



Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas * Proprietor: Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (Portugal) * Quarterly publication * Year XI * Nr. 41 * 2014/05/13

Aparecida and Fatima – Centenaries of Blessings

In 2017, the Marian Shrines of Fatima (Portugal) and Aparecida (Brazil) resound with festivities, celebrating, in the first case, the centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady, and in the second the tercentenary of the discovery of the image of Our Lady of Conception on the Paraíba River.

As they are two of the most important Marian shrines in the world and we are dealing with two brother peoples, united by history and language, but in addition by the same faith and great devotion to Our Lady, we also feel ourselves bound to celebrate together such significant jubilees.

Bishop Antonio Marto, bishop of

Leiria-Fatima, and Cardinal Raymundo Damasceno Assis, archbishop of Aparecida, agreed to take some common and joint actions which emphasize and express the connection of the two shrines, on this important occasion. Among these actions is the offer of the image of Our Lady of Fatima to the Shrine of Aparecida, in this month of May.

The image will be accompanied by Bishop Antonio Marto and a delegation from the Shrine of Fatima and, finally, will be solemnly enthroned in a space prepared for that effect, where it will stay for the veneration of the faithful. Later, in a date that will be fixed, the image of Our Lady of Conception,

Aparecida, also will be enthroned in the Shrine of Fatima; and then it will be accompanied by Cardinal Raymundo Damasceno.

The dates of the liturgical celebration of both Shrines are also significant: the 13th May is the feast-day for many devotees of Our Lady of Fatima throughout Brazil; and the 12th October, festive celebration of Our Lady of Aparecida, is a day of great pilgrimage to Fatima. Thus, in the Jubilee Year 2017, His Eminence Cardinal Raymundo Damasceno will preside at a grand celebration in Fatima, and His Excellency Bishop Antonio Marto will, in October, preside at a solemn celebration in Aparecida.

These are indeed small gestures, but of great significance. Thus are made manifest both jubilees and so also finds visible expression the deep union of these two Shrines in the celebration of both centenary and tercentenary. May Our Lady of Fatima and Aparecida guide and accompany with her maternal protection all pilgrims and devotees of these two Shrines!

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, Rector



Theologico-pastoral Symposium 2014

Registrations open

Registrations are now open for the participation in the theologico-pastoral symposium *“Involved in God’s love for the world.” Experience of God and human responsibility*, to be held on May 30/June 1 this year, in the Salão do Bom Pastor [Good Shepherd’s Hall], in Paul VI Pastoral Center, at the Shrine of Fatima.

Registrations can be made by sending the application form by post or delivering it in the Centenary of the Apparitions Secretariat–Symposium 2014, or via the Internet, through online access www.fatima2017.org.

Remember that this initiative is part of the calendar of activities planned for this fourth cycle of the celebration of the Centenary of the Apparitions.

Organized under the scientific coordination of the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic University, the Theologico-pastoral Symposium will ponder and reflect on some central themes related to the apparition of Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds in July 1917.

For more information www.fatima.pt.



L.S.

In 2013 the Sanctuary of Fatima received 242 thousand messages to Our Lady Mary, we trust and commit ourselves to You

During the year 2013 were delivered to the Sanctuary of Fatima 241 654 messages addressed to Our Lady of Fatima.

Most messages arriving at the sanctuary are placed directly in the Chapel of the Apparitions by pilgrims who come from all countries of the world, but they are also received through other means, such as by mail or delivered in the receptions and other places of the Customer Service of the Sanctuary of Fatima. Since 2006, they arrive also via the Internet to the email address pedidos@fatima.pt.

All prayer requests that reach these places are always taken to the Chapel of the Apparitions, in the place where Our Lady appeared, in order to be presented to Her, and then are archived.

In recent years, the prayer requests that arrived by e-mail had a conspicuous increase, and we can esteem about 3500 messages per month in multiple languages. The responsible religious sisters receive these requests and, when asked or

when it is understood that the person needs a word of comfort, of hope, or an advice, a response message is posted. This means of communication has developed rapidly, and many people find it a way of being able to speak or pray to Our Lady; others have the opportunity to tell someone of their distress, anguish, the sufferings of life, or their own joys, or to communicate other situations and experiences, and to give thanks for bestowed gifts and graces.

In most cases, the sisters receive answers with thanks for having responded to the message delivered by email; it is a great joy to know that through this “ministry of consolation and prayer,” many people get the strength, hope and courage to face their daily experience, which is often arduous and complex. The testimonials that people send are wonderful indeed, because they are truly words of gratitude flowing from the depths of their hearts: “I thank you for such kindness and so much solidarity in prayer”;

“Thank you. Thank you. Your message brought me much strength and much hope to continue my journey... Good night”; “I hereby give thanks for the prayers requested by me in favour of my friend... I am very grateful for your prayers. I’d like to tell you that often I impart to my acquaintances and family in my hometown the love service that you provide in our moments of greatest sadness, or when we have someone who, like myself, needs badly this union of strength to ask for in prayer. Here again goes a thankyou for the love you so well transmit and convey in the name of Our Lord and Our Blessed Mother.”

For this service, which in spite of being barely visible is very precious, we thank to Our Lady. She continues to instill a desire of heaven into the hearts of so many people, who find in Her light, hope and strength for their journey and pilgrimage in life.

*S. Giustina, OMVF
Oblates of the Virgin Mary of
Fatima*



“House of Candles” opens in Fatima



Since April 4 the city of Fatima has a new museum space. The name of this nucleus, located in Rua de S. Pedro [Street of St. Peter], in the Cova da Iria, could not be more fortunate and suitable: “Casa das Candeias” [‘House of Candles’].

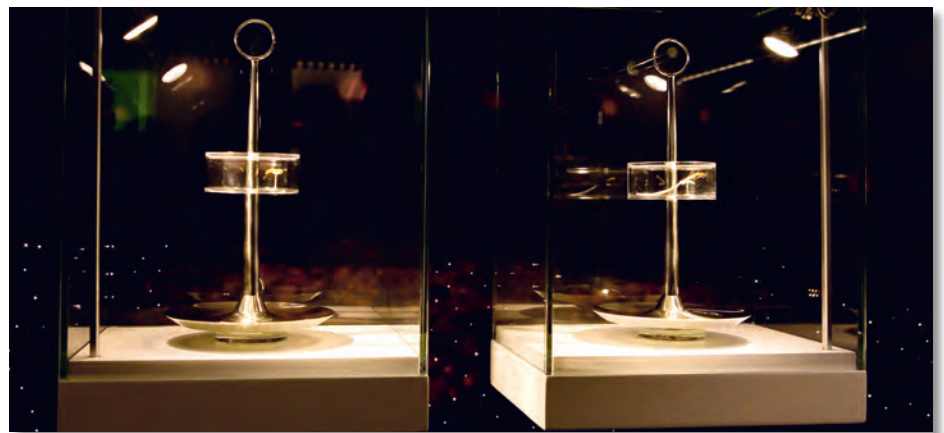
On the opening day, Sister Angela Coelho, postulator of the Cause of Canonization of Francisco and Jacinta Marto, and in charge of the Francisco and Jacinta Marto Foundation, the entity that owns the House of Candles, explains why this name was chosen: “Francisco and Jacinta are *two candles which God lit and raised to illuminate mankind in its gloomy and anxious hours*. Thus spoke of them Pope John Paul II on the day he beatified them in Fatima on the 13th May 2000. The light emanating from these children has the contour lines of the message trusted to them by the Lady of the Rosary in the Cova da Iria. The light of these candles, which accepted the challenge of offering their lives to God, remains a memory of a path of holiness that summons and has a claim for us even today. It is this light that we intend to evoke in this House of Candles.”

Thus the exhibition path is enlightened by the life and spiritual testimony of the two little Seers, and at a certain moment of the exhibit it comes up a connection with another figure linked to Fatima, John Paul II.

“When we started thinking of the project for the creation of this exhibition space the wish arose, naturally, that this place could also remember and do honour to the Pope who beatified them,” recalls Sister Angela Coelho.

Divided into five nuclei, the exhibit

culminates with the call for prayer in order to obtain the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta Marto. Through the way of holiness that is evoked and proposed, the visitor plunges deeply into the intimacy of family life of the two brothers and comes near to the key moments and figures of their beatification.



“We wanted it to be a space with a homely taste and the intimacy of a place where we feel welcomed,” emphasizes Sister Angela Coelho.

There are areas in which visitors can interact with the objects on display, and other elements are enhanced with projections and multimedia platforms; the nucleus exhibits, among other pieces, a fork, a mug and a homely bench of the Marto family, the handkerchief that belonged to Jacinta and Francisco’s knapsack. There can also be seen some pictures, the baptismal garment of the Seers, their baptism records and the decree of beatification. Some pieces belonged to John Paul II, among others,

a pair of shoes, a rosary and a fragment of the olive branch used by this Pope on Palm Sunday 2005, a few days before his death.

Some other objects on display are of great historical and devotional significance: a bead of the Francisco’s rosary, found in the exhumation of his remains, and a scrap of bandage used by Jacinta.

Just at the end of the path, near the relics of the Blessed – a fragment of Francisco’s rib and a lock of Jacinta’s hair, kept in two lamps of silver – we find a space as it were empty which, let’s hope, will be filled with a document highly anticipated by the devotees: the book of the decree of canonization of both Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

On the blessing and inauguration day of this nucleus, his Excellency Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, António Marto, said that “entering this house and making an entrance with the heart means to merge into a love story of an universal dimension, in which were protagonists two children, self-surrendered to and seduced by the *Lady over the holm-oak*, the *Lady of the message*, (...) a message that they sought to live and incorporate in themselves.”

The Rector of the Sanctuary of Fatima, Father Carlos Cabecinhas, welcomes the initiative of Francisco and Jacinta Marto Foundation: “This space is also important to the Shrine of Fatima because, through the language of beauty and art, can make known the Little Shepherds and the Message of Fatima, as a place of notification and information; and so it can be complementary to the experience that the pilgrims have and feel at the Shrine.”

The House of Candles is open daily; entries are free.

Leopoldina Simões

In the month of May Pilgrim Image of Our Lady starts its visiting to contemplative monasteries in Portugal

Our Lady in the cloisters



Already begun in 2010 and extending over a period of seven years, which will run until 2017, the celebration of the Centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady has fully mobilized the life of the Sanctuary of Fatima. More than just evoke an event chronologically, this journey aims to promote and enable a greater understanding of the Message of Fatima, a more profound experience of its theological dimension, a greater awareness of its permanent prophetic dimension even today, a greater perception of its particular ecclesial dimension, and a greater attention to its challenges and conversion paths.

Among the many activities and proposals that confirm and invigorate this journey of seven years which is also already celebration, there is the visit of the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady to all Portuguese dioceses and, preceding it, the visit of the same Pilgrim Image to all Convents and Monasteries of contemplative life in Portugal. Thirty-seven in all, each men's or women's Contemplative Monastery or Convent will welcome the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady for a week.

In order to prepare this event, the Sanctuary contacted all monasteries and convents in Portugal. In the Monasteries and convents in the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima – Poor Clares of Monte Real, Sisters of the Visitation of Our Lady of Faniqueira, Dominican Sisters of the Perpetual Rosary, Carmelite Sisters and Poor Clares of Fatima – on account of proximity, a first epistolary

contact was complemented with the presence of the Reverend Rector of the Sanctuary of Fatima.

In each of the five monasteries in early October 2013, being present the entire monastic community, the Reverend Father Carlos Cabecinhas had the opportunity to announce the visit of the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady and also to make known the full schedule of the journey commemorating the centenary of the apparitions.

The initiative taken by the Sanctuary gave rise to a genuine and spontaneous joy in the Communities of the addressed monasteries and convents. The visit of the Pilgrim Image is meant for the religious seclusion, i.e., the innermost life of each community and will take place in 2014-2015, in the year preceding the visit of the Pilgrim Image to the Portuguese dioceses, which is also being prepared.

Convents and Monasteries of contemplative life are always very discrete, but also inhabited by a deep life of prayer and service to God. Though not intended specifically for moving from place to place in order to proclaim the Gospel, contemplative and cloistered vocation is thought of, however, as a mission to put before God the life and the needs of men. For this reason, they are places and communities where permanently echoes the prayer of thanksgiving and supplication, the prayer of praise and self-abandonment. They pray for their own intentions, but mainly for the intentions of all mankind. One of the reasons and incentives of the visiting of the Pilgrim Image to Convents and Monasteries is to ask these Communities that with their prayer, before the Mother of Heaven, make stronger and more solid the foundation of all events related to this centennial celebration. If commemorating the centenary of the Apparitions is to favor and renew the experience of the Message of the Lady more brilliant than the sun, any journey has in prayer its start, its course and its close.

Prayer is the great support of all. The Sanctuary welcomes thus confidently, from the hands of each community, the strength that springs from prayer. In the end of each meeting, and again as motive of great and delicate joy to each community, the Reverend Rector, on behalf of the Postulation of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, left the relics of the Little Shepherds.

Fr. Emanuel Matos Silva,
Vice-Rector of the Sanctuary of Fatima



Philippine Archbishop prays at Fatima



Present in Portugal at the invitation of Aid to the Church in Need Foundation, the Most Reverend John Forrosuelo Du, Archbishop of Palo, in the region of Leyte, Philippines, was on March 22 as peregrine at the Shrine of Fatima, where he thanked Our Lady for the spiritual comfort that She has given to the populations most affected by the typhoon of November 2013.

His Excellence John Du presided at

the Eucharist concelebrated with the Rector of the Sanctuary of Fatima at 11.00 at the Basilica of the Holy Trinity. At the end of the Mass in English, His Excellence thanked Our Lady of Fatima and also the Portuguese for the generosity manifested during the campaigns in the country.

“We are in the process of rehabilitation, but the impact of Typhoon Haiyan was huge, damages are many and manifold, and in our region they are massive, because we were at the center of the hurricane, we still need a long time to rebuild,” he said in an interview.

“We still have need of basic things,” he said. In addition to shelters and food, populations are in want of psychological and spiritual support to recover from the trauma”, he specified.

In a country where 95% of the population are Catholic, His Excellence John Forrosuelo Du emphasized the great devotion and connection of the Philippine people to Our Lady of Fatima.

Deeply moved, the Archbishop testifies: “I am very happy with the invitation of Aid to the Church in Need Foundation to come to Fatima. I am at this Shrine for the second time; the first

time I came as a priest, with a group of pilgrims. As soon as we arrived, everyone went to rest, but I just wanted to come to the Shrine. I made my prayer kneeling next to the statue of Our Lady. She is my refuge and the shelter of the Philippine people.”

“On the third day after Typhoon Haiyan I received and welcomed in my diocese the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima. I asked the Lord: how can we receive and welcome it? Everything was destroyed! Then I realized that the arrival of the Image of Fatima would comfort us”, he also recalled, adding: “We are very Marian, our Mother in Heaven is part of our lives, accompanying us in everyday life.”

It must be remembered that the pilgrims to the Shrine of Fatima contributed to the reconstruction of the country, since the results of the Christmas campaign of the year 2013, amounting to € 19,539.93, were channeled through Caritas to support the populations affected by the hurricane. To this amount was added an immediate support by the Sanctuary of Fatima, just after the typhoon, worth 25,000 euros, to meet the most pressing needs.

Leopoldina Simões

Our Lady of Fatima in the Philippines

Ferdinand Magellan, a noted Portuguese, discovered the Philippines in 1521 and brought there faith and the Gospel. After almost five centuries, the signs of Portuguese presence and of the Catholic faith are stronger than ever.

Recently, I was in the Philippines and visited some areas that need attention and pastoral help and assistance of ACN (Aid to the Church in Need). I crossed the places devastated by Typhoon Haiyan on November 8, 2013, and also went to see the region of Bohol, an island severely hit by an earthquake with degree 7.2 of intensity in October, last year. I also visited the region of Mindanao, in the south, where there is a strong Muslim presence and where burst episodes of tension caused by some fundamentalist groups.

For almost three weeks, I had the opportunity to meet and know a won-



derful people, extremely religious, very welcoming, sensitive and of joyous mood. It struck my attention, of course, the presence of the image of Our Lady of Fatima in many places and the affection that people have for Maria.

In Tanauan, Province of Leyte, I found one of these special places. In Buntay neighborhood there is a small Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima. Rowena M. Popellero, coordinator of the parish social work, when she heard that I was coming from Portugal insisted on taking me to see the place and said, with some pride, that every first Saturday of the month, the population participates in dawn Mass in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, followed by a procession through the streets.

After the passage of Typhoon Haiyan, the image was damaged, but the faith of the people is stronger than ever. After all, they need our help to have a new image. Let us help them?

Felix Lungu,
www.fundacao-ais.pt

In the ways of Faith with Mary



A youth group from the College of Our Lady of Lourdes in Paris, accompanied by Martine Boscaine-Adoukonou, its APS [school pastoral assistant], was in Fatima the 12th/15th February, and found accommodation in one of the Houses of the Sanctuary.

Martine explains why this coming to the Shrine of Fatima took place: “I give catechesis and religious culture and instruction at the College. I guided and followed these young people of the chaplaincy attending the third level of studies [*class de 3^{ème}*] in this pilgrimage to Fatima. Indeed, after we tried to follow in the footsteps of St. Therese in Lisieux, of Bernadette in Lourdes, and after the visit to the tomb of the first companion and disciple of Christ in Rome, these youngsters and myself wanted to understand and live the message of Fatima. We are very thankful for everything.”

The group of young people that came from Paris to Fatima also gives us testimony:

This pilgrimage to Fatima made possible for us to discover an exceptional environment, where we met people from different nationalities with different cultures, and which, in their own way, told us the history of this holy place. We were welcomed by the Sisters, which expressed an extraordinary sympathy towards us.

Upon our arrival at this holy place, we went to the Chapel of the Apparitions to pray the rosary. The next morning we went to the information center and then we heard the story of Fatima by a French guide who helped us understanding it through images and photographs.

Afterwards we visited the basilica, accompanied by the same guide. At 11.00 we attended Mass in portuguese, and as it was the 13th took place a magnificent procession in the rain, but that did not stop us from living this powerful moment. In the next following days we visited local museums, did the Pilgrim’s Route. On the last day, we went to Aljustrel, the village where Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco were born. On the way we did the Via Crucis and visited the homes of the Little Shepherds of Fatima. At night, in the recitation of the Rosary in the Chapel, we had the opportunity of praying one of its mysteries in French, by a member of our group.

We kept a very good memory of Fatima, as well as of our trip to Portugal; we now know a little better the history of Fatima and live a part of what the Little Shepherds here lived and experienced. This pilgrimage also afforded us the experience of community prayer, besides enriching us culturally and religiously.

Youngsters and their APS
College of Our Lady of Lourdes, Paris

European Encounters entrusted to Mary

5 years ago, Rome, the capital of Christendom, welcomed the first “European Encounters”. Over 250 young Christians committed to society and coming from all parts of Europe gathered during these three days. Brussels, the capital of Europe, hosted the second edition of the “European Encounters” on the 11, 12 and 13 October 2013. Nearly 400 young Christians involved in the life of the city participated in this event.

The leading theme of the debates was: The treasure of faith and its practice in personal, associative, professional, political and family life. Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the year 2013 as “Year of Faith”, so the meetings wanted to finish this year with a deep reflection on how to take faith in everyday life.

Prestigious speakers came from all Europe and thought deeply of burning issues of our time during these three intense and productive days (see program on website www.european-encounters-2013.eu). The participants, engaged and dynamic young Catholics, will be in charge of Christian Europe of tomorrow.

With grateful hearts, we can say that the success was complete. The European mosaic was very present, in all its diversity, but united in a desire of common construction and improvement. Pope Francisco told us: “Put yourselves in the path and act.” Such was the aim and purpose of these our Meetings. So the themes of the conference highlighted: What is “the place of Christ in today’s Europe”, “of Christ in the City” and “of Christ in the world.”

On 13th October, the image of Our Lady of Fatima was in Rome where the Pope Francisco consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We wanted to take part in this consecration trusting our Meetings to Our Lady of Fatima, whose image occupied a place of honor during the three days, in the conference room as well as in the solemn Eucharist which ended the “European Encounters”.

We give our thanks to Sister Inês of the Community of



the Servants of Our Lady of Fatima, in Brussels, for her kindness in lending us the magnificent image of her community.

Brussels, 13th October 2013
In behalf of the Organizing Committee:
Elizabeth de Séjournet e Nadine de Kerchove

“The good will be martyred”

In Slovenia, in 2013, it was celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the consecration of our people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, undertaken by Bishop Gregorij Rožman in 1943, and it was preceded, in each parish, by the celebration of the five first Saturdays of the month.

Having accepted the proposal of the Association of the consecrated to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, the Slovenian bishops invited all parish priests and rectors of shrines to celebrate in the churches entrusted to them the five first Saturdays, according to the message of Fatima. Many of the faithful, priests and bishops who have opened their hearts to this invitation rejoiced with the abundant fruits, either by number or by fervor of the faithful who attended, and not only: during the exercise of devotion (from January to May 2013) the political waters suddenly became calm and, in the end, the exiled bishop, condemned by the communist government after world War II in a fabricated process, His Excellency Gregorij Rožman, which 70 years ago was the promoter of this devotion, could return home to rest in his hometown. Rožman was one of the first in Europe to respond to the urgent call of Our Lady to reparation for the offenses against God. He was one of the first in Europe, after the Portuguese bishops, to consecrate his people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



After so many graces received, it was natural to our Association to correspond to Pope Francisco's call in Marian Journey on October 13, 2013, where also was present the original image of Our Lady of Fatima, whose maternal intercession saved the life of Pope (John Paul II) in the attack on St. Peter's Square, on May 13, 1981. Moreover, as representatives of a people so small, we were moved by the attention that the organizer of the Marian Journey, the Reverend Monsignor Fisichella, had for our anniversary, recommending to the Pope “the pilgrims of Slovenia which, on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, ask the Holy Father for a special blessing to this people.”

But 2013 was also the year of the 70th Anniversary of the martyrdom of our blessed Lojze Grozde. The martyrdom of this twenty years old student is closely linked to the devotion of the first Saturdays; indeed, at the time, in

January 1943, it was just to begin. Eager to perform the request of Our Lady, welcomed and recommended by his bishop Gregorij Rozman, Grozde falls into the hands of the Communists, when he carried in his suitcase the messages of Fatima to distribute in his parish. Then they tortured him ruthlessly, killed him and hid his body. After a few months, some kids in search of

snowdrops in the forest, found the body intact, but with obvious signs of martyrdom.

“The good will be martyred”, said Our Lady in the second part of the secret of Fatima, but She also said: “Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.” Undoubtedly, John Paul II, Lojze Grozde and Gregorij Rožman are part of this group which, after the horrors of World War II, made possible and prepared the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In fact, as the three Little Shepherds, also these three “pastors” responded positively to the request of Our Lady: “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God to bear all the sufferings He will to send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and of supplication for the conversion of sinners?” Now it's up to us to invoke their intercession and also follow their example.

Dragica Cepar

Archbishop Mauro Piacenza in Fatima

Mauro Cardinal Piacenza, Major Penitentiary of the Holy See, was in Fatima in early April, where he presided at the international meeting of the Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Foundation, an institution of pontifical right whose he is now the president.

In the early morning on April 1, Archbishop Mauro Piacenza presided at the Mass celebrated in the Chapel of the Apparitions, where he prayed “to the blessed and ever Virgin Mary for teaching us and obtaining for us this radical disposal at

God's will; may She protect us from every error and illusion and open us up always to the true, great and glorious real-



ity of the Incarnate, Crucified and Risen Love, that is Christ our Lord!”

It was the first time that Portugal hosted a meeting at the highest level of the direction of ACN. According to its supervisors, it was “a meeting that gains a particular symbolism, because Fatima has always occupied a very special place in the devotion of the founder of the organization, Fr Werenfried van Straaten, who consecrated it to Our Lady of Fatima in 1967”.

L.S.

The visiting of the tombs of the Little Shepherds is guaranteed the whole period of the works

Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima closes for repair and restoration

Intending, as horizon, the celebration of the Centenary of the Apparitions, the Sanctuary of Fatima will conduct a thorough intervention of cleansing and restoration inside the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, which will imply its closure over a long period of time.

Since its construction, the constant use of the building over several decades has led to the browning of the inner surfaces and to the degradation or erosion of some materials. The work to be undertaken is aimed fundamentally at conservation and cleansing, but the opportunity will be seized to develop other important interventions in the conditions of lighting and sound. The work of repair also includes the improvement of the safety situation of pilgrims, mainly on accessibility issues. Special attention will also be paid to the whole artistic heritage. The annexed spaces, e.g. the sacristy and the chapel of St. Joseph, will also be improved.

Besides, it seemed suitable to make an intervention in order to highlight the meaning and worth of the visits to the tombs of the Little Shepherds and the veneration of the relics of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto. In this context, the Sanctuary intends to create a devotional path that allows the pilgrims to pray before the relics of the Seers, in conditions of greater tranquility and recollection.

Another work of no small importance to be carried out during the same period is the reconstruction of the great pipe organ in the Basilica. The renewal of the instrument will be carried through, taking advantage as much as possible of the existing one. But a number of things, certainly, need to be changed.

The works of restoration will begin on the 14th May 2014 and will con-

tinue for several months, in principle till the end of 2015. For this reason, the celebrations there taking place will be transferred to other locations, as follows: the official masses 07:30am, 09:00am, 12:30pm, 15:00pm, 16:30pm and 18:30pm will be celebrated in the Capela da Morte de Jesus [Chapel of the Death of Jesus], on the lower floor of the Basilica of the Holy Trinity; Mass 11:00am, Monday to Saturday, will be celebrated in the Basilica of the Holy Trinity. However, the visiting of the tombs of the Little Shepherds is guaranteed and will remain possible in practically the whole period of the works, with the exception of one or another time when security reasons require its interdiction.

The Sanctuary thanks in advance all visitors and pilgrims to Fatima for the understanding and tolerance towards the inconveniences the work of repair may cause.

António Valinho



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