



Director: Fr. Virgílio Antunes * Proprietor: Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (Portugal) * Quarterly publication * Year VIII * Nr. 29 * 2011/05/13

Grateful to God for Mary's School

I had the grace to have served the Shrine of Fatima for almost six years, first as chaplain and then as its Rector. It is a fascinating place, with vast possibilities of evangelization and realization of projects that touch people deeply and also a place where it is easy to meet people.

To work directly for Our Lady and Her Message is a strong incentive to overcome difficulties and discouragement. Here we feel we are the pilgrim Church with all her weaknesses as well as with the opportunities the Lord grants to us by means of the Face of Mary, Mother of the Church.

While inside the Shrine of Fatima, our contact with the crowds helps us to understand the amplitude of God's People, which is universal and made up of men and women from all peoples and languages. Here we come to know a mankind that hungers for God as well as its difficulties and problems which are reflected on the face and in the words of pilgrims. We'd like to help them on the



way to an encounter with themselves and with God; we feel too small before the greatness of the task; but we believe that Mary has a word and a friendly gesture for each one of them.

While visiting places dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima throughout the world and watching the devotion (to Our Lady) outside Portugal, I learned to notice the love of Mary for all Her children without exception: an Immaculate Heart which welcomes everybody because It wants to lead everyone to the source of Salvation, Jesus Christ Her Son.

Now that the Church has asked me to take on another mission, I depart with some sadness in the heart, but nevertheless thank God for the happiness He gave me throughout this stay here. I also thank God for this school of Mary in which He wanted to continue teaching me His ways.

Fr. Virgílio Antunes, Rector of the Shrine of Fatima

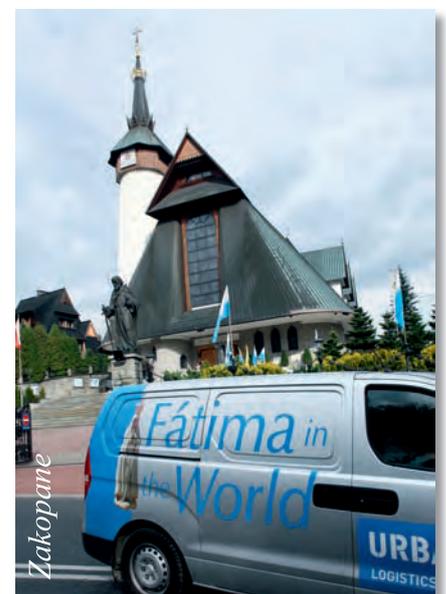
“Fatima and the World” First episode concluded

The first episode of the television series “Fatima and the World” has just concluded.

This episode, titled “**Fatima and Europe – The History**”, narrates, with rhythm, drama, mystery and fascination, the impressive link between Fatima and the great events of the XX century: World War II; the Cold War; the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II, followed by the Fall of the Berlin Wall.

The episode witnesses also the birth of many places of devotion and shrines dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima in countries where it was forbidden to mention God.

“Fatima and the World” is a television project of Portuguese writer Manuel Arouca sponsored by the Shrine of Fatima, which views this initiative as an important way to inform on and spread the history and the message of Fatima.



Father Virgílio Antunes named Bishop of Coimbra



On April 28, Holy Father Benedict XVI named Fr. Virgílio Antunes, Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Bishop of Coimbra.

The public announcement was made at the Shrine of Fatima by the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, Most Rev. António Marto: "We extend to Bishop Virgílio our heartfelt congratulations for the gift of the episcopate; we wish well in his new mission; and desire that he may continue being a witness of hope for all, under the ma-

ternal protection of Our Lady and through the intercession of the Blessed Little Shepherds of Fatima".

In his message to the Diocese of Coimbra, the new bishop manifests "total willingness" to "meet" the needs of the faithful. While greeting his future diocesan flock and the different authorities of Coimbra, he addressed a particular word to the youth: "I address to you a special word, to you, our youth, boys and girls, full of dreams for a great and beautiful life, when today you encounter so many obstacles to its realization. I invite you to seek in Christ, your companion of every hour, the joy and hope you are looking for. I hope to meet with you often and to dedicate to you a great part of my pastoral activity".

Bishop Antunes will take possession of the Diocese of Coimbra on July 10, after having been ordained bishop on July 3 at the Shrine of Fatima.

Father Carlos Cabecinhas named Rector of the Shrine



Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas is going to be the new Rector of the Shrine of Fatima. He will take possession of his new job on July 11, at 11h00, in Most Holy Trinity Church, at the Shrine of Fatima.

Fr. Cabecinhas is a priest of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima and works full-time for the Shrine of Fatima since August 2010 as Chaplain and as Head of the Department of Liturgical Pastoral Ministry.

Here is his reaction after having been named: "The challenge is great, but I believe that he who counts on the maternal protection of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima and on the intercession of Blesseds Francisco and Jacinta Marto doesn't have reason to be afraid".

He addressed a special word to all devotees of Our Lady of Fatima: "The Message Our Lady revealed here to the three Seers focuses the essence of the Christian faith. I want to assure the many pilgrims of Fatima that they will continue to find in Fatima the place of prayer and strong experience of God capable of giving new meaning to their lives, capable of transforming them. That is the essence, for only from the encounter with God are born lives completely renovated".

During the announcement on May 5, the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima stressed the human qualities and the "rare intellectual gifts" of the next Rector of the Shrine of Fatima.

Shrine recalls apparition of Angel

On the evening of March 31, the first apparition of the Angel to the seers and his message were recalled at Fatima with an evocative celebration, which was a first. The evening of prayer and meditation began in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, where several hundreds of pilgrims gathered in order to walk in procession towards

Loca do Anjo (Angel's Grotto), at Valinhos, site of the first apparition in 1916.

Besides a large group of religious and lay people residents of Fatima, several groups of pilgrims also took part in the celebration. Amongst them stood out a group of youths from Spain and also other groups of pilgrims from Italy and Slovakia.



On the way to the monument at the Loca, two five mystery rosaries were recited in between the Stations of the Cross. During the rosaries the main petition was for a world of "living faith, unflinching hope and fervent charity" and gifted with the grace of adoring God.

Prayer was lifted up also to Our Lady so that the hearts of people may open up "to the loving designs of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary". During the meditations the living testimony of the seers was recalled. During the Stations of the Cross, the sick, the lonely, the abandoned and all sufferers were object of a special prayer.

Near the Loca was read a passage from the Memoirs of Sister Lucia related to the first apparition, followed by a moment of prayer, in which was recited the prayer the Angel taught the seers and another one based on this one, but written by Sister Lucia.

The Rector made a reflection in which he recalled the power of this site as "a place which inspires hope" and which calls us to adore the eternal love of God. He also mentioned the reason for this evocation: "The purpose is to bring people to a more direct knowledge of the history and of the message of the Angel".

May 1, 2011 – Beatification of John Paul II

Totus Tuus, O Maria

John Paul II strongly marked the Church and the World. Never a Pope had been so well known and loved.

The features of his life so impressed the world that hardly anyone remained indifferent to him. In the ecclesial context, in relations with other churches or religions, in the social, political and cultural world, each person came to value different aspects of a multifaceted figure of great moral character, capable of entering into the most diverse worlds.

The world was surprised by the Marian devotion of Pope John Paul II. One can hardly find on Earth a shrine dedicated to our Lady that he didn't peregrinate to. This remained one of the strongest features of this Christian being – like Mary – to Whom he entrusted himself entirely, well expressed in the motto "totus tuus (all yours), O Maria".

Portugal and the devotees of Fatima found in him their number one herald, which moves us to be greatly grateful to him. Ever since the apparitions of Our Lady in 1917, we had never had such a valuable vehicle to announce the Message of Fatima as we found in John Paul II. He carried this Heavenly Message to the ends of the Earth since May 13, 1981, when he perceived that it was Mary, to Whom he had entrusted himself, that had saved him from a sure death.

The link to Our Lady appeared now more obvious and the connection with the prophecy of Fatima became clearer in his mind. The Message of Fatima acquired a new ecclesial and universal dimension, personified in the person of the Pope, the Bishop dressed in white. The events that followed, specially those that determined the new religious, social and political geography of Europe, confirmed the authenticity of this connection. The publishing of the Third Part of the Secret of Fatima helped a lot to understand what happened in the Church throughout the XX century and confirmed, once more, the connection between the prophecy and God's designs for our time.

The Church and the World have a lot of reasons to thank



God for the gift of John Paul II, a man faithful to his faith and totally dedicated to mankind.

Fatima also has a lot of reasons to sing a *Magnificat* of gratitude to Our Lady for having taken him in as Her preferred son and for having given him to us as a brother of ours.

Fr. Virgílio Antunes

in Editorial of "Voz da Fátima" of March 2011

Archbishop Primate of Brazil entrusts himself to Our Lady

While in pilgrimage to the Shrine of Fatima, Archbishop Primate of Brazil Most Rev. Murilo Sebastião Ramos Krieger, who on March 25 took possession of the Archdiocese of São Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, entrusted the new challenge to which he was called to the intercession of Our Lady.

During the Mass of Sunday, February 27, celebrated in Most Holy Trinity Church, the then future Archbishop Primate of Brazil announced that "he was entrusting into the hands of God, through the intercession of Mary, the challenge given to him by the Church and also all the expectations and desires of the pilgrims present in Fatima".

Archbishop Krieger left the Diocese of Florianópolis in order to take over the

Archdiocese of São Salvador da Bahia, thus succeeding the Most Rev. Geraldo Majella Agnelo, who saw the Holy See accept his request for resignation due to having reached the age limit as prescribed in the Code of Canon Law.

São Salvador da Bahia was the first diocese of Brazil to be founded; later on it was elevated to Archdiocese; and today its Archbishop holds the title of Primate of Brazil.

The homily of Archbishop Murilo at Fatima was, above all, an invitation to trust God: "In order to please God, we have to be faithful to God. (...) If we are understood, all is fine; if we are misunderstood, all is fine just the same. What is important to us is to be coherent".





Vatican grants final approval to World Apostolate of Fatima

The Pontifical Council for the Laity granted final approval to the World Apostolate of Fatima (W.A.F.) as an international public association of the faithful with juridical personhood and By-Laws, by a decree dated October 7, 2010, day of the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

In declarations to the Shrine of Fatima, Nuno Prazeres, Head of the International Secretariat, stressed that "this is an excellent opportunity to increase our commitment to the spreading of the Message of Fatima throughout the entire world, thus taking this light of hope and peace to the hearts of men".

Msgr. Josef Clemens, Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, wrote a letter to the Association's President in which he states that "the definite approval of the By-Laws marks a new time for the World Apostolate of Fatima and our hope is that this may bring the enthusiasm of the New Evangelization to your activities." The decree of approval stresses that "the members of the World

Apostolate of Fatima are committed to being witnesses of the Catholic Faith in their families, at work, in their parishes and communities, thus taking part in the task of the New Evangelization".

In the words of Nuno Prazeres, "the association has indeed promoted, during past years, a series of initiatives whose purpose is to materialize this commitment. There stand out the holding of regional congresses in Europe, Africa, Asia and South America on the New Evangelization and the Message of Fatima, the organization of groups of prayer and of reflection, programs of Eucharistic adoration for children, the coordination of the program of visits by the Pilgrim Statue in dioceses and parishes as well as the publication of books, magazines, videos and the creation of sites in the Internet, so that the appeals of Fatima and of the Gospel may reach far and wide".

And he adds: "The World Apostolate of Fatima is actively present in more than 60 countries and counts with thousands

of associates who consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and commit themselves to offer up daily sacrifices, in conformance with their Christian obligations, to pray the Rosary daily, to wear the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and to practice the Devotion of the Five First Saturdays of the Month, as requested by Our Lady".

The International Secretariat, headquartered at Fatima, is in charge of keeping in touch with all the structures of the association, in order to incentivate them to live and give authentic testimony of the Message of Fatima.

Since July 2009, the International Secretariat of the World Apostolate of Fatima coordinates, once a month, the recitation of the Rosary in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, at the Shrine of Fatima. This Rosary, at 18h30, is offered up for the intentions of the members of the association, in a special way for respect for human life, from conception to natural death.

National Pilgrimage of Cyclists



On February 6, cyclists from all over the country headed early in the morning, some even before dawn, towards Fatima, in order to take part in the IX National Pilgrimage of Cyclists. The mild weather and the sunshine helped.

According to the organization of the event, the Portuguese Federation of Cyclo-tourism, more than four thousand cyclists were present for the blessing given after the visit to the homes of the Little Shepherds as well as to the sites of the Apparitions of

the Angel and of Our Lady in Aljustrel and Valinhos.

They all recited in unison a prayer written on a small holy card distributed to the participants by the Shrine of Fatima: "We

pray to You, O Lord, for all those who use bicycles, that they may ride with caution and safely, use prudence while traveling through roads used by others and may always feel being accompanied by Jesus Christ in their travels whether for pleasure or for work."

After the blessing, Holy Mass was celebrated in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, presided over by Bishop Serafim Ferreira e Silva, who dedicated the celebration to all the cyclists present in Fatima.

Suggestion

"Pray with me!"

"Pray with me!" This appeal addressed to us in Fatima by the Angel of Peace is the title of the exhibition inaugurated on December 1, 2010, at the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal, which is open to the public at the Complex of Most Holy Trinity Church until October 31, 2011.

As part of the first year of preparation for the Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima, this exhibition recalls the apparitions of the Angel.

Mr. Marco Daniel Duarte, in charge of the exhibition, explains: "Placed in a context such as to recall the bucolic environment of Valinhos and Aljustrel, paintings, sculptures and relics being exhibited seek to provide pilgrims and other visitors with an esthetic and spiritual enjoyment which flows from the reports of the Apparitions of the Angel in 1916".

Admission is free.

Francisco and Jacinta, candles lighted by God

At the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal, the celebration of the Liturgical Feast of Blesseds Francisco and Jacinta Marto, on February 20, anniversary of the death of Jacinta, was preceded by a prayer vigil next to the tombs of the seers during the night of the 19th to the 20th, in which about 450 people took part.

The short lives of Francisco and Jacinta, a reflection on their witnessing and the meditation on their teachings marked this moment and all the celebrations prepared for this liturgical feast.

On day 20, after the recitation of the Rosary in the Little Chapel, two canvasses representing the Blesseds of Fatima took part in the procession towards Most Holy Trinity Church, where Holy Mass was celebrated.

During the homily, the Rector of the Shrine recalled that “these two children, Francisco and Jacinta, received the light of Jesus on the day of their Baptism and gave so much importance to that light that the Pope, when he came here in the year 2000, said this: «these two children are like two lamps or two candles lighted by God»”.

The two framed canvasses carried in procession, later on placed in the sanctuary of the Church, stayed there all day and the following day. They were the work of



artist Marcello Cassinari Vettor. They were donated to John Paul II by the Associazione Diffendere la vita con Maria, at the time of his pilgrimage to Fatima on May 13, 2000, and bequeathed to the Shrine by him. They are two oil paintings with gold leaf on canvass, dated May 1999.

Jacinta's life source of inspiration

On the anniversary date of the birth of Blessed Jacinta Marto, on March 11, the year of commemoration of the centennial of the birth of the Little Shepherd and seer of Our Lady ended.

The different celebrations and initiatives were united under the theme: “Share with joy as Jacinta did”. However, more than a motto, this theme was an exhortation to charity and sharing, centered on the spiritual and living testimony of Jacinta Marto.

Fr. Virgílio Antunes, Rector of the Shrine recalls: “I think the moment that marked me most was the children's pilgrimage on June 10, 2010. It was the largest children's pilgrimage in an already long history – more than 30 years. Next I think it was the congress on Jacinta Marto, which was attended by 510 participants, the largest number in a long time. And then the exhibition, seen by 326,163 people”.

One year later, Fr. Virgílio recalls also the pilgrimage of Pope Benedict XVI to Fatima, in May 2010, and sees in it a strong connection to the seers: “The entire pilgrimage of the Pope was centered on the tenth anniversary of the beatification of the Little Shepherds and the Holy Father had that in mind. Moreover, Jacinta was so devoted to the Pope that Benedict XVI couldn't be indifferent to that”.

Leopoldina Simões

Children invited to contemplate God

PAL, FILHO E ESPÍRITO SANTO.
EU VOS ADORO



“Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You” is the theme for the Children's Pilgrimage of 2011, scheduled, as usual, for June 9/10, and which this year, in the context of the first cycle of the centennial of the apparitions (2017), recalls the apparitions and the appeals of the Angel at Fatima.

The Organizing Committee of this pilgrimage, which is presided over by the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr. Virgílio Antunes, explains: “The purpose is to develop in children the attitude of adoring God, Most Holy Trinity. For the believer, the attitude of adoration is the recognition of the transcendence of God; it is the acceptance of His mystery; the desire to honor and glorify Him profoundly”.

In order to help children to live this thematic, the Shrine of Fatima proposes a campaign for the month of May, through which, week after week, children are invited “to discover a treasure”. Titled “Heart Treasure”, it will be brought to Fatima during the pilgrimage in order to be handed out at the appropriate time.

Italian Priests in Retreat at Fatima

Thirty-six Italian priests came in January to Fatima for a week of spiritual exercises. They came in the company of the Most Reverend Giancarlo Maria Bregantini, Archbishop of Campobasso-Baiano, who presided over the Mass of the monthly pilgrimage of the 13th, day when the apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria are always celebrated.

In his homily, Archbishop Giancarlo reminded us that, following the example of Our Lady, we all should feel and act with “passion for others”, attitude made possible by a life lived “in prayer, oblation, sacrifice and penance for others”, specially when they are suffering, “because they have no hope, no faith, no work, no future”.

Regarding the mission of priests, a topic for reflection during these spiritual exercises, the Archbishop stressed that “our priestly task is to have in mind – through signs, words and witnessing – what Jesus says and does”, so that every priest may truly be like Christ: “attentive, clear, luminous, merciful and faithful”.

Prayer walk towards the Centennial of the Apparitions in 2017

Poland promotes Novena to unite the hearts that love Mary

The Secretariat of Fatima in Poland, headquartered at the Shrine of Fatima of Zakopane, continues promoting the Great Novena of Fatima, begun in May 2009. This Novena was born as a national project, but has been expanding to other countries.

In a letter addressed to the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal, Fr. Krzysztof Czala, Head of the aforementioned Secretariat, says that the Novena was born out of “the desire to unite all efforts and all the hearts that love Mary”, with the precise purpose of “helping today’s world to know Fatima” and “to respond to the requests of Our Lady”. He also mentions that the Great Novena proposes a spiritual program open to all those who want to commit themselves to a careful preparation of the First Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima.

This is the first initiative that the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal is aware of, according to the Rector of the Shrine, Fr. Virgílio Antunes, whose purpose “is to prepare the First Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima in an organized, coherent, open way and for a long period of time (9 years)”.

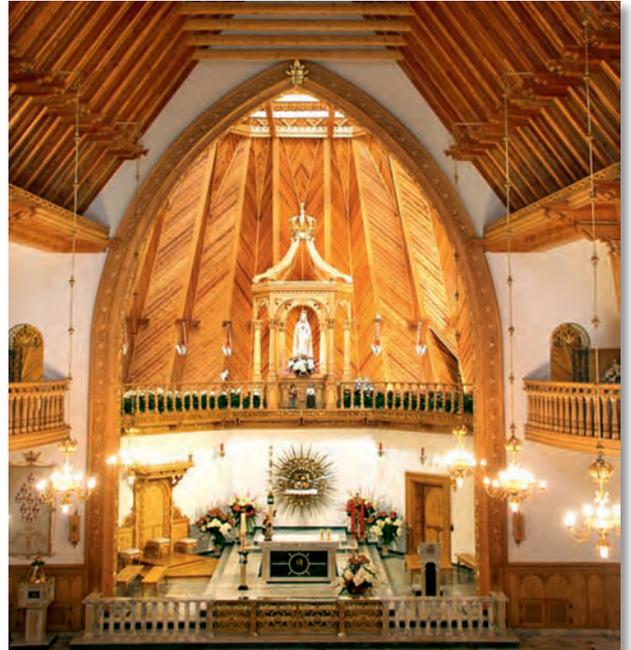
In a letter addressed to the Polish priest in December 2010, the Rector of the Portuguese Shrine of Fatima says that this initiative is very timely and opportune,

because the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary needs to be spread.

Fr. Antunes further states that “the memorable date of the First Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima can be a strong incentive for Christians to adhere more intensely to this devotion (to the Immaculate Heart of Mary) and will, for sure, be a good contribution to the spreading of the Message of Fatima throughout the world”.

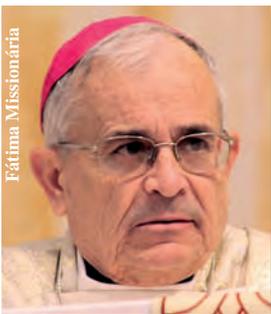
As the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal did, so the Bishop of the Portuguese Diocese of Leiria-Fátima, to which the Shrine belongs, stresses the communion, sympathy and support he gives to this initiative.

In a letter sent to Fr. Czala, Bishop António Marto writes: “The initiative of the Great Novena makes part of a preparation worthy of such a relevant event, for the charisma of Fatima keeps all its timeliness. We dare to hope that the Great Novena will be an occasion for “the emer-



gence of a new thrust for the life of the Message of Fatima in Poland and we believe that it will be a good contribution to the spreading throughout the world of the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Much has already been done, but there is much more to do. May the Lord help you carry out such auspicious plan”.

Bishop of Gurué in Fatima for Consolata Pilgrimage



– close to 9,000 – to go “beyond volunteering”. “We have to go beyond that good sign and develop, rather, make the experience that God is love, (make) the experience of the Most Holy Trinity”, he said.

An always important part of the Pilgrimage – a time for prayer

The Consolata Family held, in February, their 21st Pilgrimage to Fatima, under the motto: “Go and do the same”, in a clear allusion to the European Year of the Volunteer. It was presided over by the Bishop of Gurué, the youngest diocese of Mozambique.

During Mass, celebrated in Most Holy Trinity Church, at the Shrine of Fatima, Bishop Francisco Lerma urged the many pilgrims present

and meditation – is doing the Stations of the Cross on the way to the Hungarian Calvary, in Valinhos (Aljustrel).

During the homily, Bishop Lerma reminded that “to walk is to take to the road, following Jesus “on the road to conversion. To peregrinate is “to believe in Him Who calls us” and to have hope in finding Him.

Bishop Lerma stressed the teachings of the founder of the Institute of the Consolata, Blessed Allamano, and that the strength of the mission is only brought about by uniting wills and communicating.

The Missionaries of Consolata are present in four continents: Africa, America, Europe and Asia. During this Pilgrimage, China was announced as the next mission country.

In Portugal, specifically from the City of Fatima, the Consolata Institute publishes, in Portuguese, the monthly magazine “Fátima Missionária” (Missionary Fatima), which is sent to all over the World.

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Italy

On December 5, 2010, at the Parish of St. Joseph in Pontedera (PI), whose pastor is Fr. Giulio Giannini, the Immaculate Heart of Mary had a new triumph: 19 individuals made their consecration to Her. These friends thus began making part of the Family Movement of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in which the members accept the words uttered by the Virgin Mary at Fatima and choose Her Immaculate Heart as their “refuge and way leading to God”.

Holy Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Michele Tumbarello, Fr. Egidio di Lorenzo, Fr. Giulio Giannini and Fr. Sergio Anzuini. On this occasion, a statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary was enthroned.

These acts of consecration are one of the many fruits obtained only seven months after the passage of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin, which came from the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal, and after May 13, when His Eminence Angelo Cardinal Comastri consecrated the Parish to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

A great number of faithful took part in the ceremony, gathering around those making their consecration and living intense and moving moments in the warm company of the parish community and of other consecrated souls belonging to the Family of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Tuscany.

On this occasion, the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, His Excellency Bishop António Marto and the Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Virgílio Antunes, enriched the ceremony by sending two messages of good wishes for the new consecrated souls and addressing meaningful words to the Family Movement of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to all



those already consecrated to the Heart of the Mother.

In the Parish of St. Joseph many graces have happened, specially after the passage of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin: the First Saturdays of the Month, the Message of Fatima, the devotion to Her Immaculate Heart and the Consecration. Our Lady of Fatima left a strong mark in the Parish of Her Spouse St. Joseph, calling souls to the Devotion to Her Immaculate Heart.

*Taken from a letter
from Alessandra Bimbi, Italy*

News in this bulletin may be reproduced, provided the source and the author, in case there is one, are revealed.

Adoración Nocturna makes 25th pilgrimage

Spain's Adoración Nocturna (Night Adoration – ANE) makes its 25th pilgrimage to Fatima on May 14 thru 17 of 2011. This is the largest organized pilgrimage to Cova da Iria from abroad, which this year will be presided over by the Most Reverend Manuel Ureña Pastor, Archbishop of Saragossa, national assistant of ANE.

On this 25th pilgrimage, this Eucharistic movement intends to symbolically thank the Shrine of Fatima for the good reception it has always enjoyed here, by offering to the Shrine a valuable and artistic one meter high monstrance, designed by an architect indicated by the Shrine and made by a renowned jeweler of Lisbon; also an altar cloth, embroidered with fine gold – a valuable work of art – destined for the Little Chapel of Apparitions.

These Spanish pilgrims – between four and five thousand – adopt, every year, the pastoral theme of the Shrine, which this year is: “Most Holy Trinity, I adore You profoundly”.

Their prayer intentions have been, since the first pilgrimage in 1987, to pray for priests and for priestly vocations.

Editorial Statute

Owned by the Shrine of Fatima, “Fátima Luz e Paz” (Fatima Light and Peace) is a quarterly international newsletter of Christian inspiration whose purpose is to both inform and form its public.

It is sent to institutions, movements, congregations and organizations dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima throughout the world, as well as to faithful devotees of Our Lady who wish to be united to the Altar of Peace.

It is published in seven languages – Portuguese, German, Spanish, French, English, Italian and Polish – and its purpose is to be in contact with all those who, in the five continents, feel that Fatima is an event and a message.

Fátima – Light and Peace

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

Chapel of Fatima in the City of Azul

From the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, we hear that a Chapel of Fatima was erected in the City of Azul (Blue):

In October 1957 this city was visited by missionary priests, who went there in order to catechize the people. The organizer of this visit was Fr. Videla, from Uruguay - greatly devoted to Our Lady of Fatima - who had already traveled to America and other countries.

In the fulfillment of their mission, Fr. Videla and his companions recognized they had an opportunity to build a chapel, in this city, in honor of the Virgin of Fatima. An important group of neighbors got interested in the project and were willing to help build a school chapel.

A committee of men and women was formed and, after struggling for years, succeeded in placing the first stone of the building in a plot of land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Genoa, located on First of May



Street, between Córdoba and Entre Rios (Between Rivers). It took a lot of hard work to raise the funds needed for construction.

The statue of the Virgin was donated by the family Vaz Teixeira, which purchased it and brought it from Portugal. The first Sunday Mass was celebrated in this chapel (still without ceiling) in 1964. It was full of faithful, despite freezing temperatures.

These days Mass is celebrated in this Chapel every Sunday. Children, not only from the district to which the Chapel belongs but also from other districts of the city, go there to prepare for First Communion and Confirmation.

Besides that, many couples devoted to Our Lady celebrate there their wedding and the Baptism of their children.

Warm greetings from Argentina!

Miriam Bustamante, Argentina

Italian Parish celebrates Liturgical Feast of Blesseds



On February 18 thru 20, we celebrated the memory of Blesseds Francisco and Jacinta Marto at the Parish of Saints Cosme and Damian, in Vairano Scalo (Casserta), Diocese of Teano-Calvi.

During the days when the statues and the sacred relics of the Blesseds were present, an intense movement of

prayer was created, namely during the periods of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and during the Eucharistic celebrations. On the 18th, the statues and the sacred relics of the Blessed Little Shepherds were received and accompanied in procession by the local statue of Our Lady of Fatima and by the members of the host parish. There followed the recitation of the Rosary and solemn Mass. The prayer vigil was animated by the youth of Catholic Action, with reflections, hymns and prayers and the viewing of a film on Fatima.

On Saturday the 19th, in the morn-

ing, about 1500 male students from several Elementary and higher education schools, accompanied by their teachers paid homage to the Little Shepherds of Fatima and their relics and took part, with great enthusiasm, in the celebration of Holy Mass, presided over by the parish pastor, Fr. Luigi de Rosa, who defined the Feast of the Little Shepherds as the children's feast. Outside, in the large churchyard, there was a moment of communion in which all present manifested their joy with hymns and clapping.

On Sunday the 20th, the Liturgical Memory of the Blesseds was enriched with several celebrations. The final Mass was presided over by the Most Rev. Arturo Aiello, Bishop of Teano-Calvi and concelebrated by several priests.

*Italian Marian Movement
"Message of Fatima"*