

IPVS NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

FACTS and FIGURES

The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue Foundation continues to carry out the mission requested by Our Lady of Fatima in 1917 to the three children, not merely bringing this historic statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the whole world, but more importantly, to bring the message Our Blessed Mother has given to all nations.

As I look back at the last 15 years when I was gifted to continue the scheduling of Our Lady's Image, it is astounding to review the number of materials used and the number of people this apostolate has touched and affected, especially with gratitude. (In 2003 over **4 million people** in India came to venerate the IPVS.) With the hard work of the IPVS Foundation and its custodians, the booklet "Our Lady of Fatima....Our Mother Comes To Us", prepared by our founder Mr. John Haffert for free distribution wherever the IPVS visits,

comes to **4 million copies**, printed in English, Spanish, and French and also printed in the language of other countries the IPVS has visited. We have distributed over **900,000 small and large pictures**; a few that have become miraculous. While on tour, approximately **22,730 copies** of HER OWN WORDS (Sr. Lucia's Memoirs) and DEADLINE: THE THIRD SECRET were distributed.

When we consider the number of **scapulars** that have been distributed, most of them freely, the number is unbelievable - **1.3 million**. All of the thousands of Pledges people have returned to keep the Basic Fatima Pledge, and the separate Pledge promising to make the Five First Saturdays, have been sent to Fatima to be buried at the Apparition site.

After many requests for updates on the travels of the statue, in May, 2008 the first IPVS

Newsletter was created. From the countless responses received for additional copies, the IPVS Newsletter has been very inspirational and educational in helping people to better understand the Fatima Message.

As a fitting 2000th Birthday Present for Jesus during the Great Jubilee, the faithful were asked to honor Him by fulfilling a simple request made many times this century consecrating themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The primary purpose of the Queen of the World Centre in Fatima, Portugal, is to fulfill the requests of Our Lady of Fatima for our Consecration to Her. As a visible symbol of this consecration to the Immaculate Heart, the statue received the names of the faithful, who signed their names with the intention of making an Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and fulfill the other simple requests She gave at Fatima. Many masses and prayers are offered for the intentions of those whose names were placed in Mary's Heart. The IPVS



Photo: www.pilgrimvirginstatue.com/gallery.html

Foundation obtained **the largest amount of signatures - over 4 million** that were placed in Our Lady's heart.

Just recently, a woman from Hawaii called. She had been searching for information she could give out to bring souls to Our Lady. Someone gave her a copy of our booklet... "Our Lady of Fatima...Our Mother Comes To Us." She ordered 500 copies and scapulars. An 80 year old man in Texas, almost every two weeks, ordering 200 booklets, 200 scapulars & 200 pictures. He puts packets together and distributes them wherever he goes—even at dances that he told me. Another man from Chicago orders 900 each time. Thus far he has given away **14,400 booklets**. A number of churches have requested 900 booklets each, as well as several Knights of Columbus groups distributing the booklets to children..Most people order 100 booklets and call for repeat orders.



THE CHARISMA OF THE PILGRIM VIRGIN

The IPVS statue is carved from a piece of mahogany wood so in itself it is not miraculous. However, it has been one of the most efficient visual aid for catechizing and inspiring the faithful. Miracles happen surrounding the visit of this Image because the people are given an occasion to open their heart in prayer. God performs miracles and showers graces to those who are disposed to receive them. Miracles are for those who God has chosen. There are miracles because there is a God who makes them, not because there is a magnificent work of art in this Image. In effect, the virtue of the blessing of the bishop of Fatima and Pope Pius XII, it becomes for us "visual catechism". It now teaches us our faith, to convert and pray a great deal for sinners including ourselves. With that special blessing, by God's will, Mary accompanies the statue wherever it goes. Our Lady once again has taken the role of an anxious mother to catechize Her children. Then, with the IPVS visit, through Her intercession, supernatural things begin to happen in the same way She did at the wedding feast in Cana. There are miracles for those who believe and certain miracles occur so that people may believe.

You look at the statue; there are no words. But there is an experience of Her presence. It is as though looking into the eyes of your mother. Her glance seems mixed with sadness and concern. She is an anxious mother who comes...to use the very words of the letter of Pope John Paul II: "Beneath Her maternal mantle, which extends from Fatima over the whole world, humanity senses anew it's longing for the Father's house and for His Bread (cf. Lk. 15:17)." An official documentarian of Fatima said: "Never in the history of the Church have charismas descended in such abundance on the people of God as through the Pilgrim Virgin." - Rev. Dr. Joaquim Alonso

Physical cures attributed to the presence of the Statue have been documented many times. The changes in expression and coloration, and even the pose of the statue have been reported innumerable times. But, the important miracles are the spiritual cures and gifts Our Lady bestows. The sudden conversion of a stubborn heretic is a good example. The spiritual miracles are infinitely more valuable than the things we can see, touch or measure.



Our Lady is welcomed in Ontario Diocese in Canada.



Grand procession with the Knights of Columbus in full regalia. More than thirty members of the K of C served as honor guards in Fremont, CA.



Prayer Warriors. Our Lady of Peace Shrine at the heart of Silicon Valley in San Francisco Bay Area in California.



Cloistered Sisters of Poor Clare of the Immaculate Heart in Palo Alto, CA. They requested not to show their faces but their hearts showed their love for Mary.

Mary's Role as Queen Mother



Let us take a look at the role of Mary as the Mother of Christ Our Lord and King. As any queen who sits right next to her son, Mary whispers to Jesus as a counselor. She is acting as our counselor in Fatima when She asked us to stop offending God, to pray the rosary, wear the scapular, and sanctify our daily duties.

When Mary gives advice, She does so as the most perfect disciple of Jesus. No one can match the faithfulness of the teaching of Her Son, that is why Her words had such a profound effect on the people. because She is doing God's will.

Mary as Intercessor. She prays for us and with us to Her Son. She advises Her Son that graces should be poured out. Praying in agreement - Mary's intercession is so powerful because She only desires what God wishes.

After the Finding in the Temple, Saint Luke adds that Jesus was obedient to His parents. But never was it revealed in any of the gospels that He took it back, that obedience. He made Himself subject to Them. He freely submitted Himself to be obedient to Mary and Joseph. He was obedient to God's fourth commandment:

to honor thy father and thy mother. Honoring Joseph and Mary as His earthly father and mother.

Some define "relative omnipotence" as to mean you have an "omnipotent relative". While Jesus is absolutely omnipotent. Joseph and Mary are relative omnipotent because Jesus is Their Son. So we refer to them as heavenly intercessions. Mary will not ask something that is against the will of Her Son. When we ask something that is good we can be in agreement with Them. For this reason we can be confident with the Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart because it is always in union with His Most Sacred Heart.

Reparation of Mary means She fixes our souls that are broken. To make anything worthy of presenting to the King. Mary takes our poor good works so that it may be worthy. This is Mary's reparation to Her beloved Son. She fixes our sinful hearts before She presents them to the King.

If we submit ourselves to Jesus as Our Lord, we inevitably accept Mary as Our queen. Behold your Son, behold your Mother. He gave

His mother to be our mother, His queen to be our queen. One reason we have to do this is because of the battle we are in today in our life. Jesus has won for us this battle in his Paschal Mystery. *The war is over. Death is over.* But the fighting continues one by one, individually. This is where Mary helps us, in this battle of ours.

What Mary as Queen asks us now is to fight on the front lines against the devil. We can do that by offering the duties of our daily life. To pray for the conversion of sinners, starting with us. Pray the rosary everyday. Wear the scapular because we need to be protected by going into battle against the devil and the fallen angels, and an equally important battle against our pride and selfishness.

So, we need Mary's mantle of protection. Because She is at Jesus' side. From the moment She conceived Him. She educated Him as a child and stood by Him as He assumed His responsibilities, until He was raised on the Cross.

We are engaged in this battle. This is one of our extraordinary tasks as apostles of Our Lady. Mary is pleading to us in Fatima that we may be in agreement with Her. Not us asking Mary to be in agreement with our desires. So She makes perfect our little ways and efforts through Her intercession.

Editor's Note: This article is based on the talk by Rev. David Poulson, Spiritual Director of the World Apostolate of Fatima in the Diocese of Erie, PA during the Marian Conference with the IPVS (August 2012).

NOW! By John M. Haffert

At the climax of Crossing the Threshold of Hope, Blessed Pope John Paul II said **"It seems as we approach the millennium that the words of Our Lady of Fatima are nearing their fulfillment."**

Now, as St. John Bosco saw, we are reaching the pillars of victory. Words and actions of the Conquering Queen, from the dawn of the atheist revolution, have kept pace with the explosion of evil up to the great miracle of Fatima which confirmed Her ultimate triumph.

The Soviet Union has been dissolved. The messages of Our Lady of All Nations have been approved. Also approved (1984) have been Her appearances under this title in Akita, Japan, in which She confirmed that a chastisement **"worse than the deluge"** hung over the world which so far She had been able to prevent.

That is now.

Prophecy of St. Catherine

The "Promised Woman," as Mother Angelica of EWTN has loved to call Her, is well on the way to Her Victory. St. Catherine Labouré, to whom Our Lady appeared as Queen of the World in Paris in 1830, made an amazing prophecy which has now come true:

"O how wonderful it will be to hear Mary as Queen of the World!.. it will be a time of peace, joy, and prosperity that will last long."

The Victory is Near!

Several explicit prophecies confirm the imminent triumph, now of the Queen of the World who appeared to St. Catherine in Paris at the beginning of these times with Her foot crushing the serpent's head.

Most important is the prophecy She Herself made at Fatima:

"Finally my Immaculate Heart will triumph. Russia will be converted and an era of peace will be granted to mankind."

By the conversion of Russia we know Our Lady meant "the end of religious persecution in that country." And this happened in 1990.

In Amsterdam, messages approved in 1996 bring us up to now. She said the triumph would begin when the Pope proclaimed as the fifth dogma Her role as co-redemptrix, mediatrix and advocate. And among the saints who have prophesied what we witness now are St. Grignon de Montfort, St. John Bosco, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and St. Catherine Labouré.

"The tears of Our Lady inspire the whole world with a true spirit of penance and more fervent devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary,"

Our Lady's Tears

To St. Catherine, at the dawn of this age of atheism, She appeared with tears in Her eyes.

Now they are overflowing.
Why is She crying?

At the very time Blessed Pope John Paul II fell and broke his hip in May, 1994, His Holiness had scheduled a visit to Syracuse, Sicily, to a Shrine holding an image of the Immaculate Heart of Mary which wept.

His first thought as he was taken to the hospital in great pain was of the Shrine of Our Lady's tears. He said: "The tears of Our Lady inspire the whole world with a true spirit of penance and more fervent devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary," the heart of a Mother concerned for Her

children now almost overwhelmed in a tidal wave of evil in the world.

Repeating Her Fatima message over and over the Conquering Queen tells us now to pray for a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit over the earth to ALL peoples. She says the chastisement is "at hand," but so far She has been able to prevent it. Indeed She came at Fatima "to prevent this." And now, not as the gentle Mother Mary but as a commanding and powerful Queen She comes for our response NOW.

Our Lady no longer hides in the silence in which Scripture enfolds Her. Now She comes in Her role as the Promised Woman crushing the head of the serpent. Now She is God's new Esther, powerful and victorious Queen saving Her people from annihilation. She says in Her recently approved messages (Our Lady of All Nations) in Amsterdam:

"All must work assiduously to bring back to the Cross (the center of man's life) those who have strayed from it. Priests are too few, but lay people are many. Organize a great movement amongst the laity to recall men to the Cross."

"This is our time.... I want to be the Lady of All Nations.... People of all nations will yet be one."

It is impressive to note that several times in these apparitions Our Lady said: "This is our time."

Again saying, "This is our time", Our Lady added: "All Christians NOW are responsible for posterity."

*I belong to you entirely
And all that I possess is yours.
I take you into everything that is mine.
Give me your heart, Mary.*

The Wonder of the Fatima Pledge

Being a practical mother, Our Lady placed the primary condition of avoiding sin in a positive form. She requests the sanctification of our daily duties. She asks us to offer them up, in reparation for our sins and those of the world. This is done quite simply by making the Morning Offering and extending it through the day with the two aids She offers: The Rosary and the Scapular.

She had already been encouraging us along this simple path of holiness for almost seven hundred years through the Sabbatine Privilege. Now, She tells us at Fatima that this is not only a path to our personal holiness but also a path to the triumph of Her Immaculate Heart in the entire world. She invites us to enter into the light of Her Immaculate Heart which prevents the flaming sword of the Angel of God's Justice from striking the world with fire. She invites us to join the special cohort of saints, the power of whose prayer, in union with Her Heart, will turn back the wave of evil.

These three simple conditions offer us the assurance that we shall be saints before we die. Indeed, how else could we be freed from Purgatory by the first Saturday after death if we had not by then become holy? St. Alphonsus, Doctor of the Church, went so far as to say that if we do a little more than what is required for the Sabbatine Privilege, "may we not hope that we will not go to Purgatory AT ALL?" And forty years after the death of the saint, his brown Scapular was found perfectly preserved midst the corruption of all else corruptible in his tomb. We recall again that Pere Lamy, who saw the coming triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, said: "As for Our Lady, Her kindness gets Her everywhere... A soul that is falling into Hell and calls on Her is helped. The Blessed Virgin said again to me one day that those who have fulfilled the conditions of Her Sabbatine Privilege will be drawn out of Purgatory by Her on the first Saturday after death."

She comes to Fatima to offer us a simple path to holiness. The goal of every Christian life is to be holy, to be like Christ. Mary, being the first Christian, we imitate her virtues: the



attitude of the Immaculate Heart, pure and lowly!

That we may be holy.

That we may be united and in communion with God.

That we may not be separated from God.

Because of the "Yes" of this one obedient, beautiful, faithful woman, we are redeemed.

Mary at Fatima reiterates Her "Yes" to God and inviting us to do the same.

Because of Mary, we are not alone. If we think about it, ours was an easier task than Mary: because Mary did not have Mary as a model. Because of Her "Yes", God could become man. With Her consent to God's will, the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

MY CHILD

My child, open your heart
Don't be afraid of my love
I long to be your friend
Someone to heal all your pains
I know your heart
Your soul, your life
I know how much you hurt inside

So my child,
I am here to share my love,
I am here to bring you hope,
I am here to heal your broken heart

My Child, I gave my all
As a ransom for your sins
Your life is dear to me
I'd do it all again that you'll believe
Look at me
My hands, my feet
I've paid it all that you may live

Oh, my child,
If only you can see the truth
That I'm the living bread for you
With open arms, my child, I'll wait for you

My Child, don't be afraid
Come to me, Trust in me
I'm always by your side
Watching you, and loving you
Be filled with love
Repent and trust
My Sacred Heart will be your guide

Now, my child
Take my heart and you will see
Take my hand and you'll be free
Take your cross, now come, and follow me.
Stay by me, my child, eternally.

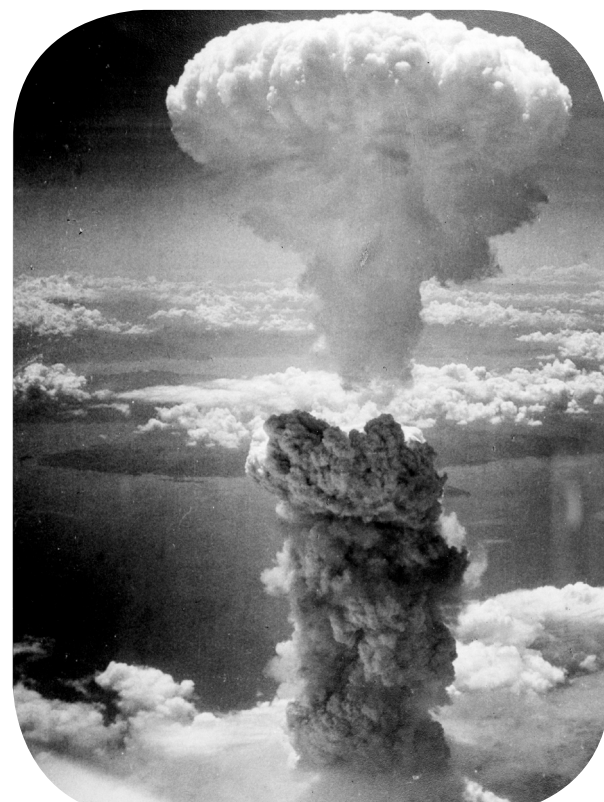
*A poem by Sr. Mary Katherine, DCJ
A carmelite nun of the Divine Heart of Jesus,
a friend and coordinator for IPVS Foundation.*

Rosary Miracle at Hiroshima – August 6th, 1945

There are many miracles attributed to the daily praying of the rosary as a devotion to Our Lady. One of them is the story of the eight Jesuits who survived the nuclear blast in Hiroshima:

There was a home eight blocks (about 1 kilometer) from where the A-Bomb went off in Hiroshima Japan. This home had a church attached to it which was completely destroyed, but the home survived, and so did the eight German Jesuit missionaries who prayed the rosary in that house faithfully every day. These men were missionaries to the Japanese people, they were non-military, but because Germany and Japan were allies during WWII they were permitted to live and minister within Japan during the war. Not only did they all survive with (at most) relatively minor injuries, but they all lived well past that awful day with no radiation sickness, no loss of hearing, or any other visible long term defects or maladies. Naturally, they were interviewed numerous times (Fr. Schiffer, a survivor, said over 200 times) by scientists and health care people about their remarkable experience and they say “we believe that we survived because we were living the message of Fatima. We lived and prayed the rosary daily in that home.” Of course the secular scientists are speechless and incredulous at this explanation – and they are sure there is some “real” explanation – but at the same time over 55 years later the scientists are still absolutely bamboozled when it comes to finding a plausible scenario to explain the missionary’s unique escape from the hellish power of that bomb.

It appears the Jesuits (at one kilometer from the geometric epicenter) had greater than 90% probability of being outside the atomic bomb’s “plasma” since it was an airburst but they were on the “hairy edge”. Depending on



the actual height of detonation, the Jesuits must have had the edge of the fireball literally outside their window. Assuming they were just outside of the plasma, their residence should still have been utterly destroyed (temp. 2000 F and airblast pressures - 100 psi (pounds per square inch). In contrast, unreinforced masonry or brick walls (representative of commercial construction) are destroyed at 3 psi, which will also cause ear damage and burst windows. At ten psi, a human will experience severe lung and heart damage, burst eardrums and at 20 psi your limbs can be blown off. Your head will be blown off by 40 psi and no residential or unreinforced commercial construction would be left standing. At 80 psi even reinforced concrete is heavily damaged and no human would be alive because your skull would be crushed. All the cotton clothes would be on fire at 350 F (probably at 275F) and your lungs would be inoperative within a minute breathing air (even for a few seconds) at these temperatures.

There are no physical laws to explain why the Jesuits were untouched in the Hiroshima air blast. There is no other actual or test data where a structure such as this was not totally destroyed at this standoff distance by an atomic weapon. All who were at this range from the epicenter should have received enough radiation to be dead within at most a matter of minutes if nothing else happened to them. There is no known way to design a uranium-235 atomic bomb, which could leave such a large discrete area intact while destroying everything around it immediately outside the fireball (by shaping the plasma).

From a scientific viewpoint, what happened to those Jesuits at Hiroshima still defies all human logic from the laws of physics as understood today (or at any time in the future). It must be concluded that some other (external) force was present whose power and/or capability to transform energy and matter as it relates to humans is beyond current comprehension. From the standpoint of the current universal “string” theory in physics (relating atomic scale effects to macroscopic world) it suggests that the physical “strings” (i.e., bodies) of the Jesuits and the “energy strings” representing the house’s physical matter) were either transformed at the moment of the blast into an opposing energy field (to cancel the weapon effects and then transformed back on a time scale totally imperceptible to humans) or an enormous external force field was present which precisely cancelled the weapon’s effects over the totally irregular geometry of the residential house including protecting the occupants. Either way it is a plausibility argument for the existence of a Creator who left his “calling card” at Hiroshima.

(Source: Holy Souls)

THE MESSAGE OF FATIMA IN OUR LADY’S OWN WORDS

(From John Haffert’s last book “To Shake the World”)

THE FIRST APPARITION OF THE ANGEL

In the Spring of 1916, a year before the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima, God sent an angel three times to prepare the three children to whom Our Lady would soon appear. The children were Sister Lucia (who passed away in 2005) and her cousins, Blessed Francisco and Jacinta.

The angel in the first apparition said: “Do not be afraid. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me.” Prostrating himself on the ground the angel prayed three times: “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.”

Then the angel rose and said: “Pray in this way. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to your supplications.” The children were speechless with awe. The words of the angel’s prayer were imbedded in their memories.

THE MEANING

“Angel” means messenger. God sent His angel before the appearance of the Queen of the World at Fatima to deliver the message that Our Lady Herself would afterwards affirm with a warning, a promise, and a great miracle.

In this first apparition, the Angel does not identify himself by his name, but by his mission. He is the “Angel of Peace.” Peace for mankind is the promise



message of the Angel of Peace continues to be ignored, the Angel of Justice stands ready to cast fire upon the earth.

The Sacred Hearts

The Angel of Peace concluded his message with reference to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. He said these Sacred Hearts eagerly await the prayer of reparation for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not trust, and do not love God.

Why did the Angel say that the Hearts of Jesus and Mary await this prayer? Should he not have said that God awaits it? In His Mercy (as Our Lady of Fatima would reveal in due time) God has entrusted the peace of the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, one with the Sacred Heart of Her Son.

We deserve God’s Justice more than did Noah’s generation in the Old Testament. But after the time of Noah, two Hearts redeemed us on Calvary: the Heart of Jesus pierced by a lance, and the Heart of Mary pierced by sorrow. These are times of God’s Love manifested through those Two Hearts.

The angel speaks of the Heart of Mary in close relationship to the Heart of Jesus. These two Sacred Hearts together restored man to God’s grace, which the two hearts of Adam and Eve together had lost for us.

(Next Issue of IPVS Newsletter: “The Second Apparition of the Angel”)

of Fatima. Appearing a year later, Our Lady said that if the world responds to Her Fatima message, “An era of peace will be granted to mankind.” Sister Lucia has said that all the wars of the past century, after the Fatima apparitions, could have been avoided if the world had responded.

“PRAY WITH ME”

The Angel of Peace invites us to pray with him. When we pray for the reign of God in the world, all the angels and saints are joined with us in that prayer. He asks us to pray in reparation for all who deny God, and to believe, to adore, to trust, and to love Him. It is a message not just for Catholic. It is a basic message delivered by God’s Angel of Peace to all the people of the earth. The last part of the Fatima message (the Third Secret), made public on June 26, 2000, reveals that if the

To find out how you may host the Pilgrim Virgin Statue please contact:

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For correspondence or to make a donation toward the Travels of Our Lady's Image, please use the above address.

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Please consider a gift to the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue Foundation, Inc. in your Will and Estate Planning toward the travels of Our Lady's Image.

NOTE: We receive many requests for Our Lady of Fatima statues which we do not keep on hand. You may contact the National Centre for St. Padre Pio in Barto, PA. They purchase Pilgrim Virgin statues from Fatima, Portugal and touch them to the blood and glove of St. Padre Pio. <http://padrepio.org> or call Vera at 610-845-3000

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We acknowledge each and every donation received for the travels of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue. Many donations are also received anonymously. To each and every one, we thank you most kindly for your sacrifices and ask Our Lord and Our Lady to bless you immensely.
(All donations are tax deductible.)

IPVS TOUR CALENDAR

January	Santa Rosa, CA
February	Sacramento, CA
March	Florida (Pending)
April	Canada (Pending)
May	New Jersey (Pending)
June	
August	Australia (Pending)
September	Cleveland, OH
October	Detroit (Pending)
November	Pennsylvania (Pending)