



Director: Fr. Luciano Guerra * Proprietor: Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (Portugal) * Quarterly publication * Year III * Nr. 12 * 2006/02/13

Last of Seven Children

The message of Fátima serves no other purpose than the one proclaimed by the Son of God when He came into the world: 'I came so that they may have life...' (Jo.10,10).

It happens, however, that life is encountering difficulties everywhere. The planet looks too small to hold so much life. Some forget that life doesn't belong to them. Many don't accept the fact that life is a gift of God. Ancient longings for freedom pretend that time is the same as eternity. The youths get rid of children; if necessary, by aborting. The elderly regret a past which didn't provide for future grandchildren. Science gets into all the forbidden ways.

Who knows?! Maybe God has determined that the poorest peoples may overtake the front cars, in the Train of History...

Lucy's mother caused her a lot of sorrow, because she



wasn't able to quite believe in the apparitions of Our Lady. Nevertheless, her daughter writes in her Memoirs: 'Yes, I thank God for the Mother so good and so holy that He gave me, while at the same time sadly lamenting so many others who kill their children, even before they see the light of day. "Thou shall not kill", the Law of God tells us (Ex.20,13). I am the last of 7 children that God gave to my parents; if they were like them,

I would not be here today.'" (Memoirs of Sr. Lucy II, 1996, pag.181).

None of us would be here!

On February 11, a referendum will be held in Portugal on the liberalization of abortion. God's designs are unfathomable! Praised be God for the gift of life!

Fr. Luciano Guerra, Rector

The Holm-oak in the Shrine is of Public Interest

The General Administration of Forest Resources of Portugal has classified the holm-oak ("azinheira") near the Little Chapel, in the Prayer Area of the Shrine of Fátima, as being of 'public interest'.

The Identity Card of the tree, issued by the General Administration, emphasizes the historic and landscaping interest of the holm-oak with these words: 'Sample of great symbolism and devotion. It is traditionally linked to the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fátima. It is mentioned in several early documents of the apparitions as the 'Azinheira Grande' (large holm-oak). Seers and Pilgrims used to take shelter under it while saying the Rosary, before Our Lady appeared.'



Church in Russia Marks the 90 Years of the Apparitions

The Catholic Church in Russia is going to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Fátima. The announcement was made by the president of the Russian Catholic Episcopal Conference, Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz, in a declaration to Zenit Agency. 'At the time of the commemoration of the 90 years of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fátima, we will hold a convention on the 12th and the 13th of May, since these apparitions are also a manifestation of the love of God towards Russia', he declared.

For the Catholic Archbishop of Moscow, the message given in 1917 "in some way foresaw the history of Russia, of the world, and invited us to repentance, mentioning what would have to happen here'. The Blessed Virgin Mary, in Her message, left us with the hope of what we today are witnesses', he went on to say.

2007 will generally be for the Russian Catholics the 'Year of Merciful Love'.

Ecclesia Agency

January Pilgrimage in Fátima was a Hymn to Life

The Monthly Pilgrimage of January 2007 in Fátima was a day of prayer for human life.

During the night vigil of the 12th, the president of the Pilgrimage, Bishop António Marto, of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima, stated that the cause of life was entrusted to the intercession of Mary and launched an appeal: "Each person, each group, each community ought to question itself about what it has done and what it can do to launch some prophetic initiative that will be a comforting message of hope in favor of human life".

On the 13th, a month away from the holding in Portugal of a national referendum on abortion (February 11), another 13 Portuguese bishops joined Bishop Marto in the celebration.

The main Mass was celebrated on the altar of the Prayer Area of the Shrine.

More than 9,000 people from throughout the whole country attended.

During the homily, titled 'Be Sentinels of the Dignity and Future of Human Life', Bishop António Marto reiterated the classification of abortion 'as a social wound' and underlined the paradoxes in today's society.

We have been pleased to notice that there is an increase in the sensitivity regard-

ing the protection of children, the proper conditions for motherhood, the equality amongst all human beings, the defense and protection of the environment. There is also, throughout the whole world, a movement to do away with torture and the death penalty. However, paradoxically, we see a growing banalization of abortion, which provokes the silent death of a human being, silent, defenseless and innocent", he said.

"The phenomenon of abortion as a social wound is a symptom of the profound malaise of our culture and present civilization, of our society. It has been spreading a materialistic view that reduces the concept of human life to a mere product or biologic material, a pragmatic and utilitarian view that totally subordinates moral sensitivity to cost, welfare, comfort and so on. Thus our society becomes both fragile (before life's difficulties) and 'hard' (in implement-



ing drastic solutions), as a result of the competitive and utilitarian logic", he said.

The prelate prayed to Our Lady that Europe 'may not look back only towards the past, may not think only about the survival of the elderly, but may turn its eyes with joy, confidence and generosity, towards a future full of new human lives'. This day of prayer, under the overall theme 'Welcome life as a gift of God', concluded late afternoon on the 13th with the Stations of the Cross.

Rectors of Shrines of France meet in Fátima

Shrines are Source of Hope



More than a hundred representatives of 75 French, 1 Belgian and 1 Swiss shrines met in the Shrine of Fátima on the 15th through the 17th of January.

The annual congress of the Association of Rectors of Shrines (A.R.S.) of France was held in Portugal at the invitation of the Rector of the Shrine of Fátima, frequent attendee of these congresses of the French association founded in 1974.

The theme presented to the participants for reflection, in all lectures and meetings held, was 'Mercy...Reconciliation...Forgiveness...Compassion...Reparation'.

On the afternoon of the 16th, 19 rectors of Portuguese shrines joined the French group. The Portuguese rectors agreed to study the possible creation of an association of rectors of the Portuguese shrines.

The President of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference, the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon and the Bishop of Leiria-Fátima were present at certain moments of the Congress. From France, representing the French Episcopal Conference, came the Archbishop of Toulouse.

Unanimous was the idea that shrines have an important role to play in evangelizing and, therefore, ought to try to warmly welcome those who seek the ways of God.

'Shrines are essential for those who take to the road looking for God', said the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, emphasizing that 'mobility' is a characteristic, a 'cultural and spiritual manifestation of our time', and it is in that direction that shrines ought to 'help those taking to the road'.

Archbishop Le Gall, of Toulouse, focused on mobility, namely on pilgrimages of youths to the shrines, as an 'element of hope'.

'Welcome always' was also the 'refrain' of the president of A.R.S.. Msgr. Patrick Jacquin emphasized that shrines must 'always welcome those seeking to discover what is the Church, what is faith.'

The President of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference, right at the start of the congress, expressed his wishes that the reflection made during the congress may contribute to 'an efficacious activity in the shrines', so that pilgrims and visitors of those places 'may encounter the right people and spaces' which will instill in them hope and the will to change their lives for the better'.

Delegation from Kazan visits Fátima

An official delegation from the local government of Kazan – Mayor and three councilmen from the local government of that city of the Russian Federation – visited the Shrine of Fátima on the afternoon of December 12, 2006.

The executive director of the World Apostolate of Fátima, Michael La Corte, and the two secretaries of the World Apostolate in Portugal escorted the group.

The group was welcomed in the Shrine by Fr. Clemente Dotti, chaplain of the Shrine in charge of Reception of Foreign Language Pilgrims.

In his welcoming remarks, Fr. Clemente Dotti presented in general terms the history of the Apparitions of Fátima and showed the physical spaces of the Shrine and explained how its various services operate.

The reason for this visit is the interest of the group in getting to know, in real terms, how various places of pilgrimage in Europe are organized, since it intends to study the feasibility of building in Kazan an interconfessional center of pilgrimage dedicated to Mary.

On the occasion, the Mayor of Kazan donated to the Shrine a picture (see photo) in silver representing a panoramic view of



the City of Kazan, where you can see an orthodox church and a mosque almost side by side.

After visiting the Shrine's museum 'Fátima Light and Peace', the Mayor signed the book of honor of the exhibition, where he wrote in Russian what we can translate more or less like this: 'To all our friends! To all I wish, from the bottom of my heart, good health: to Priests, Bishops, Brothers and Sis-

ters. This holy shrine will forever stay engraved in my heart. May Our Lady of Fátima intercede for everyone and for peace'.

After this, the group visited several other spaces of the Shrine. One of the councilmen lighted a tall candle in the 'tocheiro' (candle burning apparatus), as many pilgrims do.

After this visit to the Shrine of Fátima, the delegation travelled to France, where it also visited the Shrine of Lourdes.

Children of Kazakstan Sing 'Ave Maria de Fátima'

We are pleased to mention in this issue the publication in Spanish of the first issue of 'Friends of Kazakstan', with date of January 2007.

On page 6, in an article titled 'Kazakstan and the Virgin of Fátima' we read that 'Kazaks have a special devotion to the Virgin of Fátima, since without Her we wouldn't have seen the end of the USSR', because the overthrow of the Communist system 'can't be explained but by supernatural causes'.

In the same text, illustrated with a picture of an image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we read that 'In Kapchigai, city at 60km from Almaty, the pastor cares for 100 children that don't have family able to take proper care of them'. In that place, on the 13th of May, we may encounter 100 children, led by a priest, singing loudly in Russian the 'Ave Maria de Fátima'.

We pray that the Virgin of Fátima look after these children and the whole people of Kazakstan.

Good News from Russia

We have just received from Sr. Maria Celeste Lúcio the following letter:

"This past Summer our Sr. Maria Teresa Ramos visited her family in Portugal. She is a missionary, for the past seven years, in Kolpino, Russia.

She was short on time to be able to visit Fátima and deliver in person to the Rector of the Shrine this poster of Our Lady of Fátima, a true picture of the original wood icon, of large dimensions, which is greatly venerated in this Russian parish.

During the harsh communist regime, this church was an entertainment house. The Christian people credits the many prayers to Our Lady of Fátima for the return of that space, which is today a Catholic parish church. (...) The meeting of Presidents of the European Episcopal Conferences was held recently in St. Petersburg.

Archbishop Jorge Ortiga visited the Catechetical Center, where Sr. Teresa works. She teaches the catechists and makes out all the catechisms used in all Russian-speaking countries.

Sr. Maria Teresa also told us that this meeting in Russia of the Catholic Bishops was an event with profound influence in the approximation of Catholics and Orthodox. Even the President of the Republic sent a representative to the welcoming ceremony.

Our Congregation – Franciscan Mis-



sonaries of Mary – which had been expelled from Russia in 1917, returned in 1997.

Notwithstanding the great difficulties in a land where the Catholic Church is a minority and made up almost entirely of foreign missionaries, we try to implement this type of mission in countries formerly communist."

Holy Father can't visit Fátima in 2007

The spokesman for the Portuguese Episcopal Conference announced, on January 9, in Fátima, that Holy Father Benedict XVI can't come to Fátima in 2007.

Bishop Carlos Azevedo stated that, after the invitation of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference and that of the Bishop of Leiria-Fátima, the Secretary of State of the Vatican informed the Portuguese Episcopal Conference that it was not possible for the Holy Father to travel to Fátima in October

of 2007, at the conclusion of the 90 years of the Apparitions and at the time of the inauguration of the Church of the Most Holy Trinity.

The reason given has to do with the calendar of the Holy Father, since he seeks to limit the number of his trips.

Nevertheless His Holiness let it be known that he will send a Pontifical Legate to the October celebrations and manifested his desire to visit Fátima on some other occasion.

Rome: Youths from Spain stand guard next to the Pilgrim Image

Four members of GSMA (Grupo San Miguel Arcángel) from Spain were visiting Rome when the Pilgrim Image of Fátima last visited Vatican City.



The group heard the hymn 'Ave de Fátima', watched the flowers, the colors and the walk through the streets of the 'Eternal City' and, reacting spontaneously and suddenly, as if prompted by some invisible hand, Juan Carlos and Elena (from Madrid) and Loly and Marcos (from Vigo), with simplicity, respect, but also daring, crossed the barricades and, behold, positioned themselves in formation behind the Image of Our Lady.

Loly tells us that nobody had told them anything. They did it on an impulse. 'It looked to everyone, people and clerics alike, that we were where we belonged', says Loly, who emphasizes that 'it was a gift from Mother, which took us very far... we crossed St. Peter's Square... all the way to the Basilica! The President of the Liturgy placed us next to the Image of Our Lady, to the left of the altar. It is natural that people would ask who were we; however, we stood there firm, though trembling of joy, as guard of honor in our uniforms'.

In the end, tells us Elena, 'we continued to keep guard up to the top of the steps of St. Peter's Square, right next to Cardinals Ruini, Ivan Dias and Bertone, until the end of the ceremonies'.

The two men, who so often pay a visit to Cova da Iria/Fátima, say that they will never forget such marvellous day, this so special grace, this not premeditated gift. 'Behind the Virgin, always, up to where She wants us', they vow.

And we say that the Virgin is going to always demand more, and so they won't miss occasions to do more...

How happy felt these four pilgrims, who left us all envying them!?

GSMA is an excellent group of apostolate, which was founded in Galicia by a layman, Mr. Miguel Rosendo. Their varied activities and dedication are giving so great an example in so many places. The Shrine of Fátima also knows them for their good works and participation in several activities.

This year the pilgrimage of GSMA will bring 700 people to Fátima in the last weekend of May.

Jorge Lence, Vigo, Spain

Image of the Virgin of Fátima unites people of Bolama, Guinea-Bissau

At the beginning of November 2006, a delegation from the local government of Ourém, where Fátima is situated, visited the Province of Bolama-Bijagós, in Guinea-Bissau. This delegation delivered to the Parish of St. Joseph in Bolama (Diocese of Bafatá) a statue of Our Lady of Fátima, donated by the Shrine of Fátima, Portugal.

As a sign of their gratitude, the people of Bolama, through their pastor, Fr. Jorge Carlos Soares, asked those in charge of the local government of Ourém to deliver to the Shrine of Fátima a letter that reads:

"Greetings of peace and well-being! If we were to express the sentiments of satisfaction and surprise we feel, we would not find the adequate words.

If we were to thank you for the spontaneous and brotherly gesture, we wouldn't ever be able to do it, even if we put into words all the sentiments of gratitude the delegation from Ourém provoked in us.

However, the important thing to do is to thank the Lord 'Who realized in us great things': the statue of Our Lady of Fátima not only united us to you...but also provoked a greater approximation between Catholics and Muslims of Bolama. Praised be God!

According to what we already transmitted to our illustrious visitors, we will be in syntony with you in the commemorations of May 13. We will hold a procession at that time and, according to what we have heard, some of our Muslim brothers will take part in this procession.



That will be all for now, but we hope to be able to write to you again as soon as the community gets together. We wish that this bond of friendship and brotherhood may grow and last. Please accept our best regards"

The devotion of the First Saturdays of the Month

In the apparition of July 13 in Fátima, Our Lady announced: 'In order to avoid war, I'll return to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart and the Reparation Communion of the First Saturdays'.

She returned to ask for the latter devotion, when She appeared to Sr. Lucy on December 10, 1925, in Pontevedra, Spain. She said then: 'Look, My daughter, at My Heart surrounded by the thorns with which ungrateful men at every moment pierce Me through blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console Me and tell that I promise to assist, at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for their salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, went to Confession, received Holy Communion, recited five decades of the Rosary and made Me company for fifteen minutes, while meditating in the 15 mysteries of the Rosary, all with the intent of making reparation to My Immaculate Heart'.

Our Lady showed then Her Heart surrounded with thorns, which represent our sins. She called for acts of reparation, in order to remove them, namely the reparation devotion of the five First Saturdays of the Month. In exchange, She promises us 'all the graces necessary for salvation'.

Jesus Himself, appearing to Sr. Lucy in the following two years, on February 15 of 1926 and December 17 of 1927, insists on the spreading of this devotion. Sr. Lucy wrote: 'War or peace in the world depend on the practice of this devotion of the First Saturdays, together



with the consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary'.

Why five?

The First Saturdays are five, according to this revelation of Jesus, because 'five are the kinds of offenses and blasphemies directed at the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

1. Blasphemies against Her Immaculate Conception. 2. ...against Her Virginity. 3. ...against Her Divine Maternity, including the refusal to receive Her as Mother of all men. 4. Offenses of those

who try to instill in the hearts of children indifference, contempt and even hate against this Immaculate Mother. 5. ...of those who offend Her directly in Her sacred images'.

Conditions

The conditions to gain the privilege of the First Saturdays are four:

1. Confession. For each First Saturday a confession with intention of reparation is needed. It may be made in any day, before or after the First Saturday, provided one is in the state of grace when receiving Communion.

The seer asked: - 'My Jesus, people may forget to formulate that intention (of reparation)!? Jesus replied: - They can do it in the following confession, taking advantage of the first opportunity they have to go to Confession'.

The other three conditions must be fulfilled on the First Saturday itself, except if a priest, for just cause, grants that they may be fulfilled on the following Sunday.

2. Communion of Reparation.

3. Five decades of the Rosary.

4. Meditation, during 15 minutes, on one, several or all mysteries. It is equally acceptable to meditate, instead, for three minutes, before each of the five decades of the Rosary being recited.

In all these practices one must have the intention of doing reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Devotion of the Five First Saturdays of the Month was approved by the Bishop of Leiria on September 13, 1939, in Fátima.

Fr. Fernando Leite, SJ

Children are an example for families in Taiwan

"Many Thanks for the last issue of FATIMA LUZ E PAZ that I just received those few days. I always read it with interest and renew my devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and dedication to the good of the parishioners of Tan Shuei (North of Taipei) and the many pilgrims to Our Lady of Fatima Sanctuary. Every 13th of the month we have pilgrimage which is taken care in turn now by the different deaneries of Taipei Diocese. Our small place attracts round 400 Christians every time and many individuals are also passing by at any time. In Taiwan, where there is only about 1 % of the population which is baptized Catholic, that is already a great number.

Since, I arrive here a little more than 5 years ago; I paid many efforts that the land we use be on the name of the Diocese so that we may provide a better worship place for the many pilgrims and the parishioners. We are not at the end of

our efforts yet, for we will have to buy again a part of the land and hopefully prepare a new construction with adapted facilities (parking and meeting places as well as offices). Hope we can count on your prayers also that matters will be quickly taken care of.

Since, I give more attention to the message of Fatima, I am much attracted to the importance of the Children and the example they are for our youngsters and their family. Devotion to their example should be a great help for all. (...)

Our prayers to Our Lady of Fatima include our concern for the whole world, let's remain united in prayer."

Pierre Wavreille CICM,

Parish Priest and Rector of the Sanctuary, Our Lady of Fatima Sanctuary, TAN SHUE - TAIWAN

Shrines of Our Lady of Fátima

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

In the Bulletin 'Fátima Light and Peace' of Nov.13,2006, we published a short list of places of devotion considered 'shrines' in Canada, United States of America and Mexico. We publish now another 30 that are registered in the archives of SESDI (Department of Studies and Information of the Shrine of Fátima) and that are situated in Central and South America, excepting those in Brazil, which will be published in the next issue of the Bulletin.

We are not sure the list is complete and are not in possession of the correct address of all of them. We'd appreciate if those in charge of those shrines as well as the readers of the Bulletin sent us the complete information.

According to canon 1230 of the Code of Canon Law, shrines are 'churches or other sacred places where the faithful, out of devotion, go in pilgrimage, in large numbers, with the approval of the Ordinary (Bishop) of the place'

Country	Diocese	Locality	Name
Argentina	Bahía Blanca	Aldea Romana	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Bahía Blanca	Pueblo de Santa Maria	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Bahía Blanca	Tornquist	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Buenos Aires	Santuario - Parroquia Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Córdoba	Moreno	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Córdoba	Córdoba	Parroquia - Santuario de Nª Sª de Fatima y S. Pio V
Argentina	Mendoza	Mendoza	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Mercedes-Luján	General Rodríguez	Santuario de la Santísima Virgen de Fatima
Argentina	Merlo-Moreno	Libertad	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	Río Cuarto	Moreno	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Argentina	San Juan de Cuyo	Rawson-San Juan	Santuario - Parroquia de la Virgen de Fatima
Bolivia	San Ignacio de Velasco	Chiquitania	Capilla Santuario de Nª Sª de Fatima
Chile	Santiago de Chile	Las Cruces	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Colombia	Cali	Cali	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Colombia	Manizales	Manizales	Santuario - Parroquia Nª Sª de Fatima
Colombia	Pasto	Pasto	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Colombia	Pereira	Pereira	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Ecuador	Quito	Quito	Santuario - Parroquia de Nª Sª de Fatima del Batán
Martinica	Fort-de-France	Rivière Salée	Sanctuaire Notre-Dame de Fatima
Perú	Cajamarca	Cajamarca	Santuario Nª Sª del Rosario de Fátima
Perú	Piura	Fátima	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Puerto Rico	Mayaguez	Mayaguez	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Puerto Rico	Ponce	Yauco	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Puerto Rico	San Juan de Puerto Rico	Vega Alta	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Saint Lucia	Castries	La Clery	Shrine Our Lady of Fatima
Trinidad And Tobago	Port of Spain	Levantille	Shrine Our Lady of Fatima
Venezuela	Caracas	Caracas	Santuario de Nª Sª del Coromoto y de Fátima
Venezuela	Guarenas	Guarenas	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima
Venezuela	Guarenas	Guatire	Santuario Virgen de Fatima
Venezuela	Maracay	Cagua	Santuario Nª Sª de Fatima

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Exhibition 'FÁTIMA in the Core of History'

A Look at the XX Century in the light of the Message of Fátima

Paul VI Pastoral Center, Fátima, February 17 to April 30, 2007

Organized by Lisbon's Pedro Hispano Cultural Center



Images of Our Lady welcomed in festive atmosphere in Brazil and Argentina



A replica of the image of Our Lady of Fátima venerated in the Little Chapel of Apparitions has been donated by the Shrine of Fátima to the Brazilian diocese of Natal.

At the beginning of November 2006, the image of the Virgin was taken to Brazil by a group of people from Fátima, amongst whom was the Administrator of the Shrine of Fátima, Fr. António Sousa.

Before departing, the group prayed in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, in the Shrine of Fátima.

On arrival in Brazil, they were warmly received. The image was placed on a carrier atop a firefighting vehicle and was taken to the church of the first parish of the Diocese of Natal ever to be dedicated to Our Lady of Fátima. In this trip of 25 kilometers, it was followed by hundreds of cars festooned with white banners. The image sojourned for two days in the Parish church of Paranamirim, where it was constantly and warmly venerated.

On the afternoon of November 5, a Sunday, the statue was taken to the Cathedral of Natal, escorted by a multitude of people singing hymns of Fátima throughout the whole trip.

At the Cathedral, Archbishop Matias and the pastor of Natal, Msgr. Lucílio Machado, welcomed the image of Fátima in apotheosis, amidst a crowd of five thousand faithful.

The group from Fátima had achieved its goal: to donate to the devotees of Our Lady of Fátima in Natal an image uniting them to the Portuguese shrine.

Another image of Our Lady has been recently donated to another community of faithful, this time in Córdoba, Argentina.

In a message received through the Internet, the pastor, Fr. Andrés Toledo, tells us of the 'profound joy' felt and lived by the people during the enthronization of the Image, which was placed in a grotto purposely built for it near the Parish Church.

The ceremony was held on December 8, 2006. After a little procession with the image, from the church to the grotto, the people attended Mass and the blessing of both the grotto and the image.

Afterwards, there was a showing of pictures of the Shrine of Fátima in Portugal, texts on the message of Fátima were read and many prayers were recited.

'The community was moved', declares Fr. Andrés Toledo who went on to say, in his message sent to the Shrine of Fátima, that 'this image keeps us united to you and to love of the Virgin. And this union is very good for us'.



Brazilian Port Consecrated Twenty-Six Years Ago to the Virgin os Fátima

The idea of building a monument dedicated to Our Lady of Fátima came, more than 55 years ago, from Fr. Roberto Drummond Gonçalves, who decided to consecrate the zone of the port of Santos to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by building a monument to Our Lady of Fátima.

The sculpture of Our Lady, built in that place almost 55 years ago, has the following inscription in its base: 'To the Blessed Virgin

of Fátima, Lady of the Rosary, the penitent and devout port people'.

With the presence of the monument, Praça dos Outeirinhos (Little Hills Square) immediately turned into a view point in Porto dos Santos.

More recently, on October 22, 2003, the Municipality of Santos instituted and placed on the Official Calendar of the Municipality the 'Anniversary Day of the Monument to Our Lady of Fátima in the Port and of the Consecration of Porto de Santos to the Virgin Mary, to be commemorated yearly on December 13'.

Later on, on March 19, 2004, the Municipality passed a resolution, instituting in the Official Calendar of Santos the 'Day of Procession to com-

memorate the Religious Event of the Apparition of Our Lady of Fátima, to be held yearly on May 13'.

On December 13, 2005, the community of Santos gathered again, this time to celebrate the 54th anniversary of the Monument to Our Lady of Fátima. On the same day they celebrated the 26th anniversary of the consecration of Porto de Santos to the Virgin of Fátima. The celebrations involved the whole community, both at the religious level and the civil one, and included a procession with the image of Our Lady of Fátima from the Parish of Our Lady Aparecida to the mentioned Monument of Our Lady of Fátima. The Mass followed, celebrated next to the Monument to the Virgin.



Fátima – Light and Peace

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Congress “Blessed Trinity, Father, Son, Holy Spirit...”

The Shrine of Fátima celebrates in 2006/2007 the 90th anniversary of the apparitions of the Angel and of Our Lady of the Rosary to the three little Shepherds from Aljustrel. In order to point out this significant date, not only the church dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity will be inaugurated, but also a set of initiatives under the general theme “*God is Merciful Love*” will be promoted.

Among the initiatives which envisage the theological study of the message of Fátima, a highlight is the international

Congress on the trinitarian Mystery of God. By taking as an epigraph the initial salutation of the prayer by the Angel, “*Most Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit...*”, the congress intends to show, above all, how the fundamental mystery of the Christian Faith is revealed in the Holy Writ and how does it structure the liturgical prayer of the Church.

The combat against false gnosis was not strange to the history of this doctrine, and to the reflection about it both East-

ern and Western great Theologians have committed themselves, up to the present day, and the Magisterium is entitled to show the way of faithfulness to the revelation of Jesus Christ.

If it is decisive to have these intelligence flights at the service of Faith present, it is not less important to take into account the piety of the simple people, through the knowledge of popular devotions and private revelations, in the context of the *sensus fidei* of the ecclesial community.

Lecture Schedule 9-12 May 2007

Day 9 [afternoon]

I- Revelation and Doxology

15h10 Incarnation of the Son, Revelation of the Father, Mission of the Spirit | by José Tolentino Mendonça

16h30 “To the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit”. The trinitarian liturgical prayer in the times of the early Church Fathers | by Marie-Anne Vannier

17h20 The Symbol of the Apostles, creed of a trinitarian faith. Testimony of the early baptismal liturgy | by H. Noronha Galvão

Day 10 [morning]

Faith in a Trinitarian God - Answer to the Gnostic temptation

09h10 The Most Holy Trinity, by Saint Irenaeus of Lyon | by Joaquim Bragança

10h00 Opposition of the Gospel by Saint John against the menace of Gnosticism. Perspectives, according to the vision by St. Irenaeus of Lyon | by H. H. Hans-Jochen Jaschke

10h50 Contemporary relevance of the Trinitarian faith as a criterion for discerning new forms of gnosis | by Réal Tremblay

Day 10 [afternoon]

II- To believe that one may understand

15h10 The Holy Spirit, the Blessed Trinity, expressions and presence in the Liturgy | by Mgr. Jérémie Kaligiogis

16h00 Latin Tradition (St. Augustine) fascination with the triune God | by José Rosa

17h50 The Trinitarian Theology by Saint Thomas Aquinas: from the Trinity to the Father? | by Emmanuel Durand

Day 11 [morning]

A conceptual revolution: Unity in plural communion, person as a subsisting relationship

09h10 Interpretation of Karl Rahner | by João Duque

10h00 Vision of Hans-Urs von Balthasar | by Manuela de Carvalho

11h40 Monotheism and trinitarian Christian Faith. The possibility to think about the Faith in the triune God | by Helmut Hoping

Day 11 [afternoon]

III- Source of Love, Light and Life

15h10 Mary viewed from the Trinitarian Mystery of God | by Stefano de Fiore

16h00 From the trinitarian communion, to the Church as a mystery of communion | by Nicola Ciola

17h50 Specializing personalization and personalizing socialization: a Christian anthropology | by Santiago Del Cura

Day 12 [morning]

Devotions and private revelations in the context of the *sensus fidei* of ecclesial community

09h10 The Blessed Trinity in traditional Portuguese devotion: iconography and religious hymns | by D. Carlos de Azevedo

10h00 Trinitarian eschatological dimension of the devotion to the Holy Spirit | by D. Manuel Clemente

11h40 The Blessed Trinity in the apparitions and spirituality of Fátima | by D. António Marto

12h50 End of Congress

Photo exhibition “Fátima in the World” in October

Within the scope of the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Apparitions of the Angel (2006) and of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (2007), the Shrine of Fátima is promoting a set of initiatives under the general theme “*God is Merciful Love*”.

At the end of the commemorations, in October 2007, the Shrine of Fátima intends to inaugurate the new church, dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity. Along with this event, an international congress will take place, the theme of which will be “*Fatima for the 21st century*”; in this congress, we intend to ponder about the cult to and the message of Our Lady of Fatima throughout the whole world.

During this congress, a photo exhibition will be inaugurated, the title of which is “*Fátima in the World*”; this exhibition will make known the many Shrines and

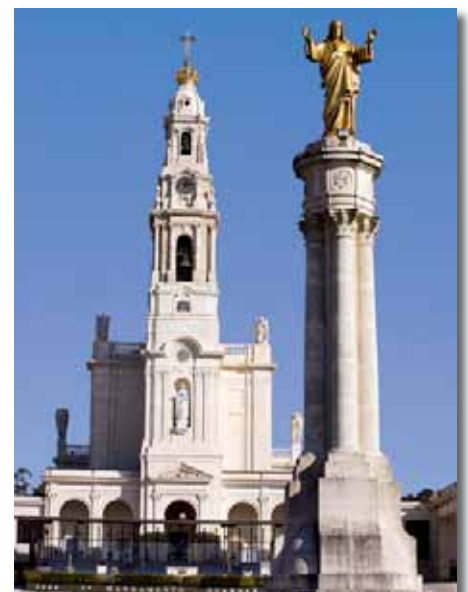
churches, dedicated to Our Lady of Fátima, existing in the five continents.

Therefore, we ask you, please, for your precious cooperation: please, kindly send us photos, preferably in digital format (RAW, TIF or JPG), with a maximum resolution, so that they may be printed with high quality, on two metre-high panels, and with the following aspects: Outer photos of the Shrine / church; Inner photos of the Shrine / church; Photos of the main venerated image; Photos of any other aspect you may deem as important.

You may also send us a DVD video of your Shrine.

Our address is as follows: Santuário de Fátima, Serviço de Estudos e Difusão (SESDI), Apartado 31, 2496-908 FÁTIMA, PORTUGAL

We beforehand thank you, and hope we can count on your good cooperation.



SEND US PHOTOS!