

To Prevent This!



*May the angels be with you
as you read this book,
and may God grant you
the grace of finding
at least one word which
will inspire you to
a greater love for God
and an increased
personal holiness.*

FRONT COVER PICTURE

Many copies of the actual photograph of the atomic explosion shown on our cover have been duplicated because an image of Our Lady of Grace is seen by some in the lower extreme left part of the mushroom cloud. With no presumption whatever of a supernatural cause, we reproduce the picture for the sole reason that it symbolizes the message of this book.

To

Prevent

This!

by John M. Haffert

“To prevent this I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays.” — Our Lady of Fatima

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INTRODUCTION

The Alliance of the Holy Family asked permission to print excerpts from John Haffert's book, *Her Own Words*.

Since the same apostolate had printed 100,000 copies of Haffert's earlier book *The Meaning of Akita* he decided to respond to this request with a sequel to *Her Own Words* to show as clearly as possible what the Hearts of Jesus and Mary require now to prevent an annihilating chastisement and to bring about the "era of peace for mankind."

This book is not meant to take the place of *Her Own Words* (which could be called *THE* book on Fatima) but is its *all-important conclusion*, published separately.

At Fatima Our Lady said: "*To prevent this I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays.*"

As we learn in *Her Own Words*, it was only after the changes in Russia that the sequence in this all-important statement became clear.

Chapter I.

THE CHASTISEMENT

In January of 1992 an amazing meeting took place in Havana, Cuba. World leaders were given the opportunity to see just how close the world had come to a nuclear war. Former U.S. Secretary of Defense McNamara, who took part in that meeting, said: "*It almost happened.*"

The United States did not know that among the 42,000 Russian specialists in Cuba at the time of the showdown between Kennedy and Krushchev, the on-the-spot field commanders in Cuba had been empowered to use the nuclear warheads at their own discretion (without calling Moscow). And if Krushchev had not backed down the war was scheduled to begin within 48 hours.

We are not terribly interested in near misses. But something out of that Havana meeting should interest us immensely.

Secretary McNamara, who spent the entire twelve days of that crisis in the Pentagon (day and night), kept saying that when we face such a crisis now we must realize that we are talking about "the death not of thousands, or even millions, *but of nations.*"³

We are reminded of the one warning given by Our Lady at Fatima which has not yet befallen mankind: "Several *entire nations* will be annihilated."⁴

In 1973, on the actual anniversary of Her miracle at Fatima performed "so that all may believe," Our Lady appeared in Akita, Japan, and said:

"If men do not repent and better themselves, the Father will inflict a terrible punishment on all humanity. It will be a punishment greater than the

deluge. Fire will fall from the sky and will wipe out a great part of humanity.”⁵

Little by little even small nations, even as small as Cuba, can trigger atomic destruction. Although Cuba is a small nation, because of it we came to the very brink of a nuclear war. Only God knows how many nations would have been destroyed.

And what is the situation at the beginning of the 21st century? After the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 it was decided to destroy half of the 30,000 nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Republics. But to destroy them, with available equipment, would take ten years. Then by 2001, IF the destruction went ahead as agreed, 15,000 would still remain! *And how many small nations will by then have acquired them?*

At Fatima Our Lady said “several entire nations will be annihilated.” At Akita She said: “Fire will fall from the sky and will wipe out a great part of humanity.” To Lucia, in March of 1939, Our Lord said: “Ask, ask insistently for the promulgation of the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays. *The time is coming when the rigor of My Justice will punish the crimes of various nations. Some of them will be annihilated.*”⁶

New Emphasis at Akita

In 1973 at Akita, on the actual anniversary of the miracle of Fatima, Our Lady gave Her message new emphasis with miracles of tears and blood. These miracles and messages were approved not only by the Bishop of the Diocese but also upheld by the Episcopal Conference of Japan. They were the first apparitions to be so approved by the Church in more than fifty years.

They reveal Our Lady as an anxious Mother who knows that after the changes in Russia and the

3.



Above: A wooden statue shed human tears 101 times. On October 13, 1975, anniversary of the miracle of Fatima, the statue came alive and Our Lady predicted a chastisement "*worse than the deluge*" if Her requests were not heard.

Below: Bishop John Ito of Akita, who approved the apparitions, said that the message of Our Lady at Akita "is the message of Fatima."



relaxation of world tensions people might no longer realize the danger, might no longer really feel the urgency of reparation. She reminds us: *Weapons capable of wiping out entire nations are still viable, spread in more and more areas. She says: "Fire will fall from the sky... The survivors will find themselves so desolate that they will envy the dead."*⁷

St. Joseph Will Protect the Work

But as always She comes to save us. She comes with hope. She says She has so far been able to hold back the chastisement because of those who have responded. But She tells us that now a SPECIAL response is needed. And we know from Her message of Fatima precisely what this is. It will be spelled out in these pages. Moreover She gives us Saint Joseph as our protector even as he was the protector of the Holy family. We are told at Akita:

"The more you offer this good intention (to respond to the message) the more difficult and numerous will be the obstacles. But St. Joseph will protect your work."⁸ We are engaged in a titanic spiritual battle. The angel at Akita said:

"Do not be so surprised to see the Blessed Virgin weeping. She weeps because She wishes the conversion of the greatest number; She desires that souls be consecrated to Jesus and to the Father by Her intercession."

In this enormous struggle with the Powers of Darkness, the more we promote the message of Our Lady to increase the apostolate of the Two Hearts, the more we are certain to be the objects of Satan's most virulent attacks. But Our Lady promises us a special protection.

What you are about to read in this little book is as old as all the truths of Scripture and as new as the changes in Eastern Europe... so new that before the

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year 2000 few would have been able to believe and understand. The old fact is: God foretold at the moment of Satan's first victory over man that he would be defeated by a Woman. The new fact is: A major defeat of Satan is promised by that Woman NOW.

The old fact is that there has always been a spiritual battle in which the great enemy of souls has been Satan with his God-hating legions. The new fact is: That battle has reached a climactic stage. The old fact is: "Unless you repent and do penance you shall perish." The new fact is: Now we are told specifically what must be done so that we may not perish!

The hope of the hour, heightened by the changes in Russia, is that a sufficient number will now respond to the specific battle plan which "The Woman" has come from Heaven to spell out for us.

This Book Will Hold Surprises

This book will hold some surprises, but to be surprised we must open our eyes to the ever old, ever new reality: We are indeed engaged in a great battle. Satan is on the loose! He and the infernal spirits could not accept that God placed man above all other creatures. With all their power and might they persecute and attack men and women of every age and of every nation. They spare no one. They drag souls to perdition while most of the world remains unaware.

"We are not," the Apostle Paul tells us, "contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness... the evil spirits in regions above" (Eph. 6:12). The faithful should therefore remain vigilant, for the Evil One and his minions are

spreading darkness and absurdities everywhere, sowing among men the seeds of hatred, of vain, proud and sensual thoughts and injecting in their minds worldly affairs and pleasures, giving them no time for spiritual thoughts.

Indeed, the devil has succeeded in suppressing the truth and he has led billions of souls to eternal damnation.

One of the ever old -- ever new truths we find in Sacred Scripture is that we have a strong intercessor and advocate in the Blessed Virgin Mary and a watchful defender in St. Joseph who protected the Holy Virgin and the Incarnate Son from hell's tyrant, personified in Herod.

The demons know the immensity of the merits the Holy Family gained for mankind. They resolved, with all their wrath and fury to assail the sanctity of families without ceasing, inciting men and women to follow their passions, oblivious of everything else... even the good of their children.

Satan's Disguise

Lucifer and the fallen angels are very wise and cunning. They know that if people were to know that they are the mastermind of all abominable offenses against the Most High, people would certainly not consent to their diabolical plans. Thus Satan disguises himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). The Master of Deceit, he presents sins under attractive appearances.

In the Book of Sirach we read:

My son, if you come forward to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for temptation. Set your heart right and be steadfast, and do not be hasty in time of calamity. Cleave to Him and do not depart that you may be honored at the end of your life. Accept whatever is brought upon you, and in changes that

7.

humble you, be patient. Trust Him, and He will help you, make your ways straight and hope in Him (Sirach 2:1-6).

The same book tells us:

Consider the ancient generations and see. Who ever trusted in the Lord and was put to shame? Or who ever persevered in the fear of the Lord and was forsaken? Or who ever called upon Him and was overlooked? For the Lord is compassionate and merciful, He forgives sins and saves in time of affliction (10:11).

That is the hopeful message of Fatima and Akita: "The Lord is compassionate and merciful. He forgives and saves in time of affliction."

†††

(Abbreviations of the most frequent sources throughout this book are:)

Documentos: *Memorias e Cartas Da Irma Lucia*, by Dr. Antonio Maria Martins, S.J., Porto, 1973, 467 pp.

Akita: *The Meaning of Akita*, by J.M. Haffert, published 1989 by the 101 Foundation. Original sources are the Pastoral letter of the Bishop of Akita approving the apparitions and the original work of Rev. Teiji Yasuda: *The Tears and Message of Mary*. English translation by Haffert, published, 1989 by 101.

Sign: *Sign of Her Heart* by J.M. Haffert, published by AMI, 1971, 270 pp. in which original references are cited for all quotations.

†††

¹ *Her Own Words*, 350 pages, 101 Foundation, 1993.

² *Urgency of the Alliance of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary*, by Rev. E. M. Arellano, Two Hearts Media, Inc., 1991, 72 pages.

³ Interview on CNN, Jan. 24, 1992.

⁴ *Documentos*, p. 219.

⁵ *Akita*, p. 8.

⁶ *Documentos*, p. 465.

⁷ *Akita*, p. 8.

⁸ *Akita*, p. 9.

O MILAGRE DE FÁTIMA



Formosa multidão de peregrinos em Fátima, Portugal, durante as aparições de 1917.

no vagalhão colossal d'aqule povo que ali se juntou a 13 de outubro. O teu racionalismo sofreu um formidável embate e queres estabelecer uma opinião segura socorrendo-te d'os depoimentos insuspeitos como o meu, pois que estive lá apenas no desempenho de uma missão bem difícil, tal a de relatar imparcialmente para um *grande* jornal, *O Seculo*, os factos que diante de mim se desenrolassem e tudo quanto de curioso e de elucidativo a elles se prendesse. Não ficará por satisfazer o teu desejo, mas decerto que os nossos olhos e os nossos ouvidos não viram nem ouviram coisas diversas, e que raros foram os que ficaram insensíveis á grandeza de semelhante espectáculo, unico entre nós e de todo o ponto digno de meditação e de estudo...

(Carta a alguém que pede um testemunho insuspeito).

Quebrando um silencio de mais de vinte annos e com a invocação dos longinquos e saudosos tempos em que convivemos n'uma fraternal camaradagem, iluminada então pela fé comum e fortalecida por identicos propositos, escreves-me para que te diga, sincera e minuciosamente, o que vi e ouvi na charuena de Fátima, quando a fama de celestes aparições congregou n'aquello desolado ermo dezenas de milhares de pessoas mais sedentas, segundo creio, de sobrenatural do que impelidas por mera curiosidade ou recessos de um logro... Estão os catholicos em desacordo sobre a importancia e a significação do que presenciaram. Uns contencneram-se de que se tinham cumprido promettimentos do Alto; outros acham-se ainda longe de acreditar na incontestada realidade de um milagre. Foste um crente na tua juventude e deixaste de sel-o. Pessoas de familia arrastaram-te a Fátima,



O que ouvi e me levou a Fátima? Que a Virgem Maria, depois da festa da Ascensão, apparecera a tres criancas que apparestavam gado, duas mocinhas e um zagaleta, recommendando-lhes que orassem e prometendo-lhes apparecer ali, sobre uma azinheira, no dia 13 de cada mez, até que em outubro lhes daria qualquer signal do poder de Deus e faria revelações. Espalhou-se a nova por muitas leguas, e m

redondez de 7000, de terra em terra, até os contin de Portugal, e a roma-

Chapter II.

WHAT IS THE LAST WARNING?

As we have said, of all the warnings given by Our Lady at Fatima only one remains, only one has not yet befallen mankind:

“Several entire nations will be annihilated.”⁹

In the past some thought perhaps Ukraine, Byelorussia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, etc., were “annihilated” by being sovietized. Obviously this is not the case. These nations exist. The word “annihilated” means wiped out, totally destroyed.

Our Lord used the same word in speaking to Lucia in March 1939, in connection with the First Saturday Communions of Reparation: *“The time is coming when the rigor of My Justice will punish the crimes of various nations. Some of them will be annihilated.”*¹⁰

Three reasons cause us to believe these prophecies could mean that, if there are not enough Communions of Reparation, there will be a nuclear holocaust: 1) The Miracle of the Sun; 2) Logic; 3) Prophecy of fire.

Power of the Sun

At Fatima on October 13, 1917, everyone within a radius of several miles thought they were about to be consumed by fire. They thought the ball of fire crashing down upon them was actually the sun. They all believed it was the end of the world.

Why would a merciful Mother terrorize Her children with fire? Why would She have done this unless it were like a warning of what can and will happen if the world does not respond to the message of hope God has sent Her to deliver to us?

In 1917 Her prophecy that “various nations will be annihilated” caused both wonder and astonishment. Since there would not be another deluge, in what other way could entire nations be “annihilated” (which means wiped out, made into nothing)?

Then in 1945 it happened. Two cities were wiped out by the first simple atomic bombs. And it is noteworthy that in the very announcement to the world of that “annihilation” the President of the United States said: “Man has learned to harness the power of the sun.” At Fatima the tens of thousands of people *thought it was the sun itself* falling upon them.

The second reason why we may believe that this prophecy of Our Lady refers to a nuclear holocaust is because it seems *logical that man would bring about his own chastisement.*

A third reason is the theological principle that God does not multiply miracles. Since a nuclear holocaust is right at hand, waiting to happen, why would God send some kind of miraculous fire to wipe out entire nations especially in the light of His promise after the deluge?

We cannot overemphasize that in 1973, on the actual anniversary of the miracle which Our Lady performed at Fatima “so that all may believe,” She appeared in Akita, Japan, and said:

“If men do not repent and better themselves, the Father will inflict a terrible punishment on all humanity. It will be a punishment greater than the deluge... Fire will fall from the sky and will wipe out a great part of humanity... I alone can still save you from the calamities which approach.”¹¹

This prophecy speaks in almost biblical language. No evil comes from God, but only from sin. But God, seeing the pride and wickedness which had come into the world leading to one global war after another, permitted man to do what President

Truman described: "Harness the power of the sun," *a power which simply touching the earth can scorch and destroy.*

The famous modern mystic, Marthe Robin (who lived 30 years solely on the Eucharist) remarked with sadness: "This atom bomb! When one thinks that small nations will also have it and only two fools will be needed to ravage everything! (*Portrait de Marthe Robin*, by Jean Guilton, p. 100.)

In addition to the three logical reasons for believing that the chastisement could be a nuclear holocaust, there is also a scientific reason. According to Dr. J. Rand McNally, who worked on the first atomic bomb, even two or three of the more than 50,000 superbombs now ready for use could cause a nuclear holocaust. (His story is told in the book *State of Emergency*, AMI Press).

The 1960 Secret of Fatima

In addition to all the reasons above it appears to many that the warning given at Akita (*fire from the sky will wipe out a great part of humanity*) is the same as that of Fatima (*several entire nations will be annihilated*).

The Bishop of Akita who issued the pastoral letter approving the miracles and message was himself of this opinion. From guarded statements made by John Paul II and Cardinal Ratzinger, we are led to a similar conclusion.

Speaking in Fulda, Germany, in November of 1980, Pope John Paul II said: "Many want to know (the secret of Fatima) out of curiosity, or because of their taste for sensationalism, but they forget that to know implies for them a responsibility. It is dangerous to want to satisfy one's curiosity only if one is convinced that we can do nothing against a catastrophe that has been predicted."

13.

Also there is the FACT of the 1960 Secret. It played a major role in the whole history of Fatima. The children to whom Our Lady appeared were threatened with death if they would not reveal it. And it has never been made public. Why this secret and why this mystery?

In the United States the Blue Army had been airing a television program titled Zero 1960. Some top celebrities, like President Kennedy, appeared. It was on a hundred stations (a large number for the time).

It Was A Shock

The total "1960 silence" from both Rome and Fatima was accentuated by the previous publicity. It was a shock. As the silence continued year after year there was a general outcry of disillusionment. The Apostolate of Fatima had a precipitous decline all over the world. What had happened to the Secret? Was it a fraud?

Finally on February 11, 1967, at the command of Pope Paul VI, the Cardinal Prefect of the Holy Office called a press conference in Rome to explain that Pope John XXIII had opened the secret but, with the advice and consent of several Cardinals, had decided that it was not to be made public. He said that it was a message specifically for the Pope alone. He said further that everything important in the message of Fatima was already contained in the public message.

To this day the silence of the Vatican from 1960 to 1967 is difficult to understand. One would have hoped that the announcement of 1967 would have come sooner because during those seven years many had concluded that the "1960 secret," and with it the whole story of Fatima, might have been exaggerated. Some thought it might even have been a great hoax. Now we realize that everyone had just

jumped to the wrong conclusion. *Neither Lucia nor the Bishop of Fatima had ever said that the secret would be made public in 1960. All they said was that it was to be opened in 1960.*

Clearer Now

Even some Cardinals, like the Patriarch of Lisbon, had thought (as did almost everyone) that it would not only be opened but that it would be made public. But a person who interviewed Lucia recalls that she herself said in 1960:

“Who said that the secret would be made public?”

Lucia had written on the envelope that it was to be opened in 1960. She had never said anything further. And she seems to have upheld the declaration of the Cardinal Prefect of the Holy Office that this was a message primarily for the Pope alone.

Of course it still remains a mystery. But indeed Who DID say that the secret would be made public in 1960? This was a conclusion reached by the world, and for some good reason permitted by God. The very fact of the secret apparently drew more attention to Fatima than the great miracle of October 13.

We know that the outcry has not completely died away. There are some who feel that the world has some kind of right to know. But for the average person it is enough that FOUR successive Popes have made the same decision, and they have enough faith in God to trust that the secret still serves some special purpose.

It still attracts attention. It still says: “There is more to the message of Fatima than you know.” And if Our Lady wants the secret to be known, She will make it known, as may be the case in the tears and message of Akita.

The Akita Message

This is what Our Lady said at Akita (quoted directly from the Pastoral letter approving the apparitions issued on April 22, 1984):

“Many men in this world afflict the Lord. I desire souls to console Him to soften the anger of the Heavenly Father. I wish, with my Son, for souls who will repair by their suffering and their poverty for the sinners and ingrates.

“In order that the world might know His anger, the Heavenly Father is preparing to inflict a great chastisement on all mankind. With my Son I have intervened so many times to appease the wrath of the Father. I have prevented the coming of calamities by offering Him the sufferings of the Son on the Cross, His Precious Blood, and beloved souls who console Him and form a cohort of victim souls. Prayer, penance and courageous sacrifices can soften the Father’s anger.”

After a short silence: *“As I told you, if men do not repent and better themselves, the Father will inflict a terrible punishment on all humanity. It will be a punishment greater than the deluge, such as one will never have seen before. Fire will fall from the sky and will wipe out a great part of humanity... the good as well as the bad, sparing neither priests nor faithful. The survivors will find themselves so desolate that they will envy the dead. The only arms which will remain for you will be the Rosary and the Sign left by My Son. Each day recite the prayers of the Rosary. With the Rosary, pray for the Pope, the bishops and the priests.*

“The work of the devil will infiltrate even into the church in such a way that one will see cardinals opposing cardinals, bishops against other bishops. The priests who venerate Me will be scorned and opposed by their conferees, churches and altars

sacked, the Church will be full of those who accept compromises and the demon will press many priests and consecrated souls to leave the service of the Lord.

“The demon will be especially implacable against souls consecrated to God. The thought of the loss of so many souls is the cause of My sadness. If sins increase in number and gravity, there will be no longer pardon for them.”

Imagine the Panic

As we read that message of Akita, can we imagine the panic it would cause if it were announced by the Pope? And one might ask further: Would it be “fitting” (in the philosophical sense of the word, *conveniens*) for such an announcement to come from the Pope?

Now at the end of the twentieth century we can see more clearly. We can put the secret and many other events of Fatima in a better perspective.

The details of the prophecy of Akita are so terrible that the pastoral letter of approval said it would be difficult to believe were not for the many miracles Our Lady performed to confirm it. And indeed on reading this message, if indeed it is similar to the third part of the secret of Fatima, *we can understand why four Popes in succession felt that it was not incumbent on the Holy See to announce it to the world.* “All that is important,” said the Cardinal Prefect of the Holy Office in the February 11, 1967 press conference in Rome, “is contained in the part of the message of Fatima already made public.”

Our Lady had said: *“Several entire nations will be annihilated.”*

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⁹ *Documentos*, p. 219.

¹⁰ *Documentos*, p. 465.

¹¹ *Akita*, p. 7.

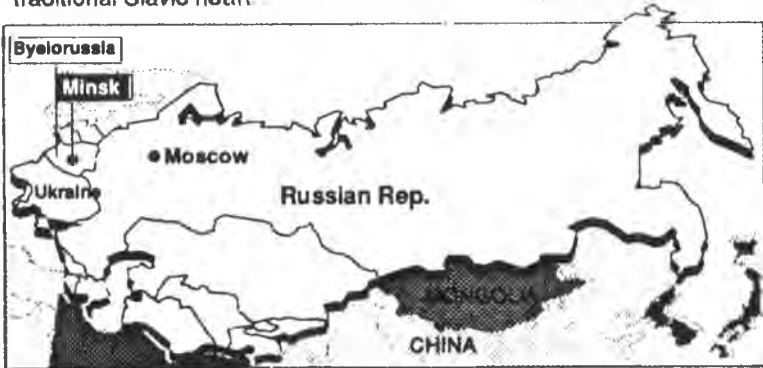
It Happened on December 8, 1991!

U.S.S.R. declared dead

Slav republics agree to form commonwealth

Soviet republics form new alliance

Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine comprise nearly three-fourth of the Soviet Union's 290 million people and possess most of its economic strength, in addition to sharing an ethnic heritage as the country's traditional Slavic heart.



Washington Post

MOSCOW — The leaders of Russia, the Ukraine and Byelorussia formally announced the dissolution of the Soviet Union on Sunday and said they had agreed to establish a "Commonwealth of Independent States" — in effect, a new nation.

The decision to liquidate the 69-year-old Communist-forged union and halt activity of all Soviet government organs came during a closed-door meeting at a Byelorussian hunting lodge near the Polish border, in the absence of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

There was no immediate comment from Gorbachev, whose constitutional position as president and commander in chief of the 4 million-member Soviet armed forces has now been challenged throughout the Slavic heartland of the former Soviet superpower. The accord defies Gorbachev's desperate appeals to preserve the Soviet Union under a new Union Treaty.

Russia's president, Boris Yeltsin, already had stripped the central government of nearly all its functions and resources after the failure of a hard-line coup against Gorbachev in August.

In Washington, Secretary of State James A. Baker III said in a television interview that "the Soviet Union as we've known it no longer exists," but he warned that there is still a risk of civil war amid the ruins of the Soviet empire.

In a joint communique at the end of a two-day Slavic summit, the three leaders declared: "As founding states of the U.S.S.R. ... we declare that the U.S.S.R. is ceasing its existence as a subject of international law and a geopolitical reality."

Chapter III.

SOMETHING MORE

A lecturer who was one of the most celebrated proponents of the message of Fatima used to compare the conversion of Russia to the conversion of St. Paul. He intimated that there would be some great and sudden miracle which would cause Russia to be converted and would in turn have a profound spiritual effect on the whole world.

Our Lady Meant Something Different

This scenario is still not impossible. Indeed something like it might still happen. But this is not in the message of Fatima. And again this is something most of us have perceived only after the fact.

“Conversion” means a “turning around.” Spiritually the big turnaround in Russia was from militant atheism to theism. It was from illegality of religion to legality. It was from suppression and persecution to legalization and support. And this is specifically what Our Lady meant when She spoke of the “conversion” of Russia. She and Our Lord, in different colloquies with Lucia, used interchangeably the expressions “conversion of Russia” and “the end of persecution in that nation.”

In the letter of May 29, 1930, to her confessor she says that Our Lord promises “to end the persecution in Russia” if the Holy Father will make the collegial consecration and promote the First Saturdays.

In her letter to the Holy Father of December 2, 1940, Lucia uses the expression “conversion” of Russia (in connection with the collegial consecra-

tion) just as she referred to it in the above quotations as the “*end of the persecution*” in Russia.

Further, this “conversion” also meant that Russia would cease to promote militant atheism around the world “fomenting further wars” (Our Lady’s words). This is clear in a letter written by Lucia on January 21, 1940. A careful study of all the Fatima documents reveals clearly that *the conversion of Russia means a total renouncement of militant atheism both within the Soviet Union and as a policy of world revolution.*

More To Be Done or Divine Correction

Since the promise of Our Lady of Fatima does not end with the “conversion” of Russia there is obviously something more to be done. Lucia says: Much more! Following the consecration at Fatima in 1982, and knowing that it would be “collegialized” in 1984, she said it would have its effect but now to obtain world peace the apostles of Fatima “*Will have much to do.*”

Not only Russia but the entire world must be converted in the deeper, fuller sense of the word. Russia has been converted in the sense we have explained: An end to the persecution of religion. But it has not been converted in the fuller sense. Many believe that another great miracle will take place which is to be announced eight days in advance and that this will lead to many conversions, especially in Russia. All depends on our response.

Our Lady promises this if enough persons will continue to fulfill and promote Her requests and make the Communions of reparation on First Saturdays. The latter, in this new time following dissolution of the Soviet Union, is especially important.

Once again here is something most of us have not understood.

To bring about Her triumph Our Lady said in 1917 She would come to ask for the collegial consecration and the First Saturdays. And when She did come in 1929 She said the change would come in Russia when the Holy Father would make the collegial consecration and “promise to promulgate the First Saturday Communion of reparation.”

At Akita Our Lady told Sister Agnes through the angel: “Pray with a new heart. Attach great importance to this day (First Saturday) for the glory of God and His Holy Mother. With courage spread this devotion among the greatest number.”

Now In New Phase

We are now in a new phase of the Fatima apostolate: The phase of reparation.

Today a tidal wave of evil engulfs the world. It is obliterating the very awareness of sin with universal and devastating effect. Whether or not our times are worse than others in the past, they are so bad that *we do not need messengers* from Heaven to tell us that a “*Divine Correction*” is necessary if only for two reasons:

1) Because of corruption of youth, in a time when contraceptives are gifted in schools and promiscuity is considered “normal”;

2) Because of sins against the Holy Spirit, sins which cannot be forgiven.

In his encyclical on the Holy Spirit (St. Paul ed., p. 37) Pope John Paul II says “non-forgiveness is linked, as to its cause, to non-repentance, in other words to the radical refusal to be converted.” The Pope adds that further sins against the Holy Spirit are sins “committed by one who claims to have a right to persist in evil.”

Millions today claim the right to abortion, euthanasia, even sodomy.¹²

A Divine Correction, for the sake of future generations, would appear more an act of God's Mercy than of His Justice.

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¹² *Akita*, p. 48.

Below:

Bishop John S. Ito explains that a wound appeared in the hand of a statue of Our Lady in his diocese of Akita, Japan. It bled profusely. The statue also "wept" human tears. Our Lady spoke of a terrible chastisement which Bishop Ito understands to be the third part of the secret of Fatima which Our Lady revealed to the children after saying: "*Several entire nations will be annihilated.*"

"Our Lady said at Akita," Bishop Ito recalls, "*that SO FAR She has been able to hold back the chastisement.*" At an international seminar in Akita in November, 1992, the Bishop said that the message given by Our Lady at Akita is of great urgency for the entire world.



Chapter IV.

THE CHASTISEMENT IS AT HAND

On March 12, 1992, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk announced that his republic would no longer send nuclear warheads to Russia for fear that "instead of being destroyed they will be redeployed." When pressed further he said: "Because of the chaos and uncertainty (in Russia) we cannot guarantee that they... will not fall into evil hands."

President Kravchuk's announcement came only two days after German police arrested two men from the former Soviet Union who were trying to sell 2.6 pounds of uranium in Germany which could be used for atomic weapons. Moscow had just recently told Western officials that "scores of warheads are missing" from its arsenals.

This news was published in the highly reliable International Herald Tribune, Monday, March 8, 1992.

The men arrested in Germany for trying to sell enriched uranium (containing isotope 235, the crucial ingredient for atomic weapons) had brought it out of the former Soviet Union in a lead box. They were expecting to sell it for \$1.1 million, a real bargain for nuke-seekers like Iran, Iraq, Libya, and major terrorists.

Breaking News

Former Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger said on March 12, 1992 that after the cold war we have "A more turbulent world."¹³ An Italian newspaper reported in January, 1992 that several pounds

of highly enriched uranium had been sold by officials in former Soviet Central Asia *to an European firm* "apparently acting on behalf of Middle Eastern interests."¹⁴

There is so much alarming news about the proliferation of atomic weapons especially since the dissolution of the Soviet Union that it is difficult to keep abreast of it all.

The Paris based Herald Tribune said that even if accounting mistakes could explain some of the "scores of warheads" recently found to be missing from the Soviet arsenal: "It is a proliferation scare on a scale no one imagined in the past."¹⁵

Forces Let Loose

Former President Richard Nixon got together a panel from among the most knowledgeable and expert persons known to him to look at the current situation. They met at the Nixon Library in March of 1992. The current director of the CIA, Robert Gates, spoke with amazing frankness on the increasing nuclear danger. He used the word "cataclysmic" and said that with the dissolution of the Soviet Empire: "Forces pent up for seventy years have been set loose."

He revealed that North Korea has been producing plutonium since 1988 and had a new reactor going into operation in 1992, and that China has been supplying missiles and nuclear technology on a regular basis to third world countries. India and Pakistan have nuclear capability, according to CIA Director Gates, and he mentioned the continuing efforts of dangerous leaders like Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Khadafi of Libya to obtain nuclear warheads.

Now it would seem that at least some of the 30,000 nuclear weapons from the dissolved Soviet

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Union could find their way not only into the hands of small nations which might not hesitate to use them, but even into the hands of terrorists.

A frightening question is raised by the fact that two men from Russia with enriched uranium in a lead box were caught in Germany trying to sell it to any buyer: How many other thieves from the dissolved Soviet Union, now trafficking in world death, are not caught?

All the above give but a SLIGHT idea of the growing state of emergency for the entire world.

Kazakhstan and China

If you asked the average person what is (at least theoretically) the third largest nuclear power on earth perhaps he or she would not know.

It is Kazakhstan, a former republic of the Soviet Union. Even though it has only 16.7 million people and lies in the back of Central Asia, it "inherited" the largest deployment of nuclear weapons when it left the Soviet Union. That greatest number (more than enough to destroy the entire world) is in what is now a small and perhaps unstable nation.

There is very good reason for concern. There is friction between small but nuclear Kazakhstan and big but not-so-nuclear CHINA. The two countries share a 1,122 mile border with militant Muslims on both sides. On February 5, 1992, a bomb blew up a bus on the China side. In April two years before a bloody uprising on the China side took 22 lives. In 1962 some 60,000 Muslims from China simply walked over the border into Kazakhstan which has seven million Muslims.

And there are problems inside Kazakhstan itself as disturbing as the confrontation with China.

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, on February 16, 1992, hundreds rioted at Baikonur

Cosmodrome. Three were reported burned to death. And this was not just ANY riot, in just any country, or in just ANY place. Those hundreds of rioters in Kazakhstan were *soldiers* (complaining of inhumane treatment by their superiors) and the riot was at the Baikonur Cosmodrome, *the launching site* for Soviet Cosmonauts.¹⁶

At the March 12, 1992, seminar set up by former President Nixon, CIA Director Gates said that he is convinced that Communism is dead and will not revive, but that it has left a situation which is unsettled.

How true are those words of Our Lady at Akita indicating that the chastisement is at hand. And how urgent are those words of Sister Lucia: "The consecration will have its effect but the Blue Army will have much to do."

"I Would Be Terrified."

Do you find all this frightening? Recall again the words of the former Soviet Minister Shevardnadze¹⁷ when asked at the dawn of 1992 what he would feel (because of lack of central control over the 30,000 Soviet nuclear weapons) if he were the West. He responded: "*I would be terrified.*"

Some wish to reject Fatima and Akita saying that Our Lady would not frighten us. But it is only THE FACT of the very existence of all those nuclear weapons which MUST frighten us. As Marthe Robin said, it will take only "a couple of fools" to ravage the entire world. And there are plenty of fools.

How true are Our Lady's words at Fatima and repeated at Akita: Only Our Lady can save the world from widespread destruction.

Communism is dead. But to prevent that "several entire nations will be annihilated" (words of Our Lady at Fatima), there must now be a special

response not only to the basic conditions of Our Lady but also to Her insistent request for First Saturday Communions of reparation.

“God has entrusted the peace of the world to Her,” said little Jacinta. And She comes in tears to warn us and to show us the way out.

There may not be time for more books. We need but listen to the news with an open mind. There is no longer time to THINK about responding to Our Lady’s Message. There is time only to respond as swiftly and zealously as possible.

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¹³ Speaking at a seminar at the Richard Nixon Library, March 12, 1992, (telecast on C-Span) on *America’s Role in the Emerging World*.

¹⁴ *Miami Herald*, March 10, 1992, p. 8.

¹⁵ Speaking at Richard Nixon Seminar (note #13 above).

¹⁶ Reported by Interfax News Agency and on Commonwealth TV. See also *Miami Herald*, Feb. 27, 1992, p. 4a.

¹⁷ In November 1992, shortly after the Victorious Queen of the World Peace Flight went to Moscow, Shevardnadze (now President of Ukraine) had a “born again” experience and was baptized in the Orthodox Church.

Chapter V.

MORE TERRIBLE PROPHECY

While we are horrified at the prophecy of fire destroying whole areas of the world there is something persons of faith might consider more terrible.

According to the greatest expert on Fatima, Dr. Joachim Alonso, the major part of the third secret of Fatima is a crisis in the Church. Fr. Alonso concluded that we can imagine the depth of this crisis from the first words Our Lady spoke immediately after giving the secret: "But the faith will always be kept in Portugal."¹⁸

The saintly Bishop Ito, who approved the apparitions which took place in his diocese of Akita, believed that Our Lady had finally made known at Akita the third secret of Fatima.¹⁹ There were six prophecies about the Church:

Six Prophecies

- 1) The work of the devil will infiltrate even into the Church;
- 2) Cardinals will oppose Cardinals, bishops will oppose bishops;
- 3) Priests who venerate Our Lady will be scorned by other priests;
- 4) Churches and altars will be sacked;
- 5) The Church will be full of those who accept compromises;
- 6) The demon will press many priests and consecrated souls to leave the service of the Lord.

These prophecies were made on October 13, 1973, on the actual anniversary of the Miracle of Fatima, only a dozen years after the 1960 date for opening the Third Secret of Fatima, less than ten years after Vatican II.

When Lucia was asked why Our Lady told her that the third secret of Fatima was to be opened only in 1960 she answered: "Because then it will be more easily understood."

Within a very short time one prophecy became evident: Priests and religious secularized by the thousands. In the fourth prophecy the word "sacked" means plundered. This might describe what has happened to many of our churches from which statues, altar rails, kneelers, and even stations of the cross have been removed. Sometimes the tabernacle itself has been removed to a place not only to one side but out of sight.

The other prophecies describe events which would happen mostly in secret. If Cardinals and Bishops dispute it is usually behind closed doors. If some priests scorn others it is rarely in public. If compromises with humanist secularism are made, who but the most sensitive and observant would notice?

Was Our Lady warning us of something that has been happening *mostly in secret*?

Glance Behind the Veil

In an interview published in April, 1991, Cardinal Edward Gagnon gave us a glimpse into this darkness.²⁰

Different Popes had entrusted to the Cardinal such delicate tasks as an inquiry into the workings of the highest officials of the Vatican. His Eminence was given three assistants and was commissioned to make an investigation of the Curia (which might be described as "the Pope's Cabinet") just two years

after the apparition of Our Lady at Akita. The inquiry lasted three years and the Cardinal said:

“It was such a delicate investigation that I had orders to destroy all the documentation once I had delivered the final report.

“The enquiry made me a lot of enemies and I had even more (enemies) after my second commission from Paul VI.”

This second commission was an inquiry into the Pontifical Lateran University. His Eminence reveals that: “Before the report was finished a drawer in my office desk was forced open to remove the documents. My frankness annoyed a lot of people. They would have preferred me to have arrived at a different conclusion.”

Probably many named in these reports feared for their jobs. But had the Cardinal uncovered what we are told is found in more than one Catholic University: Unsound doctrine, even heresy?

The Cardinal’s last great commission, in 1987, was to deal with Archbishop Lefebvre. He resigned from the Curia in 1990 (resignation from even the highest office was more than once his way of protest) only to be called back to a different position in the Curia (President of International Eucharistic Congresses) in 1991.

Darker Secrets

His Eminence referred to a recent book which quoted John Paul I as saying: “Do not forget that Masonry, whether it be above board or underground, is more active than ever now... It is a power of evil. We must face its perverse actions with courage.”

John Paul I took a strong stand against Masonry. Cardinal Gagnon added: “I hold the same view (as John Paul I) *based on direct personal experience.*”

In his younger years in Canada he was Cardinal Leger's canonist and he said: "I often had to lodge requests with the Apostolic Penitentiary in Rome for excommunication orders to be lifted in the cases of people who had stolen the Sacred Host on Masonry's orders."

Most of us thought that only a handful of Satanists offered "black masses," the ultimate desecration of the Blessed Sacrament. But the Cardinal said: "Some forms of Masonry also celebrate black masses." He pointed out that his personal experience was in Canada "where Masonry is not believed to be anti-religious and where (even) some chaplains are Masons."

Secret Cancer in the Church

His Eminence added: "Masonry still wields real power which is all the greater because it is never talked about." The Cardinal revealed that this secret cancer had crept into the highest levels of the Church.

When the condemnation of Masonry was removed from the New Code of Canon Law in 1983 (just ten years after the apparitions at Akita) the Cardinal said: "Masons knew in advance that the New Code removed the condemnation and were preparing declarations that Catholics were no longer prohibited from becoming Masons." He revealed that one Italian bishop who, like John Paul I had strongly declared that Masonry was evil, received a telephone call from "an influential Vatican official" who told him: "At last you have to stop battling against Masonry."

What "influential Vatican Official" could have been so high as to tell a Bishop he would "now" have to stop battling what John Paul I called "the power of evil"?

No devout Catholic wants to hear of such things, let alone repeat them. There were only twelve apostles and one was Judas. The Church will always have its proportion of men who fall under the influence of Satan. In the case of Masonry, the devil did not win his war when he won the New Code battle. Immediately afterwards the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith issued a condemnation of Masonry, despite the fact that "some prelates still make regular visits to the Vatican today," according to Cardinal Gagnon, "to convince the hierarchy that collaboration with Masonry is possible." Our Lady had foretold at Akita that the Church will be full of those who will make compromises.

Unfortunately the dark secrets of Masonry, so deadly because they are secret and because the outward cloak is so bland, are not the worst smoke of evil rising in the Church. More dangerous, says Cardinal Gagnon, is progressive "Protestantization."

Our Reply

What gave Pope John Paul II, on whose life an attempt was made on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima, the courage to condemn Masonry in the face of so much opposition? What will save the Church? Our Lady told us at Fatima that She can save the Church if Her children will join with Her in pleading to the Eternal Father and in making First Saturday communions of reparation.

The Church is a Body, the unseen, mystical Body of Jesus in the world. We are parts of that Body. All injuries to the Church are injuries to each of us. And each of us is called upon to repair the injuries (this is the meaning of reparation) with the necessary medicine to heal them.

Very often today we hear the lament of devout Catholics about what is happening in their churches.

Some move out of parishes because they are so afflicted by the change, not only in the appearance of the church but in what they hear from the pulpit.

We do not like to hear such things. They are like little daggers into our hearts. But Our Lady warns us that this is happening. It is a part of this apocalyptic struggle between Her, Mother of the Church, and Satan.

Do we respond to Her requests just because we fear the just chastisement “worse than the deluge?” Do we respond out of fear of fire? *Let us respond even more out of love... love for the Church, love for Our Lord in the Sacrament of His Love.*

It was to prevent all these terrible things that Our Lady came at Fatima with Her simple requests. The triumph of the Mother of the Church lies in OUR power... by the fulfillment of those requests and by our persuading others to fulfill them.

Titanic Spiritual Battle

Little by little we can begin to understand why Communions of reparation, in the context of a good confession and time spent in prayer and meditation, can be so powerful. Little by little we can begin to understand what was said at the very beginning: We are engaged in a titanic spiritual battle.

Jesus comes with His Mother, each offering Their Hearts to us to become one with ours (like St. Joseph) that the Church and the world may be healed... that the hatred of Satan may be consumed in fires of love like those which made the Holy Family the model of the Church, the model of us all. In a battle who is most likely to be wounded? Is it not always those in the front lines? Our priests, Bishops, Cardinals are human like ourselves. And in the deluge of evil today, *do they not need far more spiritual support* from the “troops” than in times past?

The children of Fatima, who were filled with the greatest respect for priests, *prayed especially for them and above all for the Holy Father. They were inspired to do this by the light from Our Lady's Heart, the Heart of the Mother of the Church.*

At Akita Our Lady specially asked for additional Rosaries for the Holy Father, for Bishops, and for priests and religious. Special prayers are said in the weekly meetings of the Blue Army apostolate's core groups (cells) for all priests and especially for the priests of one's own parish. Oh, how much these prayers are needed! So many complain about the clergy who are in the front lines of the climactic battle of these apocalyptic times, but how few remember to pray and make sacrifices for them!

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¹⁸ Dr. Joachim Alonso was the official documentarian of Fatima. His works fill eighteen volumes, mostly still unpublished. He wrote one small book on the Secret of Fatima describing it as primarily a crisis in the Church, a crisis of faith.

¹⁹ When the present writer was asked by Bishop Ito to translate a book on Akita into English His Excellency said at the time that he believed the prophecies of Our Lady of Akita were an "update" of the message of Fatima and a revelation of the Third Secret. It is important to note that the apparitions of Akita have been approved by the Church in the same manner as were the apparitions of Fatima. We have emphasized the Third Secret because this book was written primarily as a comment on the revelations of Fatima as recorded by Lucia in her memoirs (see: *Her Own Words*).

²⁰ For the complete interview quoted in this article see *THIRTY DAYS*, April 1991.

Chapter VI.

OUR LADY'S PLAN

In the past whenever mankind strayed from God, as at the time of Noah, His message to mankind was always the same: Repent. What distinguishes our time as one of Mercy is that He sends not just an angel or a prophet but “the Mother of Mercy,” and “He has entrusted the peace of the world to Her” (Jacinta). Since She is both a loving and practical Mother, and since She knows the absolute minimum needed to obtain a Divine Correction by Grace rather than by fire, She comes with specific requests.

First: “Conversion” of Russia

This is what sets the message and prophecies of Fatima apart from anything similar in the history of man.

For the “conversion” of Russia (which as we have explained, meant specifically an official end to militant atheism in that nation) Our Lady asked specifically for sanctification of daily duty with the help of the devotions of consecration to the Immaculate Heart (the Scapular) and prayer (the Rosary). These few specific requests were formulated into a pledge which was signed by millions of faithful around the world. We were told that the change in Russia would take place when a sufficient number had made this pledge.²¹

Furthermore we were given a specific sign by which we would know that the sufficient number had been reached: The Holy Father, together with all the Bishops of the world, would consecrate Russia

to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The change in Russia would follow.

It now seems apparent (as we hope this little book will make clear) that Our Lady's plan has two parts. The first part was to bring about an end to the persecution in Russia. The second part is to bring about "An era of peace for mankind."

She specifically requested that AFTER the changes in Russia the Holy Father was to promulgate the First Saturday Communions of reparation. Our Lady clearly indicated this in 1917. After warning that if men did not respond several entire nations would be "annihilated," She said:

"To prevent this I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays."²²

After Changes in Russia: Two Hearts

Just as our loving and practical Mother gave us specific practices to obtain the changes in Russia (to sanctify our daily duties with the help of Her powerful devotions of Rosary and Scapular) so for adequate reparation to complete the triumph of Her Heart She gives us four things to be done on the First Saturday of five consecutive months. *When enough persons are responding we will see a wave of Grace in the world greater than the wave of evil*, and visible signs more startling and wonderful than the crumbling of the iron curtain.

In the light of the actual words of Our Lady of Fatima, and realizing how the changes in Russia followed almost immediately after the consecration, we begin to understand. First we would obtain the change in Russia. And then, by following through with Her requests, we would obtain a change in the whole world.

In a letter to her confessor on May 29, 1930, Lucia said:

“The good Lord promises to end the persecution in Russia if the Holy Father will himself make a solemn act of reparation and consecration of Russia to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary as well as ordering all the Bishops of the Catholic world to do the same. The Holy Father must then promise that upon the ending of this persecution he will approve and recommend the practice of the reparatory devotion” (i.e., the five First Saturdays).²³

The change in Russia followed *almost at once after the 1984 consecration*. Only nine months later (December, 1984) a U.S. Intelligence Officer who had been monitoring Radio Moscow for thirty one years recalls:

“Suddenly I was electrified by what I was hearing on Radio Moscow. That night was the beginning of the end of a system that had made promises, destroyed lives and consigned millions to either prison, labor camps or unmarked graves.”²⁴

It Took Over 50 Years

It was in 1929 that Our Lord promised the conversion of Russia when there would be a collegial consecration of that nation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. During the succeeding half a century one Pope after the other (five times in all) made the act of consecration but without first asking all the Bishops of the world to join with him. Only on March 25, 1984 was the consecration finally made this way.

When asked why all the previous consecrations (made without participation of all the world’s Bishops) had not sufficed, Lucia answered that Our Lord **INSISTED** on the collegial act of consecration (i.e. consecration of Russia by the Holy Father together

with ALL the Bishops of the world) because: *“I want my entire church to know that this favor (the conversion of Russia) was obtained through the Immaculate Heart of My Mother so that it may extend this devotion of the Five First Saturdays LATER ON and put the devotion to this Immaculate Heart beside the devotion to My Sacred Heart”*²⁵ (Letter of Lucia, May 18, 1936, emphasis added).

Happened Suddenly

But has the “entire Church” realized what has happened? Does the world realize how immediately the totally unexpected change in Russia took place? Even though many could not know how suddenly the change in Russia began after the act of consecration, the entire world was soon stunned by the suddenness of the crumbling of the iron curtain. Six years later on Christmas day of 1991, the flag of the hammer and sickle came down from the Kremlin to be replaced with a new flag of red, white and blue. Six days after that, on New Year’s day (Solemnity of the Mother of God) the founder of a new commonwealth of former Soviet republics announced that there would be “no more foreign aid”... which means an end to financed infiltration of communist subversives throughout the world.

It is worth stopping a moment to consider what that simple announcement really means. Our Lady had foretold, in 1917, that if Her requests were not heard there would be a second world war, worse than the first, and then if Her requests were STILL not heard: *“Error will spread from an atheist Russia throughout the ENTIRE WORLD, fomenting further wars.”*²⁶

After the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 the former head of Soviet Intelligence made known that even the United States was on the edge of

communism in the thirties and early forties. Many small nations were pushed over the edge as witnessed by tens of thousands of Americans who died in Korea and Vietnam. The carnage of all the wars (more than forty at one given time) fomented "from an atheist Russia" since the end of World War II, took a toll of millions of lives.

End of World Revolution

The full meaning of that simple statement ("No more foreign aid") on New Year's day, 1992 was exemplified that same day by a peace treaty in San Salvador which ended a civil war there at the threshold of the world's greatest opponent of communism, a war which in even so tiny a nation had taken 75,000 lives.

It was over. Not only had the persecution of religion ended in Russia, but the world atheist revolution was finished.

Note again what Lucia wrote in 1930 about what would happen if the Pope made the collegial consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and just a promise to promote the First Saturday devotion: "The good Lord promises to end the persecution in Russia." And now we have a special request Heaven tied to this "conversion" of Russia: Reparation through the devotion of the five First Saturdays. In the letter to her confessor of May 29, 1930, Lucia said:

"This is what seems to have passed between God and my soul concerning the reparatory devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the persecution in Russia... the Holy Father is to promise that if this persecution ends he will approve and recommend the practice of the First Saturday devotion."

In 1946, when asked what Our Lady wanted of us in order to bring about the conversion of Russia she

did not a once mention the First Saturday devotion. After the pledge of the Apostolate of Fatima had been formulated, when asked if the First Saturday devotion was not important she answered that it certainly was because it would help us once a month to take stock of ourselves and renew our pledge.²⁷

It seemed quite clear that what Our Lady required to bring about the changes in Russia was a simple, basic religious commitment (the pledge) for which the First Saturdays would be an occasion of renewal. But now, *to complete God's merciful plan for us, the Communions of reparation are to be promulgated in a special way.*

The Pope Leads the Way

After the consecration the Holy Father has kept his promise by personally leading the Rosary on the First Saturday of every month in the Santa Anna courtyard of the Vatican. But even though broadcast by Vatican Radio (and sometimes televised), is the Church following the lead of the Pope in this important matter?

Taking Stock

Let us consider again the absolutely amazing facts and events which have taken place relative to the prophecies of Fatima:

1) For the "conversion" of Russia (i.e. end of persecution there) enough persons had to pledge to fulfill the basic requests of Our Lady of Fatima and millions responded (25 million in the Blue Army alone);

2) It took over half a century;

3) The "conversion" could not take place until the Pope and all the Bishops of the world would consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

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with a promise from the Pope to promulgate the First Saturdays of reparation through the world;

4) By the close sequence of the change in Russia after the consecration the entire Church would KNOW that the change was a favor obtained through the Immaculate Heart of Mary;

5) God insisted on this sequence of events in order that, after the change in Russia, the First Saturday devotion would be promulgated in such a manner that devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (honored on First Saturday) would be placed alongside devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (honored on First Friday);

6) All warnings of Our Lady of Fatima (predicted to take place if Her requests were ignored) have come true except one: "Several entire nations will be annihilated." She said: "To prevent this I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart and the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays" (Third Memoir).²⁸

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²¹ *Dear Bishop!*, AMI Press, 1982, 340 pages. See all of Chapter 2.

²² *Documentos*, pp. 219 and 341.

²³ *Documentos*, p. 405.

²⁴ The I.O. was Vincent Allen, published in *Florida Today*, Dec. 28, 1991, p. 11a.

²⁵ Letter of Lucia, May 18, 1936.

²⁶ *Documentos*, p. 413.

²⁷ *Documentos*, p. 219.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

Chapter VII.

FOUR CONDITIONS FOR TRIUMPH

The conditions of the Five First Saturday devotion seem simple enough: Rosary, meditation, confession, Communion, all offered in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Communion is the most important element. Our Lady said at Pellevoisin that what most offends Her Immaculate Heart are careless Communions. But even more, there is no greater source of Grace than the Sacrament by which Jesus Himself, the Incarnate God, unites with us.

Another reason why we know that Communion is at the center of the First Saturday reparation is that Our Lady spoke simply of "Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays" when She said She would ask for this devotion "to prevent" the catastrophes which threatened the world. And in her third memoir Lucia also refers to this as simply the "Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays." The three other requests may be seen as aids to the Communion of Reparation. But also they are more than that.

Relation to Our Daily Lives

Without distracting from the importance of reparation on First Saturdays we must realize that this special reparation now required to avoid annihilation of entire nations is linked to the previous, basic requests of Our Lady, at the heart of which is sanctification of one's daily duty.

Regarding the importance of the First Saturday devotion, Lucia said they were important especially because they help us *to renew our purpose* once a month. She mentioned taking stock of ourselves by the monthly examination of conscience in preparation for a good confession, and *the sanctifying power of the Sacrament.*²⁹

Rosary

Our Lady insisted at Fatima on the DAILY Rosary, a devotion which cannot be performed properly without *attention to the mysteries*. The fifteen minutes of meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary on the First Saturday are important not only for saying the Rosary well on that particular day of our Communion of reparation, but *important in the practice of this devotion every day of our lives*.

Finally we have the emphasis on reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This reminds us that at the climax of the miracle of Fatima Our Lady held the Scapular out of the sky which Lucia, quoting Pope Pius XII, said "Is our sign of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary." And the greatest privilege, or indulgence, attached to this devotion has been known as the "First Saturday Privilege."³⁰

Immaculate Heart

This is explained at length in the book *Sign of Her Heart*, and more recently in *Her Glorious Title*, so we will not go into it here. But why the emphasis on reparation to, and devotion to, the Immaculate Heart of Mary?³²

"Devotion" to the Immaculate Heart of Mary does not refer to some kind of vague feeling. It means *being aware that we belong to our Heavenly Mother*, that we are really Her children and should *imitate*

Her. We should be pure of heart. Explained at length in the book *Sex and the Mysteries*, this is crucial to understand. It is at the heart of reparation for the sins of ourselves and of mankind.³²

Sex in itself is good. The abuse of sex is evil. St. Therese, the pure "Little Flower," tells us in her autobiography of the special light by which she saw that nothing God made is impure, and what He wills of us above all is purity of heart. That means a sincere desire to be pure. And that is the prime condition of the First Saturday Privilege attached to the wearing of the sign of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (the Scapular) by which we can believe that we shall be freed from Purgatory by the First Saturday after death.

Having made this aside about the four conditions of the First Saturday devotion in relation to our daily lives, let us get back to the four basics of First Saturday reparation by which we can hope to prevent the chastisement which justly hangs over a sinful world.

The Fifteen Minutes

Three elements of the First Saturday reparation are generally understood: Confession, Rosary, Communion. But what did Our Lady mean when She said: Keep me company on the First Saturday, and spend fifteen minutes in meditation? Both of these requests are allied to two symbols: The Scapular (which is called "Our Lady's livery" and "Her mantle,") and the Rosary, which is called "Our Lady's Psalter." When Our Lady asks us to keep Her company during this First Saturday devotion,

Our Lady wants us to be aware that She is *present with us in a very special way for these special minutes*. She always has us under Her mantle. She is always interceding for us at the Throne of God.

She IS our spiritual Mother, Mother of Grace. And the Scapular is the sign of this... an outward sign we can see, touch, feel, given to us by Her as a sign that we are Her *filios dilectionis*, Her beloved and chosen children (from preface of the special Mass of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel).³³ She invites us now to prepare worthily for the Communion of reparation, to *keep Her company*... to be aware of Her presence.

In this atmosphere, next She asks us to think about the mysteries of the Rosary. And we do this most effectively if we think about them in relation to our daily lives.

Pure of Heart?

Meditation is not day dreaming. It is not even just thinking about events in the life of Our Lord. It is thinking about the events in the life of Our Lord in relation to our own lives.

It is easy to understand this if, as an example, we consider the virtue of purity in the light of the mysteries of the Rosary:

Annunciation: GOD could have come as a grown man to redeem us, but HE chose to come in the womb of Mary. Oh, the dignity of parenthood! How could I sin against such a dignity?

Visitation: Oh, sanctity of life in the womb! Mary, living tabernacle of God Incarnate, greets Elizabeth in whose womb the Baptist is sanctified. How can I sin against the holiness of life in the womb?

Birth of Jesus: The kings brought gold, incense and myrrh. To receive Him in Holy Communion, how can I bring Him bad thoughts, bad actions, an impure heart?

Presentation: Our Lady, who was pure, went to the temple for purification. Do I get to confession as

soon as possible if I sin? Do I make a truly "purifying" confession, resolved never to sin again?

Finding Jesus in the Temple: They sought Him sorrowing. Do I, when I have sinned, immediately turn my thoughts to Jesus, seeking Him sorrowing?

The Agony in the Garden: Beholding sins of men, Jesus sweat Blood! Do I realize the evil of sin?

The Scourging: His Body torn from top to bottom. Was He making reparation for my sins of the flesh? How can I commit them when I see what they cost my Saviour?

Crowning with Thorns: As I see His Sacred Head pierced, am I not sorry for entertaining bad thoughts?

Carrying of the Cross: Seeing Him, do I not wish to accept my cross, to get up when I fall, to wipe His sin-bloodied face with the towel of my purity, to meet Him in Holy Communion as Mary met Him... with great compassion and love?

Crucifixion: Here is the picture of sin! And now on First Saturday His Mother comes from the foot of the Cross and says: "Keep me company..." and She prepares me to hear His words: "Father, forgive!"

Resurrection: He first appeared to Magdalen. Much was forgiven her because she loved much. Can I? His Body is glorified, as mine will be!

Oh how sacred is the body, temple of God, to be glorified with me forever! May I respect it, may I keep it pure. And if soiled, may I purify it like Magdalen by my tears.

Ascension: He went to prepare a place for *me* leaving His Mother on earth to pray with the Church for the coming of the Holy Spirit. She longs to have me reach the place Jesus has prepared. She clothes me in Her Scapular, sign of Her Pure Heart, and shares the mysteries of Jesus with me in the Rosary. By these devotions may She be with me always to keep me pure that I may reach the place Jesus has prepared for me!

Descent of the Holy Spirit: With each Hail Mary of the Rosary may Our Lady, His spouse, obtain for me an increase of His gifts, especially of understanding the evil of sin, fear of offending God, strength in temptation, perseverance! Oh what a Grace to be asked to keep Her precious company.

Assumption: Again I am reminded of the dignity of the human body as I see the all pure body of Mary assumed into Heaven. Mother, thank you for the gifts of your Scapular and Rosary! May they help me to be ever ready for the moment of my death!

Coronation: O Mary, I acknowledge your Queenship! Help me to keep my eyes on my final reward! Grant that by each sacrifice I make to be pure, another soul will be saved from sin. Use me today for the triumph of your Immaculate Heart in the world!

Even going over all those thoughts might not take fifteen minutes, yet it is possible to spend the entire quarter hour on one of them. *This is all Our Lady asks.* But there are some willing to do more.

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²⁹ Interview with author, July 1946. Cf *Dear Bishop*, p. 7.

³⁰ *Sign*, pp. 74-86.

³¹ *Her Glorious Title*, published by the 101 Foundation, 1993.

³² *Sex and the Mysteries*, AMI Press, 1970, 280 pages.

³³ Preface of the Special Mass of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

Chapter VIII.

TO AVOID THE CHASTISEMENT

As we said, the Holy Father has set the example by publicly leading the Rosary at the Vatican every First Saturday. But there has been little response in the world. This is now an enormous challenge to the Apostolate of Fatima. One great difficulty will be communication. How many even KNOW that the Pope is setting an example for the world in this important matter? How many even listen when the Pope speaks?

Another difficulty is the acceptance of something so simple as First Saturday reparation as a way to prevent atomic war (which, even between two small nations, could devastate much of the world)! It seems TOO simple. And do we not already have peace? Why should we worry over the "outside" possibility that "several entire nations will be annihilated?"

Our Great Challenge

But now the meaning of Our Lady's words in 1917 begins to surrender its secret: "To prevent this" I shall come to ask for the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays. The special challenge now is for millions of members of the Apostolate all over the world to make the devotion of the Five First Saturdays and to persuade millions of others to do so. Information is needed. People need to understand the POWER of reparation... of making up for the sins of impurity which engulf the world and destroy youth.

By confession and a meditated Rosary on the First Saturday we prepare to make the supreme act of reparation: Communion with Jesus, truly present in the Sacrament of His love. The reparation is to the "Immaculate" Heart of Mary which is the ultimate symbol... the ultimate human reality of perfect purity. And we repair not only for our own sins but for the sins of the world.

A Third Heart

At the same time a third heart emerges from the drama and light both of AKITA and Fatima. It is the chaste heart of St. Joseph. He appeared with the Holy Child in the sky of Fatima during the great miracle to bless the world and "bring it peace." At Akita Our Lady said that in the great battle now being waged by Satan and his legions, the apostles of the Two Hearts would be the object of their special hatred but that, "Saint Joseph will protect your work."

We are stressing this at some length in these pages because very little has been said about the role of St. Joseph. Why is St. Joseph given as the protector of this apostolate to save the world from a terrible chastisement? St. Joseph was the protector of the Two Hearts in life. He was the Protector of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to the Sacred Heart beating in Her Virginal womb... the Sacred Heart of Incarnate Love.

Is it not fitting that now when Our Lady comes to announce the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart, which will be the triumph of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, that St. Joseph again should be the Protector? And that this Saint of the interior life and of sublime confidence in God should be the one to obtain for us "interior unity" and calm in the face of the obstacles Satan will throw up in our path?

Over and over Our Lady warned Sister Agnes of the terrible obstacles she would face in making known Her messages. But each time She would add: "You have nothing to fear." And over and over she was told: To overcome in this struggle, "Achieve interior unity."³⁴ Our Lady said the same to Estelle Faguet at Pellevoisin. After telling her that she would be mocked in many ways She said: "Be calm."

It Is Never Easy

Now She sends St. Joseph to help the apostles of the Two Hearts achieve this peace of "interior unity." A man who was deeply involved in the apostolate for many years said: "I can tell you one does not become 'accustomed' to the attacks. It is never easy to be calm. This is a grace which we must beg Our Lady and St. Joseph to obtain for us as we sincerely try to leave all in their hands. For who is more desirous of the triumph of the Sacred Heart of Jesus than they?" We are invited to bury our afflictions and disturbance in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. These disturbances can become aids to union with Their Hearts if we offer them with confidence.

Interior Unity

On Sept. 21, 1974, the angel at Akita said: "The more you offer with good intention, the more there will be difficulties and obstacles. To overcome these EXTERIOR obstacles pray with more confidence in interior unity. You will be protected... be sure."³⁵ "Interior unity" is the calmness of spirit possessed only by those truly united to God in faith. And this is the special mark of St. Joseph. St. Matthew describes him as a "just man" (Mt. 1:19) and St. Paul tells us that a just man is one who lives by faith (Heb. 10:38).

In the awful trial of not knowing how Mary had come to be with child this blessed man did not rant and rave and accuse. And when he received an explanation in a dream (which he might have discredited as nothing more than a dream) he believed at once (Mt. 1:20-21). He never questioned God even when things seemed beyond human understanding.

We can believe that St. Joseph, at that very moment, started his silent adoration and continuous prayer to Jesus present in the womb of Mary, the first tabernacle of the Lord. Eucharistic adoration was pioneered by St. Joseph, the first adorer of the Hidden Jesus.

In Bethlehem, on the journey to Egypt, always St. Joseph kept loving vigil to protect Mary and Jesus from all dangers. The Church considers him the master of the interior life.

Oh, if only everyone would imitate the love of St. Joseph towards the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary then the Two Hearts will no longer grieve and bleed but instead will be honored and consoled. In St. Joseph we have not only a father and helper but also a teacher on how to love the Two Hearts perfectly.

Two Hearts Side by Side To Triumph

The POWER being brought to bear upon the world for the era of peace is the power of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. These Two Hearts are now offered to the world "side by side" not only to prevent annihilation of nations but to usher in an era of Divine Love.

Can just those who will make this reparation, joined with the few who make the All-Night First Friday-Saturday Vigils, prevent a great world chastisement, an annihilation of entire nations?

That is NOW the promise of Our Lady. And the changes in Russia, tied to this promise, show that

Our Lady has the power to fulfill it. "God," said Jacinta, "has entrusted the peace of the world to Her." And with the First Saturday devotion, She entrusts it to us.

Reasons for Hope

We have three reasons for hoping that the annihilation of nations will be avoided if the Holy Father is successful and Catholics flock to Churches on the First Saturday to confess their sins, to pray the Rosary and meditate on its mysteries, and to receive Holy Communion in reparation to the Immaculate Heart. The three reasons are:

1) The annihilation of several entire nations was to take place AFTER error spread from an atheist Russia throughout the world ("... she will spread her errors through the world provoking wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, and various nations will be annihilated");

2) Our Lady Herself said She would come to ask for the consecration and the First Saturdays "to prevent this;"

3) The change in Russia following consecration to the Immaculate Heart was to be a SIGN to the entire Church that the First Saturday devotion was to be promulgated.

Two Other Reasons

In addition to Our Lady's actual words, and in addition to actual world events, we have other reasons to believe that following all the prayers and sacrifices already made by millions for the conversion of Russia we may avoid a global chastisement:

1) Does it seem fitting that the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary should come over a world

of burned out corpses? God will not force man's free will and a worldwide chastisement may be the only way to purge the world. But Our Lady is saying *there is another way*.

2) Since in these respects we have already obtained the "conversion" of Russia, can we not hope that with additional worldwide reparation on First Saturdays we can obtain a conversion of the world?

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³³ *Akita*, p. 10.

³⁴ *Akita*, p. 9.



Chapter IX.

NIGHT OF THE THREE HEARTS

Some, we said, are willing to give more than just one hour on the First Saturday of the month. Tens of thousands are willing to spend the entire First Friday-First Saturday night in prayer. These generous souls may be our greatest hope of all.

Our Lady said at Akita: "The Heavenly Father is preparing to inflict a great chastisement on all mankind. With my Son I have intervened so many times to appease the wrath of the Father. I have prevented the coming of calamities by offering Him the sufferings of the Son on the Cross, His Precious Blood, *and beloved souls who console Him and form a cohort of victim souls.*"³⁶

Did you ever think that in one night you could save a thousand souls?

One Night — A Thousand Souls

Yet that is just what we believe EACH person does who makes the First Friday-Saturday Vigils! We call it a "Night of Love"... a night during which thousands become victim souls identifying with the Divine Victim in the Sacrament of His Love.

It was during the night that an angel came to St. Joseph and told him to take the Holy Child and flee... to save the Savior's life. Responding to the call of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the vigilers imitate Saint Joseph and take themselves away into the desert with their Jesus hidden in a Host as He was in the Holy Childhood.

Yes, the night is like a desert, even in the big cities where in the early morning hours the streets fall into silence while the vigilers are united with Jesus in the Sacrament of His Love, uniting their hearts with His in union with Mary and in imitation of Saint Joseph. A night of love, a night of salvation, a night of mercy.

Vigil Story

The vigil movement started with a laywoman in England, it grew with the Reparation Society and the Blue Army and has been joined by other movements all over the world. Pope John XXIII exclaimed that this was the cloister now transferred to the world!³⁷

Three hundred years ago in a little chapel in Paray le Monial, France, Our Lord appeared out of the monstrance, His Heart flaming with love, asking for a night hour of reparation to His Sacred Heart in preparation for the First Friday. Now, responding to the call of His Sacred Heart and that of His Mother, the vigilers are saying: Not just an hour, dear Jesus, but an entire night!

One of the most historic vigils was on the night of October 12-13, 1960, the year of the Fatima secret. The Bishop of Fatima, after consulting with Pope John XXIII who had opened the secret just a few months before, wrote to all the Bishops of the world asking them to participate in the October 12-13 Vigil in their own dioceses. Over 300 Bishops responded and the Pope joined, afterwards sending special thanks to all who had participated.

How can we know what even one such night of love and adoration could mean to the world?

During the night of His agony in the garden Jesus came to His three closest disciples who were dozing and said: "Could you not watch one hour with me?" And now that the Hearts of Jesus and Mary are

asking for an hour on the First Saturday, is it any surprise that tens of thousands are responding: "Oh, dear Jesus, not just an hour but an entire night!" He desires to place devotion to His Mother's Heart next to His as it was on Calvary, and He does it by the First Friday and First Saturday devotions, devotions which bring US into that union of Love!

Night of Love

I wrote a book about this called *Night of Love* back in 1966, more than a quarter of a century before this present book, and said even then:

"We often say that perhaps the very next person to sign the Fatima pledge may be the LAST person needed (for the change in Russia). But also we can say, in a larger sense, that the All Night Vigil may be that last great effort to weigh the scales of God's Justice in favor of Mercy."³⁸

At that time I did not realize the connection between the First Saturday devotion and the change in Russia. I had not understood that Our Lord insisted on the collegial consecration so that the entire Church would know, and realize, that He had entrusted the peace of the world to the Immaculate Heart of His Mother and now asked for the First Saturday devotion of reparation as the final condition for Our Lady's complete triumph.

Perfect Devotion

Does it not seem clear that here is the perfect devotion to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary together? The Vigils usually begin on the First Friday evening with Mass of the Sacred Heart after a penitential service in preparation for a good confession. Then with their hearts united to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in the spirit of St. Joseph, the vigilers spend

the night telling Jesus in the Sacrament of His Love that they believe, they adore, they trust and love Him, and they beg pardon for those who do not.

Nights are so often a time of sin. The vigilers turn it into a time of loving reparation!

Oh what a difference this can make to the world! And what a sign of hope we see in the thousands around the world who, in increasing numbers, are crying out in the spirit of St. Joseph to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary: No! Not just an hour, but an entire night!

As four simple conditions changed Russia, only four conditions of First Saturday reparation can change the world. They are the Rosary, fifteen minutes of meditation on Rosary mysteries, confession and Holy Communion. All four are marvelously fulfilled in the vigils.

The Rosary: The entire fifteen decades of the Rosary are prayed in almost all the vigils around the world, usually led by the vigilers themselves and often with special meditations and great devotion.

Meditation on the Mysteries: The most widely used vigil book, *Night of Love*, is little more than meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary all through the vigil. From the opening Mass of the Sacred Heart to the closing Mass of the Immaculate Heart the vigilers' minds and hearts are elevated, not just by keeping Our Lord company for fifteen minutes of Rosary mysteries, but by hours!

Confession: This night offers the most wonderful opportunity for a good confession because it IS a night of my heart with Those of Jesus and Mary. The secret to a good confession is sorrow for offenses against those Hearts we love. And how precious to Their Hearts are the sincere confessions of the vigilers in their generous First Friday-First Saturday response to the appeal of the Sacred Hearts Which so love the world. Moreover the vigil usually

provides a special penitential service as an aid to a good confession.

Communion: In the same vigil we have not just one Communion of reparation but two. First we have the Communion of Reparation of the First Friday, for which Jesus asked because the world made so little return for the greatness of the Love of His Sacred Heart. And the vigil closes with the Communion of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of His Mother, which Jesus Himself requested to be promoted in a special way following the changes in Russia. He wanted His entire Church to know and to place, especially though the First Friday-First Saturday, devotion to the Immaculate Heart of His Mother "alongside devotion to My Own Sacred Heart."

Oh, how wonderfully this is accomplished in the vigil! And this is something lay persons can do by themselves if a priest is not available the whole night but at least for the Masses and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Indeed the more vigilers themselves participate in the prayers and mediations the more effective the vigil may be.

Special charisms often manifest themselves before Our Lord in the Sacrament of His Love. It is wonderful when the best possible talents of the whole vigil group are utilized in such a way that this becomes a night all will remember, a night of special insights, a night of intimacy with Our Lord in the Eucharist, a night which ends not in growing fatigue but climaxing in increased devotion and Divine Love. In a word: the perfect devotion in imitation of St. Joseph: our hearts becoming ONE with Theirs while the power of that repairing Love radiates throughout the whole world.

³⁶ *Akita*, p. 7.

³⁷ *Night of Love*, AMI Press, 1966, 176 pages.

³⁸ *Ibidem*, p. 13.



Above: Window in the Adoration Chapel of the Queen of Heaven Church in North Lauderdale, Florida. Here, and in many churches in America and throughout the world, are held vigils of adoration on the nights of first Friday and first Saturday.

Chapter X.

NEW LIGHT ON THE WORLD

From Fatima a new light has begun to shine into the world. It is the great Love of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus reflected from the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Obviously it is not a new devotion but rather a light shining with new brilliance, illuminating devotion to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary with an invitation for all hearts to be become afire in Their Love.

The light began to shine even before the apparitions of Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. It shone brighter as St. John Eudes succeeded in establishing the liturgical Feasts of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. It became ever brighter at the Rue du Bac and in the writings of saints like Francis de Sales, Grignon de Montfort, Alphonsus Liguori, Maximilian Kolbe, and many others.

But at Fatima the light begins to shine like a sun to dazzle the whole world. One of Jacinta's last exhortations to Lucia was to proclaim to the world: *The Heart of Jesus wants the Immaculate Heart of His Mother to be venerated at His Side.*

The Light from Her Heart

That was the first "miracle" of Fatima: A light from the Immaculate Heart of Mary in which the children saw the Eucharistic Jesus saddened by unrequited love. Little Francisco said that nothing in all the events of Fatima impressed him more than the experience of that light from Mary's Heart in which he saw the sadness of the "Hidden Jesus." Bathed in that light the children felt "lost in God" and were inspired to cry out:

“O Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament!”

Difficulty of Words

The problem about a light is finding words to describe it. It is something to be experienced rather than read about. But many words have been written about it.

St. John Eudes heard Jesus say: “I have given you this admirable Heart of My dearest Mother which is but one with Mine, to be truly your heart. Also, so that the children may have but one Heart with their Mother, that you may adore, serve and love God with a Heart worthy of His infinite Greatness.”³⁹

The children of Fatima experienced this in the light from the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We know why and how they obtained the favor of this experience, but before we speak of that, more about the brilliance of this light rising over the world.

God Will It!

Our Lady said at Fatima: “God wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart.”⁴⁰

As we have said, a condition for the conversion of Russia was the union of all the Bishops of the world with the Pope in the act of consecrating that nation to Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart. When Lucia asked Our Lord why He insisted on this collegial consecration (which took over fifty years to be realized)! He answered:

“Because I want my entire Church to know that it is through the Immaculate Heart of My Mother that this favor is obtained (i.e. the conversion of Russia)... so that devotion to Her Immaculate Heart may be placed alongside devotion to My Own Sacred Heart.”⁴¹

Since the consecration, which took place on March 25, 1984, gradually the new light of the Two Hearts begins to shine over the world as mankind enters the 21st century and a new era: the era of the triumph of that Immaculate Heart through which came the Heart of God Incarnate.

Is It Miraculous?

We know what that triumph will be. The children of Fatima experienced a foretaste of it in the light from Mary's Heart: An awareness of God with us (the Eucharist)... an awareness of a Great Love which transforms the lives of those who experience it. It is to be a triumph of love... more difficult to describe even than the light from Our Lady's Heart. Much of mankind is to experience this great Love of God which at once conveys a horror of sin and transforming love for Him and neighbor.

We are talking about a miracle of grace as transforming as the light which caused St. Paul on the road to Damascus to fall blinded from his horse and to hear the words of Jesus: "Why do you persecute Me?" And still blind from the light he rose from the ground, the great persecutor become the great Saint.

Why and How

And why did the children of Fatima experience this? First, they earned it by a simple "Yes" to the most fundamental question in anyone's relationship to God: "Will you be willing," was Our Lady's first question to them, "to accept whatever God wills to send you and to offer it up... ?" Second, they were chosen as children to show that this light from Mary's Heart is ready to shine on everyone who says, "Yes."

To turn back the tide of evil and to save mankind from a chastisement “worse than the deluge,” Our Lady leads Her children through two phases:

The First Phase

First, for the “conversion” of Russia She asks for sanctification of our daily duties. That we may be really transformed in that light from Her Immaculate Heart, She asks us to make the Morning Offering... a pledge each day to say “No” to sin and to offer up in reparation our “yes” to the loving Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

To make this easy for us She holds from the sky of Fatima Her two great gifts: One a sign of Her constant protection and presence: the other a twenty minute devotion leading us into the mysteries of our salvation.

The “tool” of the first devotion is the Scapular of Mt. Carmel which Lucia said is the “The sign of consecration to Her Immaculate Heart.”

The second “tool” is the Rosary which She asks us to say with attention to the mysteries.

The Second Phase

Next Our Lady asks for the devotion of the Five First Saturdays by means of which we renew our purpose once a month and make reparation to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary to obtain mercy upon mankind. We call this a second phase, even though it is linked to the first, because it was to be promulgated *especially after the changes in Russia* and because it is linked (with the changes in Russia) directly to prevention of the chastisement. Hear Her words again:

“To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart

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“Because I want my entire Church to know that it is through the Immaculate Heart of My Mother that this favor is obtained (i.e. the conversion of Russia)... so that devotion to Her Immaculate Heart may be placed alongside devotion to My Own Sacred Heart.”⁴¹

(and this was to be not only a condition but also a SIGN of the change in Russia) and for the Communion of reparation on the First Saturday.”

It was more than ten years after giving Her first conditions that Our Lady came back to say; “Keep me company on the First Saturday of the month” by:

- a) saying the Rosary;
- b) spending 15 minutes thinking about the mysteries;
- c) going to confession;
- d) receiving Holy Communion;
- e) offering these four acts “in reparation for the offenses committed against My Immaculate Heart.”

As we have remarked, greatest and most common of those offenses are perhaps careless Communions and sins against purity. The very thought of the “Immaculate” Heart tends to make us detest impure thoughts and actions and if we use Our Lady’s devotions (Scapular, Rosary, First Saturdays) with good will, the light from Her Immaculate Heart will drive back the darkness of evil and fill us with the joy of the triumph She has promised for us and for the world.

Perhaps the special challenge of our time is for those who were sincere in the first phase... those millions who signed the pledge... to address themselves with special fervor to the second phase.

And God gives us a special Protector and model in St. Joseph.

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39. *Sign*, p. 164.

40. *Documentos*, p. 131.

41. *Documentos*, p. 415.

Chapter XI.

St. Joseph Appears

Is it difficult to think of “my” heart as “one” with the Hearts of Jesus AND Mary?... or even that it COULD be ONE with Theirs?

Jesus is God even though also Man... Mary was conceived Immaculate. Sin never touch Her. But sin has certainly touched me. I live in a world which seems even to have lost its sense of sin. But whom do I see appearing in the sky of Fatima as the great miracle of the sun begins? It is St. Joseph, with one arm around the Child Jesus and the other arm raised in blessing. And Our Lady, in white tunic and blue mantle, smiles at their side as we remember Her words:

“In October I will perform a great miracle so that all may believe... I will bring St. Joseph and the Child Jesus to bless the world and bring it peace.”⁴²

When the children were asked about the appearance of St. Joseph just after the miracle of the sun there seemed to be a contradiction because they said he was standing and also that St. Joseph held Him in his arm. When I went to speak to Lucia 29 years later I took with me a picture I had prepared showing the Holy Child standing between St. Joseph and Our Lady.⁴³ When she saw the picture, Lucia straightened in her chair, her face became animated. She exclaimed: “It was not like that! The Child Jesus was standing elevated with the arm of St. Joseph around Him while He and St. Joseph gave the blessing.”

Similarly the Holy Child later appeared with Our Lady at Pontevedra: elevated, so that his Face was beside Hers even though He was so much smaller.

We recall again the words of Our Lady when She first announced that She would perform a great miracle “so that all may believe.” She added that She would bring St. Joseph with the Holy Child “to bless the world and bring it peace.” Because of the silence of St. Joseph in much of Scripture, too few people realize that he holds a very special place not only in the Holy Family but in the lives of each of us.

Our Model

St. Joseph is not God-Man, nor was he immaculate. He was born in original sin like each of us. But his heart became one with the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He is the first example of the message which St. John Eudes heard from the Eucharistic Jesus:

“I have given you this admirable Heart of My Mother, which is but One with Mine, to be truly YOUR Heart also... so that you may adore, serve and love God with a heart worthy of His infinite Greatness.”⁴⁴ How perfectly this was fulfilled in St. Joseph, mankind’s model of union with the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary! We find St. Joseph at Mary’s side in all the joyful mysteries of the Rosary, a living and real example to lead us into the depths of these mysteries of God with us, through Mary.

And as the Scapular obtains for us the effect of Mary’s presence in our lives it does this also with St. Joseph. “If Joseph is the father of those of whom Mary is the Mother,” said the Rev. Joseph Andres, S.J., “he is necessarily the special father of those who wear the Scapular.”⁴⁵ The devout Gerson (quoted by St. Alphonsus Liguori) exclaimed:

“O beautiful, amiable and adorable Trinity: Jesus, Mary and Joseph! United by such bonds of love and charity, you are truly worthy of the love and adoration of the children of God.”⁴⁶

And St. Joseph is more than just a model. He is truly my loving spiritual father. Like Our Lady he wants me to be plunged into the Love of Jesus. He stands ready at every moment to bless me, and to bring me the peace of which the angels sang over Bethlehem.

Greatness of St. Joseph

The angelic doctor, St. Thomas Aquinas wrote:

“There are three things God cannot make greater than He has made them: The Humanity of Our Lord, the glory of the elect, and the incomparable Mother of God, of whom it is said that God can make no mother greater than the Mother of God. You may add a fourth in honor of St. Joseph. God cannot make a greater father than the father of God.”⁴⁷

Father Huguet, in his wonderful book *The Power of St. Joseph* wrote:

“Happy is the soul who can say like St. Joseph that Mary lives in her and that she lives in Mary!... and so becomes more and more like her divine model, more and more united to God!”⁴⁸

Now let us look in more detail at this all-important devotion of the First Saturdays.

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^{42.} *Documentos*, p. 349 and interview of Dr. Formigao.

^{43.} A photograph of this sketch, with corrections made during the interview, will be found in *Meet the Witnesses*, AMI Press, 1961.

^{44.} *Le Coeur Admirable de la Tres Sainte Vierge* (Paris: Lethielleux, 1935, p. 195), Cf *Sign*, p. 168.

^{45.} *Sign*, p. 159.

69.

⁴⁶ *Sign*, p. 163.

⁴⁷ *Sign*, pp. 163-64.

⁴⁸ *The Power of St. Joseph*, by Fr. Huguet, 20th meditation.



Above: At the actual place where the Child Jesus and His Mother asked for the Communions of Reparation on the first Saturday of each month, is a painting of the apparition. The wall of Lucia's cell (in the convent in Pontevedra, Spain) was removed. It is now the sanctuary of a small chapel. This photo was taken in 1982 during a vigil on the anniversary of the apparition: Dec. 10th.

Chapter XII.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FIRST SATURDAYS

Lucia's confessor instructed Lucia to ask Our Lord certain questions about the first Saturdays.⁴⁹ The first was whether, if people had difficulty in getting to confession on the first Saturday they might do so within eight days. Jesus answered:

"Yes, and it could be longer still, provided that, when they receive Me, they are in the state of grace and have the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

She then asked: "My Jesus, what about those who forget to make this intention?" Jesus replied:

"They can do so at their next confession, taking advantage of the first opportunity to go to confession."

After she received this revelation, Lucia wondered how she could comply with Our Lady's request concerning devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary without revealing part of the secret. On December 17 of that same year, she went before the tabernacle to ask Jesus this question.

Our Lord caused her distinctly to hear these words:

"My daughter, write what they ask of you. Write also what the most holy Virgin revealed to you in the apparition in which She spoke of this devotion. As for the remainder of the secret, continue to keep silent."

Six Questions

In May of 1930, Lucia's confessor (Father Goncalves) instructed her to answer the following questions in writing:

1. Where, how and when — That is, what was the date (if you know) and what was the occasion or way in which you felt this manifestation of the devotion of the Five Saturdays?

2. Required conditions — What is required for fulfillment of such a devotion?

3. Advantages — What graces are promised to whomever makes it, at least once?

4. Why should it be five Saturdays and not nine or seven in honor of the Sorrows of Our Lady?

5. And if one does not fulfill all the conditions on Saturday, would not Sunday be as satisfactory? — The people who live on farms will not very often be able to make it because they may live far.

6. Regarding the salvation of Russia, what was wanted or required?

The Answers

On June 12, Lucia handed to Father Goncalves the following response:

1. When — December 10, 1925.

How — Our Lord appeared to me as well as the Blessed Virgin, showing me Her Immaculate Heart surrounded by thorns, and asking for reparation.

Where — At Pontevedra, Travessa de Isabel II, the first apparition taking place in my room, the second by the gate of the yard where I was working.

2. Required conditions — For five months every First Saturday, receive Holy Communion, pray the Rosary, pay a 15 minute visit to Our Lady, while meditating on the mysteries of the holy Rosary and go to confession with the same goal in mind. This can be done on another day, as long as one is in the state of grace when one receives Holy Communion.

3. Advantages or promises — To the souls who in this manner try to make reparation to me (this is

Our Lady speaking) I promise to assist them in the hour of their death with all the necessary graces for salvation.

4. Why should it be five Saturdays and not nine or seven in honor of the Sorrows of Our Lady? — While staying in the chapel with Our Lord part of the night, between the 19th and 30th of this month of May, 1930, speaking to Our Lord about the 4th and 5th questions, I felt myself being more possessed by the Divine Presence, and if I am not mistaken, the following was revealed to me:

“My daughter, the motive is simple. There are five ways in which people offend, and blaspheme against the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

1. *The blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception;*
2. *Against Her virginity;*
3. *Against the Divine Maternity, refusing at the same time to accept Her as the Mother of all mankind;*
4. *Those who try publicly to implant in the children’s hearts indifference, contempt and even hatred against this Immaculate Mother;*
5. *Those who insult Her directly in Her sacred images.*

“Here, My daughter, is the reason why the Immaculate Heart of Mary (My Mother) caused Me to ask for this little act of reparation and due to it move My mercy to forgive those souls who had the misfortune of offending Her. As for you, try without ceasing with all your prayers and sacrifices, to move Me into mercifulness toward those poor souls.”

5. And if one could not accomplish all those obligations on a Saturday, would Sunday not do? — The practice of this devotion will be equally accepted

on the Sunday following the first Saturday, when, for just motives, my priests will allow it.

6. Regarding the salvation of Russia, what was wanted or required? — If I am not mistaken our good Lord promises that the persecution in Russia will end if the Holy Father will himself make a solemn public act of reparation and consecration of Russia to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. His Holiness must also order all the Bishops of the Catholic World to do the same, and promise that if this persecution ends he will recommend the practice of the already mentioned devotion of reparation.

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Note: The expression “conversion of Russia” is interchanged with the expression “The persecution in Russia will end.” It is most important to note that *when the persecution ends, the Holy Father is asked to approve and recommend the practice of the First Saturdays of reparation.*

Since Our Lord said His priests could change the day of first Saturday to the day following, so it is presumed they may change it to the day following the First Friday *for the all-night vigil of the two Hearts.* This has now become a widespread practice.

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<sup>49</sup>. *Her Own Words*, 101 Foundation, 1993.

## Chapter XIII.

### MUCH TO DO

We pray that the words of Lucia we are about to quote will resound around the world like rolling thunder. She said after the consecration made at Fatima in 1982, that the consecration would have its effect but *for the final triumph of Our Lady "the Blue Army will have much to do."*

When Stalin had initiated a five year plan to eradicate the church in Russia, at least 80,000 clerics, monks and nuns were killed. Only about 300 churches remained open.<sup>50</sup> Following the collegial consecration of Russia, in just two years (1988-1990) more than 5,000 churches were reopened (106 in Moscow alone). Baptisms tripled. Marriages increased ninefold.<sup>51</sup> All this happened, as we have said, in just two years.

When Vincent Allen, the U.S. Intelligence Officer who had been monitoring Moscow radio for thirty-one years was "electrified" that night in December of 1984 he seemed unable to believe his ears. For thirty-one years he had been hearing the same stolid, inflexible voice of militant atheism and communist solidarity. There had never been any sign of a crack in the iron curtain. And suddenly it cracked wide open!

Who would have thought this possible?

Patriarch Aleksy II of Moscow, head of the Orthodox Church in all Russia, said:

"I never thought this moment would come."<sup>52</sup>

### **Simultaneously in Fatima and in Russia**

On October 13, 1991, an amazing event took place simultaneously in Fatima and in Russia. Archbishop Tadeusz Kondrusiewicz, Apostolic Administrator of Moscow, went to Fatima and preceded the statue of Our Lady from the chapel of the apparitions to the Basilica through a handkerchief-waving crowd of hundreds of thousands while the event was televised live, by satellite, to Russia.

In Moscow a giant television screen had been set up for crowds to see Fatima in Russia for the first time. Persons from the crowd were invited, by the wonder of radio and TV, to speak to a panel of experts at Fatima including a Bishop who had once been hunted behind the iron curtain... which was no more! It was the 74th anniversary of the miracle of Fatima, the miracle given so that "all might believe" that if the requests of Our Lady of Fatima were heard, "Russia will be converted."

### **After Just One Year!**

This happened just one year after the "conversion of Russia" in the sense Our Lady of Fatima is thought to have used those words, namely "an end to the persecution." Cardinal Tisserant, head of the Oriental Congregation, had said many years before that we would know that the "conversion of Russia," as Our Lady meant it, would have arrived when a law would be passed in Russia granting true religious liberty.<sup>53</sup>

As we have said, that happened officially, in a Parliamentary decree, on October 1, 1990. We were surprised in 1946 to learn from Sister Lucia how little was requested by Our Lady for the conversion of Russia: the sacrifice demanded by fulfillment of our daily duties. Our Lady indicated two simple gifts

to aid us in this: The Rosary with its guiding mysteries, and the Scapular as a sign of consecration to Her Immaculate Heart.

Our Lady also asked for the First Saturday devotion so that once a month (through confession, Communion, Rosary and Rosary meditation) we would renew our purpose and make reparation to Her Immaculate Heart.

In the ensuing forty-five years (almost half a century!) we saw millions throughout the world respond by pledging to fulfill these conditions for the conversion of Russia and world peace.<sup>54</sup>

But year had followed year. And even though many responded, the majority did not. So when suddenly the iron curtain fell... it seemed to take not only the Patriarch of Moscow but the entire world by surprise.

### **Seemed Almost Impossible**

Just six months before the Archbishop of Moscow came to Fatima to celebrate October 13, Pope John Paul II had come to Fatima to thank Our Lady for sparing his life ten years before. It is believed the KGB of Russia had masterminded the attempt to kill the Pope. Hundreds of thousands came to Fatima to be with the Holy Father on this occasion. His Holiness brought with him the bullet which had mysteriously changed course inside his body, missing vital organs. He gave it to be placed in the crown of the statue of Our Lady at Fatima.

Six months later the crowd drawn to Fatima for the Mass celebrated by the Archbishop of Moscow seemed as great as when the Pope was there. Some say a million attended. Certainly there were hundreds of thousands. It seemed as though the whole Portuguese nation, which only a few years before had almost fallen into the grips of communism,

seemed to sense that this event at Fatima, televised to Russia, was a sign of at least the beginning of Our Lady's triumph. Yes... but only the beginning.

### **Lucia's Challenging Words**

As we said at the beginning of this chapter, on the day after Pope John Paul II made the act of consecration at Fatima on May 13, 1982, Lucia said:

"The consecration will have its effect" but to obtain the era of peace "the Blue Army (i.e., the World Apostolate of Fatima) will have much to do."

This startling statement was made in a triple context:

1) It was made at Fatima on May 14, 1982, when she was asked if the consecration made by the Pope the previous day at Fatima fulfilled the necessary conditions for the conversion of Russia. (It did not. But Sister Lucia had spoken at length with the Holy Father who would fulfill the conditions in 1984.)

2) Specifically she was asked if this meant that the annihilation of several entire nations threatened by Our Lady in 1917 would now be averted. And it was to this that she answered: Although the consecration will have its effect, the Blue Army will have much to do.

3) The statement was made to a lawyer who was the President of the Blue Army in Brazil and a member of the International Council (which governs the apostolate throughout the world). She was speaking, in a sense, specifically to the Blue Army.<sup>55</sup>

In this complete context it is apparent that this statement is applicable to all of us, whether specifically members of the World Apostolate of Fatima or not. Each one of us still has MUCH TO DO.



In 1987 a small group in Manila, which had felt the urgency of these words of Sister Lucia, wanted to make a special effort to get Blue Army pledges but ran into obstacles within the Blue Army. They printed hundreds of thousands of pledges under a different name (Two Hearts Apostolate, since then renamed Apostolate of the Hearts of the Holy Family.) Within one year they obtained a million pledges.

Not satisfied with this, they held an enormous rally in Manila (the Pope sent Cardinal O'Connor of New York as his personal legate) and they called upon all these new members to say AN EXTRA Rosary each day "for a fellow Filipino who is a Communist."

### **Padre Pio's Prophecy**

Padre Pio has said "Russia will be converted when there is a Blue Army member for every Communist."<sup>56</sup> Could it be that those one million "Two Hearts" pledges in 1987 tipped the balance? Almost immediately restoration of the churches began in Russia with 5,000 restored to worship in just the two years after the million Philippine pledges.

In a book written the following year (1989) I suggested that Our Lady accepted this vast commitment from the devout Philippine people to help save all the world.<sup>57</sup> Suffering at the hands of Communist guerrilla and from almost overwhelming natural disasters one after another, the people seemed to be saying: "Her I am, Lord!"

### **Not the Name but the Commitment**

What is most important is the "yes" to Our Lady! The substance of the "Blue Army" is the pledge formulated with Sister Lucia in 1946: Morning Offering, Scapular, Rosary. This is Our Lady's

formula for conversion and holiness. She needs no more to lead us to the Sacraments. As the Most Rev. John Vanancio, Bishop of Fatima and International President of the Blue Army, used to say: "She needs so little to do so much!"

Now we see a similar response developing in Eastern Europe. Tomorrow it may be with you, reading these lines, suddenly knowing that despite obstacles within or without, you can make the difference.

The crumbling of the iron curtain and the opening of 5,000 churches in Russia is a beginning. But before the final triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary those words of Sister Lucia spoken at Fatima on May 14, 1982, must be heard over the world:

"The consecration will have its effect... but the Blue Army will have much to do."

### **Back from the Brink**

By reading Lucia's memoirs we come to know the Fatima message more profoundly. We begin to see that God in His Mercy has now decided to help man draw back from the brink of what happened to Sodom. Following the collegial consecration and the changes in Russia we understand the need for increased emphasis of the First Saturday Communions of reparation which the Holy Father was to promise to promulgate in a special way at the time of making the collegial consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart.

Archbishop Sheen seemed to foresee this. Following an All-Night Vigil at Fatima in 1951 he prophesied in an article released through the NCWC news service that we would see the triumph of the white square of Fatima over the red square of Russia in 1984. (We have no way of knowing whether the famous Archbishop made this prophecy of himself

or whether it was revealed to him by someone else, but in 33 years it was exactly fulfilled.) Referring to what he had experienced in that All-Night Vigil at Fatima he said: "It will depend on how we spend our days... and our nights."

Many have made the First Friday-First Saturday Vigils in the past. *Now it is the challenge of all who wish to help Our Lady complete Her mission to see that more and more make and keep their basic pledge and make the First Saturday Communions of reparation.*

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<sup>50.</sup> *New York Times*, Nov. 9, 1991, p. 2, col. 1.

<sup>51.</sup> *Ibidem*, quoted by Patriarch Aleksy II.

<sup>52.</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>53.</sup> Eugene Cardinal Tisserant was a member of the French Academy, Dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals (therefore second to the Pope in the hierarchy of the Church) and Prefect of the Oriental Congregation. His Eminence spoke 18 languages, including Russian and four other Eastern languages. He was knowledgeable about Fatima and even more especially about Russia.

Because of his eminent position and access to facts unknown to many (such as the 1960 secret) I myself asked him what he thought Our Lady meant by "conversion of Russia" and when we might know it had taken place. It is interesting that when he gave this answer just four months before his death the Cardinal expressed the thought that due to the poor response of the world to the message of Fatima he did not think it would happen "without the world first suffering a great chastisement."

<sup>54.</sup> Within one year after the pledge was formulated with Sr. Lucia's help in 1946, by actual count over one million

pledges were signed in the U.S. The Apostolate at first was known simply as the "March of Pledges" (instead of the march of an army). Shortly afterwards it came to be known as "the Blue Army" (reference to the blue of Our Lady). Later count, especially from nations outside the U.S., was not always reported.

In a meeting of leaders from all over the world at Fatima in 1972, it was determined that the total membership at that time had reached 25 million. Many more were added later but since there is no record of attrition, no larger figure has been subsequently quoted.

<sup>55</sup>. The lawyer in question is Dr. Jose Lucio de Araujo Correia of Sao Paolo, Brazil. He spoke with Lucia in the Carmel at Fatima the very day after her meeting with the Holy Father. At the same time Lucia conveyed to me personally the message that no further petitions were needed for the collegial Consecration. (She herself and her entire community had previously signed such a petition circulated by the Blue Army. The original, with her signature, is to be seen at the Blue Army Shrine in Washington, NJ, U.S.A.).

After speaking with the Holy Father she was apparently satisfied that the Consecration would be completed in the manner required by Our Lord as indeed happened on March 25, 1984.

<sup>56</sup>. Padre Pio made this statement in the presence of the author and Msgr. Colgan and six other priests of the Blue Army together with Cardinal Stitch of Chicago.

<sup>57</sup>. The title of the book is *The Meaning of Akita* of which 100,000 copies were printed and distributed in the Philippines alone. The remark was inspired by the words of Our Lady at Akita that one reason She had so far been able to hold back a terrible chastisement was because of the response of a generous few.

## Chapter XIV.

### SUMMARY:

#### THE NEW SINAI

We have a beautiful, comprehensive summary of the message of Fatima which has been called the "New Sinai" because on Sinai God reminded His People of the forgotten commandments and at Fatima He reminds us of often forgotten truths of our faith.

At the conclusion of an abbreviated edition of Lucia's memoirs (hundreds of thousands of copies of which have been distributed in many languages) the Bishop of Fatima (Most Rev. John Venancio) wrote:

"Fatima expresses the whole meaning of a Church set eschatologically towards a future safe in the hands of God, but also compromised by the mystery of iniquity which is already at work (2 Thess. 2:7).

"At the same time, no one should place in Fatima (in spite of all its immense power of intercession before God Our Lord) hope that has not been consolidated in the holy fear of God, the beginning of His love (Ecc. 25:16), in persevering prayer based on the infinite merits of Christ, and in the intercession of Our Lady. It is always within these great Christian truths that Fatima works the prodigies of divine mercy in these times of the Church.

"It is in this meaning that her eschatological future has to unfold. It is in this perspective that Fatima must be understood to arrive at the full significance of these consoling words: *'Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.'*

“From the Message of Fatima springs a genuine program of life, pressing to be put into practice for the salvation of the world of today. Its teachings, in harmony with the pure foundation of the Gospel, call to mind explicitly or implicitly a series of truths which are here pointed out for a more perfect knowledge of its theological richness.”

Bishop Venancio then recalled the following truths affirmed in the Fatima Message and Miracle “high points” of the Fatima Message;

1. The mystery of the Blessed Trinity;
2. The real presence of Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament, as well as the necessity and value of Communion;
3. The reality of Heaven, hell and purgatory, and of Satan;
4. The Providence of God which directs and governs the world and presides over the events of human history;
5. The omnipotence and omniscience of God Who knows and realizes all things according to His exalted designs, foretelling future events and intervening with extraordinary signs to prove the truth of His supernatural manifestations;
6. God the Rewarder who rewards or punishes, according to the good or evil done, infinitely merciful towards sinners;
7. The existence of guardian angels, not only of individuals but also of nations;
8. Sanctification of daily duty as a condition of true happiness even on earth, and docility and correspondence to grace as a mysterious result of divine action and human effort;
9. The reality of sin, as an offense against God (and by extension, against the pure Heart of Mary, His Mother), with its tragic consequences for sinners and for peoples;

10. The flight from sin and amendment of life as an indispensable condition of the state of grace;

11. The Christian solidarity of the Mystical Body of Christ;

12. The “suppliant omnipotence” of the Mother of God, as mediatrix and dispensatrix of all graces;

13. The necessity of propitiatory and expiatory value of penance and prayer;

14. The love of the Heart of Jesus and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary — the great revelation of Fatima;

15. The importance of devotion to Mary, namely, the excellence and efficacy of the Rosary, the new devotion of the First Saturdays, and the value of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (fulfilled through the practice of the Scapular devotion and the imitation of Mary);

16. The action of grace which transformed the seers and, through multiple mystical phenomena, led them to the most ineffable union with God;

17. Russia, simultaneously the scourge of God to punish the sins of the world and the object of divine mercy, by the promise of its conversion through the intercession and mediation of the Heart of Mary;

18. The sanctification of the family, in imitation of the vivid scene of the last apparition (the Holy Family appearing in the sky at the beginning of the 1917 Miracle);

19. Ardent love and affection for the Pope;

20. The necessity of purity and modesty (in the logic of the apparitions, although outside their historical picture);

21. The final triumph of the Heart of Jesus symbolized by the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to take place when Russia is converted following its being consecrated to Mary’s Heart by the Holy Father and the bishops of the world.

Perhaps the reader might tend to skim over these truths brought to the attention of mankind by the miracle of Fatima and singled out in the Bishop's pastoral letter.

Consider just four: Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, and Satan.

### **Satan**

Do you remember the fright of little Francisco when face to face with one of the demons, just *one* of those he had seen in the vision of hell? The brave little fellow was terrified. And if Satan may not be "real" to many, how real he showed himself before the children whom he could not defeat even with the threat of death in boiling oil.

Many think Satan is a joke. That serves him well. He would lessen his effectiveness if he were recognized by those already on the way to hell. As one considers the terror which seized that innocent boy at the sight of a demon one recalls the appearance of Satan at the deathbed of Estelle Faguet at Pellevoisin. She was so terrified that despite her weakness she cried out and drew herself up against the head of the bed. Even when Our Lady appeared and reproved Satan with the words: "*Do you not see she is wearing My Livery (the Scapular) and that of My Son?*" her terror was hardly diminished.

### **Heaven**

In *Her Own Words*, we may have been surprised to read that Our Lady was so beautiful that the children wanted to die? Yes, they understood perfectly well that to go to that place whose beauty She reflected meant they had to die.

But from the time She appeared saying "I am from Heaven," everything on earth paled in comparison.



Oh, not only did they know that Heaven exists, but they understood in a flash the many things Jesus had said of Heaven: "He will sell all he possesses and buy that field"... "Where your treasure is, there is your heart also."

## **Hell**

"Oh, if She were not there I would have died of fright" little Jacinta said of the vision of hell. And the reality... the real, real fact of hell... changed the children's lives. They were innocent. None of them had ever committed a serious sin. But were it not for the promise of Our Lady that they would go to Heaven they could not have borne the horror they saw, the horror of hell.

And what impressed them most was *that persons like you, like me, like persons in their village or in your city or town*, were in that horror forever.

From that time they were preoccupied with the thought of making sacrifices to save people from hell. Our Lady had told them: "So many souls go to hell because there is no one to pray and make sacrifices for them."

## **Purgatory**

We could of course write books about the truths held up to us at Fatima... truths revealed sometimes *almost casually*. There was just one question and one answer at Fatima about Purgatory. An 18 year old who had recently died in the village would be in Purgatory *until the end of time*.

Many say "I don't care about Purgatory because I'll have my foot in the door of Heaven." But St. Mary Magdalen de Pazzi, who saw Purgatory says: "The pains suffered by all the martyrs are as a pleasant garden in comparison to the pains of Purgatory."

St. Cyril said he would "Rather suffer all the pains that have beset man from the time of Adam together with all that will beset him until the end of the world rather than spend ONE DAY in Purgatory."

And why has the world lost its fear of Purgatory and of hell? It is because we have lost our sense of the evil of sin. We have lost our knowledge of good and evil, and that is one of the main reasons... if not THE main reason... for Fatima.

It is no wonder John Paul II has called Fatima "The Marian Capitol of the world." Perhaps even more it is the new Mount Carmel, where by a miracle of fire Elias showed that God is God and delivered His people from idolatry. Or it is like Sinai, for a world which has lost its sense of sin.

### **No Longer Just a Prophet**

Now it is not a Moses, an Elias, or a Jonah whom God sends, but the Woman who stood beneath the Cross, the new Eve. In His Mercy He has now entrusted the peace of the world to a Mother who comes to say that "men must stop offending God, already so much offended," while at the same time offering Her helping gifts of Scapular and Rosary and the simple conditions of Five First Saturdays.

We have had a sufficient response to obtain changes in Russia. Will we now obtain a sufficient response for the triumph, for the "era of peace for mankind?"

Since the crumbling of the iron curtain it has become apparent that the Soviet Union was a conglomerate of diverse ethnic and religious groups. While 5,000 churches were reopened after 1988, so were 5,000 Mosques for Russia's millions of Muslims. The era of peace promised at Fatima requires harmony among all these diverse groups not only in

Russia but in the entire world. The very name "Fatima" gives a special aura to this promise.<sup>58</sup>

These are some of the reasons to hope that the "final words" we quote from Sister Lucia may roll across the world like thunder. The final triumph of the heart of mankind's Mother requires that much, very much still be done. Even now it may be too late to avoid correction by fire if the world continues to refuse correction by Grace.

Either way, the era of peace is promised. And this peace will be that of which the angels sang over Bethlehem. It will be a glorious era in which men, finally recognizing the "formula of holiness" given by a loving Mother at Fatima, will come to live in an atmosphere of Grace instead of sin. It will be a triumph of the love of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary in each of us as it was in St. Joseph.

Blessed are those who, like the children of Fatima, look to their Heavenly Mother and say: "Use me today"... because yesterday is gone and tomorrow is not yet here.

†††

<sup>58</sup>. See booklet, *The Hand of Fatima* by John Haffert, 40 pages, AMI Press 1984.

Archbishop Sheen expressed the opinion that Our Lady appeared at Fatima (the only town in all Europe to bear this name) because She came not only for the conversion of Russia but also of Islam. The name is that of the daughter of Mohammed and mother of all his descendants.



## PART TWO

**HOW TO RESPOND**

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## Chapter I.

### THE BASICS

It is difficult for most of us to talk even to members of our family with the intention of persuading them to do as Our Lady asks. But Our Lady makes it easier for us with three great *promises*:

1) She now promises *an era of peace to mankind*.

2) Those who respond and persevere will GO TO HEAVEN and will have *a happy death* "with all the Graces and aids necessary."<sup>59</sup>

3) They will be freed from Purgatory by the First Saturday after death.<sup>60</sup>

In addition to the promises, Our Lady makes it easier for us by BEING SPECIFIC. The conditions for the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart are easy in themselves. They do not require much time. One of them has to be performed *only five times* in one's life!

Here is what we are asked to do and asked to persuade others to do:

#### The Conditions

1) *Morning Offering*: Start each day by offering all thoughts, words, and actions, in union with the Precious Blood of Jesus from all the altars of the world, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary that She may use them to the best interests of His Sacred Heart.

2) *Scapular*: When you are enrolled by a priest you make a quasi-liturgical *act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary*. When you wear it you

PROFESS THAT CONSECRATION. You are “set aside” for the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. You are wearing what Our Lady Herself called “*My livery and that of My Son.*” It is the uniform of “belonging” and of special service to the Sacred Hearts.

3) *Rosary*: Say a part of the Rosary daily depending on your degree of advancement. If you begin with only one or two decades, try as soon as possible to say *at least five decades* each day. And thinking of the mysteries, *try to have an intention* for each of the prayers... such as to overcome sins of impurity, for unity in the family, etc.

4) *One Prayer*: You made the Morning Offering. You are clothed in the livery of the Sacred Hearts. You are strengthened and enlightened by the Rosary. Now *whenever you resist a temptation or do any good act* say: “O My Jesus! It is for love of You, in reparation for the offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners!”

5) *First Saturdays*: Promise that on five consecutive First Saturdays you will say the Rosary, make at least fifteen minutes meditation on one or more mysteries of the Rosary, go to confession and receive Holy Communion in reparation for the offenses against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

### **The Great Double Novena of the First Nine Fridays and Saturdays**

In 1934 when Sr. Natalia was 33 years old, she had asked Jesus to grant some special graces to souls of our times to honor the 33 years which He spent on earth.<sup>61</sup>

On August 25, 1942, Jesus responded to this request of Sr. Natalia with great generosity multiplying what He had already granted in His Sacred Heart devotion to Saint Margaret Alacoque in 1690.

He gave her 33 promises for all those who will complete a Double Great Novena as He called it. (This means going to Mass and Communion on the first Friday and Saturday while one is in a state of grace, in reparation for sins committed against the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts, for nine consecutive months.)

With these promises, He also gave the following instructions:

Jesus said:

***“My child, look at your Mother as the Queen of the World. Love Her and surround Her with the trust of a child. I want this from you and from everyone. Behold the Immaculate Heart in which I have placed My graces for the world and souls. This Heart is the fountain of My graces from which the life and sanctification of the world is originating.***

***“As the Heavenly Father gave everything to Me, in the same manner I give My victorious power over the world and sin to the Immaculate Heart of My Mother. Through My daughter Margaret, I gave the world tremendous promises, but since My goodness is infinite, I now offer even more.***

***“If the people wish to gain the benefits of My promises here, they must love and venerate the Immaculate Heart of My Mother. The greatest sign of this reverence will be if they receive Me in Holy Communion after proper preparation and repentance on nine consecutive First Saturdays parallel with the First Fridays.***

***“Their intentions should be to console My Heart together with the Immaculate Heart of My Mother. If someone hurts Me, that person hurts My Mother as well. If someone consoles Me, this consolation will console My Mother at the same time. My Mother and I are one in love.”***



**The Thirty-three Promises Made by Jesus to  
Those Who Make the Novena**

1. All that they ask of Me through the Heart of My Mother, provided the request is compatible with the Will of the Father, I will grant during the Novena.
2. They will experience in every circumstance the extraordinary help of My Mother, together with Her blessing.
3. Peace, harmony and love will reign in their souls and in the souls of the members of their families.
4. I will protect their families from scandals, disappointments and injustice.
5. Married couples will stay together and if one has already left, he or she will return.
6. The members of their families will understand each other and persevere in faith.
7. Expectant mothers will experience my Mother's special protection and will receive what they ask for themselves, as well as for their children.
8. The poor will receive room and board.
9. I will lead them to love prayer and suffering. They will learn to love God and their fellow man.
10. Sinners will be converted without special difficulty, even if someone else completes this Novena for them.

95.

11. Sinners will not fall back into their previous state of sin. Not only will they receive forgiveness for their sins, but through perfect contrition and love, they will regain baptismal innocence.

12. Those who complete this Novena in their baptismal innocence (especially children) will not offend my Heart with serious sin through to the time of their deaths.

13. Sinners who sincerely repent will escape not only hell but even purgatory.

14. Lukewarm believers will become fervent believers. They will persevere and reach perfection and saintliness in a short time.

15. If parents or other members of a family complete this Novena, no one from that family will be condemned to hell.

16. Many young people will receive the calling to religious life, including priesthood.

17. Unbelievers will become believers, and those who wander without direction such as fallen-away Catholics, will return to the Church.

18. Priests and religious will remain faithful to their vocations. The unfaithful will receive the grace of sincere contrition and the possibility of return.

19. Parents and leaders will receive help in both spiritual and material ways.

20. The body will be freed from temptations of the world and from Satan.

21. The proud and arrogant will become humble; the hot-tempered will become loving.

22. Fervent souls will experience the sweetness of prayer and sacrifice. They will never be tormented by uneasiness or doubts.

23. Dying persons will depart without agony and without attacks from Satan. They will escape sudden unexpected death.

24. The dying will experience tremendous longing for eternal life. Thus they will surrender to My Will and will depart from life in the arms of My Mother.

25. They will experience the extraordinary protection of My Mother at the Last Judgment.

26. They will receive the grace to have compassion and love toward My sufferings and those of My Mother.

27. Those who strive to be perfect will obtain as a privilege the main virtues of My Mother: humility, love and purity.

28. They will be accompanied with certain external and exterior joy and peace throughout their lives, be they sick or healthy.

29. Priests will receive the grace to live in the presence of My Mother without any hardship.

30. Those who advance in unity with Me will receive the grace to experience this unity. They will know what it means: they will not live in themselves any more, but that I will live in them.

By this, I mean that I will love with their hearts; I will pray with their souls; I will speak with their tongues; I will serve with their whole beings.

They will experience that what is good, beautiful, holy, humble, meek, obedient, valuable and admirable in them is I myself, the Omnipotent, the Infinite, the only Lord, the only God, the only Love!

31. The souls of those who complete this Novena will be radiant like white lilies around the Heart of My Mother in eternity.

32. I the Divine Lamb of God united with My Father and the Holy Spirit, will rejoice forever seeing these souls who through the Immaculate Heart of My Mother will gain the glory of eternity.

33. Priestly souls will always advance in faith and virtue.

~\*~

Sr. Natalia said:

“Jesus explained to me that when someone who regularly confesses monthly, that person need not have to confess if that person has not committed any deadly sin since their last confession. However, if the First Saturday should fall on a week earlier than the First Friday, then they should go to confession if possible. Jesus taught me this short prayer to be said on First Saturdays.”

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I offer You this Holy Communion  
Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
To console You for all the sins  
Committed against You.***

Our Lady told me:

***“The Gates of Hell will be closed on the First Saturday of every month. No one will go to hell on those days. The Gates of Purgatory, however, will be open. Thus many souls will be able to reach Heaven. This is the work of the merciful love of My Son. This is the reward for those souls who venerate My Immaculate Heart.”***

Sr. Natalia said:

“When the Savior first mentioned these First Saturdays to me, I wasn't aware that the Holy Virgin at Fatima had asked for only five First Saturdays, compared with the nine in the messages I have received. Therefore the Church authorities here wished me to ask the Savior why He requested nine while Mary had asked for only five.”

The Divine Savior answered:

***“The request of My Mother for five Saturdays is a sign of Her humility. Even though She is glorified in Heaven, She lives in the spirit of humility. Therefore, She would not consider herself worthy to receive equal devotion with Me. My request is a sign of My love: that I cannot bear the thought that I will get more than She who is united with Me in love.”***

Note:

To those who would believe in and begin to practice this Double Novena, feel reassured and trust that Jesus will truly honor your requests in Heaven according to these promises. However, you should also realize that they have not yet been sanctioned by the Church as have the Sacred Heart Promises. Let us pray that they soon will be, in order to have the Church's blessings on them. Let us also thank Jesus and His Mother for giving us these 33

extraordinary promises for these difficult times in which we live.

†††

<sup>59</sup>. The promise of the Sacred Heart is that those who make the First Friday devotion nine consecutive months will be saved (i.e., will die in the State of Grace).

The First Saturday Promise is different in that it adds the special assistance (presence) of Our Lady at death "with all the graces and aids necessary." We understand this to mean a death not only in the state of Grace but a death of dignity and tranquillity.

<sup>60</sup>. The conditions for the Sabbatine Privilege are chastity according to one's state in life, the Scapular, and a third condition (of fasting or prayer) which is usually commuted to the Rosary. Until 1989 the commutation was granted to those who requested it by signing the Blue Army pledge. To be sure one should ask a priest for the commutation.

<sup>61</sup>. This author has always refrained from quoting any apparitions or messages not yet approved by the church. However, the credible revelations to Sr. Natalia of Hungary concerning the First Friday-First Saturday devotions are important messages for our times.

See the book *Victorious Queen of the World*, Two Hearts Publishers, P.O. Box 844, Mountain View, CA 94042.

## Chapter II.

### OUR PROTECTOR, SAINT JOSEPH

There is an entire chapter in the book *Sign of Her Heart* about the Scapular and St. Joseph. Examples and quotations of great authorities and saints are used to show that the Scapular is a special sign of St. Joseph for all who wear it. Since by the Scapular Our Lady has “adopted” me as Her “special child” (as the Church sings in the special Preface of the Mass of Our Lady of Mount Carmel), it makes me also a special child of St. Joseph. And Our Lady’s Rosary, especially in the first chaplet, teaches me to follow in the footsteps of St. Joseph.

Consider his devotion and respect for Mary even when he had not yet been told that Her conception was a miracle. What an example he gives to all husbands to trust their wives and to be ready to forgive even when they feel wronged! And the same of course is true for wives towards husbands. Consider his anguish at not being able to provide proper shelter for Mary and Jesus in Bethlehem and his humble acceptance of God’s Will.

He was at Her side when Simeon said a sword would pierce Her Heart “so that out of many hearts thoughts would be revealed.” He was there with Our Lady in the agonizing search when Jesus separated Himself for three days. Then Jesus went down to Nazareth “and was subject to them.” God willingly subjected Himself to a man like you and me... setting an example for families and an example for all souls who may not yet see this great light rising over the world from Fatima: A light inviting us to union, like St. Joseph, in the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.





## **Jesus and Mary Speak of St. Joseph**

A most wonderful book, now available in several languages, fills in many details of the Gospel. It is titled *The Poem of The Man-God* of which Pope Pius XII said that anyone who reads it would know that it is a gift to our time.<sup>62</sup> Father Roschini, who wrote 125 books mostly on Our Lady and who was regarded as one of the greatest Mariologists of the century, said:

“What I and other Mariologists have written about Mary show but a cardboard figure compared to the living reality found in *The Poem of The Man-God.*”

In those same pages we come to know the real St. Joseph. Following are just some abbreviated quotations. In the first Our Lord speaks:

“Was Joseph not on Golgotha? Do you think he is not among the co-redeemers? I tell you solemnly that he was the first. He is great in the eyes of God for his sacrifice, his patience, his perseverance, his faith. Which faith is greater than this one that believed without seeing the miracles of the Messiah?”

Our Lord speaks at length of St. Joseph’s spiritual union with Mary. He refers to his foster father as “the just Man” whose wisdom increased “by his union and closeness to Mary, full of Grace, preparing him to penetrate the deepest secrets of God (in Mary) and enabling him to protect and defend them from the snares of man and demon.”

### **His Virtues**

Our Lady also speaks at length about St. Joseph (Vol. 1, pp. 128-29; 158-59), especially of his faith, almost limitless charity, and humility. She shows that these virtues in St. Joseph are completely imitable by persons like ourselves:

“He was a man,” Our Lady says, “that is, he had no other help for his spirit except his holiness. He was not immaculate. Humanity was in him with all its heavy weight and he had to rise towards perfection with all that burden... Oh! My holy spouse! Holy in everything, also in the most humble things in life. Holy for his angelical chastity. Holy for his human honesty. Holy for his patience, his work, his constant serenity, his modesty, everything... There is no one like him.” Jesus said (Vol. 1, pp. 192-93):

“Oh beloved father of Mine on earth, how loved you have been by God the Father in the most High Heavens, and by God the Son, Who became the Saviour on earth!

“In that house (Nazareth) there is no quick temper, no grim faces, neither is there any reproach against each other and least of all against God Who has not loaded them with material wealth. Joseph does not reproach Mary as being the cause of his discomfort, neither does Mary reproach Joseph because he is incapable of procuring greater worldly goods. They love each other in a holy way... two people who love each other chastely become perfect...

“In that house they prayed. You pray too little in your houses nowadays. In that house there is frugality and it would have been there even with wealth. In that house they love work.

“Neither in the houses nor in the minds of those who love work can there be many-sided vice. Love, esteem, reciprocal respect prosper... and tender children grow in a pure atmosphere and they thus become the origin of future holy families.

“Humility reigns in that house. Many women are proud only because they are a little better educated, of nobler birth, or of a wealthier family than their husbands. Mary is the Spouse of the mother of God, yet She serves... and is full of love for St. Joseph, the head of the family.

“In that house order is respected... Joseph is the head of the family and he is loved, respected and obeyed. Meditate on them... the Spouses who were My Mother and father.” Jesus added much more, saying:

“How much families should learn from the perfection of this couple who loved each other as nobody else ever loved.”

†††

“It is thus that My Love unites...”  
 Mother of Jesus and my Mother! You offered  
 Your Immaculate Heart to me at Fatima.  
 Help me, through the mysteries of Your Rosary  
 And Your “presence” in the Scapular  
 To be one with You in the Sacred Heart of Jesus!  
 O My Jesus, see in me the love of “Our” Mother,  
 And by Her prayers and those of St. Joseph,  
 May I become like You, O My Jesus,  
 Meek and humble of heart.  
 O Most Holy Trinity, by the infinite merits of  
 The Sacred Heart of Jesus  
 And the Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
 My heart begs the conversion of poor sinners.  
 Amen.

Heart of Jesus, Incarnate Love,  
 Heart of Mary, Channel of Love,  
 Heart of Joseph, Guide and Model  
 To Oneness with Their Hearts!

St. Joseph, help me so to love and esteem the most pure Heart of Mary that, like you, in and with Her I may be one with the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Amen.

†††

<sup>62.</sup> *Poem of the Man-God* is published in ten volumes by Pisani. The first edition was put on the index apparently because some claimed that it was "Divine revelation" when of course it is only private revelation.

The master edition was approved by the Holy Office. Pope Pius XII declared: "Publish this work as it is. There is no need to give an opinion about its origin, whether extraordinary or not. Who reads it will understand."

Cardinal Gagnon gave a written statement on October 31, 1987: "This judgment by the Holy Father in 1948 was an official Imprimatur of the type given before witnesses."

In the opinion of the present writer this book is a special gift of God to the new era and will play a major role in the time of the triumph of the Two Hearts. One may expect all the forces of Satan to seek to hide it behind smoke clouds. But just as Pius XII said, one need but read it to know that it is a marvelous gift of His Love.

The picture of St. Joseph which appears in this chapter is that of a statue which was in the convent in Pontevedra, Spain, where the Child Jesus and His Mother appeared to ask for the First Saturday Communions of Reparation. The statue is now in the Blue Army National Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Washington, New Jersey, U.S.A.

## **Chapter III.**

### **SPECIFICS**

In the first brief chapter of this second part of our book, we have given the all-important basics of the message of Fatima. They are followed by an exhortation to call upon St. Joseph in what might be called this final phase of the time before the triumph and/or the chastisement.

Especially in the past fifty years, we have learned a great deal about how best to see that the basics of the message are heard and fulfilled by many.

For convenience of reference we have numbered them, but the numbers do not necessarily indicate an order of priority.

Vigils are not more important than cells, enthronement of the Sacred Hearts in the home is not more important than cell or vigils. ALL are practical means. They ALL work. TOGETHER we can expect them certainly to bring about the triumph of the Immaculate Heart promised to us at Fatima.

## #1 — CORE GROUP

### The Cell

Everyone is asked to fulfill the basic conditions given by Our Lady for the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart. Experience shows that not everyone will respond. Our Lady said at Akita She has been depending on generous souls and so far has been able, with their help, to hold back the chastisement. She asks a little more than the basics from those who know AND LOVE Her more. But again, even the “more” is simple, specific, not difficult.

As the three children of Fatima went off together to contemplate the words of Our Lady and to help each other to follow Her requests, so three or more are asked to meet once a week to pray the prayers Our Lady taught the children, to contemplate Her words, and to consider ways of increasing the response in one’s own parish.

### Parish First Saturday

Those who participate in a weekly meeting are called a “cell,” or core group because when there are from six to ten families they are expected to divide and thus multiply in the parish. These cell members become the backbone of the apostolate. They pray and work to increase the number of those making the basic response. They organize the First Saturday devotion in the parish. Cells together in a region can promote First Friday-First Saturday Vigils.

As Our Lady rewards those who fulfill the basics with almost incredible promises, so the Cell members are rewarded in a special way. They experience

in their meetings those words of Our Lady to Blessed Juan Diego: *"I who am your Mother, am I not here?"* Like the children of Fatima they begin to experience the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart in themselves long before the triumph promised to the world!<sup>67</sup>

She is a Mother not outdone in generosity and one needs but try this for a few weeks to know. Following is a suggested program for the weekly meeting.

## **PROGRAM FOR WEEKLY MEETING**

### **Opening Prayer**

Dearest Mother of Jesus, with the children of Fatima we acknowledge: "God has entrusted the peace of the world to you."

As you enabled those children to see God in the Eucharist in the light shining from your Immaculate Heart, during this hour let that light shine on us as, thinking of Our Lord truly present in the nearest tabernacle, we respond to your requests and pray as you taught us:

**My God, I believe, I adore, I trust and I Love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not trust, and do not love Thee.**

**Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, My God, I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament.**

**O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the**

**tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended.**

**By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.**

**O my Jesus, it is for love of You, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners,**

**O my Jesus, forgive us; save us from the fire of hell; take all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need.**

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Scapular Act of Consecration

O My Mother and loving Queen of Carmel, as I behold you in the skies of Fatima holding forth the great gift of your Scapular, my heart is overwhelmed. What return shall I make for so great a gift, with your promise of Heaven and your own mantle to protect me and keep you near!

I desire in return, dear Mother and Queen, that my heart be yours: yes, forever yours. Forsake me not my Mother! Remember that through your holy Scapular you have made me your special child. Help me to sanctify every act of my day with a sincere desire to please God under the protection of your Mantle and in the light shining from your sorrowful and Immaculate Heart.

Petitions and Rosary

Now let each cell member give personal and general intentions to be remembered in the Rosary about to be said. Special meditations for the Rosary are found in the CELL MANUAL. If these are not used it is recommended that each member take a turn in leading a decade of the Rosary *with a thought* (or intention) for each Hail Mary... based on the special meaning of each mystery.

Action

After the Rosary, fifteen minutes are now spent in discussion of the message of Fatima and how best to extend it in the parish.

Our first goal should be to get as many as possible to make the pledge. A second goal is to add members to the cell until there are enough to cause the cell to divide. (An ideal number is six or eight, not more.)

Finally, we should *promote the first Saturday* devotion in the parish. (Special booklets are available from the Blue Army.)

At each meeting the cell members should question themselves on progress in the above three areas.

Let a different member prepare this part of the meeting from week to week. Discussion may include such questions as: What is the meaning of devotion to the Immaculate Heart? Why are the Scapular and the Rosary the special ways of practicing this devotion?

Why is the Scapular our "Sign of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary" (Pius XII). How do these devotions help us to extend our Morning Offering throughout the day? If the fifteen minutes of meditation on the Rosary are necessary for the First Saturday devotion, why? And how can we see

that those who make the First Saturdays fulfill this condition? Etc., etc.

Many similar questions can be prepared for discussion from week to week, until the cell members become truly immersed in the message of Our Lady as were the children of Fatima.

Concluding Prayers

Divine Saviour, Jesus Christ, Who entrusted the work of Your Redemption to priests, with all the fervor of my heart I recommend to You the wants of my pastor and of all priests. Enrich them more and more with true priestly sanctity. Call many to the priestly and religious state. Aid and sanctify all whom You call that they may persevere.

Enable us, members of this parish cell of the Immaculate Heart of Your dear Mother, to behold You in Your priests with a true spirit of faith and humble obedience.

O Divine Jesus, lonely today in so many tabernacles, without visitor or worshipper, I offer You my poor heart. May its every throb be an act of love of You lonely Jesus, my Love, My Way, my Truth, my Life.

Act of Consecration

Dear Mother, under Your Scapular accept my heart to be one with Your Immaculate Heart. By Your Rosary draw me into the mysteries of Jesus, so that my every act, sublimated by those mysteries, may bring joy to His Sacred Heart. I offer all in reparation for sin and for the conversion of poor sinners. Use me for your triumph: the Reign of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Sacrament of His Love! Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer of Akita

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, TRULY present in the Holy Eucharist, I consecrate my body and soul to be entirely one with Your Heart, being sacrificed at every instant on all the altars of the world and giving praise to the Father, pleading for the coming of His Kingdom.

Please receive this humble offering of myself. Use me as You will for the glory of the Father and the salvation of souls.

Most Holy Mother of God, never let me be separated from Your Divine Son. Please defend and protect me as Your special child. Amen.

(If there is a good reason the hour may end with the act of consecration. But the following prayers are to be added if time permits.)

Crusader's Prayer

Dearest Mother, since you have chosen to be known today by the name of *Fatima*, the name of Mohammed's daughter, we trust that you have come not only for the conversion of Russia but also for the conversion of Islam and await only the hearing of your requests to bring about this triumph.

Make us your instruments, O Queen of the World and Queen of Peace! Fill us with fortitude and all the gifts of your Spouse, the Most Holy Spirit! Increase our sincerity and our numbers so that soon we may obtain the fulfillment of your great promises for mankind. Amen.

Dearest Mother and Queen, as you sanctified little Francis, Jacinta and Lucia in a short time, so that they were willing even to face death in boiling oil, we beg you to touch our hearts with the light

streaming from Your Immaculate Heart so that, like them, we may become your instruments in the world, ready to sacrifice everything for the triumph you have promised.

Dear St. Joseph, sent by Our Lady at Fatima with the Holy Child to bless the world and bring it peace, protect the members of this little cell as you protected the Holy Family. Cause us to grow like a leaven throughout the Church!

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in this day of battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Note; Since this is a serious "Hour of Holiness," the Cell members should avoid "socializing," and a strict one hour limit is recommended.

†††

⁶³. *The Woman Shall Conquer*, by Don Sharkey, p. 19.

#2 — HOW TO GROW...

INCREASE AND DIVIDE

At Akita and in other apparitions (we believe this may be the main burden of the Third Secret of Fatima) Our Lady has spoken of a crisis in the Church. Her very words were:

“With the Rosary pray for the Pope, the bishops and priests. The work of the devil will infiltrate even into the Church in such a way that one will see cardinals opposing cardinals, bishops against other bishops. the priests who venerate me will be scorned and opposed by their brothers, churches and altars violated, the Church will be full of those who accept compromises and the demon will press many priests and consecrated souls to leave the service of the Lord.”

Our Lady said this on October 13, 1973, well after Vatican II.

Foreseeing what would happen (and which we presume is happening now) the Holy Spirit spoke through the Council to the laity of the world not only in Chapter 4 of *Lumen Gentium* but in several other of its documents and in a completely separate document on the Lay Apostolate. These decrees of the Council say that priests and hierarchy are to “hold in highest esteem” initiatives exactly like the one advocated here: Weekly cell meetings for the spiritual vitality of the parish.⁶⁴

The Council, foreseeing the great need for a truly active and apostolic laity in these latter items said that “an indication of this manifold and pressing need is the unmistakable work of the Holy Spirit in making the laity today more conscious of their own responsibility, inspiring them everywhere to serve Christ and the Church.”⁶⁵

The Great Challenge

We recall again that on the Feast of the Holy Family at the end of 1988 Pope John Paul II issued an Apostolic Exhortation to "The Lay members of Christ's Faithful People." It opened on the theme: "*You, too, are called into My vineyard.*"⁶⁶

Now seminaries are almost empty. Many convents have closed "because of lack of vocations." Is there REALLY a lack of vocations? Has God stopped calling His workers into the vineyard? Or is He issuing a different call?

"You, too, go into My vineyard" (Mt. 20:3-4) is the message Our Lord addresses now to the laity of the world. Even before the Pope said this the Church had proclaimed it in a most solemn manner. If one were to analyze the second Vatican Council and ask what it said to the world that no Council had said before, the answer would be: A call to the laity to share in the apostolic life of the Church. (Published in the same year is the author's work: *You, too! Go into the Vineyard!*) It will be useful to those responding to this call, especially in relation to the clergy.⁶⁷

Urgent Call

For many, just fulfilling the basics will seem enough response. For others, participation in cells will seem enough to add. But *how will we have enough response even to the basics if there are not apostles?* How will the triumph of the Church come if just a few persons meeting in a cell week after week remain content to be always the same little group, never reaching out?

This is now our greatest challenge: *To increase and divide!*

The simplest way is to have a little leaflet (suggestion below) with your name and telephone or address which you can give to persons you see at daily Mass, to members of family, to persons whom you may meet who show an interest in responding to Our Lady's urgent call "To Prevent This!"

If they come to one cell meeting, they will probably continue to come. The Holy Spirit is working. Many know, as the Council and the recent exhortation of the Pope assert: The chastisement will be averted and the triumph will come only when the laity respond or, when needed, even take the initiative.

Our Lady has told us precisely what must be done to avert the chastisement and complete Her triumph. We know the basics: simple and specific. We ourselves, and our family "cells," will be successful only if we reach out to get a sufficient number to respond to those basic conditions.

Suggested "Calling Card"

Many people have business cards. Cell members can have a card or little folder which says:

"There is a small meeting on Thursday night (or it could be any day or time) in our home to talk about the recent messages of Our Lady and to say the Rosary together. It lasts only an hour and we invite you and your family to come. You can call me at: (telephone number)."

It would help a great deal to *lend a copy of this book* together with the invitation, saying: "You may return it when you come next Thursday or whenever you can make it." There is a tendency for core groups to cling together rather than divide. When you reach six or seven families, let at least one of the earlier members split off with two of the new ones. Often the split will be dictated by geography, grouping persons according to proximity of habitation.

Often there may be only one member in a "family." But that one person immediately becomes a member of the apostolic family! But let each have "calling cards" and let each group rejoice in the success of dividing. It is only when a cell divides that it is really alive.

One basic response all cells of a parish have in common is the First Saturday devotion. This is a time when leaders of cells can meet. Friendships are formed and it is often easier and more pleasant to keep meeting over and over with those whom we know.

But what a joy and satisfaction to see increased attendance at the First Saturdays. And how wonderful when there is an All-Night Vigil! Truly then the original cell leaders can rejoice.

Special Events Can Help

Some parishes lend themselves to surrounding the First Saturday devotion with special events and activities which draw more people and add luster to the occasion. In some parishes it may be practical to have a simple "Communion Breakfast" after First Saturday Mass, perhaps even with some special speaker.

The world deserves a Divine Chastisement. *To Prevent This* is our battle cry. It is a battle even though the struggle is silent and the weapons spiritual.

It is not a time to take comfort in the company only of those whom we love. Jesus said to Lucia: *"Ask, ask again insistently for the promulgation of the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. The time is coming when the rigor of My Justice will punish the crimes of various nations. Some of them will be annihilated."*⁶⁶ Our Lady has said that so far She has been able to prevent it because of the

response of a few. Let those few increase and multiply!

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⁶⁴. *Christifideles Laici*, Vatican translation into English published by Daughters of St. Paul, 181 pages.

⁶⁵. *Council Document V*, par. 19.

⁶⁶. *You, Too! Go Into the Vineyard!* is a book about the lay apostolate dealing with such matters as priest-lay relations, finances, unity of apostolates, lay saints and models. Printed by the 101 Foundation, 1993.

⁶⁷. *Documentos*, p. 465.

#3 —ENTHRONEMENT OF THEIR HEARTS IN THE HOME

The idea of “enthroning” the Sacred Heart in the home began with Our Lord Himself who told St. Margaret Mary that He would bless every home in which an image of His Sacred Heart is honored.

In 1907 Father Mateo Crawley-Boevey founded the apostolate of Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the home. His successor, Father Francis Larkin, added enthronement of the Immaculate Heart in 1947. This gradually developed into a beautiful and solemn consecration of the home and family to the two Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

This beautiful practice is now becoming widespread thanks especially to a former police officer and his wife in Erie, PA. Officer Scherer had seen too much family strife in his years on the city's police force. He had seen so many young people arrested and so many who went from prison to greater crimes.

All Begins in the Home

“It all begins in the home,” he said, “and when I learned about the enthronement of the Sacred Hearts in the home I thought it was a great idea. When I saw the EFFECTS wherever the enthronement took place I knew it was far more important than anyone realized. It was bringing the LOVE of Their Hearts into the home where, with His Mother, Jesus keeps His promise made to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque.”

It is inspiring to hear Officer Scherer, now retired and devoting full time to this apostolate, address an audience together with his wife Anne. The national

leadership of the Blue Army was so impressed that it named them National Directors of this enthronement program for the World Apostolate of Fatima.

“In recent years many miracles of grace and conversion have taken place through this program,” said Anne Scherer. “The lifeline of the Eucharistic Church is closely linked to the domestic church... the home. The Sacred Heart of Jesus reigns as King, Lord, and Friend of the family. Our Holy Mother is Queen and Mother alongside Her Son. We invite Them to reign in our families, and Their reign brings peace.”

A special kit, with beautiful color pictures of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and the Certificate of Enthronement is available from the Blue Army (Washington, NJ 07882) or from the Scherers at 3825 Parade Boulevard, Erie, PA 16504. It can also be obtained from other centers such as Two Hearts Media in Manila.

Program Has Two Parts

This beautiful program has two parts. First there is a visit of a Pilgrim Virgin statue into the home for one week. (This may be a statue circulating in a parish and known as the “Parish Pilgrim Virgin,” or a special statue of the Enthronement apostolate circulating from parish to parish in the diocese.)

With a daily family Rosary before the statue, the family prepares for the solemn enthronement of Jesus and Mary as the King and Queen of the home. For greater solemnity it is to be hoped that the ceremony would be led by one of the priests of the parish or by a diocesan chaplain of the Enthronement Apostolate.

Is this not a wonderful fulfillment of the desire expressed by Our Lord that, following the changes in Russia bought about by the Immaculate Heart of

121.

His Mother, "Devotion of Her Immaculate Heart be placed alongside devotion to My Own Sacred Heart?"

When Our Lady promised the triumph of Her Heart She promised "an era of peace." When Her Heart triumphs with Jesus through being enthroned in any home the promise of peace will be fulfilled.

It all begins with the family.

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#4 — IMPORTANCE OF EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The weekly “Holy Hour” of individuals and families meeting in each other’s homes is centered on Jesus in the nearest tabernacle. It is Eucharistic and therefore can also be considered an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. It is to be hoped that many who participate in these hours will also make personal hours of adoration.

“My soul is sorrowful... could you not watch one hour with Me?” Thus begged Our Lord to His three apostles who fell asleep when they should have kept vigil with Him.

Today, after two thousand years, that very same scene in Gethsemane takes place over and over again. Tabernacles are left without even we of the faithful adoring Jesus — His body, blood, soul and divinity truly present in the Sacred Host. This neglect is a thorn that continues to pierce deeply the Most Sacred and Wounded Heart of Our Lord. Today, the apostles are still sleeping. Indifference and coldness of heart prevail. Today, the sorrow of Our Lord continues.

Indeed, the God of love is not loved. Very few souls are willing to make an offering of love in a one-hour adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. Very little is done to repair for all the ingratitude and the blasphemies committed against the Sacred Person of Our Lord. Very few understand, and very few love.

It is a joy to be with a person we love. The more we love that person the more we want to be with him or her. Love, says St. Augustine, tends to union. Jesus gave His all for us, reserving nothing to Himself. He loves us so much that He gave even His

very life. He is willing to die over and over again and be crucified even a thousand times if that is what we need to discover the greatness of that love. But His sacrifice on the cross is perfect. "He has no need to offer sacrifices daily... He did this once, for all, when He offered up Himself" (Heb. 7:27). "For," continues St. Paul, "by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified."

It is good to remember, however, that the Fullness of Love Himself is longing for our love, for our adoration, for our friendship, for our visit. If we really love Our Lord, who is truly present in that White Host, that love would dictate to us that we visit Him, love Him and adore Him daily.

In many apparitions today the Hearts of Jesus and Mary complain about locked churches and neglect of Our Lord "truly present in the Eucharist" (Akita). In addition to daily visits, an effective way to respond to the great love of Jesus, in union with the Heart of Mary, is a night vigil. In addition to all said in that chapter we have a great promise of Our Lady which She made in revealing the flaming love of Her Immaculate Heart for all those who adore Jesus in His Sacrament of Love:

"During your night vigil, I will extend to all dying persons in your neighborhood the graces of My Flame of Love. This grace also applies to all those who know My Flame of Love (this means in union with Her Immaculate Heart) and who keep the nightly vigil and pray. This will blind Satan and the gentle light full of grace will save dying souls."⁶⁸

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⁶⁸. See *Flame of Love*, Two Hearts Publishers, P.O. Box 844, Mountain View, CA 94042, p. 57.

#5 — THE VIGILS

Even as it is not too difficult for someone to promise to make the First Saturday devotion only five times in one's lifetime, so it does not seem too much to promise five or nine nights. And actually the vigils are convenient. For the First Saturdays the vigil gives ample time for the confession, Rosary and meditations. In this one night we make both the First Friday devotion (to which Our Lord attached a promise of salvation) and the First Saturday devotion. With just "one trip" to Church we accomplish it all!

However our major motive is not only because of the promises for the First Fridays and Saturdays or because it is convenient. Our major motive is to respond to the loving appeal of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. *The vigil is perhaps the most perfect way of accomplishing what the Sacred Hearts ask of us in order to bring to us and the world the triumph of Their Love.*

Following is a Suggested Vigil Program:

Suggested Schedule:

9:00 p.m. *Penitential Service:* Since one of the purposes of the vigil is to make a good confession, we recall the Commandments, the capital sins, and the beatitudes. This helps us make a good examination of conscience. Afterwards the priest(s) are available for confession.

9:30 p.m. *Rosary Before Mass:* The Sorrowful Mysteries prepare us to be present on Calvary in the Holy Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart (special meditations in the book *Night of Love*).⁶⁹

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10:00 p.m. *Mass of the Sacred Heart* followed by *procession of the Blessed Sacrament* and exposition.

11:00 p.m. *Adoration*, alternating brief periods of silence with meditations (brief readings or talks) and prayers, especially the Eucharistic prayers of Fatima.

12:00 a.m. *Coffee Break*: Part of the group should go to the area of the coffee break while half remain in silent adoration. This is a chance for vigilers to know one another as well as precious time of silent adoration.

12:45 a.m. *Joyful Mysteries*. Special meditations in the vigil book.

1:30 a.m. *Intentions*: Each vigiler goes and kneels before Our Lord and voices aloud personal intentions for which all are asked to pray. If the group is too large, the leader selects representatives at random.

2:00 a.m. *Adoration*: Again brief alternating periods of silence, readings or talks and vocal prayer, especially the Eucharistic prayers of Fatima.

2:45 a.m. *Meditation*: Fifteen minutes on mysteries of the Rosary, preferably related to the liturgical season or special Feast.

3:00 a.m. *Glorious Mysteries*: Special meditation in Vigil Book.

3:45 a.m. *Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament* with act of consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

4:00 a.m. *Procession of Our Lady's Statue* followed by act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. (Statue may be crowned in recognition of Our Lady's Queenship.)

4:30 a.m. *Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

Comments:

A person who attended many vigils in different areas and even in different countries has remarked that the specifics of the program are not as important as the vitality or spirit of the program. This is an *exciting*, exhilarating experience. It is a night spent with others who love the Hearts of Jesus and Mary and want to make a generous response to Their Love.

Out of consideration for some who are not accustomed to meditate, or to spend long periods in silent prayer, *the program should be "lively."* After midnight, no talks should be longer than three minutes.

The schedule is *only a suggestion*, like a skeleton to be fleshed out. Various prayer booklets are available. We recommend especially: *Alliance of the Two Hearts, Practices of Piety.*⁷⁰

Tens of thousands are now making these vigils all over the world. Some two thousand regularly make the vigil in Paris. More thousands do so in New York, Chicago, and many other U.S. cities. Five thousand, half of whom are young people, make the vigil in Manila. There are almost as many different programs as there are vigils. Some flexibility is necessary, being open to the Holy Spirit.

There may be some dynamic speaker, there may be some extraordinary circumstances (like Vigils held at Lourdes or Fatima, or on special Feasts). We should always be open to the Holy Spirit.

It adds much when *individual vigilers are involved*, expressing their intentions, giving personal testimony, leading prayers. Even when the schedule is followed pretty closely as suggested above there will be periods of silent adoration. Such moments are necessary and are to be treasured.

A vigil is most successful when we realize that Our Lady is with us. *Did She not invite us with the words "Keep me company?"* She brings the light shining from Her Immaculate Heart, the light of the Holy Spirit, Her Spouse. The greatest success comes when we are sensitive to His whispering during this night of the three Hearts... the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and mine.

One needs but make such a vigil to know why Our Lady has said at Akita that so far She has been able to hold back the chastisement because of the help of special souls. What great Graces are drawn down upon the world by these nights of generous response to the Sacred Hearts!

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^{69.} *Night of Love* was temporarily out of print in 1992. One should contact 101 or AMI Press.

^{70.} *Alliance of the Two Hearts, Practices of Piety*, published by Two Hearts Media, 1991, 113 pages. Excellent for use in vigils.

#6 — INVOKING THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have remarked that vigils can be occasions of special charisms. Our Lord said to His apostles before He ascended in glory:

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.”

Much as they wanted to do so they could not witness to the Risen Savior. They were terrified and remained together in a private room. But God, in His Wisdom, had far greater things in store for the disciples of His Divine Son. Thus He sent the Holy Spirit upon them with His manifold gifts. They were all empowered to preach the Gospel of Christ boldly and to give witness to the faith. The weak became strong; the lukewarm in their love and devotion became fervent, all were transformed into new men and women ready to die for Christ, and this was all because of the Holy Spirit working in them.

Today the action of the Holy Spirit as sanctifier, comforter, light, source of strength and as advocate continues. However there are Christians who fail, or even refuse, to call on the Spirit.

How desperately the world needs His action today now that many are weakening in their faith. Many Catholics are only Catholics by name but not in practice. Some do not even know the Holy Spirit, His gifts and His actions in the Church. No wonder the exercise of faith today of many Christians is without enthusiasm, fervor and joy. This is a clear sign that the Holy Spirit is not so much at work. *We limit His capacity to work in us because we are not open to Him.* We have become so preoccupied with a thousand other things that we have become insensitive to His inspirations.

In our First Friday and First Saturday reparation vigil, there is a need to call on the Spirit of the living God, without the aid of Whom how can we offer prayers and sacrifices? The wisdom that the Spirit will give us is the wisdom to know the value of prayers and sacrifices and the need to offer them for the salvation of souls. Our reparation vigil will then become a spirit-filled vigil, packed with prayers and sacrifices.

We cannot rely on our own strength. We need the Spirit of God. Thus what was prophesied in Ezekiel 11:19-20 will come to fulfillment. "And I will give them a new heart and I will put a new spirit within them; I will remove the stony heart from their bodies and replace it with a natural heart, so that they will live according to My statutes and observe and carry out My ordinances; thus they shall be My people and I will be their God."

This hopefully will be the result of our reparation vigil; we will become truly converted, we will become the people of God and He then would become truly our God. This is the desire of Mother Mary. This is the Triumph of Her Heart, the Era of Peace, the reign of the Sacred Heart.

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#7 — MEDAL OF THEIR HEARTS

Outward Sign and Perfect Symbol

If one were seeking the perfect symbol for the message of Our Lady in “these latter times” it would probably be the medal of the Immaculate Conception, more popularly known as the Miraculous Medal.

On the front of the medal we see Our Lady as the victorious Queen of the World... standing on the globe, crushing Satan, Graces streaming from Her Hands upon the earth. There is only one reason those Graces are streaming: because *Her children ask for them!*

While St. Catherine Laboure was contemplating this vision with astonishment she noted that the rays of Grace seemed to shine from gems on Our Lady’s fingers. But from some there was no light. Some of the gems were dark, like unlit light bulbs. And Our Lady explained:

“Those are the Graces for which no one asks.”⁷¹

Around this image of Our Lady as Mediatrix is the beautiful and powerful prayer: “O Mary! Conceived without sin! Pray for us who have recourse to You!”

Two Hearts

On the back of the medal is the symbol of Our Lady as the Woman of these latter times, the Woman of the Apocalypse who overcomes the dragon. It is the crown of twelve stars.

Inside this crown we see *the Immaculate Heart and the Sacred Heart* surmounted by the symbol of Mary beneath the Cross of Jesus: An “M” under a

cross. "These two Hearts are joined together" said the inner voice to St. Catherine, *and the same flame of love* burst forth from the Immaculate Heart of Mary as from the Heart of Jesus.

Yet on the medal, between the Two Hearts is an empty space... the space waiting for me and for hearts like mine as we hear the words of Jesus to Mary at the foot of the cross: "Mother, this is your child. Child, this is your Mother." And one seems to hear the words Our Lord addressed to St. John Eudes:

"I have given you this admirable Heart of My dearest Mother, which is but One with Mine, to be truly your Heart also, so that the children may have but one Heart with their Mother... that so you may adore, serve and love God with a Heart worthy of His infinite greatness."⁷²

Even as we wear Our Lady's Scapular next to our hearts as a sign of our union with our Mother, so it is fitting to wear the Miraculous Medal outwardly as a profession of confidence in the Victorious Queen of the world and of solidarity.

The World Apostolate of Fatima asks its members to wear some outward sign of blue. The sign is a profession of solidarity in Our Lady's spiritual army. It would seem most fitting, in this time of the Two Hearts, to do as many in the apostolate already do: Make that sign the Medal of the Victorious Queen, the Medal of the Two Hearts.

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⁷¹. *Sign*, p. 195.

⁷². *Documentos*, p. 465.

#8 — “Pray Like That”

Two of the prayers of Fatima repeated at Akita are the prayer to be inserted in each decade of the Rosary (which was taught to Sister Agnes by the angel before the prayer was generally known in Japan), and the prayer taught by the angel to the children of Fatima after which the *angel said*: “*Pray like that*”:

*“My God, I believe, I adore, I trust and I love You. I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not trust and do not love You.”*⁷³

This is a most beautiful and powerful prayer. We can say it anywhere, any place. It is a prayer which *should become a very part of us*.

In the “decade prayer,” which was given by Our Lady Herself to the children, we beg forgiveness, we beg to be saved, and we beg that ALL the people in the world will be saved: “*O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need.*”

Our Lady would not teach us a prayer which could not be answered. It IS possible for ALL souls to be saved if enough persons pray for them! Our Lady said, after showing the children at Fatima the vision of hell: “So many souls are lost because there is *no one* to pray and make sacrifices for them.”⁷⁴

Not the Form

At Fatima were we not taught a specific form of Morning Offering. We were told to sanctify our daily duties, which we do by making the Morning Offering and extending it through the day.

At Akita Our Lady said we should not be concerned about the form of the prayer but about

meaning what we say. She Herself prayed together with Sister Agnes a prayer of offering one's soul and body to Jesus to be **ONE WITH HIS SACRED HEART** *truly* present in the Blessed Sacrament, while at the same time asking Her to help protect us in this offering.⁷⁵

God wishes us to give ourselves (all that we are and all that we do) to His Love, and to pray for souls. And our sincerity is more important than our words. Our Lady has placed so much emphasis on the Rosary that we should strive to *have an intention for every bead*.

It helps to repeat the title of the mystery of each decade mentally as we say each of the ten Hail Marys. Even one decade prayed is better than many just "said."

We have to put on our thinking caps. We have to decide in advance *what we are going to ask* when we pray: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, *pray for us!*"

As we pray the Rosary, if we recall the words of the angel (believe, adore, trust, love and pardon for those who do not) we may have all the inspiration we need to pray it well. "Pray like that!"

Chaplet of Mercy

Finally there is a most powerful prayer we can say at any time, anywhere. It is as powerful as it is simple. It is most easily said on the beads of the Rosary but takes only a few minutes.⁷⁶

On the "Our Father" bead we pray: "O Eternal Father! I offer Thee the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly Beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for my sins and those of the whole world."

Then on the "Hail Mary" beads we pray: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world!" At the end we repeat three

times: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One! Have mercy on us and on the whole world!"

Our Lady said at Akita She has been able to hold back the chastisement *by offering the Passion of Her Son to the Father* and by the help of generous souls who pray with Her.

This chaplet of Mercy seems to lend itself especially to those moments when we may awaken in the night. Aware of our Heavenly Father we are even more filled with confidence and love as we offer Him back His own greatest gift: Jesus, His Son, One with Him in the Trinity, given to be our Redeemer and our Eucharist! And how can He refuse such a prayer?

"Pray like that!" said the angel to the children of Fatima.

May we be like those simple children, so willing to respond to God's calling and Grace! May we share with them, and all Our Lady's children in the world, the glory of saving many souls by such simple prayer said with a sincere heart.

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⁷³. *Documentos*, p. 325.

⁷⁴. *Documentos*, p. 341.

⁷⁵. *Akita*, p. 7.

⁷⁶. Details on the Chaplet may be obtained from the Marian Fathers, Stockbridge, MA 01263.

Chapter IV.

CALL TO THE LAITY

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy on me!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pray for me!
Chaste Heart of Joseph, Guide and Protect me!

The Second Vatican Council has said: "The whole human family has reached an hour of supreme crisis in its advance towards maturity" (Church in the Modern World, p. 77). The Council challenges the laity not only to be involved but to take an apostolic initiative.

Pope John Paul II said in his book-long exhortation *Christifideles Laici*: "In recent years we have witnessed in the Church a remarkable vitality in the growth and spread of new forms of associations for the lay faithful. Frequently these groups are very different from each other. However they have a common purpose: to bear witness to the Gospel of Christ as a source of renewal for society and of hope for humanity."⁷⁷

Need for Holiness

The Council and the Holy Father stress the importance for the lay faithful to be educated in their faith but above all to grow in holiness.

The message of Fatima, as though in anticipation of the Council, is like a flood of light over this postconciliar era, so very important to our age because it is first and foremost *a fresh message of holiness*. Our Lady has stooped down to Her children and called them to join Her in saving the world... in bringing about the triumph of the Church,

the triumph of Jesus in the world. (This is what is meant by the triumph of Her Heart.)

St. Joseph, the most perfect human model of holiness, is not only held up to us for imitation but he is brought over the world in the miracle of Fatima with the Holy Child. He blesses us to bring us peace. He is appointed in a special way as our guide and protector in today's spiritual conflict which, if not the most intense in all history, is certainly intense.

Keeping It Simple

It would spoil the message of this book if we went into too much detail and explanations. The greatness of the message of Our Lady is its simplicity. It can be understood by a child. It is like the message of St. Therese, the Little Flower, who said that there is no one who could not imitate her method of holiness. (Yet dozens of books have been written about her "little way" making it seem as complicated as an entire course in Ascetical Theology!)

The Holy Spirit works in the little core groups of individuals and families who meet once a week to pray and to seek together to understand Our Lady's message and how to be a leaven of holiness in their own parishes through the First Friday-First Saturday apostolate.

The Pope, in that long exhortation to the laity issued on December 30, 1988, applied to all lay Catholics the words of Our Lord: "Why do you stand here idle all the day? You, too, go into My vineyard" (Mt. 20:3-4). His Holiness makes the following points:

1) Today's secularism underscores *the need for religion*. We are in a time so different from the days when most lived on farms and lived close family and parish lives. "Growing numbers of people are abandoning religion in practice" (Gaudium et Spes, p. 7).

2) The Holy Father emphasizes the dignity of the Lay Faithful in the mystery of the words of Jesus: "I am the Vine, you are the branches" (Jn. 15:5). By Baptism we become children in the Son, One Body in Christ, "*Sharers in the priestly, prophetic and kingly mission of Jesus Christ.*" He stresses that our first calling is to holiness.

3) The Pope also goes into the subject of the Ecclesiology of Communion as defined by Vatican II and on the ministries and charisms from Holy Orders and from the *offices and roles of the Lay Faithful*.

After holiness the Pope places greatest stress on evangelization. It is especially incumbent upon the laity to promote the dignity of the human person so violated not only by interference with natural conception but by abortion and euthanasia. *His Holiness sees youth as the hope of the Church.* He exalts the vocation to sublimate suffering and the various vocations in the lay state.

The entire last part of the Pope's message calls for *a continual process of development of holiness in the laity* and of acceptance of its responsibility as "sharers in the priestly, prophetic and kingly mission of Jesus Christ."

He emphasizes the need for formation. The formation is not to be something separate from the lay state.

It is to be a formation "according to the union which exists from being members of the Church and citizens of human society." In other words we are not called to holiness just for ourselves, but to share holiness... that is, life in Christ... with the society in which we live.

To respond to this exhortation of the Holy Father we can share in our First Friday-First Saturday devotions, and especially in the vigils. But the most effective sharing takes place in small weekly meet-

ings of individuals and families, in "Cells," or "Prayer Groups."

The secret to success is to be as specific as possible. The Sacred Heart chose specific days: First Friday and First Saturday. The Apostolate of the Two Hearts recommends a specific hour by hour program for each of these days as well as for the all night vigil. (Several specific programs for vigils are given in the book *Night of Love*.)

Specific subjects can be chosen each month for the weekly meetings. For a group which began meeting at the beginning of the year, the Apostolate in Manila recommended as subjects of the weekly meetings: Prayer Life in January; Decision, Consecration, Scapular in February; Sacrifice, Penance, Mortification in March; the Spiritual Warfare in April; Era of Peace in May; the Two Hearts, Side by Side in June (when we celebrate the feasts of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart), etc.

"Holy" Hour

It is most important to cover the basics of Our Lady's message of holiness by which She brings the "little way" of St. Therese to all Her children.

We have summarized those basics and explained the forming of a Cell or Prayer Group.

It is much to be hoped that those who have the Grace to participate in these groups will realize their very great importance. It is advisable (and sometimes difficult) to avoid socializing in the sense of gossiping and talking about mundane matters. This is a holy weekly meeting. The hearts of those present want to be like the Hearts of the Holy Family. The "unseen" Family Members present are Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

Many books are available for study and discussion. It would be difficult to say which are most to

be recommended. One basic book is *Her Own Words* (the actual words of Our Lady, and of Lucia to whom She spoke).

And at least one point of catechism should be a regular part of each meeting. Apostolate headquarters in many different countries can recommend, and perhaps even supply, material relative to the specific subjects chosen each month.

Let us remember that *it is not only Our Lady but the Church, in the voice of the Council and of the Pope, calling us to this*. We have summarized above the exhortation of Pope John Paul II. We conclude with excerpts from the Documents of Vatican II.

Intensify Apostolic Activity

The more one reads the complete documents of Vatican II, the more one realizes how mightily the Holy Spirit moved in this extraordinary meeting of all the Bishops of the world to emphasize *the role of the laity in the vitality of the Church today*. This is summarized in the Introduction of The Special Decree on the Lay Apostolate:

“In its desire to intensify the apostolic activity of the People of God, the Council now earnestly turns its thoughts to the Christian laity. Mention has already been made in other documents of the laity’s special and indispensable role in the mission of the Church.

“Indeed, *the church can never be without the lay apostolate*; it is something that derives from the layman’s very vocation as a Christian. Scripture clearly shows how spontaneous and fruitful was this activity in the Church’s early days (cf. Acts 11:19-21; 18:26; Rom. 16:1-16; Phil. 4:3).

“No less fervent a zeal on the part of lay people is called for today: *present circumstances*, in fact, *demand* from them an apostolate infinitely broader

and more intense. For the constant increase in population, the progress in science and technology, the shrinking of the gaps that have kept men apart, have immensely enlarged the field of the lay apostolate, *a field that is in great part open to the laity alone*; they have in addition given rise to new problems which require from the laity an intelligent attention and examination.

“All the more *urgent* has this apostolate become, now that autonomy — as is only right — has been reached in numerous sectors of human life, sometimes with a certain relinquishing of moral and religious values, seriously jeopardizing the Christian life.

“Besides, in many regions where priests are very scarce or (as is sometimes the case) deprived of the freedom they need for their ministry, it is hard to see how the Church could make her presence and action felt without the help of the laity.

“The need for this urgent and many-sided apostolate is shown by the manifest action of the Holy Spirit moving laymen today to a deeper and deeper awareness of their responsibility and urging them on everywhere to the service of Christ and the Church.”

Foundation of the Lay Apostolate

“From the fact of their union with Christ the Head flows the laymen’s right and duty to be apostles. Inserted as they are in the Mystical Body of Christ by baptism and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, it is by the Lord himself that they are assigned to the apostolate.

“If they are consecrated a kingly priesthood and a holy nation (cf. 1 Pet. 2:4-10), it is in order that they may in all their actions offer spiritual sacrifices and bear witness to Christ all the world over.”

Mary: Model of Lay Apostles

“Perfect model of this apostolic spiritual life is the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Apostles. While on earth Her life was like that of any other, filled with labors and the cares of the home; always, however, She remained intimately united to Her Son and cooperated in an entirely unique way in the Saviour’s work. And now, assumed into heaven, ‘Her motherly love keeps Her attentive to Her Son’s brothers, still on pilgrimage amid the dangers and difficulties of life, until they arrive at the happiness of the fatherland.’ Everyone should have a genuine devotion to Her and entrust his life to Her motherly care.”

(References to the Lay Apostolate are to be found throughout the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The following quotations are from *Lumen Gentium*, the major Council document, Chapter 4.)

“Gathered together in the People of God and established in the one Body of Christ under one head, the laity — no matter who they are — have, as living members, the vocation of applying to the *building up of the Church and to its continual sanctification* all the powers which they have received from the goodness of the Creator and from the grace of the Redeemer.

“The apostolate of the laity is a sharing in the salvific mission of the Church. Through Baptism and Confirmation all are appointed to this apostolate by the Lord himself. Moreover, by the sacraments, and especially by the Eucharist, that love of God and man which is the soul of the apostolate is communicated and nourished.

“The laity, however, are given this special vocation to make the church present and fruitful in those

places and circumstances where it is only through them that she can become the salt of the earth. Thus, every lay person, through those gifts given to him, is at once the witness and the living instrument of the mission of the Church itself 'according to the measure of Christ's bestowal' (Eph. 4:7)."

(From paragraph 35:)

"As the sacraments of the New Law, which nourish the life and the apostolate of the faithful, prefigure the new heaven and the new earth (cf. Apoc. 21:1), so too the laity become powerful heralds of the faith in things to be hoped for (cf. Heb. 11:1) if they join unhesitating profession of faith to the life of faith. This evangelization, that is, the proclamation of Christ by word and the testimony of life, acquires a specific property and peculiar efficacy because it is accomplished in the ordinary circumstances of the world.

"The state of life that is sanctified by a special sacrament, namely, married and family life, has a special importance in this prophetic office."

(From paragraph 37:)

"Like all Christians, the laity should promptly accept in Christian obedience what is decided by the pastors who, as teachers and rulers of the Church, represent Christ.

"The pastors, indeed, should recognize and promote the dignity and responsibility of the laity in the Church. They should willingly use their prudent advice and confidently assign duties to them in the service of the Church, leaving them freedom and scope for acting. Indeed, they should give them the courage to undertake works on their own initiative."

They should with paternal love consider attentively in Christ initial moves, suggestions and desires proposed by the laity.⁷⁸ Moreover the pastors must respect and recognize the liberty which belongs to all in the terrestrial city.

“Many benefits for the Church are to be expected from this familiar relationship between the laity and the pastors.”

It is urgently important for all apostolate leaders to study the documents of Vatican II, and also those codes of Canon Law which specify the rights of the laity to form apostolic associations. Canon Law codifies what we read in the Council documents. When John Paul II solemnly presented the new code in the Hall of Benedictions of St. Peter’s Basilica on February 3, 1983, His Holiness used the words of St. Augustine:

“Tolle, lege!” Take and read!

In a sense the Code is a capsulation of the decrees of the Council and reflects centuries of development of the legal experience of the Church. It boldly clarifies the role of the laity in the Church today.

We conclude with the following passage from the Council’s Document on Missionary Activity:

“The Church is not truly established and does not fully live, nor is a perfect sign of Christ *unless there is a genuine laity* existing and *working alongside* the hierarchy.

“The Gospel cannot become deeply rooted in the mentality, life and work of a people without the active presence of lay people. Therefore, from the foundation of a church very special care must be taken to form a mature Christian laity.

“Ministers of the Church should greatly value this arduous apostolate of the laity. They should so train them as members of Christ that they would become conscious of their responsibility for all men. They should instruct them deeply in the mystery of Christ, teach them practical techniques, and help them in their difficulties, all according to the spirit of the Constitution on the Church and the Decree on the Lay Apostolate.”

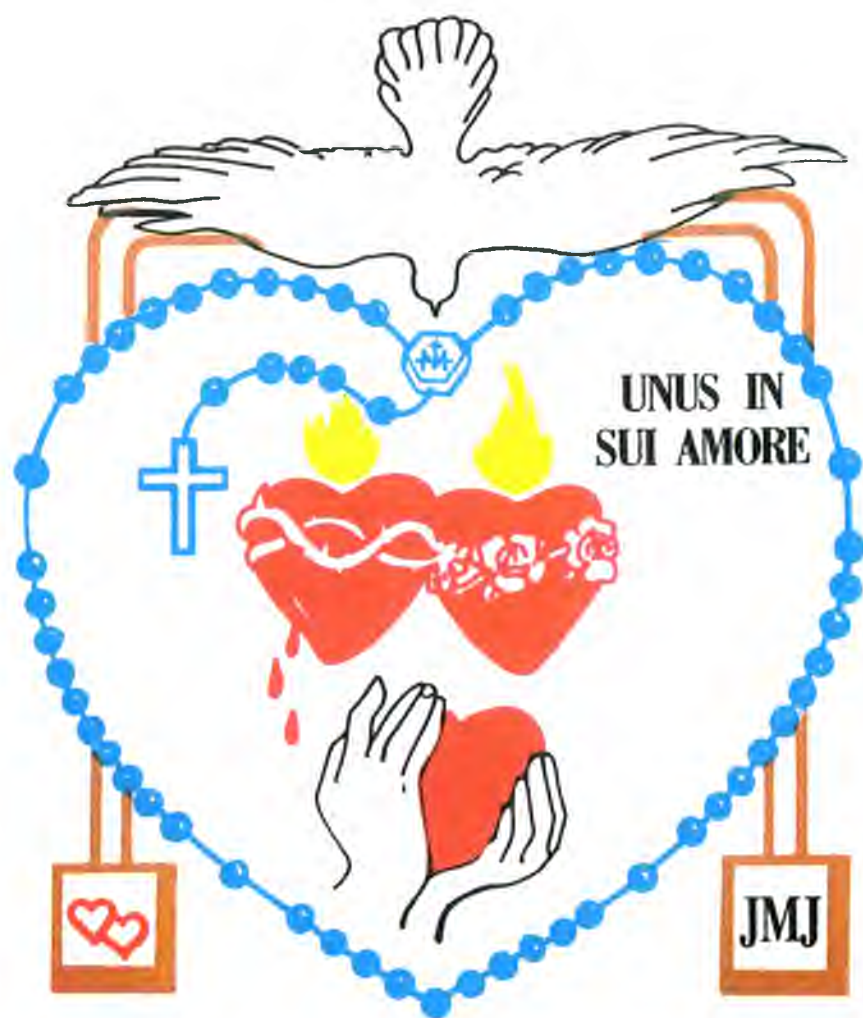
(Note: Much of this chapter is an excerpt from the author's book *You, Too, Go Into the Vineyard.*)

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⁷⁷ *Documentos*, p. 341.

⁷⁸ *Christifideles Laici*, Par. 29, Vatican translation into English available from the Daughters of St. Paul, 181 pages.





Chapter V.

INTERNATIONAL APOSTOLATE FOR COMMUNIONS OF REPARATION

There already exists a World Apostolate of Fatima. It is established in over a hundred countries. Alongside the Legion of Mary (which has a different purpose and structure) it is perhaps the major Marian apostolate of our time.

Many other apostolates are developing as Pope John Paul II remarks in *Christifideles Laici*. Some are inspired by local messages and apparitions pending Church approval. Some are inspired by a desire for a more militant response where the existing apostolate may not seem sufficiently effective.

Following the Youth Congress in Moscow and the International Marian Convention in Akita in October-November, 1992, the Manila based "Alliance of the Holy Family" proposed establishment of media centers in various parts of the world to make materials and information on the Communion of Reparation available to ALL apostolates.

The Alliance

The term "Alliance of the Two Hearts" originated with Pope John Paul II and became the subject of a meeting of select theologians at Fatima under the Presidency of Cardinal Sin of Manila, who sponsored the event.

These eminent scholars, selected from all over the world, met in strict privacy so that they could freely voice objections. Their final confidential report to the Holy Father gave the theological basis (from scripture and the magisterium over the centuries)

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for placing devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary alongside devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Holy Father expressed his satisfaction in a special letter to the Cardinal and theologians (whose selection has been supervised by the Pope's own theologian, Cardinal Ciappi).

Subsequently the apostolate in Manila chose to be known as the "Alliance of the Holy Family" to emphasize the placing of our own hearts into the Alliance of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary in imitation of St. Joseph. They said:

"As head of the Holy Family, St. Joseph is a model whose heart was the first to enter into the alliance of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary; in a broader context the Alliance of the Holy Family is the domestic church."

Communion of Reparation

The primary goal of this apostolate is to make first Friday and first Saturday "family days" through family communions of reparation as requested by Our Lord and His dear Mother. They see this as the final key to the triumph of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary in the world.

"It is our hope," said the Most Rev. Leo Drona, President of the Family Commission of the Episcopal Conference of the Philippines, "to gain widespread support to help our Holy Father implement the request of Our Lord for the Communion of Reparation, placing devotion to the Immaculate Heart of His Mother alongside devotion to His Own Sacred Heart in these Communion of reparation."

Through various conferences (such as those in Fatima, Moscow, Akita, Manila, etc.) a consensus has been reached on how to have a single focus, with carefully prepared and Church-approved materials

available from information centers throughout the world.

Single Focus

“We want to serve the various apostolates in promoting the Communions of reparation without interfering in any way with their individual charisms,” said Father Edgardo Arellano, director of the Manila center.

Some of these aids include audio and television tapes, books and booklets, a sophisticated computer program, special logo, posters, etc.

“We see the time element as critical,” said Father Arellano. “The Communions of reparation were announced at Fatima in 1917 and specifically requested in 1927, followed by repeated messages to Sister Lucia, especially in 1939 when Jesus said that He insisted on this program. He spoke of a terrible punishment which would destroy many nations if His request is ignored. We can ignore it no longer.”

Information on available materials and where they may be obtained can be had through the 101 Foundation (Asbury, NJ 08802).

Conclusion

Some may say: “How can I be sure that there will be a chastisement if I do not respond, and how can I be sure that the response specified in this book is exactly what is needed?”

The answer to both questions is clear in the apparitions of Akita and Fatima, both recognized by the church as truly from God. Moreover they are being confirmed by ever increasing supernatural manifestations all over the world. *We are at the threshold of the triumph of the Hearts of Jesus and*

Mary, and the message of their Hearts is being repeated over and over.

We could add chapter after chapter to this book just in quoting from the many apparitions being reported throughout the world. Several centers have developed for the propagation of these messages. And one might ask why there are so many, all substantially the same.

One reason is obvious: This is the time of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary... a time of mercy.

Another reason is obvious: the condition of the world merits another deluge and in Their Love, the Hearts of Jesus and Mary want to change the world by love rather than by a widespread annihilation.

The world has not recognized the importance of Fatima. Evil seems to multiply as though God had never performed the great miracle of Fatima, "*So that all may believe*" that if enough persons do not respond, "*Several entire nations will be annihilated!*" Rather than letting the world continue to ignore this reality, the Hearts of Jesus and Mary call us urgently, insistently.

To prevent this, let us respond now! They ask so little, and in return promise salvation and an era of peace!

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Chapter VI.

TO PREVENT THIS: FIVE REASONS WHY

WHY so much emphasis on the HEARTS of Jesus and Mary?

Some obvious reasons come to mind:

1) LOVE is symbolized by the heart. And in these last days we are called to enter into the very mystery of GOD WHO IS LOVE. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary reveal that Love to us and draw us into it.

2) Wars are caused by sin. One of the greatest sins is hate for one's neighbor which erupts in war. The ultimate antidote to war is an end to racial hatred of which the heart is the symbol. No matter what the color of a man's skin, *all hearts are the color of love*. The union of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary shows how far that love can go. It can bring about Heaven on earth. That is why Our Lady, in promising the triumph of Her Heart could promise "an era of peace for MANKIND."

3) The INCARNATION is the world's greatest reason for existing. It means *everything* to mankind. "God SO LOVED THE WORLD"... that "the WORD BECAME FLESH." This ineffable truth is personalized in the HEARTS of Jesus and Mary. From Her Heart God formed a Heart *at once human and divine*. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary express the INCARNATION of God.

4) UNION WITH GOD in REAL prayer is symbolized by the Sacred Hearts. Instead of just

speaking, They beat together. Their “communication” is unification. It is love responding to love. We are all called to this basic prayer and all the words we say in prayer are almost worthless if they are not touched by it.

Fifth Reason Found by Saints

In addition to the above obvious reason for emphasis on the HEARTS of Jesus and Mary in our time there is another more subtle reason which seems to embrace them all. It was ultimately expressed by St. John Eudes (who introduced into the Church the Feasts of the Sacred Heart and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary).

A current fine theologian, Fr. Arthur Calkins, traces it to Cardinal Berulle, spiritual father of Ven. Jean-Jacques Olier, St. Louis de Montfort, St. John Baptist de la Salle, and St. John Eudes. (See SOUL, Jan. 1993, p. 13)

For these saints the key word to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary is MYSTERIES.

All the events in the life of Our Lord have passed. They took place moment by moment, day by day, two thousand years ago.

But the Hearts of Jesus and Mary HAVE NOT PASSED. They are living, beating, real Hearts... and ALL THOSE MYSTERIES, of each moment, of each day, of each year are in those Hearts NOW. And we can enter into those mysteries. We can *make them alive in us.*

“St. John Eudes saw the Heart of Jesus *in the heart of Mary,*” says Fr. Calkins, “and *living in it.*” Our Lady was not only the tabernacle of the Lord at the moment of the Incarnation. The MYSTERY remains. He cites these words of the Saint:

“Do you forget that not only does Jesus reside and dwell perpetually in Mary’s heart, but that He is in

truth the Heart of Her Heart and the soul of Her soul; and that therefore coming to the Heart of Mary means to honor Jesus, and to invoke Her Heart is to invoke Jesus?"

On another occasion St. John Eudes wrote:

"Although the Heart of Jesus is distinct from that of Mary, and infinitely surpasses it in excellence and holiness, nevertheless *God has so closely united these Two Hearts* that we may say with truth that *they are but one* because they have always been animated with the same spirit and filled with the same sentiments and affections... O Jesus, living in the Heart of Mary! be the life of my heart. Mary, Mother of Jesus, obtain by your intercession, I beseech you, that I may have but one heart with your Beloved Son and you."

Like St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane Frances de Chantal, St. John Eudes addressed the Hearts of Jesus and Mary as ONE Heart: "Hail, Most Holy Heart" (*Ave Cor Sanctissimum*).

Pope John Paul II, who introduced the expression "Alliance of the Two Hearts," seemed to summarize it all when he said (Sept. 22, 1986):

"By dedicating ourselves to the Heart of Mary we discover a sure way to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, symbol of the merciful love of our Savior."

Enter Into the Mysteries!

We can now see why the Scapular and Rosary are so important and why the Hearts of Jesus and Mary want the First Saturday devotion in which Our Lady invites us to: "Keep me company for fifteen minutes contemplating THE MYSTERIES of the Rosary."

This is far more than symbolism. This is far more than just a revelation of God as LOVE. This is far more even than the expression of the Incarnation. This is an invitation to *enter into* the MYSTERIES

and, as Father Calkins says, “reproduce them in ourselves.”

We said that this “fifth reason” was more subtle, perhaps a little more difficult to grasp. It was perhaps best demonstrated in the apparitions of Our Lady in Pontmain, in 1876.

Our Lady appeared wearing a small scapular which was blank on front. She invited Estelle to come and kiss it. When the privileged soul did so, the SACRED HEART appeared on the Scapular as a living, pulsing REAL Heart. At the moment of the kiss, Estelle was aware of the Heart of Mary BEATING BENEATH IT AND ONE WITH IT and (this is most important) *she realized that Our Lady was inviting her to be one with the Heart of Jesus as She was one with Him.* (This is explained in more detail in the book *Her Glorious Title.*)

A new motto for our age (which St. Grignon calls “these last times”) was revealed at the Youth Congress in Moscow in October, 1992: *Unus in Sui Amore*, One in His, Her, Their Love.

It means not only oneness among men, but oneness with God.

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***"THE ERA OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
IS THE ERA OF PEACE
ACHIEVED BY CELEBRATING
THE ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS
THROUGH THE COMMUNION
OF REPARATION"***

