

IPVS NEWS

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



Fatima, Portugal, 1917



Pope Pius XII



Fr. Mark Noonan

The Day the Sun Danced

Our Lady of Fatima said, "In October, I will perform a miracle so that all may believe." Seventy thousand people have witnessed this great miracle, both believers and non-believers. It was 1917, during the First World War.

The venerable Servant of God, Pope Pius XII, remarked during his radio message to all the pilgrims at Fatima on May 13, 1951 that the Pilgrim Statue goes forth traveling as though to claim Mary's dominion as Queen of the World. The Holy Father – who in his lifetime was known as the Pope of Fatima – noted that **"the favors she performs along the way are such that we can hardly believe what we are seeing with our own eyes."** This was shortly after the Second World War.

Rev. Dr. Joaquim Alonso, the 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."**

Seven hundred years earlier, one of the greatest doctors of the Church, St. Thomas Aquinas carefully explains miracles in his Summa Theologica, using the sun as an example to prove a logical point.

"Things that are times divinely accomplished, apart from the generally established order in things; are customarily called miracles; for we admire with some

astonishment a certain event when we observe the effect but does not know its cause. And since one and the same cause is at times known to some people and unknown to others, the result is that, of several who see an effect at the same time, some are moved to admiring astonishment, while others are not."

Interestingly enough, the great event of Fatima has been reported as a supernatural phenomenon even by atheist reporters, some from several miles away.

Various Degrees of Miracles

The great miracle of the Sun - One of the highest ranking among miracles, an event in which something is done by God which nature could never do; that the sun reverse its course or stand still, much more to "dance". Another great comparable miracle is the opening up of a sea to offer a safe passage for people.

Physical cures - second degree of miracle is held by those occasions in which God does something which nature can do, but not in this order. It is a work of nature for a human being to see, walk and live. But for it to see after becoming blind or to walk after a paralysis of the limbs, this nature cannot do.

Third degree of miracles occurs when God does what is usually done by the working of nature, but without the operation of the principles of nature. A person may be cured from a fever which could be cured naturally.

"Therefore those things must be properly called miraculous which are done by divine power apart from the order generally followed in things."

We may not personally witness the sun dancing in our time, but we know it was of divine origin. A miracle from a Great God. However, there is the celebration of the Eucharist everyday. We see and hear second degree miracles as we travel with Our Lady. (We need a whole new book for those stories.) We often hear them as one of the "perks" of traveling with the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue as custodians. Likewise, we meet the best people in the world and they happen to be Catholics! We get to chat with marian-devoted and holy priests like Fr. Mark in Holley, NY. (photo above), Fr. Mar Elias in San Diego, Fr. Ryan in Saipan, Fr. Melvin in the Philippines, Fr. Mike in Guam and thousands of other priests. What we continue to witness today is the active role of the priests in shepherding souls, the fervor of the lay faithful willing to sacrifice, and the bishops' devotion and trust in the Good Lord in the Eucharist and the intercession of His Blessed Mother.

Indeed, there are miracles even today because there is God who performs them; there are miracles for those who believe; still, they are true miracles even some people may not believe it. But now is our time to believe, to receive the graces and miracles, to bear witness to what we believe!

“Do not touch Her, She will touch you”

by Rose Marie Finones

Who could possibly forget the day that they have met Our Blessed Mother Mary up close and in person?

It was June 16, 2011, when my friend and I, together with our adoptive grandmothers and friends from our local church, decided to drive all the way from San Diego to the Beatitudes of Our Lord Parish in La Mirada, California. We all felt the urge to go there because this was the day that the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was set to visit the said church. Given that I was unaware that something like this takes place, I never hesitated to come along. Not knowing what to expect, all I can feel was the excitement to see Our Blessed Mother Mary intimately.

Others may argue that Our Blessed Mother Mary is everywhere. Her pictures are easily searchable on the internet, and Her images are displayed at our local churches. That may be the case, but THIS IS SPECIAL.

As soon as we arrived at the parish, the solemnity of the occasion was evident. The people who were present were there for a reason, to pay HOMAGE to our Blessed Mother. There may be other reasons why people came to see Her, but whatever that might be, what matters most was the time dedicated to accompany HER.

This is the first time in my life that I experienced something so holy. I am glad I did. The instant I saw Her image, I was moved by Her presence. However, what really got my attention was not Her beautiful face, or the huge crown on top of Her head, or the marvelous garment that was put on Her, rather, it was the small rectangular brown plaque placed at the bottom of Her feet that says, “Do not touch Her, She will touch you.” Indeed, I was touched.

At first, I did not quite understand what it meant. However, as I spent more time with Her, the more I felt the sense of comfort only a mother can give to her child. The sense of security that SHE will not leave you alone and unprotected was undeniable. As I gazed into Her eyes, the feeling of sadness and concern for Her children were eminent. After my personal meditation, I went outside to the hall to look at the books, pamphlets, and pictures that were on a table to find out more information about Her and the message She brings. My curiosity led to a conversation with

Patrick, one of the custodians. Somewhere along our dialogue, he made a remark that I will never forget. He said, “it is nice to see younger people like you in attendance for a change.” According to him, for all the years that he has been traveling with the IPVS of Our Lady of Fatima, most of the people present are older. It was like a breath of fresh air for him to see us there.

I felt happy at first because our presence there was refreshing for others to see. Then again, I also felt ashamed because it means that not too many people in my generation are responding to Her call. There is huge a gap between the two age groups that needs to be addressed. For me, this was very disturbing to find out. No wonder Our Blessed Mother Mary was so concerned about the future of Her children in this



world. We have become so consumed with earthly possessions that we devote much of our time in material things such as television, computer, mobile phone, etc. rather than praying and seeking God’s mercy for all of our sins. It is so ironic that many people who spend so much time in front of the computer on their facebook, twitter, or myspace with numerous so called “friends or followers” usually post nothing but negativity. They complain about many things in life such as the feeling of loneliness, unhappiness, unworthiness, loveless, and misery. Little do they know that the answer to their problem is very simple, having the ability to seek refuge from our Lord. This is possible if only

we can learn how to put away our pride, our selfishness, and our fear so we can humble ourselves, obtain strength to sincerely ask for God’s mercy and submit ourselves completely to Him and with confidence, trust in His power.

I must admit that I had my share of shortcomings that displeased our Lord. In fact, I consider myself as a prodigal daughter. I went astray for awhile only to find my way back home. Thanks to my friend and all my adoptive grandmothers at our church, I found the courage I needed to acknowledge my sins and ask for God’s forgiveness. It was not easy for sure. It took me years before I finally learned the true meaning of humility and sincerity. Once I finally did, I felt renewed. My burden was definitely lighter. Now that I found God in my heart and in my mind, I plan to keep Him there where He belongs. I know that God is and will always be there for us no matter how terrible our offenses were because His love and mercy for us is far greater than we can imagine.

Because God touched my life in many ways, I can imagine through the help of Our Blessed Mother Mary, I wanted to share them with you in hopes that it might open your eyes and your heart to Our Lord. This is a shout out not only to young people like me, but also to the rest of the world, to DO PENANCE and put God first in your life before it is too late. Our Dear Mother Mary, our advocate, has been calling out our attention that we took for granted and ignored for many years. Now is the time to bring ourselves back to the One who created us all, Her Only Begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave us everything that we have, including our free will. Why not turn ourselves back to Him and show some love and respect that He rightfully deserves? Or should we just wait to see our world destroy itself? Please, take this moment, while we still have the chance, to let Him touch you now through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima.

May God bless us always!

Editor’s Note:

If you have interesting stories to share, do not hesitate to send it in for all the world to read in this IPVS NEWSLETTER. We would be glad to hear from you. Perhaps a little miracle or two which you have witnessed during Our Lady’s visit in your area? Tell the world of God’s love and the love of His Mother.

Email us: layapostle@aol.com

Historic IPVS revisits Buffalo Diocese

After criss-crossing the globe, the International Pilgrim Fatima Statue has returned once again after 64 years to the Elba, New York Fatima Shrine. Both have maintained its good shape. Not much has changed in the church structure itself, and likewise the statue maintained its attributes. Only little details have changed since then; these Knights of Columbus were only children in December of 1947.

Dr. Sally Ross was instrumental in bringing back the statue to Western New York. She coordinated with the parishes in Buffalo Diocese, obtaining permission from His Excellency, Most Rev. Edward Kmiec, then contacting interested pastors. It all started when she, as a member of Our Lady of Fatima, did some research into how her church got its name. She learned three interesting facts about the Elba church:

1. The Pilgrim Statue's visit in 1947.
2. It is the oldest church in the U.S. to bear the title of Our Lady of Fatima.
3. The knoll in front of the church on which the Fatima Shrine is now located was once used by the Ku Klux Klan as a place to burn crosses.

Fact number three is especially interesting if you think about the Fatima message.

While I was giving a presentation on Our Lady's requests at Fatima and its relevance in our modern age, I was struck by the presence of young children with their mother in the front pew. They were the ages of Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia at the time of the apparition. Two girls and a boy!

The venue was a merger parish of St. Mary's which is now even a smaller community so I had to give a talk during a prayer service with a smaller crowd than usual. It was an intimate scenario for a teaching mission.

I began by telling them that the message is so simple and easily understood by most people of all cultures, ages, and the time we are living in. One does not need a theological background to grasp the meaning of the requests made by the "Lady dressed in white". In fact, the young shepherds of Fatima did not know how to read nor write at the time of the apparitions. (Sister Lucia had to learn later to spread the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary)

The moment I moved my lips about the Fatima story the crowd became very attentive and this young girl showed her interest in the story, feeling every bit of a scenario I was trying to paint. But, my crowd was mostly people in their mid 60s to late 70s with the exception of these young children in front of me, while gazing at the statue, glancing at me every so often, listening intently.

I began to steer the presentation in a way they could interact with me by asking simple questions, answerable by nodding their heads or a vocal YES or NO. Sure enough, these kids were with me. It was so simple and easy to talk with them. They understood right away. They showed no signs of hesitations, but simply absorbed in the interactions between the beautiful statue, the message I was trying to teach, and my poor self in front of them. Now the whole crowd was an ensemble.

I was interacting with people from as young as 7 years to 70 years old as one crowd without haste. I could tell they were savoring each word, coming from Our Blessed Mother. As I often casually mention, they could just ignore me, but look into Her eyes and listen to Mary.

After the presentation, most people came to thank us in appreciation for our work and mission. Including the family with children. Interestingly, the mother came to tell me that her 7 year old daughter "happened" to pick up the video of the animated film about the story of Fatima *'The Day the Sun Danced'*. That was the night before when they had no plans of going to church on a Monday evening, and see the statue. Well, that would explain their interest, but that would mean also that "something could not be explained with a little coincidence" that evening she watched the movie. Her guardian angels must have been working to prepare her before she meets the "beautiful Lady". They were so glad they did!

We had a lot of floral offerings this season in the Diocese of Buffalo. They turned summer into "May-flowers" where children of Mary, young and old, offered roses and rosaries in their parish churches; another prayerful experience for me in this pilgrimage accompanying the world-famous International Pilgrim Statue! I bet there were similar stories during her visit in 1947.

Blessed be God, Now and Forever!

For updates on-the-go about Our Lady's travels, visit our website: www.pilgrimvirginstatue.com



“Statues, by virtue of the blessing of a bishop or a priest, become for us ‘visual catechism’. We, by virtue of our baptism in Christ, become ‘living catechism’.”

- St. John Chrysostom

In 1947, the bishop of Fatima, Most Rev. Jose Correia da Silva, was very pleased when Mr. John Hafert requested, and then commissioned Jose Thedim to have the statue sculpted. Mr. Thedim spent time with Sister Lucia and carefully designed a new statue with a single tunic, a single mantle “brighter at the edge”, as she herself explained, “It would not be with a tassel, but with a golden globe hanging approximately over Our Lady’s heart. It should not be with many designs but only with a simple golden line at the edge because the edge of Our Lady’s robe was more brilliant. And a great star shone at the hem of her tunic.”

This becomes the image which is famously called the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue or simply the “Pilgrim Virgin” which Pope Pius XII was later to call the **“messenger of her royalty”**.

One of the most widely used visual aids in the Catholic Church throughout its history is statues. This particular statue has been in hundreds of thousands of churches and has helped millions of people ‘learn’ about our faith. Truly “catechising” with the urgent message by the “New Star of Evangelization”, the greatest Catechist of all time, Our Blessed Mother. This statue is Her beautiful representation, Her visual aid!

Now, let us take a closer look how She appeared, what She looked like, and reflect upon them on what it means to us as Christians:

Mr. Jose Ferreira Thedim, the great sculptor from Portugal, Master Artisan of the Thedim Studio of Sacred Arts. Gazing at his “Obra Maestra”, the Pilgrim Virgin Statue based on Sr. Lucia’s description in 1947.

Below is his Coat of Arms which the studio identifies his artworks.



The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue (IPVS) having been on pilgrimage around the globe, crossing both the Western and Eastern hemisphere since 1947, catechising. Photo taken on 15 August 2011.

Her Gesture and Contenance. Hands joined together with a seriousness and concern on Her lovely face saying, “pray a great deal and make sacrifices for sinners..”

The Holy Rosary. In each apparition, from May to October 1917, Our Lady emphasized, “Pray the rosary everyday...” On October 13, 1917, She said, “I am the Lady of the Rosary”.

The Scapular. The Virgin Mary appeared on one occasion as Our Lady of Mount Carmel with Baby Jesus holding up the Scapular. Sister Lucia said, “She wants us to wear it everyday. The rosary and the scapular are inseparable”

The Globe. Represents the earth under the maternal care and guidance of our Blessed Mother.

White Dress. Purity and simplicity of the Virgin Mother of God coming down from Heaven.

Holm Oak Tree. She stood on a tree, a scrubby bush that grows commonly in Portugal. It usually stands about one meter. In scripture, tree represents life. What Eve lost in Paradise through the fruit of the tree, Mary, the New Eve has overcome; just like Jesus, the New Adam overcame death on a tree, giving us new life.

The Star. Most prominent interpretation is the Star of Queen Esther, pre-figure of Mary, who interceded to the king to save the Jewish people from annihilation.

Her Eyes. There are no words to describe them. Really. We invite you to see it for yourself, experience the maternal love of Mary in Her moral presence. When the bishop of Fatima blessed this statue, he prayed that Mary herself shall accompany it in all its travels. The eyes were never the same since this blessing.

The Cloud. The visionaries saw Our Lady coming down and rising up to heaven standing on a small “cloud of white mist.”

The Crown. Images of Our Lady of Fatima usually show HER wearing a crown. However, the three children did not see a crown. The crown is an added adornment, first given to FATIMA statues by Pope Pius XII.

The IPVS statue is carved from mahogany wood. It is 43” high and weighs 41 pounds.

Flos Carmeli

FLOWER of Carmel, Tall vine blossom laden;
Splendor of heaven, Childbearing yet maiden.
None equals thee.

Mother so tender, Who no man didst know,
On Carmel's children, Thy favors bestow.
Star of the Sea.

Strong stem of Jesse, Who bore one bright flower,
Be ever near us, And guard us each hour,
who serve thee here.

Purest of lilies, That flowers among thorns,
Bring help to the true heart, That in weakness turns,
and trusts in thee.

Strongest of armor, We trust in thy might:
Under thy mantle, Hard press'd in the fight,
we call to thee.

Our way uncertain, Surrounded by foes,
Unfailing counsel, You give to those
who turn to thee.

O gentle Mother, Who in Carmel reigns,
Share with your servants, That gladness you gained,
and now enjoy.

Hail, Gate of Heaven, With glory now crowned,
Bring us to safety, Where thy Son is found,
true joy to see.



INVOKING THE HOLY SPIRIT

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 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.

The following is taken from the Homily by Pope John Paul II at Fatima, May 13, 1982, one year to the day after the attempt on his life in St. Peter's Square in Rome.

Convert and repent

The Church has always taught and continues to proclaim that God's revelation was brought to completion in Jesus Christ, who is the fullness of that revelation, and that “no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of our Lord.” (Dei Verbum, 4) The Church evaluates and judges private revelations by the criterion of conformity with that single public revelation.

If the Church has accepted the message of Fatima, it is, above all, because that message contains a truth and a call whose basic content is the truth and the call of the Gospel itself.

“Repent, and believe in the Gospel!” (Mk 1:15) These are the first words that the messiah addressed to humanity. The message of Fatima is, in its basic nucleus, a call to conversion and repentance, as in the Gospel. This call was uttered at the beginning of the 20th century and it was thus addressed particularly to this present century. The Lady of the message seems to have read with special insight the signs of the times”.



THE BROWN SCAPULAR



A glorious assurance of Salvation is Our Lady's Brown Scapular. However, the great mystery of our time is that the great majority of Catholics either ignore or have forgotten the Blessed Virgin Mary's promise: "Take this Scapular, it shall be a sign of salvation

a protection in danger and a pledge of peace. Who-soever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire." Our Lady further said "Wear it devoutly and perseveringly. It is my garment. To be clothed in it means you are continually thinking of me, and I in turn, am always thinking of you and helping you to secure eternal life."

To obtain the fullest possible benefits from the Brown Scapular devotion, one must be validly enrolled in the Brown Scapular by a priest or Deacon. Once you have been officially enrolled, subsequent scapulars do not need to be blessed. The original blessing remains with you for life.

During the Scapular Anniversary celebration in Rome, Pope Pius XII told a very large audience to wear the Brown Scapular as a sign of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Lady asked for this consecration in the last apparition at Fatima, when She appeared as Our Lady of Mount Carmel, holding the Brown Scapular out to the whole world. It was Her last loving appeal to souls to wear Her Scapular as a sign of Consecration to Her Immaculate Heart. Sixteen Popes have written about the Brown Scapular or indulgenced it. Next to the Rosary, it is the most highly indulgenced sacramental in the Church.

We should even give the Scapular to non-Catholics as Our Lady will bring conversions to those who will wear it and say one Hail Mary each day.

The devils revealed to Francis of Yepes, the brother of St John of the Cross that three things especially tormented them. The first is the NAME OF JESUS, the second, the NAME OF MARY; and third, THE BROWN SCAPULAR OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL. "Take off that habit," they cried to him, "which snatches too many souls from us. All those clothed in it die piously and escape us."

The scapular must be worn on the shoulders in such a

manner that one part hangs in front of the body and the other in back. Worn in any other way, it carries no indulgence or promise."

THE SABBATINE PRIVILEGE

The Sabbatine Privilege is based on the Papal Bull issued on March 3, 1322 by Pope John XXII. This Privilege was approved and confirmed by many popes including St. Pius V. It essentially says that those who wear the Scapular and fulfill two other conditions can obtain early liberation from Purgatory, through the special intercession of the Virgin Mary. It promises freedom from purgatory soon after death, especially on the first Saturday.



The other two conditions are:

- 1) Observe chastity according to one's state in life, and
- 2) Recite the Little Office of Our Blessed Mother or the Rosary.

Our Lady revealed to Venerable Dominic of Jesus and Mary: "Although many wear my Scapular, only a few fulfill conditions for the Sabbatine Privilege." A soul from Purgatory was asked by a Sister: "What is the average stay of the souls in Purgatory?" The Poor Soul answered: "From thirty to forty years!" Can you see the importance of making Our Lady's Privilege

known—if you consider that the flames are the same as the fires of Hell!

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 of 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.

www.scapularmakers.com

a sign of faith and commitment

IMPORTANCE OF EUCHARISTIC 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 blas-

phemies 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, 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."

MERCIFUL GOD, SAVE AMERICA

Merciful God, we cry to Thee for pardon and Mercy. We are "an unbelieving and perverse generation." We are disobedient, disloyal and ungrateful to Thee. We have excluded Thee from our homes, our schools, and our business places. We are no longer worthy to be called Thy children. But, Merciful God, spare America, forgive us! Save us from the scourge which we have deserved. Teach us Thy law, and move our wills to serve Thee henceforth. Merciful God, spare America. Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for us. AMEN.

TRAVELS of Our Lady



"Please know of my special prayers and best wishes for the success of the visit of the International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. May Our Blessed Mother intercede for you and for all those who are able to participate in the Eucharistic celebrations and clothe you with the mantle of Her love."

Most Rev. Edward U. Kmiec
Bishop of Buffalo



PHOTOS: Top to bottom

Rota, Pacific Island - A very warm welcome from the People of Rota, as they ask the intercession of the Mary for more vocations in the island.

Saipan, CNMI - Bishop Camacho officiates Mass for the First Historic Visit of the IPVS in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - Crowd gathers in one of the churches visited by the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue which had been processed from parish to parish in a busy pilgrimage.

Gary, IN - 4th Degree Knights of Columbus honors Our Lady of Fatima at the Cathedral of the Holy Angels as the Rector, Reverend Jon J. Plavcan welcomes the statue in opening prayer before celebrating the Holy Eucharist.

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

International Pilgrim Virgin Statue Foundation, Inc.
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www.pilgrimvirginstatue.com

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

"New horizons are now open..."

The new communications technologies must be placed at the service of the integral good of the individual and of the whole humanity."

-Pope Benedict XVI
message for World Communications Day 2011



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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 exempt.)

IPVS TOUR CALENDAR

2011

October - Baltimore, MD
November - Rockford, IL
December - New York - pending

2012

January - OPEN
February - Mexico - pending
March - Mexico - pending
April - Illinois - pending
May - Illinois - pending
June - New Jersey - pending
August - Cincinnati, OH
September - California - pending
October - Steubenville, OH