



FÁTIMA LUZ E PAZ

Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima

Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas

Quarterly publication | Year XV | Nr. 59

Time of Grace and Mercy: to give thanks for the gift of Fatima

The message of Fatima and the young people

/ Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas

Young people are at the core of the life and concerns of the Church: last October, the Synod of Bishops gathered in Rome in order to reflect on Young People and their role in the Church; likewise, next January 2019 the World Youth Day (WYD) will take place in Panama, bringing together thousands of young people from all over the world, called to celebrate their faith gleefully and to bear witness to it with joy. These significant ecclesial events give us an opportunity to emphasize the relation between young people and Fatima.

Indeed, the message of Fatima is intended for young people. The message of the Lady of the Rosary, and, before, of the Angel of Peace, is intended for everyone, regardless of their age, but it's above all directed to young people as an enduring challenge. Being young is wishing for something more, not complying with mediocre prospects and trying to build up one's own way in life. The message of Fatima answers these longings of young people, broadening horizons capable of giving a full meaning to their life.

Young people haven't lost interest in faith: they often express disenchantment with the way our communities live and bear witness to that same faith. If it is true that many young people distance themselves from their parochial community living, it is no less true that they didn't give up from seeking paths of spirituality which challenge them, intense experiences of encounter with God, that motivate and guide them. The message of Fatima proposes a spirituality, excellently incarnated in the life of the Little Shepherds Saints, and capable of challenging the young people.

Nowadays, Fatima can speak effectively to young people, doing it from its specific message: a message that doesn't draw attention for that which is secondary in living out the faith, but that focuses on that which is fundamental in the Christian faith; a message that takes its topicality from the Gospel message, drawing from it, and leading to it; a message able to lead to an intense experience of God through Mary.

In accordance with this special intention of the Church, we are invited to pray for the young people, but also to challenge them to a profound experience of faith, through the message of Fatima.

Cardinal António Marto warns of the need to “educate the world to love peace, to build it and defend it from the “nationalistic selfishness”

The Cardinal of Leiria-Fátima welcomed about 70 parliamentarians and talked to them about the significance of Peace in the Message of Fatima / Carmo Rodeia

The Portuguese Cardinal António Marto seized the opportunity of a visit to the Shrine of Fatima of 70 European Parliamentarians (MEPs), attendees of the XXI Annual EPP Group Intercultural Dialogue, to make an appeal for further investment in educating for Peace in a world “pervaded by nationalistic selfishness”.

From the core of the Message of Fatima, deeply marked by this dimension of Peace, the Bishop of Leiria-Fátima stressed that this is not an “abstract and distant concept, but rather a real-life experience along everyday life's journey, in which it's always necessary to talk about peace”. Cardinal António Marto also stated how crucial it is “to educate the world to love peace, to build it and defend it in a more comprehensive and dynamic way”.

According to Cardinal António Marto, this education involves Europe and America “where politics is being pervaded by an extreme selfishness: America first, Italy first, Germany first etc.”

“This is a selfishness we ought to overcome with a new solidarity between European countries, because the resurgence of nationalism represents a great danger”, he explained, enumerating also the fears, the xenophobia and the populism resulting from this attitude.

“The context and the content of the message are not confined to the personal faith journey of the Little Seers, to a specific circumstance of their country or to a certain truth of the Faith in question”, the Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima explained. For the Portuguese Cardinal, the horizon of this centenary message “is of historic and worldwide range: the two world wars and mankind's suffering, with specific reference to nations like Russia, the persecutions of the Church with reference to the twentieth century martyrs and even the Pope, the great cause of peace between the peoples”.

According to the Bishop of Leiria-Fátima, “the message invites and helps us to look further, to keep our eyes open to the painful and obscure worldwide horizons and to scrutinize on them the signs of the presence or absence of God and His call”.

“All this accompanied by a very strong call in order not to resign to the banality and fatality of evil: it's possible to overcome evil by the conversion of the heart to God, by prayer and by the reparation of men's sin”, he explained.

“The bright shade of Fatima spreads over the entire twentieth century, probably the most cruel



The message of Fatima shows a real experience of life

and bloody century of History”, Cardinal António Marto said, and it's in this “tragic” context that the apparitions take place, “just like a vision of peace and a light of hope for the Church and for the world”.

“Perhaps only today, nearly a century later, we are in a position to understand more deeply the truth and the full scope of this message”, he stated.

“I hope that your visit to Fatima means a full commitment to the construction of Peace assumed as a singular mission by members of the European Parliament”, he concluded.

On the next 25 November, Cardinal António Marto will take official possession of the Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, one of the many basilicas in Rome. In the nineteenth century, Cardinal Guilherme Henriques de Carvalho, former bishop of Leiria and later 9th patriarch of Lisbon, had already received this title.

This practice continues the centenary tradition of assigning a church in Rome to each cardinal created to aid the Pope in the government of the Church. As time passed, since most members of the College of Cardinals retain their functions in their own diocese, the titulus became more honorific. Therefore, in 25 November, the Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima will officially take possession of his titular church of Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, with the right to have his coat of arms displayed in the church's façade. The current rector will keep on directing the church.

D. António Marto succeeds to the title held by Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, deceased in 2017.

Pilgrim Statue will be in World Youth Day in Panama

Initiative from 23 to 27 of January 2019, with Pope Francis

/ Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas



The Shrine of Fatima will send the Pilgrim Virgin Statue n.º1 to the World Youth Day in Panama scheduled from 23 to 27 of January 2019, with the presence of Pope Francis.

This world encounter of youth will be held in Panama City and for the first time in Central America. Its theme was chosen by Pope Francis "I am the servant of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38).

To express his joy regarding this trip, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr Carlos Cabecinhas, left a message to the Christians of Panama:

"Dear Christians of Panama,

I am very delighted to communicate that the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, in Portugal, will send to the World Youth Day the most important Pilgrim statue.

This Pilgrim Statue is unique, the first and the original, the one that travelled all the continents, the one that went several times around the world, but stays now in the Shrine since 2000. This statue was enthroned in 2000 in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima and goes out only on very special occasions. We consider that this is a very important moment which justifies the departure of this Pilgrim Statue n.º1, the one that, as I said, is for us the most important Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

We consider it is reason enough and well justified for this exception, for the World Youth Day is an ecclesial event of prime importance – we all have the clear conscience of the importance that the presence of the

young people together with the Holy Father, in prayer, in reflection, in conviviality, in feast, has for the whole Church – and for we know how much the devotion to Our Lady is linked to this world youth day, from its beginning.

We know how much Pope Saint John Paul II was devoted to Our Lady, and then, very naturally, when he created the world youth day, he gave it a Marian mark; this constitutes then a more than sufficient motive for sending a Statue that is so important for us.

It is important likewise to underline the great devotion of the Panamanian Christians to Our Lady of Fatima; this also influenced the choice of the n.º 1 Pilgrim Statue for the World Youth Day. It was then with a great joy that we accepted the invitation of the Archbishop of Panama to have this statue of Our Lady of Fatima at the WYD 2019.

The prayer of the rosary is the most typical prayer in this Shrine. It was this request that Our Lady made repeatedly: to pray the rosary every day; therefore, we pray the rosary in this Shrine for that intention, for the World Youth Day held in Panama".

A Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was enthroned in the yard of the old people's home Sacred Heart of Jesus

Recanto is a long-stay home for elderly people / Ir. Vilma Pereira/Ir. Maria Bernardete Silva



The statue of Our Lady is in Macaé

On the 16 August 2018, was enthroned the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the yard of the old people's home Sacred Heart of Jesus *Recanto dos Idosos*, in Macaé, state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The celebration was presided by the bishop of the diocese of Nova Friburgo, Bishop Gouveia Matoso, with the presence of religious, employees, old people and visitors, friends of the

Institution and directors. *Recanto* is a long-stay home for old people, which has been working since 2000.

Recanto is a religious institution and therefore we felt the need to honour the Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our Mother. As the devotion to the Virgin Mary is a constant among the Brazilians, here we have the presence of the Religious Missionaries of Our Lady of Fatima who make the religious guidance of



The tribute to the Virgin Mary exists because *Recanto* is a religious institution

Cardinal Antonio Marto alerts to the increase of the “army of the poor”

The pilgrimage of August challenges public authorities to give priority to the wave of migration / Carmo Rodeia



The offering of wheat is one of the most important moment of the pilgrimage

The International Anniversary Pilgrimage of August, dedicated to the migrant and refugee, initiated the 46th National Week of Migrations promoted by the Portuguese Catholic Migration Institution – *Obra Católica Portuguesa das Migrações* (OCPM), this year with the theme “Every foreigner is an opportunity for an encounter – Migrants and Refugees on the way to Christ”.

Cardinal Antonio Marto, bishop of Leiria-Fatima, at the traditional press conference that precede the celebrations, draw the attention to the “humanitarian drama of our epoch transmigration of peoples that head to Europe coming from Middle East and Africa”.

“It is an army of poor people who arrive here,

over two years of travelling through the north of Africa. What is at stake here is not the numbers but real people, with a story, a culture, a family, feelings, dramas and objectives”, he said by taking a critical eye at the colonial past of the European Western powers that “had explored and stolen” Africa and kept that continent in a “permanent war condition”.

“That is how the life of millions of poor people are destroyed, forced to leave to save their lives from war, starvation and misery. Children without parents and fathers and mothers without children. We know all of this and we cannot keep silent”.

At the opening of the pilgrimage, in the Cha-

pel of the Apparitions, Cardinal Antonio Marto asked for the gift of peace for Venezuela and Nicaragua as well as the “end of the tragedy of the refugees and all those who are persecuted for their faith”, and remembered, once more, the “victims of the fires” in Portugal.

Cardinal Arlindo Gomes Furtado, bishop of the diocese of Santiago, Cape Verde, was the president of the pilgrimage and at his several speeches presented faith as “leaven of humanization” which can produce solutions to the crises of today.

“It is extremely urgent to awake the minds and to create real actions in benefit of the refugees”, he alerted remembering the four verbs that Pope Francis used to mobilise the Church for real actions in favour of the refugees: “to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate”. To this end, he left a special request to the governments of the countries that had experienced directly or indirectly this reality.

“The governments and the political authorities of the United States and Europe, on the one hand, and the countries from where these brothers come from, on the other hand, have the moral duty to open their mind and heart, and to be united towards a long-term and peaceful solution for the very serious problems of the migrants in general and refugees in particular”.

At the end of the celebration of the 13th, the bishop of Leiria-Fatima thanked Bishop Arlindo Furtado for his presence and greeted the pilgrims: “Here and all over the world, through Her Message, Our Lady of Fatima promotes the culture of the encounter, whose beauty you may contemplate right now, the beauty of encounter of the diversity of peoples, families, cultures, races and languages in the unity of the same faith and the same love. That’s why this pilgrimage is full of beauty and charm”.

Besides the two cardinals, the celebration of the 13th was concelebrated by five bishops and 121 priests.



Cardinal of Cape Verde presided at the pilgrimage dedicated to the migrant and the refugee

International Anniversary Pilgrimage of September marked by strong appeals to peace

Bishop Emeritus José Francisco Alves of Évora was the president of the celebrations

/ Cátia Filipe



Prayer and Sacrifice are important steps for conversion, says Bishop José Alves



Bishop Emeritus of Évora more active Christian communities

Cardinal Antonio Marto asked at the beginning of the Anniversary International Pilgrimage of September for the special protection of Our Lady so as the current problems of the Church to be overcome and peace in the world to be reached.

"We would like to entrust to Our Lady in this pilgrimage the problems of the Church that we are currently living as well as ask the gift of the peace for the world, especially for the Middle East, Nicaragua and Venezuela", said the prelate of Leiria-Fátima at his initial salutation in the Chapel of the Apparitions.

The Anniversary International Pilgrimage of September was presided by Archbishop Emeritus of Évora, José Francisco Alves, with the presence of 46 organised groups of pilgrims, coming from 18 countries.

"I am a pilgrim in this Shrine as you are all", said Archbishop José Francisco Alves, underlining that in Fatima "we feel that there is a place for all".

He exhorted therefore the pilgrims who were present to open their "heart to the world asking Mary to make us more brother, more united and more peacemakers".

At the Vigil Mass in the Prayer Area, he recalled the reason that gathers so many pilgrims in the "House of the Mother": giving thanks to God for the many gifts He has given to the world, to our country and to each one of us".

"God is never insensitive to troubled hearts", he said declaring that "as Jesus treated the poor, so is God who always looks at us with compassion, heals the wounds of sins and shows the way we shall follow in order for us to reach a complete insertion into community".

According to Archbishop José Francisco Alves "the community is essential for life in general and for Christian life", for "no one can live isolated, turning the back to men and women; we are all part of a big family and we cannot be well with God if we are not well with our fellow brothers".

At the closing mass of the Pilgrimage, the prelate underlined the importance of the peace for the well-being of humanity and considered it "an essential and precarious good", only achievable through commitment, sacrifice and the prayer of all".

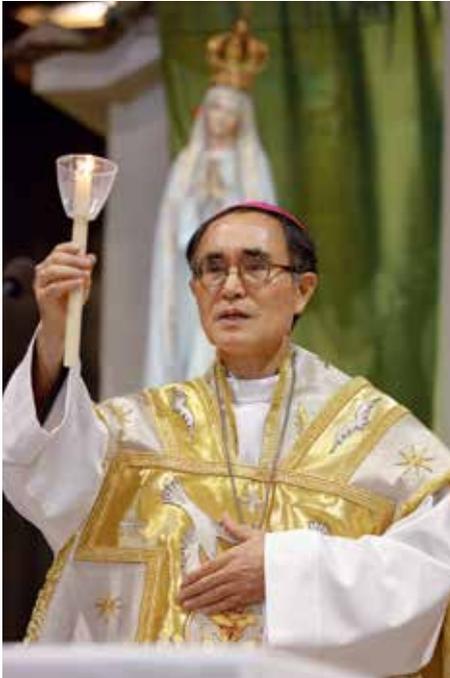
Archbishop José Alves called our attention to the contrast between the "accelerated" technological progress of the last century and the "slow progression" of world peace efforts during that same period of time and reminded us that "the good of peace is essential but precarious; it must be protected and promoted".

"Peace needs the collaboration of everyone and it can be achieved by prayer and by voluntary sacrifices, through which we obtain the conversion of the hearts that, turning to God, reject evil and war and adopt behaviours of moderation, compassion, welcoming, fraternal sharing", he stated.

Considering the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary, proclaimed in the Gospel, when "Our Lady faces all difficulties, keeps peace in Her heart and places Herself at the service of God as a humble servant", the prelate urged the pilgrims to follow the example of the "Queen of Peace" and finished with a prayer to the Mother of God.

International pilgrimage of October focused on the desire for peace in the world

The Bishop of Hiroshima presided at the celebrations in Fatima and requested more work for peace and less “human arrogance” / Carmo Rodeia



“The arrogance of man is the worst enemy of the world”

The sixth international anniversary pilgrimage of the pastoral year, evoking the last Apparition of Our Lady to the Little Shepherds, in 1917, and closing the cycle of the major summer

pilgrimages to the Shrine of Fatima, has ended with a strong appeal to working for peace and to the end of “human arrogance”.

The Bishop of Hiroshima, who presided at several celebrations, elected human arrogance as “the worst enemy of the world”.

In the international mass of 13 October, the Bishop Alexis Mitsuru Shirahama stated that “Man can destroy the entire world and nature with his arrogance”.

During the homily, the Japanese Bishop reminded the words of Pope Saint John Paul II, who, in 1981, in his hometown, alerted to human destructiveness, and underlined that Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the two Japanese cities destroyed by atomic bombs in World War II, experienced that arrogance.

The Bishop of Hiroshima, questioning how one can “cut off the head of this enemy”, stated that the answer is in God and in the conversion of the heart of man.

The day before, after presiding at the Candlelight Procession, the Japanese prelate had already requested the pilgrims to work towards Peace.

The Bishop Alexis Shirahama gave thanks for the gift of Fatima and referred that the “Mother of the Church and the light of faith are the way to the edification of the people of God, towards world peace: “We are grateful to God for giving us the Most Holy Virgin Mary as Mother of the Church. She appeared in this place, in Fatima, to show us God’s mercy! Let’s all walk together in the light of faith, with the help of the Mother of the Church, to build up

the people of God and to bring peace to the world”, Bishop Alexis Shirahama declared in the homily of the celebration, in the Prayer Area of the Shrine of Fatima.

“She appeared in this place to show us God’s mercy! Let’s all walk together in the light of faith, with the help of the Mother of the Church, to build up the people of God and to bring peace to the world”, he concluded.

The main celebrations of the International Anniversary Pilgrimage, once again with interpretation in Portuguese Sign Language, were attended by 96 groups of pilgrims coming from 25 countries.

The International Anniversary Pilgrimage of October evokes the last Apparition of Our Lady to the Little Shepherds, on 13 October 1917, in Cova da Iria, in which the Virgin asked for a chapel to be constructed at the site in her honour, and also that they continued to “pray the Rosary every day”, according to the words of the seer Lucia, in her Memoirs.

This pilgrimage was graced by a symbolic gesture of the group of pilgrims that accompanied the president of the Pilgrimage while travelling to Cova da Iria: two books with the records of 103 000 prayed rosaries during the spiritual preparation of the Catholics of Hiroshima.

The Vigil Mass was concelebrated by Cardinal António Marto, Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, by 13 bishops, among which the Archbishop Rino Passigato, Apostolic Nuncio to Portugal, and by 173 priests.



Thousands of pilgrims prayed for peace in Fatima at the last big pilgrimage of the pastoral year

Pilgrims prayed for peace at the monument of the Berlin Wall

The initiative took place on 13 August at the anniversary of its construction / Carmo Rodeia

The Shrine of Fatima evoked the Berlin Wall on 13 August at the anniversary of its construction, next to the monument where a fragment of the wall stands, in Cova da Iria.

The evocation, pronounced in Portuguese and German, was made in the course of the candlelight procession, at the moment the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was passing near the monument. The prayer was an excerpt of the speech Pope Saint John Paul II delivered

on the prayer vigil in the Shrine at his second visit to Fatima, in May 1991.

The construction of the Berlin Wall started during the night of 12 - 13, 1961, in that German city, and was demolished on 9 November 1989.

On 13 August 1994, the "Monument of the Berlin Wall" was inaugurated in the Shrine of Fatima, at the South entrance of the Prayer Area. It is a block of 2,6 kilos in

weight, 3,6 metres in height and 1,2 metres in length, offered by a Portuguese resident in Germany.

Next to this place stands a "memory-monument" that pays tribute to the two priests who were at the beginning of the historiography of the Apparitions of Fatima and the diffusion of its message in Portugal and in Germany, respectively Manuel Nunes Formigão and Ludwig Fischer.



Fragment of the Berlin Wall is visited every day by thousands of pilgrims

The Shrine of Fatima recalled the 4th Apparition of Our Lady

Pilgrims were invited to pray on the spot where Our Lady appeared on the 19 August 1917 / Carmo Rodeia

The Shrine of Fatima recalled the 4th apparition of Our Lady, on August 19th, 1917, in Valinhos.

In this apparition Our Lady presented herself with a message of conversion and made a vehement appeal for prayer for peace and sinners.

The thousands of pilgrims who participated in this celebration asked for the intercession of Our Lady, "refuge of sinners", so that "Christians renounce their selfishness and all the sins that come from consumerism, especially concerning greed, ambition, pride and lust".

In the Prayer of the Faithful, which remembered the families, the excluded, the sick and the young, a special prayer was made and dedicated to the public authorities, namely to the cultural, political and religious authorities, in order to "courageously engage with the values of justice, love and peace" and "for them not to get tired of seeking dialogue as resolution path for conflicts".



Our Lady left a message to the world asking prayer and conversion

Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev, in charge of external relations and dialogue with the Catholic Church, visited the Shrine of Fatima

Cardinal Antonio Marto welcomed the Russian Orthodox Church / Cátia Filipe



Guided visit allowed Metropolitan to see the most symbolic sites of the Prayer Area and the Basilicas

Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev, in charge of external relations and dialogue with the Catholic Church, visited the Shrine of Fatima last 18 September.

The number two of the Russian Orthodox Church was welcomed by Cardinal Antonio Marto, bishop of Leiria-Fatima.

The meeting was held at the Retreat House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Bishop of Leiria-Fatima thanked for the “testimonial given by the Russian Orthodox Church in order to foster good relations between the two Churches”.

Bishop Antonio Marto said that he “always follows with great interest the relation between the Patriarchate of Moscow and the Holy See, namely when the Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev meets with Pope Francis”.

“I know that Christianity has been flowering in the Russian Orthodox Church; we are then living an important moment of cooperation between the Orthodox Church and the Catholic Church in Europe to defend the great Christian values”, reiterated Cardinal recognising “the testimonial given by the Russian Orthodox Church in order to foster good relations between the two Churches”.

This was the first time that the Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev was in Fatima, although he has already been in Portugal before.

The number two of the Russian Orthodox Church explained that he immediately asked to visit Fatima when the two days program in Portu-

gal was outlined, for he has read much about this place and it was important to see in person what he called “a place of peace”.

He then signed the book of honour. Cardinal Antonio Marto offered the Medal of the Centennial, the symbol of the Centennial and the book *Fatima in Lucia's own words*, in Russian language.

Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev is also a recognised composer and writer and gave to the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima his book *The Mystery of Faith: An Introduction to the Teaching and Spirituality of the Orthodox Church*, and a CD with his works.

Following this meeting, there was a visit to the Shrine of Fatima. At the Chapel of the Apparitions, Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev prayed in silence and asked to light a candle as pilgrims do.

During his visit to the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, the responsible for external relations and dialogue with the Catholic Church was surprised to learn that the project of this place was a Greek-Orthodox architect, Alexandros Tombazis.

The visit included a stop at the Monument of the Berlin Wall, which was also emblematic for all that it represents.

The meeting ended with a dinner at the Retreat House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Portugal and Russia are countries that are linked. What is the relation today between Russian Christians and Fatima?

There are many Christians in Russia, mainly Catholics, who often visit the Shrine of Fatima. I

believe that the prophecy of Fatima on the conversion of Russia has already been fulfilled. The religious revival, that started 30 years ago, is the reconversion of Russia to the Christian faith.

Why did you want to visit Fatima?

For me this visit is very interesting, for I have read and heard much on Fatima. But, as a Russian proverb says, it is better to see once than to hear a hundred times.

You are in Portugal to speak about the future of Christianity in Europe. What do you think about it?

Christianism has a long history in Europe but it doesn't have just an historical value. The future of Europe is likewise in the Christianism. I can't imagine the future of Europe without Christianism. Although there are many politicians and philosophers who believe that Europe can survive without Christianism, I don't believe that. I think that without Christianism, Europe will lose its identity.

How can Catholic Church and Orthodox Church work to maintain Christianity in Europe?

We are working on it. Two years ago, Pope Francis met with the Patriarch of Moscow in Havana and had a very cordial meeting. They spoke about many subjects, including the future of Christianity in Europe. We already worked much together before this meeting, and now even more. This meeting opened a new page in our relation.



Visit to the Shrine of Fatima was felt as a necessity from the responsible of external relations of the Russian Church

Church of Luxembourg in Fatima in thanksgiving

The purpose of this pilgrimage was to give thanks for the gift of spirituality that the visit of the Pilgrim Statue meant / Rui Pedro



Pilgrim Virgin visited the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Fifty pilgrims from the archdiocese of Luxembourg were at the Shrine of Fatima last 12 and 13 September.. The purpose of the pilgrimage was to thank for the gift of spirituality that the visit of the Pilgrim Statue meant to the Grand Duchy during the year of the Centennial of the Apparitions. The spiritual support was given by two priests and two consecrated women, among them Sr. Maria Perpetua, Servant of Our Lady of Fatima, a missionary to Portuguese-speaking families in Luxembourg.

During a month, the statue of Our Lady travelled through parishes, religious houses and monasteries, prison, homes and walked in processions through the streets of the cities of the country, reviving the faith in Christ and the devotion to Mary, where the migrant communities (Portuguese, Cape Verdean, Guinean, Italian among others) played a very active role both in religious animation and in the participation of the program established by the archdiocese.

Some significant moments will remain in the memory of the Luxembourg Christians such as the events that took place at the Cathedral of Luxembourg: the exhibition of the Independent

Red Heart of the artist Joana Vasconcelos, the unforgettable and unique night of *Fados* to Mary interpreted by the *fado* singer Kátia Guerreiro and the Solemn Closing Visit Mass with the Consecration of the Church of Luxembourg to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

With this week-long pilgrimage to Fatima and other places linked to Sr. Lucia (a pilgrimage co-organized by the archdiocese and parish of Wiltz: place where the hill is located with the small monument to Our Lady of Fatima “op Baessent”, goal of the annual pilgrimage of the Portuguese migrants), the beautiful celebration of the Centennial of the Apparitions in Luxembourg lands comes to an end.

As a sign of continuity in this strong diocesan experience, commitment to the current Message of Fatima and recognition of the important and irreplaceable role of the Lusophone Christian communities in the life of the Church, Archbishop Jean-Claude Hollerich will soon announce that in the liturgical calendar of the archdiocese, 20 February will become the Mandatory Liturgical Memory of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, and May 13th will be elevated to the category of Feast.

Wiltz: a place of spirituality where the Message of Fatima resounds

The Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Fatima in Wiltz, Luxembourg, attracts each year 20 000 Portuguese people

The Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Fatima in Wiltz, Luxembourg, attracts each year 20 000 people from the Luxembourg's Portuguese community but hardly anyone knows that the shrine was built by Luxembourgers, fulfilling a promise made during the World War II, before the arrival of the first immigrants.

A vow made by a dozen Luxembourgers on 13 January 1945 is at the origin of the monument dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima in Wiltz, at a time when this town located in the north of Luxembourg was threatened by war.

Wiltz would become known as “martyr town” due to the fact that dozens of people were killed and deported during the German occupation and is 20 kilometres from Bastogne, in Belgium, the epicentre of the Battle of the Bulge, a town which was on the verge of being evacuated.

A dozen Luxembourgers sheltered in the presbytery basement then decided to make a promise in order to build a shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima if the town were spared the destruction.

The town has never been evacuated and a week later, on 20 January 1945, the Germans had to beat a retreat.

The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima – a replica of the statue which is in Cova da Iria – travelled to Wiltz on 11 September 1947, to the site where the shrine would later be built, reinforcing the plans for the construction of a Marian Shrine, that would be concluded in 1952.

With the arrival of the first Portuguese citizens to the country in 1968, a pilgrimage to the Shrine was held on Assumption Day, public holiday in the Grand Duchy, with the commitment of both the Friendship Portugal-Luxembourg Society (Amizade Portugal-Luxemburgo) and the local parish.

A monument dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima was inaugurated in Torre do Pinhão

This new religious site is intended to be a place of worship for the catholic community / CM Sabrosa



New place of cult to Our Lady in Sabrosa

On 3 August last, a religious niche dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima was inaugurated in the parish of Torre do Pinhão, Sabrosa, Portugal.

This work was carried out by Conselho Directivo de Torre do Pinhão with the commitment of both the Parish Council of Torre do Pinhão and the Municipality of Sabrosa to accomplish a long-standing desire of the population.

This new religious niche is intended to be a place of worship for the catholic community, enabling also the urban rehabilitation of the site and adjacent area, which became more pleasant and welcoming due to the construction of an illuminated water plane scenario that includes falls and due to the new floor pavement and garden.

Bishop of Leiria-Fatima stated that society of today lives an “eclipse of God”

Cardinal Antonio Marto welcomed a group of pilgrims from Luxembourg last 13 September / Cátia Filipe

Last 13 September, Cardinal Antonio Marto, Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, met a group of pilgrims from Luxembourg. This group of 50 people listened to a catechesis on Fatima.

The prelate was pleased to receive this group that lives a very special moment in Fatima and spoke about the mystic and prophetic dimension present in the message that Our Lady delivered to the three little shepherds.

Despite its 100 years, the Cardinal says that “the content of the message of Fatima is not limited to a personal path of faith of the little shepherds or a particular situation of their country”.

“The horizon of this message is vast: the two world wars and the sufferings of humanity, the specific mention of nations as Russia, atheists regimes, the sufferings of the Church with the mention of the martyrs of the 20th century”, he contextualised and concluded: “all this with an appeal to the conversion of the heart, the non-submission to the



Catechesis of Bishop Antonio Marto

banality and the fatality of evil, because it is possible to overcome evil by our conversion to God”.

The bishop of Leiria-Fatima stated that society of today lives in an “eclipse of God”

where the presence of God “is hidden from personal and familiar life, culture and society”.

This group of pilgrims was present at the International Pilgrimage Anniversary of September in the Shrine of Fatima.

Cardinal of Manila will preside at the pilgrimage of 13 May 2019

The invitation made to Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle confirms attention to pilgrims from Asia, Cardinal António Marto states / Carmo Rodeia



At his meeting with the Ambassador of the Philippines, Cardinal Antonio Marto underlined the importance of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Bishop of Leiria-Fatima announced that the international pilgrimage of 13 May 2019 will be presided by the Cardinal of Manila, Luis Antonio Tagle, as a sign of attention to Asia.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Archbishop of Manila, Philippines, since 2011, is currently the President of Caritas Internationalis. He was created Cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI in November 2012, and he is considered a “very simple” man

and “a good communicator”, in line with “Pope Francis’ personal style”, Cardinal António Marto stressed to the ambassador of the Philippines to Portugal, Celia Anna Faria, whom he received on 12 September at the opening of the International Anniversary Pilgrimage that celebrated the fifth Apparition of Our Lady.

On the occasion, the ambassador asked the prelate of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima to include

in his prayers a special intention for “peace and reconciliation in the country”.

“We are very faithful to the Church – along with East Timor, the Philippines is one of the two predominantly Catholic nations in Asia –, we pray so that our people live in peace and the most underprivileged are not forgotten”, the ambassador said. She has been in Lisbon for 14 months and considers herself to be “privileged” to be able to visit Fatima often.

For his part, Cardinal António Marto stressed the attention of the Shrine to the Asian pilgrims: “This year we have invited the Emeritus Bishop of Hong Kong, who presided in May; we will have the Bishop of Hiroshima in October and next year we will have two more Asian representatives in both these pilgrimages: the Archbishop of Manila and the Archbishop of Seoul”, in May and October, respectively.

“The Asian pilgrims reveal great interiority while praying and we acknowledge it with profound respect”, the Portuguese Cardinal enhanced, making also some remarks, during the meeting, on the contents of the Message of Fatima and the way it should be read nowadays: “It’s a message which evokes Peace among men”, he stressed.

The Shrine of Fatima keeps on welcoming countless Asian pilgrims and therefore it will have as President of the International Anniversary Pilgrimage in October next year the Archbishop of Seoul and Apostolic Administrator of Pyongyang, Cardinal Soo-Jung.

The Holy Father imparted the Apostolic Blessing to the faithful who prayed before the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin

Pope Francis also asked the pilgrims to pray for his ministry / Enzo Sorrentino

We have lived a time of grace with the visit of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin, so that we could relive the same celebratory moments with widespread public involvement as on the Jubilee Year of the Centennial of Apparitions of Fatima, and also to entrust to the Virgin Mary the Synod of Bishops on young people.

In profound communion with the specifications of the Italian Church we wanted to give to this pilgrimage a missionary purpose, embodied on the transmission of the Gospel message with a view to the New Evangelization upon which the Holy Father frequently invites us to embark. It was a moment of grace and commitment to an ever-increasing conversion to God, welcoming the exhortation of Pope Francis to us being missionaries of joy, the joy that comes from God and does not deceive.

Everywhere there has been a continuous sequence of celebrations of the Word, penitential celebrations, Eucharistic celebrations, Marian and Eucharistic vigils, many of them night away and also uninterrupted recitations of the Holy Rosary, with several pilgrimages from other regions and nearby villages. The processions with the Blessed Sacrament and the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin were of great solemnity, creating the same praying atmosphere we breathe at Cova da Iria.

It is important to recall the moments of prayer experienced over the entire route, the full and active involvement of the faithful and the invaluable support of the local parishes, and, in particular, the "Eucharistic Journey for the priestly and religious vocations, for the family, for the sick, for the children and for young people", which raised a passionate participation of the faithful, who came from everywhere to pay homage to the Virgin Mary through the Pilgrim Statue.

We wish to describe the moving moments experienced in the parishes of the diocese of Rieti – particularly in Accumoli, severely affected by the 2016 earthquake – which entrusted the populations to the Virgin Mother, and these populations are still facing hardships today.

Before the beginning of the National Pilgrimage in Italy, the invaluable Crown Rosary offered by Saint John Paul II (the itinerary of the Year of the Rosary) was placed in the hands of the Pilgrim Virgin to invoke through Mary the



"Ambassador" of Fatima ended pilgrimage in Italy

precious gift of peace for the peoples and holiness for the families.

The days 12 and 13 May were of particular solemnity in Castenedolo and Capodimonte (parishes of Saint Bartholomew Apostle and St. John Bosco, respectively) with moments of prayer before Our Lady while preparing for the celebration of 13 May.

Along the journey there were several moments of prayer for the Holy Father, Pope Francis, to whom we renew sentiments of devotion and profound gratitude for the congratulatory message in which, assuring us of His spiritual participation, he asked us to pray for His Universal Ministry and, through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima, he imparted to the prelates, to the priests, to the authorities and to all the faithful who were present at the filial homage to Mary, the implored Apostolic Blessing, extending it to the whole population.

For the last stage, in which we celebrated the completion of the national itinerary of the Pilgrim Virgin in Italy, the Basilica of Sant'Andrea delle Fratte was chosen (Basilica di Sant'Andrea delle Fratte) – the Shrine of Our Lady of the Miracle (Santuario della Ma-

donna del Miracolo), in Rome. The arrival at the Piazza di Spagna, on 22 July by 9 pm, was suggestive: the historic square was filled with the faithful and their faces were deeply moved. The multitude was waiting for the Statue of the Celestial Pilgrim that was carried in procession from the steps of the Trinità dei Monti to the basilica of Sant'Andrea delle Fratte with the traditional candlelights.

A raw emotion accompanied the final solemn concelebration of the National Pilgrimage at the Marian Shrine (also known as the Roman Lourdes), which was attended by the parish communities of the territory and by the faithful coming from various localities of Palombara and Rome, from the Sabina area and from many other places of the Lazio region. At the farewell, the solemn concelebration, presided over by father Francesco M. Trebisonda, the rector of the Shrine, ended with the act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The venerated Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin was greeted with emotion while She was passing through a multitude of faithful that, amid applause, were chanting the Ave de Fatima while waving the traditional white handkerchiefs.



Piazza di Spagna welcomed the vigil prayer with the presence of the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima

A Group of students from the Colombian War College visited the Shrine of Fatima

The Vice-Rector, Father Vítor Coutinho, left a message of peace and friendship / *Cátia Filipe*



"Fatima is a place of peace in a century marked by war"

A group of students from the Colombian War College visited Fatima and was welcomed by the Vice-Rector of the Shrine, Father Vítor Coutinho.

This delegation, lead by general Oscar Hernández, subdirector of the Colombian War College, was accompanied by colonel Marino Valencia, Military attaché to the Colombian embassy in Lisbon, by Rev. Monsignor Amaury,

and by the staff of the embassy of Colombia, a total of 48 people.

During the reception, Father Vítor Coutinho reminded that Fatima is visited by thousands of groups each year, this group deserves the greatest respect for having come from so far away and visit Fatima.

"The Message of Fatima speaks about peace; in Fatima we pray for peace and therefore re-

ceiving a War College and speaking about peace is very special and important to us", he stressed.

The Vice-Rector of the Shrine of Fatima spoke about the soldiers' mission, the quest for peace: "you are sent to war scenarios to be peace-keepers and therefore being here, in this place, is very meaningful to you".

"Cova da Iria means hollow of peace", the priest explained. "The apparition of Our Lady here to leave a peaceful message is truly symbolic; indeed, Fatima is a place of peace, a symbol of peace in a century deeply marked by wars."

Father Vítor Coutinho manifested his great joy in receiving this group, in a Shrine where "we receive everyone", in his own words.

"Catholic is first of all universal and in this place we embrace everybody, because Fatima is a place of encounter with God", he reminded.

To conclude, the Vice-Rector expressed the wish that each one of those future soldiers feels at home, Mother's home.

As part of the programme, a celebration was held in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, at the Shrine of Fatima.

The Colombian War College was founded in 1909 by General Rafael Reyes Prieto. This group stayed in Portugal for three days.

Cardinal Sarah visited the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Zakopane-Krzeptówki

The encounter took place last 16 September / *Shrine of Zakopane*

On the 16 September 2018 Cardinal Robert Sarah, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, visited the national Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Zakopane-Krzeptówki, Poland.

Cardinal Robert Sarah first expressed great joy for the presence of so many devotees. The prelate enhanced the presence of Mary in the life of Saint John Paul II, an important factor for the worldwide development of the cult of the Most Holy Mother. On his reflection he explained that through Mary we are able to know better her Son Jesus Christ. He underlined the importance of everyday prayer, of the frequent and active participation in the Eucharist and of the personal relation with Jesus, which are the most important means to know God.

During the homily, the President of the celebrations spoke of the three fundamental sources of Christian life: the Cross, the Eucharist and the Virgin Mary. Explaining the significance of these major symbols of Christianity, he emphasized that the only way which can lead us to the Kingdom of God is the Way of the Cross.

Cardinal Robert Sarah also remarked that the Eucharist feeds and confers the necessary strength for us to carry the Cross and welcome the Gospel with all the radicalism of God's Word. And Our Lady, who stood at the foot of the Cross of Jesus Christ, teaches us how to em-

brace our own cross and live in joy, even in the most painful moments of our existence.

At the conclusion of the celebration, Cardinal Robert Sarah blessed the two statues of Our Lady of Fatima. One of them will be taken to the church in Cheliabinsk, Diocese of Novosibirsk, in Russia.

At the end of the Eucharist, the Pallottine

Provincial Zenon Hanas SAC expressed his deep gratitude to Cardinal Robert Sarah for his words of profound spirituality to the faithful reunited in Zakopane. He stressed that Cardinal Robert Sarah's presence at the Shrine would never be forgotten. He also assured that the African prelate would always be present in the people's prayers, in the pilgrims' prayers.



Zakopane and Fatima: two shrines united by the same faith

The project INTERCRISTO celebrates its 10 years of mission

This initiative seeks to create a Christian exchange among Portuguese and Brazilian / Bernardo Villa-Lobos



Missionaries develop School of Mary by spreading the cult of the message of Fatima

INTERCRISTO is a missionary project that, as its name suggests, seeks to create a Christian exchange among Portuguese and Brazilian. The mission is to go to meet people and announce the Gospel by visiting families, hospitals, prisons, homes, schools and communities.

It was 10 years ago that the dream of Agnaldo Pereira came true. The seed was sown by God in his heart when this Brazilian came to work to Portugal. He met here the Teams of Our Lady for Young People and, in a pilgrimage on foot to Fatima, another young man, Bernardo Caldeira, and together they started the biggest adventure with God they have ever thought.

In December 2008, in the state of Minas Gerais, in Brazil, together with the Pastoral for Youth of the Diocese of Divinópolis, he started his missionary activity and in this first mission with a statue of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, they felt a special call to spread the Gospel through the Message of Fatima.

They began then to study and deepen their knowledge; they joined the Movement of the

Message of Fatima and participated in numerous training. Today they are still studying Fatima.

But they felt the need to name the mission – Project Fatima School of Mary: “Project Fatima” for it spreads the Message of Fatima and “School of Mary” to remind of the need of the devotion to Our Lady from an early age as Saint John Paul II exhorted: “Ask your parents and teachers to enrol you in the “school” of Our Lady, so that She can teach you to be like the little shepherds, who tried to do whatever She asked them” (Homily of Pope John Paul II at the Beatification of the Francisco and Jacinta, Fatima, 13 May 2000).

Through their numerous visits, the missionaries of INTERCRISTO have recognised and learnt from the people of God that it is them who teach them how to love Mary. They learnt from each visit, from the face of each brother, the art of praying and loving. The missionary work consists in taking the Pilgrim Statue in hand to the houses of the families. The family is the big gamble of this mission for they believe

that if the family is going well, the world is going well.

They say that it is in the families that is necessary to be present and to encourage to pray the rosary, to remember that the Virgin Mary asked the three little shepherds and the world to pray the rosary every day. The missionaries visit likewise numerous hospitals, homes, nurseries, institution for people with chemical dependencies; they promote meetings with groups of young people; they participate in tv and radio programs, in Eucharistic celebrations, in the Holy Rosary, in exhibitions, among other activities.

It should also be noted that there is a strong social component related to the mission, through the collection of food, toys and clothes, as well as a strong commitment to Christian training of the young people.

The mission INTERCRISTO Project Fatima School of Mary has been spreading the Message of Fatima through Brazil, namely in the States of Minas Gerais, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Paraná.

The Mayor of the Polish town of Zabrze visited the Shrine of Fatima

Malgorzata Manka-Szulik was received by the chaplain of the Shrine, Father Francisco Pereira / Cátia Filipe

The Mayor of the Polish town of Zabrze was on a visit to Portugal.

On the first day, a visit to the Shrine of Fatima was of paramount importance in the programme.

The Mayor Malgorzata Manka-Szulik and her delegation were received by the chaplain of the Shrine, Father Francisco Pereira.

In the Mayor's own words, the visit to Fatima is a cause of great joy not only for the faith aspect but also for the great devotion to Saint John Paul II and to Our Lady of Fatima.

The town of Zabrze is located in the south of Poland, in the province of Silesia.

The programme also included a visit to Aljustrel and Valinhos, as well as taking part on a ceremony in the Chapel of the Apparitions.



Portugal and Poland are united in the cult to Our Lady of Fatima

Fatima offers pastoral workshops and itineraries of spirituality

During the next pastoral year, the School of the Shrine's activities will be focused on the life of the saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto / Carmo Rodeia

The School of the Shrine of Fatima, devised by the newly established Department of the Pastoral of the Message of Fatima, will hold an initiative on the third weekend of each month structured in one of three approaches: Pastoral Workshop, Itinerary of Spirituality or Course.

This year the big news is the Pastoral Workshop, focused on saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto. The workshop is designed for a specific public, namely those agents working on the themes of the workshop, such as the religious, the catechists or the pilgrimage recreation workers.

On the other hand, the School of the Shrine will promote a set of actions "to impart the Message contents on its relation with the big contemporary issues", and the training approach will be the Course on the Message of Fatima. There will be a third kind of training: the spirituality experiences in retreats, called "Itineraries of Spirituality", aiming to give people an opportunity to experience new dimensions of the Message of Fatima that may be significant to their personal, family and social life as Christians.

Father José Nuno Silva, Director of the Department of the Pastoral of the Message of Fatima, remarked that "Whether they are Pastoral Workshops or Courses, the spiritual experience dimension in these activities is our main concern. The spiritual experience will be deeply intense: there will be significant moments of prayer and celebration in all of them, within a mistagogic perspective". The Course and the Itineraries are open to the general public but the Workshops are designed for those who are directly involved with the Pastoral.

By the end of the pastoral year three Workshops will take place: a Pastoral Workshop for catechists will be held in February, focused on Francisco and Jacinta and therefore designed for the catechesis of children; in July there will be a Pastoral Workshop on Pilgrimage, a training opportunity for operators and facilitators of pilgrimages; and a Workshop on the Missionary Childhood will be held in September.

"The proposal consists of an itinerary for the weekend – Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning – fostering a progressive approach to the life of the little shepherds, trying to understand how they experienced these dimensions of the Church", Father José Nuno Silva states.

In every period of the workshops there will be a reading proposal about the life of Francisco and Jacinta and the model of sanctity they embody. After this reading, proposed by the team of the Shrine of Fatima, there

will be group work in order to deepen this missionary dimension in the life of the little shepherds. Finally, the groups will present their work in a plenary so that they can learn from each other, allowing the participants to deepen their knowledge. By the end of the workshop we shall have four duly substantiated pastoral proposals for future recreation activities, based on the lives of the Shepherd Saints and the model of sanctity their lives have become.

How to take part

The 'Pastoral Workshops' have a more operative nature and therefore aim to reunite pastoral agents from different areas in order to work together some issues of the Message of Fatima that should be proposed to the communities, outside the Shrine.

Through these agents' input some contributions will be devised. Once they are properly trained, and having undertaken the experience of the Message themselves, these agents "will be able to take outside Fatima, to their own communities, applying those contributions as valid working proposals, the Message of Fatima in a general Church context".

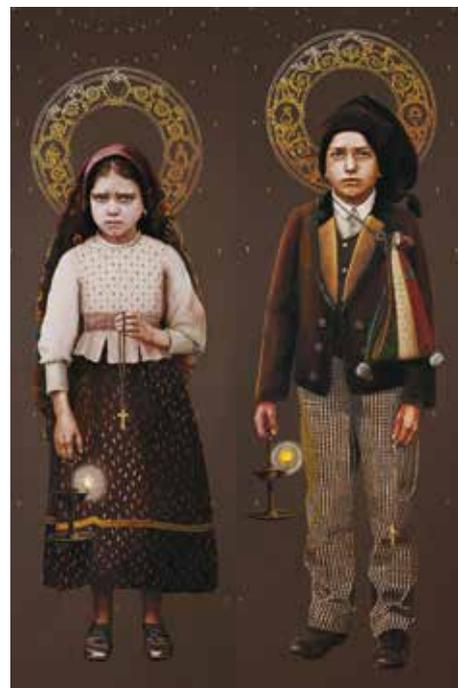
Taking part in these workshops is free of charge but prior registration is required.

"This year our proposals at the School of the Shrine will be mainly focused on the Little Shepherds. There will be initiatives every third weekend of each month, except for August. One of these proposals, in November (17 and 18), is a course about the vision of eternity within the Message of Fatima, entitled: «Shall I go to Heaven too?» The vision of eternity within the Message of Fatima", father José Nuno Silva emphasises, explaining the association usually made between Fatima and the vision of Hell.

"The Message of Fatima is closely related with the vision of Hell, which takes place in July's apparition, and there is a whole imagery about Fatima around this theme. But the Little Shepherds' life experience has a deeper meaning in the Message", father José Nuno Silva explains.

"They were certainly marked by this vision of Hell, that brings out in them a great love and a big concern by offering themselves so that no one goes to Hell; however, the underlying truth here was a great desire for Heaven", the priest added.

"We wish to deepen this desire for Heaven, for it seems to us to be an issue that matters to men, to our contemporaries: a desire for Heaven, the awareness that we are the recipients of an invitation and a calling to



eternity. It's important to unveil the horizon of man's life and ponder on the afterlife, opening our conscience to the idea of salvation and that we are saved", father José Nuno Silva emphasises.

The Itineraries of Spirituality

The School of the Shrine will also foster the 'Spiritual Itineraries', beginning with four itineraries on the Rosary theme, which will occur during four weekends: "The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Joyful Mysteries", "The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Luminous Mysteries", "The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Sorrowful Mysteries", and "The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Glorious Mysteries", in December (15 and 16), in January (19 and 20), in March (16 and 17), and in May (18 and 19), respectively. Between 27 May and 2 June there will be one week in which the four itineraries will be considered.

The School of the Shrine will also offer topic-oriented 'Itineraries of Spirituality' focused on a specific theme, namely: "Fatima in the light of Easter" (18 to 21 April); "Encounter of spirituality for retired persons: here is my way" (8 to 10 May and 9 to 11 October) and an itinerary designed for parents who have lost a child: «Don't worry, mother. I'm going to Heaven». Losing a child (15 to 16 June).

Agenda of the School of the Shrine

Taking part in these workshops is free of charge but prior registration is required.
See more in www.fatima.pt

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|---|
| School | 17-Nov-18 | 18-Nov-18 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Course on the Message of Fatima. «Shall I go to Heaven too?» The vision of eternity within the Message of Fatima. |
| School | 15-Dec-18 | 16-Dec-18 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Joyful Mysteries. |
| School | 19-Jan-19 | 20-Jan-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Luminous Mysteries. |
| School | 16-Feb-19 | 17-Feb-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Pastoral Workshops. Francisco and Jacinta, patron saints of the Missionary Childhood. |
| School | 16-Mar-19 | 17-Mar-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Sorrowful Mysteries. |
| School | 18-Apr-19 | 21-Apr-19 | THU - SUN | 4 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. Fatima in the light of Easter. |
| School | 8-May-19 | 10-May-19 | WED - FRI | 3 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. Encounter of spirituality for retired persons. Here is my way. |
| School | 18-May-19 | 19-May-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Glorious Mysteries. |
| School | 27-May-19 | 2-Jun-19 | MON - SUN | 7 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life. |
| School | 15-Jun-19 | 16-Jun-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. «Don't worry, mother. I'm going to Heaven». Losing a child. |
| School | 20-Jul-19 | 21-Jul-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Pastoral Workshops. The pilgrimage, spirituality and practices. |
| School | 21-Sep-19 | 22-Sep-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Retreat. Lúcia of Jesus, the Heart as a mission. |
| School | 9-Oct-19 | 11-Oct-19 | WED - FRI | 3 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. Encounter of spirituality for retired persons. Here is my way. |
| School | 19-Oct-19 | 20-Oct-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine |
| School | 20-Oct-18 | 21-Oct-18 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Pastoral Workshops. Francisco and Jacinta, patron saints of the Missionary Childhood. |
| School | 16-Nov-19 | 17-Nov-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine |
| School | 14-Dec-19 | 15-Dec-19 | SAT - SUN | 2 | School of the Shrine: Itinerary of Spirituality. The Rosary, evangelic itinerary of theological life: the Joyful Mysteries. |

Shrine of Fatima has three new chaplains / Carmo Rodeia

From October, the Shrine of Fatima will have three new chaplains: Fr. Carlos Silva, Priest of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Dehonians, (SCJ); Fr. Clemens Maria Henkel (German) and Fr. Andrzej Wegrzyn (Polish).

Fr. Carlos Silva has already been in the Shrine

of Fatima collaborating during this last year with the Shrine of Fatima, assisting in the celebrations of the official program and also in the confessions. He conducted the last encounter of Priests of the Rosary in Fatima.

The new German priest, who will assist the

Shrine of Fatima, appointed by the German Episcopal Conference, will replace Fr. Norbert Abler, who leaves this service because he reached the limit of age.

As to the Polish priest, he was appointed to assist the Polish in diaspora and will stay in Fatima.

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Fátima Light and Peace

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Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima

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Printing: Gráfica Almondina – Torres Novas

Legal Deposit: 210 650/04

ISSN: 1647-2438

Isento de registo na E.R.C. ao abrigo do decreto regulamentar 8/99 de 9 de Junho – alínea a) do n.º 1 do Artigo 12.º

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Please help us spread the Message of Our Lady through 'Fatima Light and Peace'!

“We live in our societies more and more as if God did not exist”, considers the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas was present at the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, in Talsano, Italy / Cátia Filipe



Marian cult is very strong in Italy

Last 4 October the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, in Talsano, Italy, celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Consecration of the Parish.

The theme of these celebrations is “Mary and Francisco are here among us”. The Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, was present at the festivities and enthroned a copy of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima venerated in the Chapel of the Apparitions.

In his reflexion, the priest said that the content of the angelical apparitions in 1916 is “the primacy of God, Most Holy Trinity, in our life”.

“We live today demanding times in which we no longer face a militant opposition, but indifference”; “we live in our societies more and more as if God did not exist, without counting on Him and His will to configure our life and define the choices and the options”.

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas alerted to “the primacy of God and to the central place it should take in our lives that calls our attention to the Message of Fatima: all the Message of Fatima and its spirituality starts from the Most Holy Trinity and conducts us to the Most Holy Trinity”.

“There are no theological speeches on God, on the Most Holy Trinity, but rather an existential knowledge capable of changing one’s life”.

The Rector of the Shrine of Fatima clarified

that it is in this Trinitarian horizon “that the Message of Fatima, from the apparitions of the Angel, underlines the centrality of the Eucharist in our Christian life and from it rises the exhortation to adoration, to reparation, to the insistent and without discouragement prayer”.

“The prayer is another fundamental dimension of the Message of Fatima”, said the priest remembering the little Shepherds as “models of sanctity”.

By looking at Francisco and Jacinta we find “the example of the attitude of attention given to the other and his needs”, and thereby show-

ing us that there is no true love to God that doesn’t involve the love to the brothers”.

By way of conclusion, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas stated that the celebration of the anniversary of the Shrine of Talsano “is a renewed challenge of welcoming the Message of Fatima and of imitating the Saints Shepherds”.

The day before, at the invitation of the Opera Romana Pellegrinaggi, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima took part in a training seminar entitled “Giovani e Pellegrinaggio”. In a round table, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas spoke about the encounter of the young people with Mary, as Mother and Master.

“The shrines of today are privileged places of the new evangelization for the diffusion of the faith, from the strong experiences of faith which is possible in them and from its specific message”, he said giving as example Fatima that “can speak to the young people of today”, because it is “a message that does not deviate from what is secondary in

the life of faith, but rather focus its attention in what is fundamental in the Christian life; a message that extracts its importance from the message of the Gospel, sustaining It and leading to It; a message capable of leading to a strong experience of God through Mary”.

The Rector also spoke about the initiatives the Shrine of Fatima is promoting for young people, such as Sete Projeto or the Youth Center, which intend that each participant to become “protagonist exhorting him to make his own way of faith guided by Mary”.



Shrine of Fatima and Opera Romana Pellegrinaggi are united in the diffusion of Fatima

The Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin has returned to Ragusa, Italy

The sick and the elderly prayed before the Statue from the Shrine of Fatima

/ D. Giorgio Occhipinti



Devotion of first Saturdays with more devotees in Italy

The Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin coming from the Shrine of Fatima has returned to Ragusa and was welcomed at the Civil Hospital, two years after her last visit. There were numberless initiatives coordinated by father Gior-

gio Occhipinti, Diocesan Director for Health Pastoral Care and National Advisor of the World Apostolate of Fatima (Region of Sicily), after the Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Fatima, between 10 and 18 August 2018.

Among the initiatives which had young people and children as protagonists, as well as numberless faithful participants and the parishes, there were truly special moments of solidarity towards the sick and the fragile. The presence of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin drew the attention of the numberless leaders and professionals who participated in the meeting that took place at the Sicilian Consortium for Rehabilitation (Consorzio Siciliano di Riabilitazione).

A great number of people took part in this initiative. For two days, the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin was at the Civil Hospital and the Maria Paternò Arezzo Hospital for the Eucharist dedicated to the patients in the Departments of Oncology, Palliative Care and General Medicine, and the blessing of the patients at the other Departments of these hospitals.

On the penultimate day of her stay in Ragusa, another important moment of this 'Peregrinatio Mariae' was the presence of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin at Emanuela Cascone's home. This lady is 103 years old and she recites the Rosary every day. This time the old lady prayed in the presence of the venerated statue coming from the Portuguese shrine.

The Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin left in Ragusa the traces of her passing, with the establishment of a group of the World Apostolate of Fatima at the Diocese, the practice of the First Saturday of each month as a privileged occasion to reunite all the faithful and recite the Holy Rosary in communion, just like Our Lady expressly requested during the Apparitions in Cova da Iria.



Emanuela Cascone is 103 years and prays the rosary every day