage of “Adoración Nocturna” (Nightly Adoration) to the Shrine of Fatima, which is promoted by the Association of Nightly Adoration of Spain.

The blessing took place at the end of the month of July, during the celebration of the Spanish evening Mass in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, in Fatima, Portugal.

Mass was presided over by a recently ordained priest from Murcia, Spain. One of the concelebrants, friend, admirer and defender of Fatima and its message, Fr. Eugénio Amotós, pastor of Xixona, Alicante, blessed the 125cm high statue, whose destination was the Hospital Notre Dame de Fátima, belonging to the Poor Clares of the Yles de Vignon Community, Benin, who are in charge of the hospital.

There is a touch of universality in this donation for mission lands: a former missionary now living in Peru, Msgr. Galiana, adviser to the Bishop of Tui-Vigo, Spain, asked pilgrims of Adoración Nocturna that day in Fatima that the statue be sent to Africa; a Spanish priest blessed it; and the place from which it is sent to Africa is the Altar of the World, as John Paul II coined Fatima.

*Raquel Costas Nieto, Spain*

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# Italy renews consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

In 2009 Italy celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of the country to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. For that reason, one of the Pilgrim Statues of Our Lady of Fatima traveled from the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal to Italy, where it made a national pilgrimage during the months of February through November.

The Statue traveled through innumerable communities, parishes and dioceses of Italy. Mr. Enzo Sorrentino, National coordinator of the Marian Movement "Messaggio di Fatima", Italian association which organized this national pilgrimage, concluded with these words the report of nine months of devotion and much prayer to Our Lady: "Our Lady didn't travel in vain throughout Italy; the Bishops established between Her and the Country an alliance of filial love that won't be broken".

He goes on: "These months saw the Statue of Our Lady travel through the roads of our Italy and, therefore, remain graven in many hearts by the wonderful movement of prayer that made visible the unity of the Church and the power of Faith, which unite people of every condition, age and culture".

By means of this pilgrimage, the communities of Italy recalled another one held in 1959, known as "Pilgrimage of Wonders". It was during this pilgrimage that, on September 13, Italy was consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Fifty years later, in February 2009, on arrival in Italy, the rosary donated by Pope John Paul II in the Year of the Rosary, requesting that prayers be said for



peace in the world and for the sanctification of families, was placed in the hands of the Statue of Our Lady. On that occasion, the flags of Europe and Italy were also donated to the Statue.

Throughout the whole country, Marian Days included celebration of the Word, Confessions, Masses and the recitation of the Rosary.

Very significant moments were those when the Statue was taken to the Holy House of Loreto, in order to celebrate the 4th Regional Day of the pilgrim; when, on May 12, a night vigil was held in the Shrine of Our Lady of Divine Love, in Rome; and when, on May 13, the Statue was brought to the Papal Basilica of St. Paul outside the Walls for the celebration of the Fifth Day of the Pilgrim, in which the attempt on the life of John Paul II, on May 13, 1981, was recalled. The Solemn Mass was presided over by His Eminence Ivan Cardinal Dias, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.

"We are grateful to Italy's Conference of Bishops for having organized a Solemn Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, at the Vatican, on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, June 20, a moment that was repeated in St. Mary of the Angels, in Assisi, in November, with the presence of all Italian Bishops", said Mr. Enzo Sorrentino.

Meanwhile, an identical itinerary was traveled during the current year 2010, once again with the presence of the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

*Leopoldina Simões*

## "Fatima and the World"

### A documental project about the message of Fatima

The documental series "Fatima and the World" is a project of international reach. The challenge is to document in



film the universal reach of the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

Referring to this project, Rector Fr. Virgílio Antunes notes that "we think that it could become an important contribution to the spread of the knowledge of the town of Fatima and of its importance in our time".

The author of this work is Manuel Arouca: writer of books, soap operas, television series and documentaries.

Manuel Arouca says: "The main objective is to make a

documental drama series that will show both the sites of devotion and their history as well as the testimonies about them".

This is the challenge of this audiovisual project, which is being executed in straight collaboration with the Shrine of Fatima.

The goal is to have the whole series concluded in 2012, according to the following rhythm: two episodes in December 2010, two at the end of 2011 and another two by the end of 2012.

The first two episodes will be about Europe.