



Temporary Exhibition of the Shrine of Fatima can now be viewed online



To view online go to:

<https://serosegredodocoracao.fatima.pt/> The exhibition “To be, the secret of the heart”, inaugurated at the Shrine of Fatima at the beginning of this pastoral year and open to the public in the underground Complex of the Basilica of Most Holy Trinity until the end of this October, gains now a new dimension by being able to be viewed through the Internet. The six cores (or nuclei) of the exhibition’s course, which intend to recall the June 1917 apparition of Our Lady and specially bring out the themes and the message related to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, can now be viewed online through the page serosegredodocoracao.fatima.pt . In the words of the Commissary of the exhibition, Mr. Marco Daniel Duarte, Curator of the Museum of the Shrine of Fatima, this project has two main purposes: “on the one hand, to provide to the devotees of Our Lady of Fatima who, for some reason, can’t visit this year the Shrine an opportunity to enjoy the exhibition on the theme of the year wherever in the world they are, on condition that they do it through the Internet. On the other hand, since it is a temporary exhibition and, consequently, ephemeral, the added goal of this virtual visit is to make that its contents may be kept for long time”. The exhibition is open to the public in the underground Complex of the Basilica of Most Holy Trinity until October 31 of this year. Since its inaugural on November 24, 2012, until July 31, this exhibition was visited by 127,790 people. After its closing, Mr. Duarte says that “it would be very difficult to once again gather all these pieces now being exhibited, since some of them do not belong to the Museum of the Shrine”, and that is why we say that this new context of the visit online is so pertinent. It is available in the seven languages used by the Shrine of Fatima and covers all the corners of the exhibition, all the pieces, as well as all the written texts shown, not neglecting the sound track that goes with the ‘in loco’ visit. To Mr. Duarte, although this type of visit is no substitute for the experience of the direct

contact with the treasure trove found in the exhibition itself, the initiative offers some advantages. “To be able to appreciate objects and historical documents in the comfort and tranquility of one’s home and as one finds time available” is one of them. Mr. Duarte explains further: “The online visitor may amplify objects, see some in an interactive way, by rotating the pieces and appreciating, in the case of sculptures, not only the main view but also the view from the side and from the back; he may also revisit each core and he will dispose of a final gallery where he can view, one by one, all the pieces in the exhibition”. Leopoldina Simões

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