

# IPVS NEWS

6th Issue

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

## TRAVELS OF OUR LADY

“How does this beautiful statue of Our Lady travel across the globe?” This is one of the many questions we often hear from people everywhere. The answer: with all reverence and honor worthy for a Queen Mother!

Well, it is simple yet so intriguing for some when we put Her in one of the seats of the airplane. Of course, we buy Her a ticket; economy class. Interestingly, in some Catholic countries like the Philippines and Haiti, they have put us in the business class when they realize ‘who’ we are traveling with. The crown comes off, the royal garment (the cape) is carefully folded then put away, and what is left is this 63-year old, 42 inch solid mahogany wood, inside a soft-padded bag. Yes, we put on the seatbelt for safety as well. The same strategy is employed for land travel, particularly in our “Fatima One” vehicle.

This is no ordinary statue. This is the visual representation of the Blessed Mother of God who appeared at Fatima in 1917. Hand-carved according to Sister Lucia’s description, sent and commissioned by the bishop of Fatima to be the “pilgrim”; blessed by Pope Pius XII while referring to it as “the Messenger of Queen Mary’s

royalty”; venerated by more than 100 million people from all over the world; spreading the message of conversion, prayer and penance (the peace Plan from Heaven) which is so urgent and important. The photo below testifies to 12,500 devotees in the heart of Los Angeles at the Convention Center last August of 2010. There we processed the statue like no other because She is indeed the Bride of the Holy Spirit.

We have seen 150,000 in one crowd alone in the Latin Archdiocese of Cochin, India. We had a share of the crowd of 5 mil-

lion who cheered for John Paul II during 1995 World Youth Day in Manila when he was on a helicopter ride to see the huge crowd for himself. Ours was the same ride in 2002 over Manila as per the request of the President of the Republic to the Palace, then on to different dioceses. ■



Mr. Carl Malburg with Our Lady in one of their flights crossing the Pacific Ocean.



Grand Procession: Los Angeles Convention Center, August 2010



## THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

### OUR MOTHER

ONE of the last words of Jesus, before giving up His Soul on the Cross, was spoken to St. John: "Son, behold thy mother," and turning to His Blessed Mother He said: "Behold thy son," and here She was charged with our care. She became OUR MOTHER.

How great indeed must the HEART OF MARY be, that Jesus did not think it too small for so many children – and it was the HEART that suffered so many sacrifices - even the greatest of all sacrifices, the sacrifice of Her only SON for the happiness of all mankind. That is the same HEART that is so full and so great to sufficiently give maternal care to all the children of our first parents.

And after the death of Our Saviour, we find His Blessed Mother - Our Mother, surrounded by His Apostles and Disciples. She was the one who consoled them, and exhorted them to carry on with confidence the great mission entrusted to them by Her Divine Son. She was always ready and willing to give of Her counsel and help to strengthen them in the fulfillment of their sublime office as Preachers of the Gospel.

### MEDIATRIX

After Her holy death She was assumed body and soul into Heaven, where She is Queen. Her Immaculate and motherly HEART

is full of love and mercy for us. Sitting beside Her Divine Son She pleads our cause before the Throne of God, exerting all Her energy for the interests of Her earthly children.

We must, therefore, pay honor to the Immaculate Heart of our Heavenly Mother with all the love and reverence which we possess; that HEART of the Mother of Je-



sus, gifted with so many graces and privileges, both natural and supernatural; that HEART of Mary which ardently longs to be honored by us, so that those heavenly graces and blessings will flow to us.

The great love and care that the Immaculate Heart of Mary has for all of us, was shown in the fullest sense of the word, by Her Apparitions at Fatima. Six times did She

deign to appear at Fatima to the three shepherd children - Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco - to convey to them Her great concern for the spiritual welfare of mankind. So IMPORTANT did She consider the MESSAGE, that She delivered it Herself PERSONALLY. In other works you will find the historical recounting of Our Lady of Fatima, and Her MESSAGE TO THE WORLD. In brief, it was to request that ungrateful mankind stop offending Jesus, and the means to do it was set forth by Blessed Mother as one of REPARATION TO HER IMMACULATE HEART through the DAILY ROSARY, especially the FAMILY ROSARY, and the devotion of the FIRST SATURDAYS. This is not a new devotion, but rather one especially chosen by our Mother as the best and most potent means of making REPARATION TO HER IMMACULATE HEART.

### IMMACULATE HEART

On July 13, 1917, Blessed Mother told Lucia: "Our Lord wishes that devotion to My Immaculate Heart be established in the world." Here too, Blessed Mother made the GREAT PROMISE to those that would practice the devotion of the First Saturdays in Reparation to Her Immaculate Heart. That Great Promise is found in these words: "My child, behold My Heart surrounded with the thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment, by their blasphemies and ingratitude."

"You at least try to console Me



and tell them that I promise to help at the hour of death, with all the graces needed for salvation, whoever on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess and receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the rosary and keep me company for fifteen minutes while mediating on the fifteen mysteries of the rosary, with the intention of making reparation to Me.” Surely, this personal assurance of Blessed Mother is far in excess of the return that we are able to give Her. Yet it is an incentive for us to increase our devotion to Her IMMACULATE HEART to its fullest strength.

CONSECRATION

Again, Blessed Mother has asked that the world be consecrated to Her IMMACULATE HEART.

Was it through the maternal solicitation of Mary, re-

*“Our Lord wishes that devotion to My Immaculate Heart be established in the world.”*

but the most pronounced are those of love, Humility

regarding the details of Divine Providence that Monsignor Pacelli was consecrated a Bishop on the 13th of May, 1917, the actual date of Her first appearance at Fatima? It was the same Bishop, after becoming Pope Pius XII, who consecrated the world to the IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the apparitions at Fatima. To show that this was not a mere passing prayer, but a permanent dedication and a pledge of innumerable blessings, Pope Pius XII ordered the Pastors of his own diocese of Rome to perform the same sacred act in their own parish on December 8, 1942 - Feast of the Immacu-

late Conception.

Contemplating the IMMACULATE HEART of Mary, we find the great attribute of love. Even the great saints of the church admit their inability to adequately describe the magnitude of Mary’s love. She is the Queen of love. She stands right at the Throne of God - She is the nearest to Him - She loves Him the most fervent of all. Another prominent virtue inherent in the HEART of Mary is that of Humility. Her Humility is surpassed only by that of Her Divine Son, who humbled Himself unto the death on the cross for our salvation. St. Bernard says that it is this Humility which merited Her the honor of becoming the Mother of God. Her HEART is full of love and Humility, and is the most pure of all hearts. There are innumerable virtues adorning the IMMACULATE HEART of Mary,

and chastity. These great virtues show us how worthy She is of our attachment and reverence to Her IMMACULATE HEART.

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY - that HEART which shall ever and always be a Mother’s HEART to us; that HEART free from all sin.

SWEET HEART OF MARY, BE MY SALVATION!

OUR LADY OF FATIMA, PRAY FOR US! ■

**“VOICES”**  
OF GOD’S PEOPLE

*“It is my wish and prayer that the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima may visit each and every parish of my Diocese whenever possible.”*

- Most Rev. Dennis M. Schnurr  
Archbishop of Cincinnati

*“I would like to end my episcopate with an official visit of the IPVS Statue of Our Lady of Fatima which cried in New Orleans to visit my diocese..”*

-Most Rev. Juan Rodolfo LAISE  
Bishop of San Juan in Argentina

*“Your commitment to Fatima is well known and your efforts to bring the image of the International Pilgrim Virgin in our Archdiocese is greatly appreciated. God bless your good work and your cooperation with all those whose devotion to Our Lady of Fatima enhances their spiritual life and their growth in faith.”*

-Most Rev. John G. Vlazny  
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon

*“I highly recommend the Visitation of the IPVS Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to the Bishops of Australia.”*

-Most Rev. B J Hickey  
Archbishop of Perth



### *The Beautiful Hands of a Priest*

We need them in life's early morning,  
We need them again at its close;  
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,  
We seek it while tasting life's woes.

When we come to this world we are sinful,  
The greatest as well as the least.  
And the hands that make us pure as angels  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

At the altar each day we behold them,  
And the hands of a king on his throne  
Are not equal to them in their greatness  
Their dignity stands alone.

For there in the stillness of morning  
Ere the sun has emerged from the east,  
There God rests between the pure fingers  
Of the beautiful hands of a priest.

When we are tempted and wander  
To pathways of shame and sin  
'Tis the hand of a priest that absolve us.  
Not once but again and again.

And when we are taking life's partner  
Other hands may prepare us a feast  
But the hands that will bless and unite us,  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,  
For the Host which their fingers caress,  
What can a poor sinner do better  
Than to ask Him who chose them to bless

When the death dews on our lids are falling,  
May our courage and strength be increased  
By seeing raised o'er us in blessing  
The beautiful hands of a priest.

-Author Unknown



### PHOTOS:

Left: Rev. Fr. Chris Clay of the Lexington Diocese extends his beautiful hands as he prayed over the petitions of his parishioners dropped in the box close to the statue of Our Lady of Fatima which visited his parish recently.

Above: Students of Holy Family Parish School pray the rosary during the pilgrimage of the IPVS Statue in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Photos below L-R: Most Rev. Anthony Apuron crowned Our Lady's statue at the doorsteps as he welcomes Her into the Dolce Nombre Cathedral in Hagatna, Guam.

The archbishop delivered his homily on the timely visit of the IPVS statue centering on the need for more prayers, particularly the rosary.

Cloistered Franciscan Sisters in Cork, Ireland. This picture is one of the most favorite in the Photo Gallery of our website. The Pilgrim Virgin is pictured shortly before leaving the convent so the soft padded bag had been prepared under it.





## “SPEAKING OF MARY” by Most Rev. Anthony Apuron, O.F.M. Cap., D.D.

Excerpt from his Homily on the Occasion of the 2nd Historic Visit of the IPVS in Agana Archdiocese.

Mary is the fountain of Light and Life because Mary gave birth to the Son of God, Jesus who is the Light of the world. She is the source; the fountain from which the Light of the world came into our world. Not that He needed to come that way, but that is the way He chose. God chose to send the Redeemer in the world and it is through the Virgin Mary that She became the Fountain of Light.

Likewise, Christ is our life. He is Our Eternal life. The Eternal God, took flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and because of that, She is the fountain of Life because She made it possible for the Eternal Life to come in the human form and from that He lived, suffered, died, rose and invites us to share in His divine life that someday we will enjoy it in its fullness.

So Our Lady fulfills Her role in the mystery of our redemption and in our contemporary world. Our Lady warns us. People must pray. People must do penance while there is time. Repent. Because the time will come when not only the hierarchy of the church will be persecuted but the church itself as indicated in the Third Secret of

Fatima.

There is really need for prayer. That is why Mary is trying to appeal in this visit of Our Lady. As Our Lady visits our Archdiocese, from parish to parish, institution to institution, even visiting the prison hopefully, She is touching people's heart. Not just for this moment but it is important that Mary touches our lives every moment, everyday and every month so She could help us transform this world. As we enter this particular period of time in our history, Mary can help

*“Through the Rosary of the Blessed Mother, God will save America and Her citizens, from the many sins committed against Him.”*

us transform this world. Many of our political candidates are pro-choice, pro-euthanasia, pro-same sex union. So I really hope that we examine ourselves while there is a tendency to give in to our friends who run for public office, what is important is to safeguard the values that are LIFE giving and NOT allowing this Fountain of LIGHT

and Fountain of LIFE to go out.

I really, really pray that Our Lady of Fatima will pray for us. We come to Mary to ask for Her help and intercession. We are poor sinners. But, She cannot help us unless we go to her. We must ask for Her prayer. We go to her Son Jesus Christ and ask for forgiveness, to the sacrament of reconciliation. We go to the Eucharist and ask for the strength to continue to fight against the devil because the devil is so strong out there that we really need all the hands and the armor and everything Mary offers us.

One of the great weapons besides the Eucharist and Reconciliation is the rosary. The rosary is a great weapon against the devil because when you are tempted, just pray the rosary the devil disappears. I find it true in my own life. That's why I carry the rosary at all times.

I pray the rosary whenever I can. Let us also start praying the rosary every day.

I personally pray three rosaries in the morning and in the evening and rosaries in between as well. I hope we can get into that habit at least. So let us reflect in the Scriptures and receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. ■



## HEAVEN OPENED BY THE PRACTICE OF THE THREE HAIL MARY'S

One of the greatest means of salvation, and one of the surest signs of predestination, is unquestionably, the devotion to the Most Blessed Virgin. All the holy doctors of the church are unanimous in saying with St. Alphonsus of Liguori: "A devout servant of Mary shall never perish." The chief thing is to persevere faithfully till death in this devotion.

Can there be an easier or a more adaptable practice for all than the recitation each day of three Ave Maria's (Hail Mary's) in honor of the privileges conferred by the Adorable Trinity on the Blessed Virgin?

One of the first to say the three Ave Maria's and to recommend them to others was the illustrious St. Anthony of Padua. His special aim in this practice was to honor the spotless Virginité of Mary and to preserve a perfect purity of mind, heart and body in the midst of the dangers of the world. Many, like him, have felt its salutary effects. Later on, St. Leonard of Port-Maurice, the celebrated missionary, had the three Ave Maria's recited morning and evening in honor of Mary Immaculate, to obtain the grace of avoiding all mortal sins during the day or night; moreover he promised in a special manner eternal salvation to all those who proved constantly faithful to this practice.

After the example of those two great Franciscan Saints, St. Alphonsus of Liguori adopted this pious

practice and gave it his most ardent and powerful support. He counseled its use and even imposed it as a penance on those who had not adopted this good habit.

The Holy Doctor exhorts, in particular, parents and confessors to watch carefully that children be faithful in reciting each day their three Ave Maria's, morning and evening. Or rather, like St. Leonard of Port-Maurice, he earnestly recommends it to all, "to the devout and to sinners, to the young and old." Even persons consecrated to God will derive from this practice much precious and salutary fruit. Numerous examples may show how agreeable the three Ave Maria's are to the Divine Mother and what special graces they draw, during life and at the hour of death, on those who never omit them for a single day.

This practice has been revealed to St. Melchilde (XIIIth century) with the promise of a good death, if she was faithful to it, every day.

It is written, also, in St. Gertrude's revelations: "While this Saint sang the Hail Mary, at the matins of the Annunciation, she suddenly saw spring out from the Heart of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, three bright flames which penetrated the Heart of the Holy Virgin." Then she heard the following words: "After the Power of the Father, the Wisdom of the Son and the merciful tenderness of the Holy Spirit, nothing approaches the Power, the Wisdom and the



merciful Tenderness of Mary."

His Holiness Benedict XV has raised the Confraternity of the Three Hail Mary's to the Archconfraternity by according it precious indulgences with the power to aggregate to itself all Confraternities of the same kind, and to communicate them its own indulgences. (Association of Marian Helpers)

**EVERY EVENING AT 9:00 P.M.** – For the past 29 years many Fatima Devotees across the nation have joined in prayer every evening at 9:00 p.m. to pray the **THREE HAIL MARY'S**, offering them for our Holy Father, conversion of sinners, an end to abortion, for all of our own intentions, and for the intentions of those joined in prayer with us. "Again I tell you, if two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted by my Father in Heaven." (Mat.11 vs. 19)  
**PLEASE JOIN US!** ■



## THE BIBLICAL ROOTS OF THE "HEART" by Rev. Fr. Melvin Castro IPVS Representative in the Philippines

In biblical language the heart is the vital center for life that is specifically human: sense life, the life of the will and intellectual life. For this reason the figurative use of the word is vaster in the Bible than in modern languages. The Bible speaks for instance of thoughts that arise from the heart, of the perverse designs that proceed from the heart, to open the heart of someone in understanding, or to apply the heart, that is attention and will, to something. God scrutinizes the heart, that is, He knows the most intimate movements of a person and his most secret intentions. (The New World Dictionary Concordance to the New American Bible)

Let me also quote Fr. Mauriello: "Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is primarily based upon the Sacred Scriptures. In the New Testament, there are two references to the Heart of Mary in the Gospel according to St. Luke: ..."Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart." (Lk. 2: 19) and "His mother meanwhile kept all these things in her heart." (Lk 2:51) In the Old Testament, the heart is seen as the symbol of the depths of the human soul, the center of its choices and commitments. For all mankind, it is a symbol of love. In the Book of Deuteronomy we are told, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with

all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your strength." (Dt. 6:5) When Our Lord Jesus Christ was asked by the scribes, which was the first commandment, he answered them by quoting this verse to them. (see Mk. 12:29-31)

It was the Heart of Mary which expressed her "yes" to God... This was her response to the message sent through the angel at the Annunciation. By her loving consent, Mary first conceived Christ in her heart and then in her womb. Our Lord Jesus, Himself: when reminded by a woman in the crowd how blessed was the womb which gave birth to Him, responds, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it." (Lk. 11:28) Pope John Paul II, in his first encyclical, *Redemptor Hominis*, wrote "the mystery of Redemption was formed under the heart of the Virgin of Nazareth when she pronounced her 'fiat.'" (R.H. #22)

Devotion to Mary's Heart has a greater flowering following the manifestation of the Miraculous Medal to St. Catherine Laboure in 1830 and the Appearances of Our Lady in Fatima. From May 13 to October 13, 1917, our Blessed Mother Mary appeared to three children, Jacinta and Francisco Marto and their cousin Lucia Dos-Santos in Fatima, Portugal. On July 13 she told them: "to save poor sinners, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart." The entire Fatima message is one of prayer, penance and making sacrifices and reparation to God for the many offenses against Him.

In 1942, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Fatima,

Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. That same year, he assigned the feast day to August 22, the octave of the Assumption. On May 4, 1944, he extended the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the Universal Church. With the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council in 1969, the feast was given a more suitable place on the day following the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. That is the Saturday after the second Sunday after Pentecost.

Following most specially after the apparitions at Fatima, and the very deep and personal Marian devotion of the Great John Paul II, in our contemporary time is a witness to this devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. One cannot but think as well of the bronze image of Our Lady and Her Immaculate Heart at Edsa street in Manila. One year before the People Power Revolution of 1986, we had our Marian Year with that profound campaign of individual and national consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort can be considered as the prime proponent of this Total Consecration to Mary. Although he did not mention specifically the term, Immaculate Heart of Mary, it was he who devoted his lifetime explaining and expounding on the theology of Consecration to Mary.

And because Mary is the one who exemplifies the Perfect Consecration to Christ, our total Consecration to Mary would mean Perfect Consecration to Christ Himself. In effect, therefore, being Consecrated to Mary means being Consecrated to Christ. ■



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Telephone No. (219) 836-8779

Email: layapostle@aol.com

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***“On this ninetieth anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. With their powerful call to conversion and penance, they are without doubt the most prophetic of all modern apparitions.”***

-Pope Benedict XVI

### 2011 Tour Calendar

January- St. Louis, MO

February - Saipan

March - Rhode Island

April - Springfield, IL

May- Gary, Indiana

June - Pending

August - Buffalo, NY

September - Open

October -Baltimore, MD

November - Open

December - Open