



# FÁTIMA LUZ E PAZ

Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima

Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas

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*My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge  
and the way that will lead you to God*

*Jubilee Year of the Centennial  
of the Apparitions*

## Francisco and Jacinta Marto: “Two candles that God lit”

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1917, in Cova da Iria, the three little shepherds Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta saw Our Lady. 100 years later, on the same day, the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, a great crowd gathers in a festive atmosphere, in a celebration presided by Pope Francis, to, in the same place, give thanks to God for the gift of the Apparitions of Fatima and to canonize the two youngest sears: Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

It was unforgettable the pilgrimage of Pope Francis, who wanted to come as a pilgrim and pray with the pilgrims, but it was the great celebration of the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, with the canonization of the two Little Shepherds, that marked the peak of those festive days and, with no doubt, of the Centennial of the Apparitions. In his pilgrimage, the Holy Father offered us the best gift we could ever expect: the recognition of the holiness of the two new saints.

The canonizations, as an official recognition from the Church of the sanctity of some of its members, is usually made in Rome. The fact that this canonization happened in Fatima, makes it, to us, very special, because it is in this place that we can find the tombs of the two saints, and it is this Shrine that guards their relics. This event also stands out the recognition of Fatima as a true “sanctity school”. The message that the “Lady as brighter as the sun” transmitted to them transformed their lives, because they followed and lived her intensely.

That message, they faithfully communicated to us, conserves today, one hundred years later, all its actuality and presents itself to us as a path to sanctification.

To the great joy for the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta, it is added a profound gratitude to God, Who conceded us the grace of these two new saints, our intercessors next to Him and life role models to all Christians.

Saints Francisco and Jacinta, pray for us!

*Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas*

## “Dear pilgrims, we have a Mother!”



*Pope offered Golden Rose to the Shrine*

The sentence, repeated three times in the homily of the Mass on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, during which the Pope canonized Francisco and Jacinta Marto, will remain as one of the strongest pronounced during the 24 hours he spent in Cova da Iria.

Francis became a pilgrim of the Centennial and reaffirmed an essential truth to the Catholics: “We have a Mother”.

In the homily of the Eucharistic of the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, he focused on the core of the message of Fatima: “The Virgin Mother did not come here so that we may see her; for that we will have the whole eternity, if we go to heaven naturally”. Then, he explained that “She came to remind us the light of God that inhabits and covers us, here as in any other place on earth, whenever we take refuge under the protection of the Virgin Mother, to ask Her, as taught in the *salve-regina*: show us Jesus”. He finished challenging the thousands of people who filled the Shrine completely: “Under the protection of Mary,

may we be in the world sentinel of the dawn, who are able to contemplate the real face of Jesus the Savior and discover afresh the young and beautiful face of the Church, which shines when it is missionary, welcoming, free, faithful, poor of means and rich in love”.

The presence of Pope Francis in the first international anniversary pilgrimage, in which we evoke the first apparition of Our Lady to the little shepherds, was undoubtedly the highest moment of the celebration of the centennial. This is what the bishop of Leiria-Fátima, António Marto affirms, reminding that May will remain in history as the month of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the apparitions, of the canonization of the little shepherds and of the visit of the Pope, to which the pilgrims exceedingly corresponded to all expectations.

At the end of the Eucharist of the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, Mgr. António Marto addressed the pilgrims to thank Pope Francis, and did it in an emotive and familiar tone: “Thank you for your testimony, Holy Father, which touches us profoundly. Thank you mostly because you brought with you two new saints, the two little shepherds Francisco and Jacinta, who are so dearly loved by our people and are caring intercessors for the Pope”.

Mgr. António Marto, visibly emotional, concluded reminding that “we will always be united to you, as sons who are grateful to a father who visits us, with his tenderness and his smile, and encourages us to live more intensely as disciples of Jesus, in the footsteps of Mary.”

*Carmo Rodeia*

## A Shrine in feast receives the Pope, pilgrim of the Centennial



*Thousands of pilgrims from different nationalities gathered around the Pope to celebrate the first apparition*

Francis wished, since the first hour, to be the pilgrim of the Centennial, and behaved as such throughout the 24 hours that he spent in Cova da Iria, between the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> of May. And the complicity of the rest of the pilgrims could not have been better.

As soon as the airplane landed, about 10 minutes before scheduled, a huge applause echoed in the Prayer Area of the Shrine. The promise was being accomplished: Francis was on Portuguese soil and was visiting our country as a pilgrim, with a true intention of praying next to the Mother.

After the protocol program at the air base of Monte Real, where he was received as Head of State by the President of the Republic Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, Francis arrived at the Shrine in the popemobile, immediately heading to the Chapel of the Apparitions, where, during 8 minutes, he prayed silently before the Mother. The expression on his look said it all: that meeting between Francis and the Virgin was absolutely essential for him. He offered a Golden Rose, he ended up being surrounded by dozens of children from the three Catholic colleges in Fatima, who were waiting for him in the Chapel of the Apparitions, and he went on for a short rest.

At night, when he came back, there was the second big moment of the day: Francis came down from the car and became a walking pilgrim in the Prayer Area of the Shrine. Arriving at the Chapel of the Apparitions, he lit a candle in the Paschal Candle and addressed the pilgrims: "Dear pilgrims of Mary and with Mary, thank you for receiving me amongst you and for associating yourselves to me in this pilgrimage, lived in hope and in peace". And he continued in Portuguese: "I wish to assure you all who are with me, here and in any other place, that I have you

in my heart. I feel that Jesus entrusted you to me, and I embrace you all and entrust you to Jesus, mainly those who are most in need, as Our Lady taught us to pray".

"If we want to be Christians, we should be marian" and venerate Mary, "the blessed one for having trusted", and not "the little saint to whom we run to obtain favors at low cost", he added. Before beginning the recitation of the rosary, which he presided, the Pope left a note: "we do a great injustice to God and to his grace when we affirm in the first place that sins are punished by his judgment, without saying first that they are forgiven by his mercy".

Francis did not attend the candle procession, as he went to rest, but the feast went on with the international mass, presided by the Vatican's secretary of state, Pietro Cardinal Parolin.

*Carmo Rodeia*



*Francis made himself pilgrim on foot in the Prayer Area towards the Chapel of the Apparitions*

## The Church has new saints and they are Portuguese

The Catholic Church has two new saints, since the 13th of May, and they are Portuguese: Saint Francisco and Saint Jacinta Marto. The bells of the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima chimed on and on.

“With the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta, I wished to propose to the whole Church their example of adherence to Christ and of evangelical testimony”, said the Pope, almost 24 hours after the canonization of the two little shepherds from Cova da Iria.

The holiness of Francisco and Jacinta Marto “are not a consequence of the apparitions, but of the fidelity and ardor with which they corresponded to the privilege that they received of being able to see the Virgin Mary”, added Francis, reminding that, “in Fatima, Our Lady chose the innocent heart and the simplicity of the little ones Francisco, Jacinta and Lucia as keepers of her message. The little shepherds worthily received her to the point of being recognized as trustful witnesses of the apparitions, and becoming models of Christian life”.

Before the canonization, Francis prayed at their tombs, in a moment of great intimacy and profound emotion. A commotion that did not pass unnoticed when Bishop António Marto, after reading the biography of the two children in the Mass that integrated the canonization, asked the Holy Father to order the redaction of



*Relics of the little shepherds are deposited in the House of Candles, in Fatima*

the Apostolic Letter regarding the canonization, before the applause of the whole assembly.

Francisco and Jacinta Marto were proclaimed saints in Fatima. They are the youngest non-martyr saints of the Church.

At the base of this proclamation, there is a miracle that involved a five years old Brazilian child, named Lucas, who suffered from 6.5 meters height fall and remain in a state considered very delicate due to the loss

of brain tissue. His clinical state was aggravated by two cardiac arrests, which forced the doctors to operate Lucas, but always with many reservations on the possibility of survival of the boy and of a life with some quality. It was then that the parents asked the Carmelite sisters of Campo Mourão to pray for Lucas. A Carmelite sister run to the relics of Francisco and Jacinta, which were next to the tabernacle, and felt the impulse of praying: “Little shepherds, save this little boy, who is a child, just like you”. The story was told by the parents to all the journalists present in the Press Room of the Shine of Fatima on the 11th of May. Two days after the operation, Lucas woke up, and today he is completely well.

“Lucas is now what he was before the accident: his intelligence, his character, it’s all the same. The doctors, including some unbelieving ones, said they had no explanations to this recovery”, the father affirmed.

For them, there is no doubt: “We give thanks to God for the cure of Lucas and we know, with all the faith in our hearts, that this miracle was obtained through the little shepherds Francisco and Jacinta Marto. We feel an immense joy for this miracle that is taking them to be canonized, but above all we fell the blessing of friendship of these two children who helped our little boy and now help our family”.



*Lucas hugged Francis. Touching moment for the pilgrims*

### *From May to October*

## **IN LAMEGO (in the Shrine) UNITED TO FATIMA IN THE CENTENNIAL**

The Shrine of Our Lady of Remedies proposes a program of experiencing this enormous time of grace that is the Centennial of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima.

This program consists of the Candle Procession with Recitation of the Rosary (through the so-called «Path of the Pilgrimages», which starts at the beginning of the Santuário Street), of the Blessing of the Most Holy Sacrament and of a Meditation.

The beginning will be at 9:00 p.m. of every 13<sup>th</sup> from

June to October. In the month of May, this program will take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> to enable the Blessing of the Pilgrims of Fatima by the Bishop of Lamego.

On the mentioned 4<sup>th</sup> of May, Bishop António Couto will do the meditation on the theme “How to reach Fatima (by car or by foot) with Mary of Nazareth”.

All are welcome!

*SAS (Service of Support to the Shrine)*

## **“When A Shrine celebrates its jubilee, all Shrines dedicated to Mary rejoice”**

The Rector of the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes spoke of the importance of the Centennial of the Apparitions of Fatima saying: “When A Shrine celebrates its jubilee, all Shrines dedicated to Mary rejoice”.

The Marian Shrine of Altötting is profoundly connected to Fatima by a town-twinning with the city of Fatima, and also by the initiative “Shrines of Europe”. The profound devotion to Mary is the connecting element between these two places.

Bishop Doctor Stefan Oster SDB inaugurated the exhibition, along with H. Em. Cardinal Kurt Koch and Bishop Emeritus Wilhelm Schraml, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2017, speaking of Mary as a Mother for all of us. The public got to know the context and content of the 17 panels and reliquaries which integrate the exhibition through a presentation made by Fr. Jörg Fleischer a frequent pilgrim and profound expert in Fatima.

The exhibition “Fatima 100 Years – With Mary to Jesus” intends to show the events of Fatima, underlining some details of the Apparitions story. The Conversion and Turning to Christ Message, through and with Mary, which is reinforced in the exhibition, intends to invite to prayer and meditation.

*Stefanie Stübler*

## **Shrine of Fatima welcomes a special pilgrim in the Centennial year**



*Mr. Luciano confessed to have a great devotion to Our Lady*

On April 11<sup>th</sup> 1917, in a small village of Viana of Castelo, Luciano Rodrigues Ribeiro was born. In the celebration year of the Centennial of the Apparitions, the former plasterer wanted, along with his family, to celebrate his century of life in Fatima.

“I have a great devotion to Our Lady”, and for that reason, he chose this day to come to the Shrine of Cova da Iria, where he participated in a celebration in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, followed by a lunch at the Pilgrim Shelter and a visit to the Permanent Exhibition Fatima light and Peace.

Luciano Ribeiro has 7 grown children, two dozens of grandchildren and a dozen of great-grandchildren.

*Cátia Filipe*

## **100 days with Mary**

The Parish of Our Lady of Fatima of Campo Grande – MS –Brazil lived 100 Days With Mary in preparation for the celebration of the Centennial of the Apparitions in Fatima. Beginning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February we went up to the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, everyday with a good attendance of devotees. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup> of

April, as part of our celebration, we made a pilgrimage to Fatima with 55 devoted pilgrims, in order to live the faith. This was promoted by the Province of Capuchin Franciscan Friars Minor of Central Brazil.

*Brother Moacir Casagrande OFMcap*

## Shrine of Fatima prepares to receive five more big international anniversary pilgrimages during the Centennial

After the visit of Pope Francis to Fatima in the month of May, other big pilgrimages will take place in the Shrine of Fatima. Five of those pilgrimages mark the Apparitions of Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds, Francisco, Lucia and Jacinta, and they are designated international anniversary pilgrimages. But there are others.

In the next month of June, the Shrine of Fatima will receive three big pilgrimages. The first one, on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June, will be the 39<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage of Children, under the theme “Lady of the Rosary, more brilliant than the Sun”. It is one of the most important pilgrimages of the Shrine of Fatima, for the meaningful number of children who gather from all the dioceses of the country. This year it will be presided by Mgr. António Marto.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> of June, the second international anniversary pilgrimage is celebrated under the theme “Glory to You, Queen of Peace”; it will be presided by Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, Metropolitan Archbishop of Genova and president of the Italian Episcopal Conference. This pilgrimage evokes the second apparition of Our Lady in Cova da Iria, and will bring to Fatima an enormous group of Italian Pilgrims.

Still before the ending of the month of June, the Shrine of Fatima will receive Lebanon’s national pilgrimage, on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of June. Lebanon’s national pilgrimage will bring to the Shrine of Fatima 10.000 pilgrims. The responsible for this pilgrimage is Fr. Khalil Alwan, director of the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon – Harissa. In the third international anniversary pilgrimage, in July, month in which Our Lady appeared for the third time to

the little shepherds, the theme will be “Tender Mother, Lady of Our own”, and it will be presided by Mgr. Paolo Pezzi, Archbishop of Moscow. This pilgrimage will bring together all the catholic bishops of Russian language and will be a moment particularly expressive and symbolic. From this country will arrive the seven Catholic bishops, accompanied by almost a hundred people, priests and lay people, from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of July.

Mgr. Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontific Council for the promotion of the New Evangelization, will preside the international anniversary pilgrimage of August, also known as the migrants’ pilgrimage, which will have as theme “Holy Mary, Mother of God”.

In the month of September, the Shrine of Fatima celebrates the fourth international anniversary pilgrimage, with the theme “Mother of the Church, pray for us”, which will be presided by Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, major penitentiary of the Supreme Court of Penitentiary.

Days after, the Shrine of Fatima will receive the Czech Republic national pilgrimage. The World Apostolate of Fatima of Czeck Republic brings to the Marian Shrine of Cova da Iria 15 bishops, 90 priests, 100 religious and 340 members of the World Apostolate of Fatima. It will possibly be one of the most numerous committees expected for this year of the Centennial of the apparitions in Cova da Iria.

The last international anniversary pilgrimage will happen in the month of October, and will be presided by Mgr. António Marto, of the diocese Leiria-Fatima. The theme of the pilgrimage will be “Mary, Star of Evangelization”.

*Carmo Rodeia*

## Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima visits Portuguese emigrants



*Virgin Pilgrim in Luxembourg for one month*

One of the Pilgrim Images of the Virgin of Fatima will go on national pilgrimage to the Great Duchy of Luxembourg from the 25<sup>th</sup> of May to the 25<sup>th</sup> of June.

The blessing and delivering of the image was done at the end of the Sunday Eucharist on the 21<sup>st</sup>, in which participated the Portuguese Catholic Mission in Luxembourg, more than 50 years old, represented by three missionaries – Sister Perpétua Coelho, from the Servants of Our Lady of Fatima, Fr. Ricardo Monteiro, lusodescendant, and the lay Sara Ferreira

– who will take the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima.

The image will remain in the Great Duchy during a month, and in certain moments will be accompanied by two Portuguese bishops – Mgr. Manuel Quintas, bishop of the diocese of Algarve, and Mgr. José Cordeiro, bishop of the diocese of Bragança-Miranda – and by the president of the Republic of Portugal himself, who will visit the country.

The first visit of the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima to Luxembourg happened 70 years ago. When it is commemorated the Centennial of the Apparitions in Cova da Iria, the Catholics in Luxembourg commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the edification of the Shrine of Bassent, in Wiltz, where the pilgrimage started.

The Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima will visit 14 countries in 2017, in a total of 32 trips, among which Panama, Spain, Italy, Luxembourg, Brasil and France.

*Carmo Rodeia*

## Pilgrim Image makes journey in Italy



*Celebrations were extraordinary moments of the pilgrimage*

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> the Parish of Gesu Maestro, close to Rome, welcomed a 'Peregrinatio Mariae' of the Pilgrim Virgin of the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal.

Right after the welcoming prayer, the image was taken to the exterior of the San Giuseppe Institute, where the welcoming ceremony was con-

cluded with the Eucharist celebration. the procession accompanied Our Lady of Fatima to the Church, where it remained until the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, to then be transferred to Rome, to Saint John Lateran, for the Centennial Celebration in communion with Fatima, with the presence of the Pope's Vicar.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 it was reminded, in the Cathedral of Rome, Saint John



*Thousands of pilgrims welcomed the statue of the Pilgrim Virgin*

Lateran, the centennial of the first apparition of Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds of Fatima in 1917.

After, the Pilgrim Image was taken in a procession to the Parish of Gesu Maestro where it was enthroned.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Parish of Santa Maria Addolorata on the Roman neighbourhood of Villa Gordiani said goodbye to the Pilgrim Virgin.

Accompanying the Image, to the Air Fly Rome facilities, two collaborators of the Movement, along with the Shrine's Rector, who would welcomed it, took a seat in the plane, made available as always by President Italo Marini, and as programmed, at 5.30 pm the official image of the Portuguese Shrine landed in the Roman Shrine, where, at the arrival, thousands of people anxiously waiting for this moment, participated in the traditional waving of white handkerchiefs. After the welcoming prayer,

the procession accompanied Our Lady of Fatima to the Church, where it remained until the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, to then be transferred to Rome, to Saint John Lateran, for the Centennial Celebration in communion with Fatima, with the presence of the Pope's Vicar.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 it was reminded, in the Cathedral of Rome, Saint John Lateran, the centennial of the first apparition of Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds of Fatima in 1917. The Concelebration, accompanied by the Diocesan choir, was made official by His Eminence Cardinal Agostinho Vallini, the Pope's Vicar, and numerous public figures present as well as all the people who remained in prayer before the Image of the Pilgrim Virgin, brought by the Marian Movement of the Message of Fatima in Italy, which coordinates the National Pilgrimage with the Portuguese Shrine.

Escorted by the authorities, the Image, accompanied by the holy Relics of Francisco and Jacinta, arrived at the Basilica of Holy Cross in Jerusalem which is one of the seven churches of

Rome which are part of the traditional itinerary of pilgrimage made famous by Saint Philip Neri.

After the welcoming prayer, the Pilgrim Virgin and the Relics, arrived in procession to the Cathedral of Rome, Saint John Lateran, where over twenty thousand faithful from all parts of Italy were expecting with the traditional waving of white handkerchiefs.

In the solemn Concelebration, presided by the Vicar of the Holy Father, Cardinal Agostinho Vallini reminded the Canonization of the two Little Shepherds, held that morning in the Shrine of Fatima by the Pope.

The Virgin of Fatima arrived after to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, and after a brief preparation in the Chapel of Our Lady, in procession, crossing the entire lateral nave and then the central one, the Image, carried by two collaborators of the Movement, and accompanied by the spiritual assistant Don Marco, was placed before the main altar to initiate the moment of prayer, in an international connection with the other 4 Shrines of the World.

Ending this spiritual vigil, with truly touching moments lived in the millenary splendour of the Basilica, the Pilgrim Image was transferred to the Massimo Circus, to initiate the traditional midnight procession to the Roman Shrine of the Divino Amore, which is 14km away.

At the arrival, around 5.00am, a solemn Eucharist was celebrated at Shrine of the Divino Amore, which ended with the recitation of the self-giving act of Pope Francis, and so the several stages of the celebrations of the centennial of the apparitions, initiated in the morning the day before in San Vittorino, were concluded.

*Marroni Moreno*



*Statue of the Virgin transported by helicopter*

## Rome welcomed thanksgiving journey for the canonization of the Little Shepherds

*Cardinal Angelo Amato presided at the celebration in Saint Peter's Basilica*

Rome welcomed thanksgiving journey for the canonization of the Little Shepherds

On Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> of May, Monsignor Antonio Marto, bishop of the Leiria-Fatima diocese, presided at a celebration in the Basilica of Saint John Lateran.

"We came from far to praise God for His holiness which is reflected in the Little Shepherds of Fatima", said the bishop, who next praised the "mystic dimension of faith, in the intimacy of God".

According to Monsignor Antonio Marto, "it was in this intimacy that the little shepherds were introduced in that light, of how God loves and wants to be loved".

Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto were "in love by the beauty of God", in His "tenderness, love and mercy".

On the following day, around 10.00 a.m., the celebration in Saint Peter's Basilica, presided by Cardinal Angelo Amato, Prefect of The Congregation for the Causes of Saints, started by "praising God for the wonders He manifested in these two children who teach us so much".

"Sanctity has no age, the Light of God manifests itself in the young and the old, and for that the sanctity of these small children must not surprise, it is a celestial manifestation", said the Prefect of The Congregation for the Causes of Saints, praising that the sanctity of the young shepherds of Fatima "shows the simplicity of the innocent and accompanies each one of us to Our Lord Jesus Christ".

In the afternoon, the Lecture Hall



*Relics of Little Shepherds venerated in the Basilica of St. Peter*

of the Pontifical Gregorian University hosted a conference about the spirituality of the Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

Fr. Nuno Gonçalves, SJ, rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University made an initial greeting. Next, Marco Daniel Duarte, Director of the Studies and Diffusion Department of the Shrine of Fatima, proposed a reflection over the narrative of Fatima, sources and interpretations.

Cardinal Angelo Amato spoke about the sanctity of Francisco and Jacinta, and by way of conclusion the bishop of Leiria-Fatima said that "Francisco and Jacinta Marto are the first recipients of the message of

Fatima and so, agents of God in His message of mercy".

The prelate claimed to be with "a joyful heart", for "the value of the invisible life of Francisco and Jacinta, who were not famous, nor had access to social networks, they lived in silence the experience of faith".

Early evening the Church of Saint Anthony of the Portuguese welcomed a concert by Giampaolo di Rosa.

On Sunday, the Patriarch Cardinal of Lisbon, Monsignor Manuel Clemente, presided at a celebration, in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major.

Monsignor Manuel Clemente reminded the "plain actuality of the word of God", which is possible to contemplate in the example the little shepherds gave in life.

The Patriarch Cardinal of Lisbon invited the group of 70 Portuguese people present, as well as all other pilgrims who joined this celebration, to give "thanks for the life of Francisco and Jacinta Marto" and pray the Jubilee Prayer of consecration.

It was 10.26 a.m. on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May when Francisco and Jacinta Marto became the youngest non-martyrs saints of the Catholic Church, 65 years after the bishop of Leiria-Fatima, Monsignor Jose Alves Correia da Silva, opened the two diocesan processes over the fame of sanctity of the two seers.



*Giampaolo di Rosa performed a concert in Saint Anthony of the Portuguese*

## REPARATION HOUR IN THE CHAPEL OF THE APPARITIONS On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the initiative promoted by the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary

«On Sunday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May [1977], Most Reverend Father Luciano Guerra started the Reparation Hour, in the Chapel of the Apparitions, from 14.00 to 15.00 p.m.. Most Reverend General Mother [M. Mirta Del Favero] was present as well as the 29 sisters of the Congregation of the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary arrived in pilgrimage, who returned to Italy on May 4<sup>th</sup>»: notes the chronicler of the Communities of the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary who had opened a community in Fatima on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May 1973, next to the Shrine, convinced that the «Virgin wanted her humble Servants in this place because it is a place of prayer, of sacrifice and to promote Reparation». In 1978 the Reparation Hour began to take part of the official program of the Shrine.

The choice of the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary to open a community next to the Shrine of Fatima had, as a main purpose to have «a house of prayer and reparation for religious and laypeople who wanted to remain there for periods of retreat» (SERVE DI MARIA RIPARATRICI, IX *Capitolo generale*, pp. 37-38).

It also emerged through the harmony with the message of Our Lady



*Every day, the Chapel of the Apparitions welcomed the hour of reparation*

to the three Little Shepherds regarding the repairing dimension of its offer of prayer, sacrifice and penitence, with the commitment of the marian reparation assumed by the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary founded by Mother M. Elisa Andreoli in Adria (Rovigo - Italy), which, in 1911, had welcomed in her Institute Maria Inglese, promoter of the marian reparation in Rovigo since 1899.

The sisters commitment to reparation is clarified by the fidelity to the Marian prayer Hour; in the collaboration with the Shrine's pastoral, in particularly with the liturgy and accompanying Italian pilgrims to significant places of the Fatima

event; with the simple and generous presence of the local Church and in the service of those who need the most, with nursing care, for many years, at the Shrine's medical centre.

This humble but brave story, makes thankful memory in 2017 – Centennial of the apparitions of Fatima – of the 40 years of celebration of the reparation Hour in the *Chapel of the Apparitions*. The event will be reminded on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, Saturday, around 8.00am. with a eucharistic celebration, in which pilgrims will participate and also the Reparatory Sisters Servants of Mary, friends and community acquaintances, religious communities and all who collaborated in the prayer Hour. General Mother, Mother M. Nadia Padovan will be present and will also participate in the Covenant for the Centennial of Fatima and will guide a formative meeting with a group of sisters from the Congregation about the recently renewed *Constitutions*.

The Eucharistic will be followed by a projection about this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a joyful fraternal moment. All are invited.

Reparatory Sisters Servants of  
Mary Community  
*Fátima - Portugal*

## Iraq welcomed the Pilgrim Virgin image

The patriarch-cardinal of Lisbon presided at a celebration which gathered thousands of people at the Hippodrome of Cascais, during which an image of Our Lady of Fatima, which is to be sent to Iraq, was blessed.

To Monsignor Manuel Clemente, this celebration represented “a sign of unity” from the Portuguese Christians to the persecuted Christians in Iraq.

The Erbil Diocese welcomed thousands of Christians who were forced to flee from their houses in the jihadist attack, in August 2014.

“The Church is this: being together around Jesus Christ and where Jesus Christ asks us to be, which is the need of our brothers. And that is the most convenient and opportune as it can be”, marked the Patriarch Cardinal.

Among the people who participated in the Mass at the Hippodrome of Cascais, was the President of the

Portuguese Republic, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa.

*Fundação AIS*



*Patriarch of Lisbon blessed the statue*

## Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima received and crowned in London

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017, the Westminster Cathedral, in London, received the visit of the national Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

This event promoted by the World Apostolate of Fatima in England and Wales marked the beginning of the Fatima Centennial celebrations and the journey of Our Lady's statue around the cathedrals of the country, during this year.

Thousands of Catholics from across England and Wales filled the cathedral for Mass and some others had to stay outside, for there were no more places available.

The Mass began with the procession of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue, accompanied by children dressed as the Fatima little shepherds, carrying a new crown for Our Lady and the relics of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco. As the entrance hymn was sung, people waved their white handkerchiefs, manifesting their love and veneration to Our Lady of Fatima.

On this occasion, the Pilgrim Virgin Statue, blessed in 1967 by Pope Paul VI, in Fatima was solemnly crowned by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, with a new silvergilt Centenary Crown. This very special crown, blessed by Bishop Antonio Marto, of the diocese of Leiria-Fatima, was created and offered by Casa Leitão, the same Portuguese firm that in 1942, also made the rich bejewelled crown for the statue of Our Lady of Fatima venerated in the Chapel of the Apparitions.

At Mass, in his homily, the Cardinal referred to the words of Pope St John Paul at the beatification Mass of Francisco and Jacinta when he told the children present that Jesus "needs your prayers and sacrifices for sinners". Reflecting on these words which he called a "considerable challenge", the Cardinal asked "How well do we express our discipleship of Christ every day?" The answer, he affirmed, lies in 'what we know of Our Lady of Fatima and what she has to say to us', explaining that she 'has a strong relevance to us today'. He focused on the devotion to the Immaculate



*The relics accompanied the Pilgrim Virgin*

Heart, saying that it offers us 'an attitude of heart that accords with Our Lady's, and so opens up pathways, fresh and sure, towards Christ'.

At the end, Cardinal Vincent led the prayer of consecration of England and Wales to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In the Act of Consecration, a modified version of the one used by his predecessor, Cardinal Bernard Griffin, in 1948, he said: 'To your Immaculate Heart, in this centenary year of the apparitions at Fatima, we re-consecrate ourselves in union not only with the Church, the Mystical Body of your Son, but also with the entire world'.

Afterwards, people venerated the relics of Blessed Jacinta and Francisco and participated in the devotions to Our Lady. Some 2500 petitions were written out to Our Lady and transferred to Fatima to be placed at the site of the Apparitions.

This beautiful event was closed with a Fatima Symposium held in the Cathedral Hall, with guest speakers who addressed the meaning and relevance of the Fatima message for today's world.

*Nuno Prazeres  
World Apostolate of Fatima*



*2500 written prayer intentions were collected and handed to the Shrine*

## Archbishop of Panama entrusts the WYD of 2019 to the Virgin of Fatima

The Archbishop of Panama, Monsignor Jose Domingo Ulloa, entrusted the World Youth Days (WYD) of 2019 Panama to the Virgin of Fatima, in the mark of the centennial of the Marian apparitions.

“We ask for this World Youth Days. We particularly ask for the children, the young and families. May this message that Cova da Iria has given us also be renovated today by each Panamanian”, said the Archbishop on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February before one of the official replicas of the original image of Our Lady of Fatima, which arrived at Panama.

The official replica which arrived in Panama will remain in the country until the 30<sup>th</sup> of March and will travel throughout different dioceses of the country.

During the Mass homily at the arrival of this pilgrim



*Mgr. José Ulloa consecrated the WYD to the Virgin of Fatima*



*Prelate remembered that we live a Jubilee Year*

image to the Church of El Chorrillo, Monsignor Ulloa manifested his gratitude to God for the “historical moment” of worship of this beautiful image.

“Today we have the privilege of having one of the replicas with us. Today we can say that, it is has if we were in Fatima”, he assured.

Also, he reminded that in this Jubilee Year the Panamanians may gain plenary indulgence without having to travel to Portugal and invited them to participate in the pilgrimages.

“The miracle that Our Lady of Fatima wants to undertake in Panama is the conversion in the life of each one of us”, underlined the Archbishop.

*Archdiocese of Panama*

## VII Pilgrimage of the Devotees of the Virgin of Fatima to the Shrine of Fatima

During this year in which it is celebrated the Centennial of the Apparitions to the three little shepherds, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, the date chosen by our Association for the annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima was the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of March; this year, the number of pilgrims reached 160, many of whom had already come in previous years, but also a considerable number of pilgrims who came to visit our mother of heaven, the Lady of Fatima, for the first time.

We were accompanied by four priests: the parish priest of Santa Teresa de Jesús, Fr. José Ramón; the parish priest of Santa Catalina de Alejandría, Fr. Orlando; the vicar of Our Lady of Buenavista, Fr. Tomas; and the vicar of Santa Maravillas, Fr. William. Also with us was once again Sr. Immaculate.

We started the pilgrimage with great joy and satisfaction for being able to see our beloved mother once again, the Virgin Mary, here invoked as Lady of Fatima.

We had several moments in these four days among which we must highlight the daily recitation of the Holy Rosary, asked by Our Lady of Fatima to the three little shepherds; the daily celebration of the Holy Mass in the Chapel of the Apparitions from Thursday to Saturday; a Holy Hour in the Chapel of the Resurrection of Jesus; the Via Crucis, on Thursday night and on Friday afternoon, during which the priests who accompanied us were hearing confession of the pilgrims during

the walking; we also had the privilege of having four of our pilgrims taking the liter of Our Lady in the Candles procession that took place on Saturday and, as a corollary, on Sunday we celebrated the Eucharist in the Cathedral of Guarda. We would not miss a cultural moment, and it did take place on Saturday morning in Coimbra, with a visit to the Chapel of the Convent where Sister Lucia was until she passed away.

The testimonies of the pilgrims who accompanied us in the bus on the day of returning to our houses showed that they were all filled with the love of the Most Holy Virgin, replete of spiritual grace, and all were longing to come back to Fatima next year if God and Our Lady allows.

*Antonio Huerta Bustos  
Association of the Devotees of the Virgin of Fatima*



*Pilgrimage counted 160 participants*

## Marian Shrine inaugurated on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May



*Shrine received the Pilgrim Virgin on inauguration day*

The 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 will remain in the history of the city of Porto Alegre and its metropolitan region. During the centennial of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal, a new Shrine dedicated to her was inaugurated in the periphery of the Capital of Rio Grande do Sul. It is a unique Shrine, very beautiful, clad in stone, with lining, doors and chairs in wood; stained glass windows which tell the history of salvation, the Patroness of the Shrine, the Patron of Saint Francisco Schools' Network and the Patron of teachers; rose windows that represent liturgical symbols; a Christ carved in wood, fixed on a cross made of wood with splendor; the Via Crucis sculpted in wood; chandeliers and lamps that valorize each space of that work. Innumerable details that were sculpted by artists, providing a space of silence, of prayer, of encounter with God and with Our Mother Mary.

A bit before 10 o'clock, the Pilgrim Image of Fatima brought from Portugal, left the events' room, where the celebrations of Trezena took place, in direction to the new Shrine. Flags, images, rosaries and mobile phones were held by the pilgrims with tears in the eyes, who were protecting themselves from drizzle and were somehow trying to touch Our Lady of Fatima.

The ceremony started with an entrance procession of

deacons, priests and bishops. Before the altar that was used at the passage of John Paul II in Porto Alegre, 40 years ago, Bishop Jaime presided at the inaugural Mass, concelebrated by Bishops emeritus Dadeus Grings and Clemente Weber, by the auxiliary bishops Adilson Busin and Leomar Brustolin and several priests.

Through the arms of the coordinators of the work teams, the pilgrim image of Our Lady of Fatima was placed inside the new home dedicated to her. It was an emotional moment, when Mary was acclaimed through the Hymn and fires, forming a vibrant and joyful reception choir. Everything expressed beauty and presence, but her solemn entrance finally crowned the true reason of everything that was happening on that Saturday of May, one hundred years after the events of Fatima: her holy image brought the assurance of her maternal presence in that house that is hers and her people's.

Then, Archbishop Jaime, Archbishop emeritus Dadeus and Bishop emeritus Clemente made the blessing of the walls and blessed the people. At the same time, auxiliary bishops Leomar and Adilson blessed the little chapel of the apparitions and the chapel of the saints, while the whole assembly was singing evoking the baptismal waters.

At the moment of the offertory, the pilgrim image of Our Lady of Aparecida was brought to the altar, giving it a special highlight besides the image of Our Lady of Fatima. The black image, preceded by black people in colorful vestments from Africa brought up the same feeling as the white image of Fatima interlocutor of shepherd children. Still at the moment of the offertory, the dressing of the altar took place, followed by the offertory procession, made by the builders of the Shrine.

After mass, people were able to reach near the image and visit the interior of the Shrine, have their moments of silent prayer and ask the blessings of the priests and deacons. A sacred space was built: a home of prayer, of encounter with God and with her mother in faith, in the word, in meditation, in singing and praise.

*Paróquia Estudantil*

## Marian Devotion constitutes the important element of Polish Catholicism

We publish the results of the statistical researches on Marian and Fatima devotion in Poland. The researches were carried out during the month of November 2015 and are based on the questionnaires sent to all parishes of Poland (around 12 000 parishes and pastoral centers). This inquiry was done with the authorization of the Polish Episcopal Conference, was initiated by the Secretariat of Fatima and elaborated by the Institute of Sociology of the Catholic Church.

From the results of this inquiry it follows that Marian devotion constitutes the important element in Polish Catholicism. It is characterized by a wide diversity and richness of forms, practices and customs. The statistic data confirm that there are three main forms of Marian devotion in Poland: the Rosary, the celebrations of the month of May and Fatima related celebrations. It is very meaningful that, in the year 2009, at the beginning of the Great Novena of Fatima, the celebrations of the first

Saturdays of the month were very rare practices in the parishes. Today these are practiced in almost 80% of the parishes; in almost 30% of the Polish parishes, they are practiced in a correct and complete way (that is, containing all the elements of the celebration).

A pilgrimage to Fatima for the priest who dedicate themselves to the Fatima cult is being prepared for the month of November 2017. On that occasion, we want to offer the Shrine of Fatima the Golden Book of the Great Novena of Fatima, containing the names of the people of Poland and thirty-one other countries worldwide who participate in the work of the Great Novena de Fatima, that is – those who actively accomplish the indications of Our Lady of Fatima.

*ks. Krzysztof Czapla  
ks. Andrzej Gładysz  
Zakopane-Polska*

# Chapel of the Apparitions and Basilica of Saint Mary Major united in the prayer of the Rosary on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May



*Mgr. Antonio Marto prayed live a mystery to Rome*

The rosary was simultaneously prayed in the Chapel of the Apparitions, in Fatima and in the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, in Rome, before the image of the Virgin pilgrim, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of May.

Mgr. António Marto, bishop of Leiria-Fátima, prayed one mystery in Fatima, with live streaming from the Chapel of the Apparitions to the Roman Basilica.

The image of the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima, which is in pilgrimage in the region of Rome, arrived at Saint Peter's Square in the afternoon of Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, at 5:30 pm local time (4:30 pm in Portugal), and was received by Cardinal Ângelo Comastri,

archpriest of Saint Peter's Basilica and general vicar of the Pope to the Vatican.

Half an hour later, the rosary was prayed, "in communion with Pope Francis, pilgrim in Fatima".

At the end, the image continued in procession throughout the streets of Rome, up to the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, where a prayer vigil took place.

On the following day, the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, also in procession, the image was taken to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, the biggest Marian church in Rome.

After a prayer vigil, the rosary was prayed, at the same time that it was also prayed in the Shrine of Cova da Iria.

*Carmo Rodeia*

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