



Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas * Proprietor: Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (Portugal) * Quarterly publication * Year X * Nr. 37 * 2013/05/13

In Your Hands, Blessed Mother, we place Pope Francis

On March 13, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina, was elected Pope and he chose the name of Francisco. The new Pope was a surprise given where he was coming from, for it is the first time a Pope is chosen from Latin America. But another surprise was the name he took: Francisco; the first time

sessions of the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops Conference of Portugal, on April 8: “Pope Francis has twice asked me to consecrate his new ministry to Our Lady of Fatima”. Already during his speech to the cardinals, right after his election, the Pope had told them that he was consecrating his ministry as successor of Peter “to the



also a Pope chose this name. If what made him choose the name of Francisco was his love for St. Francis of Assisi, we can't hide our happiness seeing the Supreme Pontiff choose the name of one of the seers of Fatima, who loved so much the Holy Father and prayed a lot for him.

Right from the first days of His pontificate, Pope Francisco manifested his Marian devotion, specially when, the day following his election, he traveled to the Roman Basilica of Saint Mary Major to pray “at the feet of Our Lady”. This same Marian devotion led him to ask the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, His Eminence José Policarpo, to consecrate his pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima. That request of the Pope was revealed by Cardinal Policarpo during the opening speech of the working

powerful intercession of Mary, Our Mother, the Mother of the Church”.

Responding to this challenge, the Portuguese Bishops decided to consecrate the pontificate of Pope Francis to Our Lady of Fatima during the International Anniversary Pilgrimage of May 13. Thus, the Portuguese Bishops invite the entire people of God to join them in making this act of consecration. To accept this invitation is a way of imitating the Little Shepherds of Fatima, who, after the apparitions, always showed a special preoccupation to pray for the Holy Father. This union with the Pope, manifested above all in prayer, is a constitutive aspect of the Message of Fatima itself.

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, Rector of the Shrine of Fatima

Buenos Aires, 1998

“Welcome home, Mother!”

The Shrine of Fatima recalls with joy the reception the Most Reverend Jorge Mario Bergoglio, current Pope Francisco, gave to the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima on April 19, 1998, during the Statue’s pilgrimage to Argentina.

From the Archives of SESDI (Department of Research and Information of the Shrine of Fatima) we learn that, at around 16h00, on April 19, 1998, Archbishop of Buenos Aires Jorge Mario Bergoglio received the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, sent by the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal.

On that day, the statue, coming from the Argentinean province of St. Luís to the federal capital of Argentina, was awaited “at the intersection of two avenues”, by current Pope Francisco, who was in charge of welcoming to the capital of Argentina “the White Pilgrim”.

Accompanying Archbishop Bergoglio, besides other members of the clergy of the Archdiocese of Buenos Aires and of the Diocese of Avellaneda and a “large crowd of faithful of all ages”, was the Bishop of Avellaneda, the Most Reverent Ruben H. di Monte, founder of “Missionary Family of Fatima”, who had promoted this pilgrimage of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

After the reception, the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin traveled through some streets of Buenos Aires in procession, amidst prayers and hymns, to the School of Our Lady of Fatima, where there was celebrated Mass presided over by the current Pope.

The homily of Archbishop Bergoglio, described in the documentation delivered to the Shrine of Fatima as “short, meaningful and emotional”, focused on the greeting words “Welcome home, Mother!”

Still in his homily, whose concluding words are a prayer addressed to Our Lady, Archbishop Bergoglio commented on the figure of Mary as a Mother Who welcomes and comforts all Her children and knows their petitions, longings and joys.

This is what he had to say: “That is why we open to Her (to Mother Mary) the door of our heart and of our home. We also open to Her the door

my family! You know what its needs are. Look at our housing district! You know where to go. Look at my heart! You know it better than I. Welcome home! Teach me that Jesus is alive, so that I won’t ever think that He is dead to me. Give me strength, Mother! Give me tenderness, so that I may help everybody. Give me peace of heart! Welcome home!”

After the celebration of the Mass, the statue was taken, in the evening, to the church of the first shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima in Argentina, where it remained until May 23.

This Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Buenos Aires was built in a very poor zone, originally called ‘Bajo Flores’ (Under Flowers). Today it is called ‘Villa Soldati’ (Soldiers Town), where “extremely needy working people” used to live.

In 1950, a group of locals of this district of the capital Buenos Aires purchased a statue of Our Lady of Fatima from some people praying not to have their homes expropriated, which actually eventually happened.

In that same year, the Cardinal of Buenos Aires of that time entrusted the pastoral care of that zone to the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The first parish priest was Fr. Celso Mejido Diaz. The Cardinal also ordered that, in this new parish, there be venerated the statue of Our Lady of Fatima acquired in Portugal and blessed by Cardinal Cerejeira.

The decree of erection of the parish is dated July 25, 1950. The current temple was inaugurated on October 12, 1957. The altar was consecrated one year later and, in 1992, then Cardinal Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Most Rev, Antonio Quarracino, declared the parish an archdiocesan shrine.

Leopoldina Simões

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PARROQUIA - PRIMER SANTUARIO DE FATIMA
Avda. Mariano Acosta 2979
(1437) Cap. Fed. - Tel.: 918-5188 Fax: 918-5847
DIRECTOR:
P. Francisco Blanco Martín M.S.C.

Bienvenida a Casa, Madre...

El pasado domingo, día 19 de abril de 1998, la Imagen Peregrina de Nuestra Señora de Fátima, visitada por tantos y tantos capos dedicados a su adoración, Buenos Aires, recibió la Imagen, que ha recorrido varias veces las plazas del mundo, y llega cargada con todas las esperanzas y dolores de los hombres.

La bellísima Imagen peregrina llegaba precisamente a las 16 horas a los límites paraguenses. Los devotos de la Capital Federal, y no pocos visitantes del gran Buenos Aires, esperaban ansiosos en avión. Acompañada a la Monja de la Faz, presidente de la comisión de la peregrinación Nacional, el Obispo de Avellaneda, Monseñor Di Monte y la Iba. Alas, impetuosa de esta peregrinación, que llegará a la mayoría de las diócesis de nuestra patria, como preparación a la celebración del Tercer Milenio.

Recibió la preciosa Imagen Peregrina de María el Arzobispo de Buenos Aires, Mons. Jorge M. Bergoglio, acompañado por un numeroso grupo de sacerdotes y una numerosa comunidad de laicos. Se hizo significativa una especial presencia de niños de la zona. María de Fátima muestra así la predilección por los niños.

Desde los límites de la parroquia, en silencio y orante presencia, nos fuimos aproximando a la sede del Santuario, donde se recibió a la Madre con una fiesta de bienvenida. Peregrinamos entonces caminando por las calles del barrio hasta llegar al gran salón de la escuela, donde estaba prevista la coronación de la Escarata. Antes, como protesta visual de las innumerables oraciones que se elevaban al cielo en nombre de María, se prendieron en el cielo azul de la tarde, gran número de globos azules y blancos, que portaban oraciones por todos los barrios. No faltaron, ni podía faltar en ese momento, una oración sencilla por nuestros hermanos inmigrantes. Ellos entraron presentes en nuestro corazón y en el amor de María.

El espléndido salido de la escuela, radiante de luz y de flores, resultó pequeño para recibir a todos los peregrinos y devotos. Ella, sin duda, el lugar más capaz, pero era mucho mayor el amor de la Virgen de Fátima y allí estaban todos los que Dios había querido reunir junto a su Madre en esa primera tarde de su estadía en nuestra ciudad.

El Pastor de la iglesia de Buenos Aires, nuestro Arzobispo Jorge Mario, presidió la coronación lírica del grupo de la Faz y la alegría de la presencia maternal de la Reina Peregrina de la Paz. Esta era una tarde muy especial, como fue la oración que todos rezamos juntos animados por nuestro Obispo: “Bienvenida a Casa”, palabras que se le dijeron todas, con el corazón entusiasmado, siguiendo la intención del Obispo.

“Bienvenida a Casa”: A la casa grande de la Patria, a la casa cívica y orgánica del lugar donde, a la casa, se fue, de la totalidad más profunda del espíritu humano.

“Bienvenida a casa, Madre”, fue la oración del Pastor y de la grey.

“Bienvenida a casa, Madre”, fue la oración de todos y de cada uno de los presentes. A Ella le encontramos fuera usando los hábitos dulces de los hombres, dando esperanza a los corazones desolados por las dificultades cotidianas de la existencia humana. A Ella le pedimos esta unidad y armonía a los laicos y religiosos en diferenciación. A Ella, que es Madre, y aunque mepa que sus hijos los presentamos y los damos, profundos del corazón, le reconocemos nuestros ruidos y le damos desde el fondo del corazón. “Bienvenida a casa”.

Por un momento lleno de calor y de dulzura, de emoción y de entusiasmo, fuimos la presencia de la Madre. Había venido a nuestra casa, patria, ciudad, barrio, hogar y corazón. Todo estaba inundado de su presencia y de su amor. Era la fuente de los horizontes y la presencia de la Madre. Y la Madre lo sería solo al Hijo vivificante de la madre y del pueblo.

Tercera de la Escarata, Mons. Di Monte nos explicó a todos el sentido de esta peregrinación nacional. Lo que supone de amor y de regalo celestial la presencia de esta Imagen Peregrina en nuestra Patria y en nuestra ciudad. Así mismo nos relató la preciosa historia de esta Imagen peregrina y peregrina de la paz. Fue un gesto enriquecedor las palabras llenas de amor y de alegría.

Finalmente compartimos la larga fila de devotos que se acercó a la Imagen Peregrina a “bajar gaceta”. Los ojos humedecidos por las lágrimas de la emoción eran los signos visibles de la presencia de la Madre en el corazón de sus hijos.

El día estaba llegando a su fin. “Bienvenida a casa, Madre”, fueron sus hijos. Quedaron con nosotros, por que estamos en el comienzo de muchas hermanas. Si ya está en la casa, el calor vencerá al amor, el testimonio a la cultura, la alegría al desconsuelo, la unidad al desencuentro, la salud a la enfermedad, la esperanza al desaliento, el amor y la paz al desencuentro y a la violencia. Madre, te recordamos. “Bienvenida a casa”.

P. Francisco Blanco Martín, m. s. c.

CARTAS DE GRATITUD

LA MADRE: En avión de granos a los Presentes. Hermanos y hermanas Familia LUIS MENDOZA.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: Gracias, Madre virgen de Fátima. Tu sacramento salvador en el templo de tu casa. Tu amor a todos a mi madre. Gracias por todo lo presente y por los dones recibidos. MARTEL.

LA VIRGEN: Gracias a la Virgen por su presencia en la habitación que me hicieron hace tres años en su estancia. Ahora puedo sentirme. ANTONIO IGNACIO DE ROS.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: En avión de granos a la Virgen de Fátima. MARIA y RAFA BERALGO.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: Gracias Virgen de Fátima. Tu sacramento en todo momento la presencia. Tu paz me permite a compartir trabajo. Gracias desde la sede ubicada de un amor por este lugar querido. CLAUDIA FERNANDEZ.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: Gracias Virgen de Fátima por el amor recibido a mi hijo JOSEFINA.

ZONA C. PAZ: Agradecido a la Virgen por sus enseñanzas en todo momento y por la salud. Tu salud lo que necesito. ROSANA.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: Gracias Virgen de Fátima por estar presente por su presencia y amor en mi corazón y en mi vida. ANTONIO MENDOZA.

CAPITAL FEDERAL: Agradecimiento profundo a la Virgen de Fátima por los grandes momentos en su templo. ANTONIO C. de GARCIA.

13 de Mayo

Horario de Misas:
8, 9, 10, 11,
15, 17 y 19 hs.

A las 12 el Obispo, Mons. Raúl Bossi, Vicario Episcopal de Avellaneda, presidió la procesión y la misa eucarística respectivamente a los jóvenes.

A las 19 horas, el Obispo de Avellaneda, Mons. Rubén Di Monte, coordinador nacional de la visita de la Imagen Peregrina, presidió la Procesión por las calles del barrio y la Misal conclusiva del día de la Festa de la Virgen de Fátima.

Pope Francis recalls Our Lady of Fatima

On March 17, the Sunday following his election as Supreme Pontiff, Holy Father Francis mentioned a visit by the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Argentina.

During the prayer of the *Angelus*, while talking about God's mercy and forgiveness, the Pope recalled the visit of the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Argentina in 1992 and the Mass he then celebrated. He recounted the conversation he had then with an 80-year old "grandmother" about God's mercy and our sins. She, "without having studied at the Gregorian University – joked the Pope – replied that, "if the Lord didn't forgive everything, the world would no longer exist".

According to SESDI, the Shrine's Department of Research and Information, Holy Father Francis mentioned the pilgrimage held from May 1992 to February 1993, when the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima visited Argentina and Uruguay. The Pilgrim Statue would again return for a new visit to both countries in 1998, when it was also received by Archbishop Jorge Maria Bergoglio, current Pope Francis.

On the same morning but this time at Fatima, at the end of Mass of the 82nd Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Leiria-Fati-



ma, Bishop António Marto, of Leiria-Fatima, informed the pilgrims present of this reference to Our Lady of Fatima by Pope Francis. Bishop António announced that he was about to communicate "a surprise" and then mentioned the words of the Pope during the *Angelus*, which brought about from the crowd present a loud clapping of hands.

Right at the beginning of the celebration participated by approximately 18,000 pilgrims, most of them incorporated in the Pilgrimage of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima, Bishop Antonio had saluted, on behalf of everyone, Holy Father Francis and had announced that he was going to send to him an official greeting message.

The message was actually sent to Pope Francis three days later, on March 20, and read as follows: "Bishop and pilgrims of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima wish to express to You our deep ecclesial communion and our warm affection and to tell You that, in Fatima, we entrusted Your Person and Your Ministry to the protection of the Lady of Fatima and also that the Shrine fervently hopes to receive You one day as a pilgrim. We greet You already ahead of time: Welcome, Holy Father Francis!"

Leopoldina Simões

Parish of Fatima in Araras celebrates silver jubilee



Created in 1987, the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima in Araras, Brazil, celebrated in 2012 its silver jubilee.

This parish is located in José Félix Square, in a housing district called "Our Lady of Fatima Garden", in the City of Araras, State of São Paulo.

However, the history of this community

dates back to 1973, when a family donated to the Prefecture of Araras a piece of land which later on would be given to the Diocese of Limeira with the purpose of building the Mother Church of Our Lady of Fatima and the Fatima Garden.

While the church was being built, the community was organizing the catechesis and being developed as the housing districts were growing around Araras.

The construction of the Mother Church was completed in 1984.

In December 1987, by decree of the diocesan Bishop of Limeira, the Most Rev. Fernando Legal, the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima was created with territory split from the Parish of Our Lady of Patronage. The first Parish Priest was Fr. Priscílio Jerônimo.

The Parish of Our Lady in Araras organizes several activities to accomplish its mission of continuing the action of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Through its ministries, movements and departments, it renders an important service to the evangelization of the community, transmitting ideas, values and ideals and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through service, dialogue, announcement and testimony of communion.

www.igrejafatima.com.br

Shrine recalls the Angel's Apparitions

On March 21, in a very rainy night, as were those of the last weeks of March, the Shrine of Fatima fulfilled the evocative program of the Angel's Apparitions by visiting the sites of the apparitions in Valinhos and Aljustrel.

The time for prayer and meditation on the words of the divine messenger began at 21h00, in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, and ended at the site of the third apparition, Loca do Cabeço (Hilltop Grotto).

About one hundred people took part in this procession, during which there were remembered in prayer our dying brethren, those who are suffering in body and soul and the innocent victims of injustice and violence.

A special prayer was also said for those called by God to serve His people, "that they be diligent, like the Angels, in announcing the Word of God and in ministering the Sacraments", and for evangelizers and catechists, "that they announce with joy the Good News, the way God's Angels do it".

Now for themselves, the participants in this initiative begged God for the gift of a living faith, unshakable hope and

ardent charity, as well as for the grace of only adoring the One and Triune God and loving Him above all things. Since neither in the Memoirs of Sister Lucia nor in the official interrogatories of the seers and their family members are specifically mentioned the exact dates of the three apparitions which took place in 1916, the Shrine of Fatima decided to recall these apparitions on a date close to the date of the first apparition and

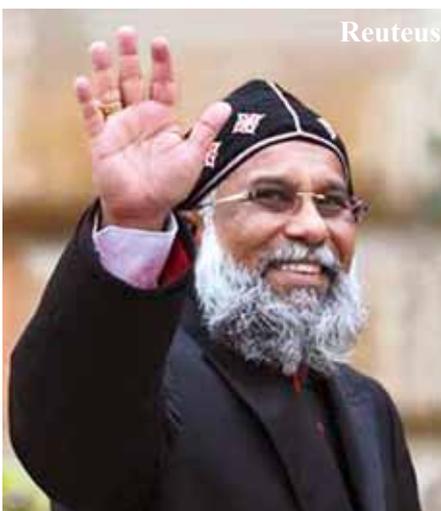
thus March 21 was chosen for being the beginning of Spring.

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, Rector of the Shrine, stressed: "The Shrine of Fatima celebrates solemnly and with pomp and circumstance the apparitions of Our Lady; however, we never did celebrate the apparitions of the Angel. We are going to insist that also these apparitions have a significant place in our calendar".



Cardinal Cleemis Thottunkal visits Shrine of Fatima

On March 16, the Shrine of Fatima received the private visit of Cardinal Cleemis Thottunkal, India, who came accompanied by a bishop and three Indian priests. He was one



of the youngest cardinals present at the Conclave that elected Archbishop George Mario Bergoglio to be the next Pope.

It was his first visit to the Shrine of Fatima and he wanted, for that reason, to celebrate Mass in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, to visit the homes of the Little Shepherds and the exhibition 'Fatima Light and Peace'.

He showed a lot of interest in the history and message of Fatima, specially because of their importance and timeliness for today's men and women. He also showed a lot of interest in the exhibition 'Fatima Light and Peace' and was fascinated by the crown of Our Lady, where there is encased the bullet that struck the body of Pope John Paul II. And he was moved by the testimony of numerous graces received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, expressed in the many exhibited ex-

votoes from all over the world.

While carefully observing the objects donated by Bishops and Popes, the Cardinal noticed how Fatima was well received, from the beginning, by the Church, and how the visits of Popes Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict XVI helped spread throughout the world the 'maternal role' of the Blessed Mother, Who accompanies and leads men to God.

Cardinal Cleemis returned to Rome on March 18 in order to take part in the celebration of the beginning of the Petrine Ministry of Pope Francis.

On the visitors' book of the Exhibition 'Fatima Light and Peace', the Cardinal wrote: "I thank Our Lady of Fatima for having given me the opportunity to visit this Shrine".

Sister Maria Stella
Oblates of Mary Virgin of Fatima, Fatima

Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa visits Shrine of Fatima



On April 7, Feast of the Divine Mercy, a replica of the Icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Poland, which is on pilgrimage through the world promoting life, visited the Shrine of Fatima after traveling 65,000km and visiting 24 countries. The Icon arrived in Portugal on March 2 and, since then, has traveled throughout the country, from North to South, visiting parishes, institutions and religious congregations.

On the morning of April 7, the Icon arrived at the Shrine

of Fatima from the Byzantine Chapel of 'Domus Pacis', international headquarters of the World Apostolate of Fatima, where it was venerated by hundreds of people, mostly of them from countries in Eastern Europe.

It was approximately 14h00 when the Icon arrived at the Little Chapel of Apparitions, where it was enthroned near the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and there remained during the Hour of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The celebration, which included the recitation of the Rosary, was presided over by the Most Reverend Wieslaw Mering, Bishop of Wloclawek, Poland, accompanied by other priests, including Fr. Francisco Pereira, Chaplain of the Shrine of Fatima, Msgr. Andrew Steckiewicz, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Minsk-Mogillev, Belarus, and Fr. Wlodzimierz Ogorzalek, from the Shrine of Czestochowa.

After the recitation of the Rosary, the Icon of Our Lady was taken in procession to the Basilica of Most Holy Trinity, where Holy Mass was then celebrated. About 3,000 people, some of them coming from abroad just for this, took part in this celebration. After Mass, the Icon was taken to the Chapel of the Resurrection of Jesus, where it remained for the veneration of the faithful until 21h30.

Nuno Prazeres

World Apostolate of Fatima

Greetings from Croatia

I am writing you from Croatia to thank you for the magazine you are sending us to the following address: Capela de Nossa Senhora de Fátima, Paróquia de Sv. Ivan Zabno, Brezovljani, Croácia.

I and my family are very glad that you think of us from such a distant country, and we believe that we might meet some day, God willing. Now we want to briefly introduce ourselves to you and explain why we want to send you this message.

The small village of Brezovljani is located some 60 km from Zagreb, the capital of Croatia. In the village of Brezovljani there is a Chapel of Our Lady of Fatima. This Chapel has recently been remodeled and once a month Holy Mass is celebrated there. My family has been taking care of the chapel for 60 years. My grandmother is the bell ringer of the chapel (where the bell is rung three times a day). There is no ringing mechanism in the chapel, but only a rope to ring with. Because my grandmother has just turned 88 years old, after serving Our Lady all these years, the task of ringing the bell and taking care of the chapel has been handed over to her daughter (my aunt), who continues the tradition of bell ringing. My family consists of seven brave women who have a pretty estate near the chapel, where we grow our own fruits, vegetables and raise sheep.

Because my grandmother is 88 years old, she can't write an e-mail, specially not in English, my daughter and my niece have translated this message into English. Our wish is to encourage the local population to venerate Our Lady; so, this

year, we are planning for the first time to organize a celebration on May 13, with Holy Mass in the chapel.

Seven brave women

Zeljka Radnic



Pope Francis receives Statue of Our Lady of Fatima from Movement of Message of Fatima of Italy

During the general audience of April 10, 2013, the Movement of the Message of Fatima of Italy in the Diocese of Livorno lived an emotional and historic moment.

In the company of their Bishop, Most Rev. Simone Giusti, President of the Italian movement, the group donated to Pope Francis, at the end of the audience, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima acquired in Fatima and blessed in the Little Chapel of Apparitions.

The idea of donating a statue of Our Lady to the Holy Father sprang up on the day of his election, March 13, and it was confirmed by a sign when, the following Sunday, the Pope recalled with affection a *Perigrinatio Mariae* (Mary's Pilgrimage) of the Virgin to his diocese in Argentina.

The Holy Father was happy with the donation of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and, thus, came to know how the Italian Movement of the Message of Fatima was born and how it works, evangelizing and spreading the Message of the Lady in white. The Holy Father intends to further develop this work in harmony and union with the Portuguese movement



of the Message, from which the Italian movement took the idea, and with the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, in Portugal.

Pope Francis listened attentively to the story of the birth of the Italian movement and of the work so far done, whose purpose is to bring the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin to visit Italian parishes.

Alessandra Bimbi, national representative of the movement, accompanied by Bishop Simone, handed the statue, on behalf of all members and col-

laborators, to the Holy Father and proposed to him that he place such esteemed statue in his own living quarters and he, smiling, accepted the idea.

Another donation was also made to the Holy Father, a rosary brought from Fatima and a banner showing the places where the Movement of the Message of Fatima is implanted.

Thank You, Our Lady of Fatima, for leading us to the Holy Father, another step on the way to the triumph of Your Immaculate Heart!

Alessandra Bimbi & Sylvia Fiorini

Souvenirs of the Virgin of Fatima in Peru

Location: Huaraz, a town high up in the Peruvian mountains. Year: 1947. The chronicler writes: "The Virgin of Fatima that travels the world also came to Peru. We, Redemptorist Missionaries, accompanied Her for a whole year.

The statue, blessed at Fatima by the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, traveled between acclamations, doing good from city to city, from Chimbote to Casmart. In Huaraz, old mining town of the then Spanish colony, there happened stupendous miracles. We arrived in Huaraz under a torrential downpour. A water-proof nylon cover protected the statue of the Virgin Who traveled in Her car decorated with flowers. A girl shouted: «We want to see Her; remove the nylon cover!» We didn't, but she shouted even louder: "We are all wet because of Her; let Her get wet because of us!" She then climbed the car and removed the water-proof cover. At that very moment the rain stopped, just like in Fatima, on that famous October 13 of 1917. The grey clouds disappeared and an incomparable sunshine illuminated the Virgin's face.

The crowd goes wild, shouts, sings, throws flowers. From a balcony someone frees six doves, which, after they flew over the crowd, went straight for the statue and alighted there. Neither the rain of flowers nor the sound of music and hymns in the Church nor the night's darkness made them

leave the statue. For two months they will be the inseparable companions of this Mission, gladly accepting the wheat and the water that the devotees of Our Lady will offer them under the shade of Her Who, in the *Song of Songs*, is called 'Immaculate Dove'.

We are staying in Huaraz. During the afternoon Rosary, 5,000 people gather for a Mass so well attended that the Bishop hardly can get through. I see a woman, with a disturbed face, raising, with her hands, towards the statue of the Virgin, her 4-year old son, while shouting with full lungs: «Save him, dear Mother!»

Then she forces her way through the crowd, while I hear the crowd's cry: «Miracle! Miracle!» What had happened? This child had been at the Loayza Clinic, in Lima, where eye specialists tried, for two months, without success, to save the child's only eye remaining after an accident. The child was blind. But here, at this very moment, the Virgin, powerful and merciful, suddenly gave back to the child his two eyes. I saw them, shining and clear, fixed on the eyes of the Virgin of Fatima".

*Noel Londoño, CSsR (compilation)
Bibliographic notes of Fr. Alfonso Zimmermann,
missionary in Peru*

Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Brazil and Philippines on the route of Fatima's Pilgrim Statue

For the year 2013 there are already in the plans several pilgrimages with the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal and other countries.

The Archdiocese of Évora, Portugal, has a long tradition of organizing popular missions with the presence of Fatima's Pilgrim Statue. Right at the beginning of his pontificate, current Archbishop José Francisco Sanches Alves renewed this tradition, by requesting from the Shrine of Fatima the sending of this Statue, in order to visit all the vicariates of his Archdiocese. This year, the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will visit the vicariate of Arraiolos, starting on February 16 and concluding on June 8.

During the months of February through July, Pilgrim Statue #8 is on visit to the Diocese of Livorno, Italy, a pilgrimage coordinated by the Marian Movement Message of Fatima of that Diocese.

On March 8, Pilgrim Statue #5 left Fatima for the vicariate of Mafra, Archdiocese of Lisbon, for a visit which will last until July 7.

Next is scheduled a visit of Pilgrim Statue #4 to several dioceses of Italy, coordinated by the Marian Movement Message of Fatima of the Diocese of Sabina-Poggio-Mirteto, which began in April and will end in October. This pilgrimage –whose motto is “With Mary on the way to the Eucharist” – intends to be a journey of faith to bring Christ to the world through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Also in Italy, during the same period of April through September, will Pilgrim Statue #11 be peregrinating, in a mission that will encompass several dioceses. The request was presented by Bishop Diego Bona and confirmed by Bishop Mario Russotto, former and again current President of Italy's section of the World Apostolate of Fatima.

From April 2 through 16, Pilgrim Statue #6 visited the Parish of Quinta do Anjo, Diocese of Setúbal, Portugal, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of its founding.

On May 13, the Basilica of Mary Mediatrix in Paris, founded and entrusted to the Portuguese Community, although at the service of the whole Archdiocese, by the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Lustiger, also celebrates its 25th anniversary as a Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. This Shrine was officially inaugurated on October 2, 1988, during a Mass presided over by the Archbishop of Paris and concelebrated by then Patriarch of Lisbon, Cardinal António Ribeiro. According to the current Rector, Fr. Nuno Aurélio, the intention is to mark the date by stressing the devo-

tion to Our Lady with these invocations so dear to the people of God: “Lady of Fatima” and “Queen of the Rosary”, even in that highly multicultural country. That is why the visit of Pilgrim Statue #2 to this Parisian shrine was planned and scheduled for May 1 through 13. The program includes the presence of several bishops and cardinals somehow connected to the shrine and events associated with it.

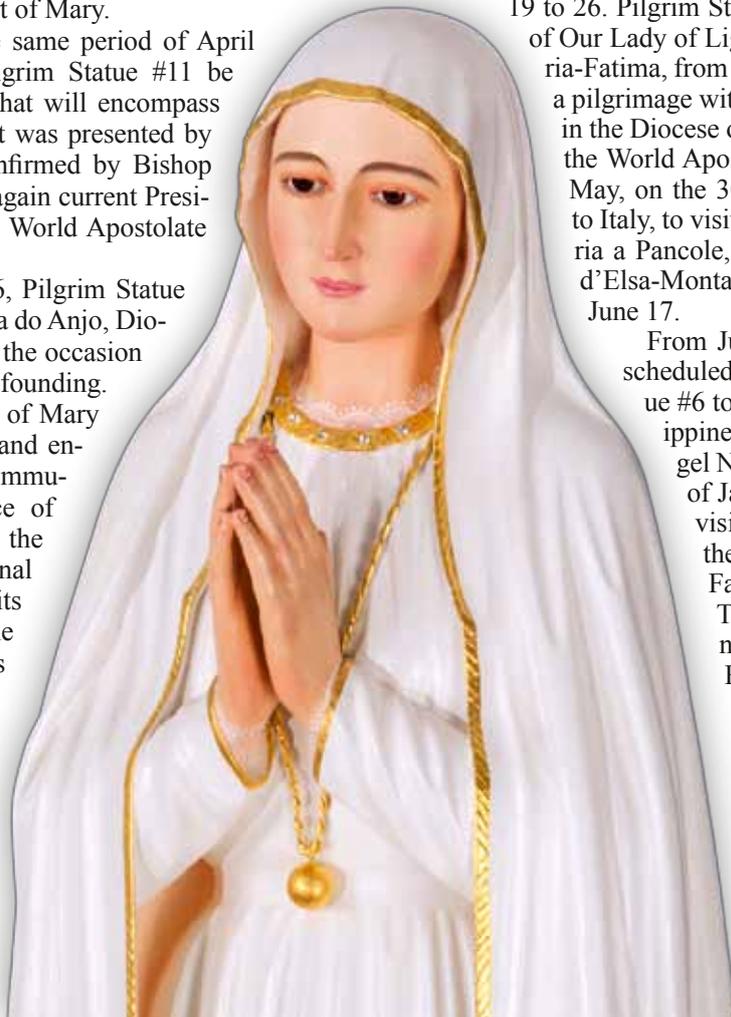
At the end of the month of April, in order to satisfy a request from Metropolitan Archbishop Orani João Tempesta, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the Shrine of Fatima has acquired a new Pilgrim Statue, which will be #12. After being blessed in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, the statue left for Brazil for a visit to a large number of dioceses of that country. This pilgrimage, which will begin on May 12 and end on October 13, 2017, is coordinated by the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima of Rio de Janeiro and the Association ‘Afternoon with Mary’ of this Archdiocese. The bishops of Brazil have manifested great interest in taking part in this great event of evangelization, on the occasion of the Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima.

For the month of May there are still scheduled several pilgrimages. From May 4 to 26, Pilgrim Statue #4 visits the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima, Lisbon, on the occasion of the commemorations of its 75th anniversary. Statue #10 will be visiting the Basilica of Santa Maria All’Impruneta (Marian shrine in the Archdiocese of Florence, Italy), from May 19 to 26. Pilgrim Statue #2 will travel to the Parish of Our Lady of Light, in Maceira, Diocese of Leiria-Fatima, from May 24 to 26. At the same time, a pilgrimage with Pilgrim Statue #3 will be held in the Diocese of Getafe, Spain, coordinated by the World Apostolate of Fatima. At the end of May, on the 30th, Pilgrim Statue #10 departs to Italy, to visit the Parish-Shrine of Santa Maria a Pancole, Diocese of Siena-Colle de Val d’Elsa-Montalcino, where it will remain until June 17.

From July 1 to September 30, there is scheduled a pilgrimage with Pilgrim Statue #6 to at least 25 dioceses in the Philippines. According to Archbishop Angel N. Lagdameo, of the Archdiocese of Jaro, “the purpose of this Marian visit is to rekindle and strengthen the devotion of the Philippine Family to Our Blessed Mother”. The pilgrimage is being coordinated by the World Apostolate of Fatima of the Philippines.

Finally, Pilgrim Statue #2 will visit the vicariate of Cascais, Archdiocese of Lisbon, from October 13 to 20. The vicariate thus wishes to conclude the Year of Faith with the maternal protection of Mary.

*António Valinho,
Rector's Secretary*



Heart of Mary, Refuge and Way 2013 Children's Pilgrimage



In the third year of celebration of the Centennial of the Apparitions, the pastoral theme proposed to the pilgrims focuses on the message of the second apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, on June 13, 1917. The Children's Pilgrimage on June 9/10 will also take on the challenge of speaking to the younger generation about this event and the message left here by Mary.

The Shrine of Fatima, through the pilgrimage's organizing committee, says this: "From this second apparition

we highlight, above all, the consoling words of Our Lady to Little Shepherd Lucia, faced with the news that she would soon be saying goodbye to her cousins: 'Do not lose heart! I will not forsake you. My Immaculate Heart shall be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God'. We took the pilgrimage's theme from these words: 'Heart of Mary, Refuge and Way'".

The purpose is to show children that "the Heart of Mary is indeed refuge and way, not only to the children of all times but also to all those who take refuge in Her maternal protection".

Since for children, more than for adults, the security and protection promised and offered by the Heart of the Mother of God is good news, it becomes necessary to create in children "an interior attitude that generates confidence and peace, which ought to be activated and cultivated in the heart of our children".

Thus, when preparing children for the pilgrimage, the goal is to help them develop that attitude of being open to God through Mary. "This is our task of Christian educators", says the organizing committee of this pilgrimage, which is being held now for more than thirty years.

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L.S.

Pastoral Theological Symposium at the Shrine of Fatima

"«Be not afraid!» Trust – Hope – Believer's Attitude" is the title of the Pastoral Theological Symposium scheduled for June 21 thru 23 at the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal.

Besides other activities, there will be presented the following talks by Portuguese speakers: "Fatima – place and message of hope for the world", by Bishop Virgílio Antunes, Diocese of Coimbra; "Fatima, representations, values and practices", by Alfredo Teixeira and "Faith experience as reconfiguration of human trust", by José Frazão Correia, both from Portuguese Catholic University.

Regarding talks by foreign speakers, these are the scheduled ones: "Time of healing, but behold terror! (Jer 14, 19). Fear and salvation", by Marta García Fernandez, Comillas Pontifical University, Spain; "The human experience of fear", by Giovanni Cesare Pagazzi, School of Theology of Northern Italy, Italy; "Believer's attitude for being in the world. Where is the Christian difference?", by Stella Morra, Gregorian Pontifical University, Italy; "Mary in the life of the Church in light of II Vatican Council and Her reception", by Salvatore Perrella, Marianum Pontifical School of Theology, Italy; and "The Church – bearer of hope in today's world", by Magnus Striet, University of Freiburg, Germany.

The complete program can be found in www.fatima.pt

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