



Mother of God

Mediatrix of All Grace

Monthly Bulletin Vol.2 1st February 2018 No 2.



CONTENTS

Editorial.....	1
Joyful families have joy-filled homes.....	3
First Saturday Prayer Services at Batim.....	5
The Ashes of Lent.....	8
Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis.....	10
Peace on earth? Here's How.....	13

“Pray for the conversion of many of My children that are astray” - Our Lady at Batim

- Dr. Christopher Dias, www.thebatimmessage.com

Each year in the Church we commemorate the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying before He began His public ministry. There is a Greek word that is a perfect definition of the Lenten journey, that word is Metanoia. It means turning back. In Lent we turn from our worldly life, and back toward God.

As Christians, each day we are invited to convert, for just as nature awakens and rises with each dawn, so must we cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. (Rom 13:12).

The season of Lent is an excellent time given to us by the Church to help us grow in freedom from desires, drives and fears. During this time we are strongly urged to repent- to continually try to return home. As long as we remain human we'll need to repent time and time again until we return home for good. Even though the prodigal returns home don't think he will never fail his father again, because he will, even though he may never seriously turn his back on him as he did

before.

His spiritual life is nothing other than the journey of a person who continually chooses to get up after having fallen, to turn back to God every time he falters or fails, knowing that his ever-loving Father will never fail him. Seen in this light it involves inseparable ingredients.

First it involves TURNING or more precisely continually turning back to the One whose love never fails as ours does.

Second it involves OPENING and remaining open as long as our human frailty permits us, to receive and experience the only love that can change us permanently.

Third it involves EMPTYING. The more we allow pure love to draw closer to us the more it highlights the impurity of our love, that has to be purified before the union that we all desire can take place. Anyone who has experienced being loved knows how unworthy they feel when they experience the selfless love of another reaching out to them. It not only makes a person want to change to be worthy of what they receive, but it gives them the strength to bring about the desired change.

Thus, before union can be brought about a certain likeness has to take place. St. Irinaeus said that God created us in his own image then the Holy Spirit was sent to create us in His likeness. Continually turning and opening to God enables the Holy Spirit to get inside us to recreate us in his likeness. That is what happens to the spiritual travelers who continually turn and open themselves to the fire of the Holy Spirit to enable him to purify them of all dross so that gold can be united to Gold

Fourth it involves SURRENDERING. As we are purified, so in our imperfect human loving, enabling us to be fitted ever more perfectly into Christ, in and through whom we can continually surrender ourselves to God knowing that our offering will be accepted. Prayer is the word used to describe the place where loving is learned through practicing repentance repeatedly. Just try to pray regularly for any length of time and you'll find yourself endlessly trying to turn away from distractions to turn back to God. The selfless giving that you have practiced in prayer will enable you to love God more perfectly and will enable you to love others more perfectly outside of prayer. This power not only enables a person to love his enemies and even those who persecute him, but those who would torture him to death. This power will possess you as it possessed Mary and bring Christ to birth in you. Then he can and will be able to live out the perfect Christian life again in you and through you. However, he will only be able to do this to the degree to which you allow him to make his home in you.

At Batim,Goa Our Lady on 15th Oct 2016 pleads: ***"Beloved children, know and understand now, you are entering a great heavy moment upon Earth. The fury of God is kindled, yet through your prayers I can buy this moment for more time for conversion of many of My children that are astray. It is upon you I lay this yoke to pray for all your brothers and sisters, do not give up, there is hope always in God. I Love you dearly"***

Contd on Pg.9

JOYFUL FAMILIES HAVE JOY-FILLED HOMES

By Annabelle Mendonca

One of the most important missions a family has is to simply live together joyfully as a family – resisting the lure of activities or programs designed for good but resulting in pulling family members in different directions. The mission of a family is to create bonds that stretch enough to allow individual members to explore and become who they are meant to be, but are also strong enough to pull them back to that place called home where they will be valued, appreciated, and encouraged.

What is a family? It can take many forms, of course, but a family is primarily a group of individuals who are related to one another by marriage, birth, or adoption. While a balanced family provides a place for us to love and grow, a family that is out of balance may reveal individuals with a sense of selfishness and lack of respect for other family members. Neglect can occur when someone in the family, especially a parent, begins living as if the family does not matter. To the other extreme, the sin of idolatry is present when one makes the family his or her entire identity.

“Families these days tend to be child-centered -- everything revolves around the children,” writes John MacArthur. “The child’s activities, their relationships and their interests tend to set the family agenda. But God’s design for family is that it be first Christ-centered, and then marriage-centered, with the husband-wife relationship taking priority over all other relationships in the home and the parents, not the children, determining the family agenda.”

“Every home in the world is exposed to a thousand dangers. Enemies seek to destroy it, to desecrate its holy beauty and to carry away its sacred treasures.



The very institution itself is assailed by the apostles of infidelity and licentiousness. Countless social influences tend to disintegrate the home, to rob it of its sanctity, to break down its sacred barriers and to sully its purity. Nothing but the cross of Christ will save it. Those who are setting up a home, their hearts full of precious hopes of happiness and blessing, should consecrate it at once by erecting the altar of God in the midst of it.” – J. R. Miller. The altar he suggests is not only a physical one of course, but also the attitude and willingness of our hearts to make God, His Word, His commandments, His love, center of our home life.

How do we do this? One way is to consciously model to our children the spiritual disciplines that draw us closer to Jesus Christ. Disciplines like: prayer/worship, service, study, meditation/solitude, even fasting – if not from food, then from T.V. or other activities that prevent God from being the family altar. Children may first be aware of their parents observing a spiritual discipline when they see their parents having a “quiet time”.

When children see parents making time for God and for one another, and making sacrifices for the good of the family, they realize that their parents really believe what they teach about values and what matters most in life. Sometimes the sacrifice takes the form of turning down a higher paying job, a position with more prestige, or a promotion requiring more time away from home -- self-worth is not determined by how much money you make or how well known you are.

The Holy Family is a great model for all families to follow. Jesus, Mary and Joseph sanctified family life. Jesus the eternal Word, who took flesh and dwelt in a human family, humbly submitted to his parents, Mary and Joseph. He must have helped Joseph in his carpentry work, besides spending time in silence, meditating and contemplating about His future ministry, leading a hidden life up to the age of 30. Mary the sinless virgin must have been a great mother and wife, doing her ordinary household chores, after accepting the Word who was very much present with her. What a privilege it must have been for her to have Jesus in her family. Joseph, descendant of the royal line of David, was a caring and humble husband providing for the family through his carpentry work, which may have not been that easy. He also protected his foster son Jesus and wife Mary from all harm, especially from Herod’s fury.

In every family there has to be more than a little give and take, but in a healthy joyful family the needs of everyone will eventually be addressed and met if possible. Everyone in the family needs Christ, and a husband and wife need one another. Once those relationships are soundly established, it will be much more likely that the child’s personal needs will be met. As we look at our

FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER SERVICES AT BATIM

- By Dr. Celcio Dias

2nd Dec 2017: The First Saturday Devotion in Honour of and in Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary commenced with the Stations of the Cross at 1 pm.



The Parish Priest Fr Ubaldo Fernandes led the Most Holy Rosary with meditations at 2 pm alternating the decades in English and Konkani. The procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was also held by the faithful reciting the Rosary.

Fr Johnsie Pereira, Parish Priest from Talaulim (Santana) Church assisted with Confessions. The Adoration was in Konkani and English. Fr Ubaldo celebrated the Mass at 330 pm

There were about 100 or 150 people who attended the service - many of whom also attended the Novena of St. Francis Xavier in nearby Old Goa

The Church of St. Simon and Jude, Batim has recently being painted. The monstrance has been repaired and new speakers/mikes have been installed.

6th Jan 2017: Fr. Joseph SFX, was the main celebrant for this First Saturday Prayer Service at Batim. In his homily, he encouraged the faithful to continue this Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. He mentioned that we achieve peace in following this devotion and that we should get others to come to Batim.

The service was attended by about 150 people including 25 from Thivim and 20 from Mumbai.



Contd from Pg.4

earthly families and how they are running, we can be encouraged if we remember first and foremost that we are a part of God's family. Each one of us is already unconditionally loved, accepted, and valued in His eyes, because Jesus paid the price for our sins. Our attempts to create a home with a strong family mission will be less than perfect, but we have to keep trying because our efforts can lead our children to accept their place in God's blessed family. And then we all will have the best home of all. "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty" (2 Cor.6:18).

PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF SISTER LUCIA

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly and I thank you for the Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Fatima, that revealed to the world the riches of her Immaculate Heart. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I implore You, if it should be for Your greater glory and the good of our souls, to glorify Sr. Lucy, one of the Shepherds of Fatima, by granting us the grace which we implore through her intercession. Amen



Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be...

With Ecclesiastical approval

Please send details of any favors received
through her intercession to Carmelo de

Santa Teresa - Coimbra, Portugal, Email: causabeatificacaolucia@lucia.pt

WHY IS THE MESSAGE OF FATIMA IMPORTANT TO ME AND MY FAMILY?

The Message of Fatima is important to you and your family because it involves the salvation of souls, peace in the world and, if the requests of Our Lady of Fatima are not carried out, the consequences are the annihilation of nations and the enslavement of all mankind under militant atheists of Russia.

BUT ISN'T THE MESSAGE OF FATIMA JUST A PRIVATE REVELATION WHICH NO CATHOLIC HAS TO BELIEVE?

No, it is not just a private revelation. It is a public, prophetic revelation given by the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. It is not to be confused with "Revelation" or as it is also called, the Deposit of the Faith, which ended with the death of the last Apostle. But public, prophetic revelation must not be despised. The Virgin Mary's prophecy was confirmed by a public miracle and authenticated by a whole line of Popes. Also, its predictions have come true.

So, while belief in the Message of Fatima may not strictly be required of Catholics as an article of faith, one would be very foolish to disregard such an obviously authentic message from Heaven. As St. Paul taught: "Despise not prophecies, but prove all things; hold fast to that which is good." (1 Thess. 5:20-21) The prophecy of Fatima has been proven worthy of belief. We should not despise it, but rather hold fast to what Our Lady told us at Fatima.

THE POPE SPEAKS: Suffering and Illness have Meaning

People who approach suffering with a merely human attitude of mind cannot understand what it means and can easily collapse in defeat; at most they manage to accept it, being gloomily resigned to the inevitable. We Christians, however, being instructed in the faith, know that suffering can be transformed if we offer it to God into an instrument of salvation, and into a sacred way which helps us get to heaven. For a Christian, pain is no reason for gloominess but for joy; the joy of knowing that on the Cross-of Christ all suffering has a redemptive value.

Again today our Lord invites us, saying: 'Come to me, all you who labor and are overburdened, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28). So turn your gaze to him in the sure hope that he will give you relief, that in him you will find solace. Do not be afraid of showing him your sufferings, and at times your loneliness too. Offer him this daily tally of small and often big crosses, and so even though they often seem unbearable to you- they will not weigh you down, for Christ himself will be carrying them for you: 'For ours were the sufferings he was bearing, ours the sorrows he was carrying' (Isaiah 43:4).

As you follow Christ along the road, you will feel the inner joy of doing God's will. A joy which is compatible with pain, because it is the joy of God's children, who know themselves to be called to follow Jesus more closely on his road to Golgotha.

-The CRUSADER, February 2000

MIRACLES OF HEALING CONTINUE UNDIMINISHED AFTER 142 YEARS



February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, has been designated by the Holy Father as the World Day of the Sick.

If any site in the world deserves such recognition it is the Lourdes Shrine. The halt, the lame, the blind and the afflicted of the whole world began their labored march to Our Lady's favored shrine just 16 days after the Immaculate Mother first revealed herself (Feb. 11, 1858) to 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous in the Grotto of Massabielle. The first miraculous cure came on the afternoon of Thursday, February 25, 1858. Louis Bouriette, whose eye had been "irreparably damaged" in an accident at the quarry where he worked regained his sight after bathing his injured eye with water flowing from the hole Bernadette had scratched in the Grotto floor at the Beautiful Lady's direction. Bernadette's childlike trust allowed Mary to deepen that hand-dug well into an artesian fount of healing that flows with mercy in all the nations of the world. Cures continue. "

-Fatima Findings, February 2000

THE ASHES OF LENT

Fr. Ron Rolheiser

We begin the season of lent with ashes on our foreheads. What is symbolized by this smudging? Perhaps the heart understands better than the head because more people go to church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, including Christmas. The queues to receive the ashes in many churches are endless. Why? Why are the ashes so popular?

Their popularity, I suspect, comes from the fact that, as a symbol, they are blunt, primal, archetypal, and speak the language of the soul. Something inside each of us knows exactly why we take the ashes: “Dust thou art and into dust thou shalt return!” No doctor of metaphysics need explain this. Ashes are dust and dust is soil, humus; humanity and humility come from there. It is no accident that ashes have always been a major symbol within all religions. To put on ashes, to sit in ashes, is to say publicly and to yourself that you are reflective, in a penitential mode, that this is not “ordinary time” for you, that you are not in a season of celebration, that you are grieving some of the things you have done and lost, that some important work is going on silently inside you, and that you are, metaphorically and really, in the cinders of a dead fire, waiting for a fuller day in your life.

All of this has deep roots. There is something innate to the human soul that knows that, every so often, one must make a journey of descent, be smudged, lose one’s lustre, and wait while the ashes do their work. All ancient traditions, be they religious or purely mythical, abound with stories of having to sit in the ashes. We all know, for example, the story of Cinderella. This is a centuries-old, wisdom-tale that speaks about the value of ashes. The name, Cinderella, itself already says most of it. Literally it means: “the young girl who sits in the cinders, the ashes.” Moreover, as the tale makes plain, before the glass slipper is placed on her foot, before the beautiful gown, ball, dance, and marriage, there must first be a period of sitting in the cinders, of being smudged, of being humbled, and of waiting while a proper joy and consummation are being prepared. In the story of Cinderella there is a theology of lent.

Native American traditions too have always had an important place for ashes. In some Aboriginal communities there was the concept that occasionally someone would have to spend time in the ashes. Nobody knew why a specific person was called at a particular moment to sit in the ashes, but everyone knew that this was natural thing, that ashes do an important work in the soul, and that sooner or later that person would return his or her regular life and be better for having spent time in the ashes. To offer one such example: Certain native communities used to live in what they called long-houses. A long-house was

the communal building; in effect, the house for the whole community. A long-house was long, rectangular, with large sloping sides, and with the centre of the roof open so that this could function as a natural chimney. Fires were kept burning, both for cooking and for warmth, all along the centre of the long-house. People gathered there, near the fires, to cook, eat, and socialize, but they slept away from the fires, under the roofs that sloped down either side of the open centre. Now, every so often, someone, a man or a woman, for reasons they didn't have to explain, would cease adhering to the normal routine. Instead he or she would, become silent, sit just off the fire in the ashes, eat very sparingly, not socialize, not go outside, not wash, not go to bed with the others, but simply sit in the cinders, like Cinderella. Today we would probably diagnose this as clinical depression and rush that person off for professional help. They, for their part, didn't panic. They saw this as perfectly normal, something everyone was called upon to do at one time or another. They simply let the person sit there, in the ashes, until one day he or she got up, washed the ashes off, and began again to live a regular life. The belief was that the ashes, that period of silent sitting, had done some important, unseen work inside of the person. You sat in the ashes for healing.

The church taps into this deep well of wisdom when it puts ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of lent. Lent is a season for each of us to sit in the ashes, to spend our time, like Cinderella, working and sitting among the cinders of the fire – grieving what we've done wrong, renouncing the dance, refraining from the banquet, refusing to do business as usual, waiting while some silent growth takes place within us, and simply being still so that the ashes can do their work in us.

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser: Currently, Father Rolheiser is serving as President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio Texas. He can be contacted through his website, www.ronrolheiser.com. Follow on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser.

Contd from Pg. 2

In this journey of our personal conversion, let us also pray for the conversion of other souls.

O IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, I DESIRE TO PRESENT TO YOU MY UNYIELDING HOPE FOR CONVERSION, HELP ME TO STRIVE WITH ALL MY MIGHT TO PRESERVE THE GENUINE RESPONSE TO YOUR CALL, I NOW CONTAIN. HELP ME TO PRAY DEAR MOTHER, IN ALL MOMENTS, THAT I MAY REMAIN EVER IN THE PRESENCE OF YOUR MOST HOLY SON. AMEN.

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

Holy Mass on the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the 51st
World Day for Peace -Vatican Basilica, Monday, 1 January 2018



The year opens in the name of the Mother of God. Mother of God is the most important title of Our Lady. But we might ask why we say Mother of God, and not Mother of Jesus. In the past some wanted to be content simply with the latter, but the Church has declared that Mary is the Mother of God. We should be grateful, because these words contain a magnificent truth about

God and about ourselves. From the moment that our Lord became incarnate in Mary, and for all time, he took on our humanity. There is no longer God without man; the flesh Jesus took from his Mother is our own, now and for all eternity. To call Mary the Mother of God reminds us of this: God is close to humanity, even as a child is close to the mother who bears him in her womb.

The word mother (*mater*) is related to the word matter. In his Mother, the God of heaven, the infinite God, made himself small, he became matter, not only to be with us but also to be like us. This is the miracle, the great novelty! Man is no longer alone; no more an orphan, but forever a child. The year opens with this novelty. And we proclaim it by saying: Mother of God! Ours is the joy of knowing that our solitude has ended. It is the beauty of knowing that we are beloved children, of knowing that this childhood of ours can never be taken away from us. It is to see a reflection of ourselves in the frail and infant God resting in his mother's arms, and to realize that humanity is precious and sacred to the Lord. Henceforth, to serve human life is to serve God. All life, from life in the mother's womb to that of the elderly, the suffering and the sick, and to that of the troublesome and even repellent, is to be welcomed, loved and helped.

Let us now be guided by today's Gospel. Only one thing is said about the Mother of God: "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Lk 2:19). She kept them. She simply kept; Mary does not speak. The Gospel does not report a single word of hers in the entire account of Christmas. Here too, the Mother is one with her Son: Jesus is an "infant", a child "unable to speak". The Word of God, who "long ago spoke in many and various ways" (Heb 1:1), now, in the "fullness of time" (Gal 4:4), is silent. The God before whom all fall silent is himself a speechless child. His Majesty is without words; his mystery of love

is revealed in lowliness. This silence and lowliness is the language of his kingship. His Mother joins her Son and keeps these things in silence.

That silence tells us that, if we would “keep” ourselves, we need silence. We need to remain silent as we gaze upon the crib. Pondering the crib, we discover anew that we are loved; we savour the real meaning of life. As we look on in silence, we let Jesus speak to our heart. His lowliness lays low our pride; his poverty challenges our outward display; his tender love touches our hardened hearts. To set aside a moment of silence each day to be with God is to “keep” our soul; it is to “keep” our freedom from being corroded by the banality of consumerism, the blare of commercials, the stream of empty words and the overpowering waves of empty chatter and loud shouting.

The Gospel goes on to say that Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. What were these things? They were joys and sorrows. On the one hand, the birth of Jesus, the love of Joseph, the visit of the shepherds, that radiant night. But on the other, an uncertain future, homelessness “because there was no place for them in the inn” (Lk 2:7), the desolation of rejection, the disappointment of having to give birth to Jesus in a stable. Hopes and worries, light and darkness: all these things dwelt in the heart of Mary. What did she do? She pondered them, that is to say she dwelt on them, with God, in her heart. She held nothing back; she locked nothing within out of self-pity or resentment. Instead, she gave everything over to God. That is how she “kept” those things. We “keep” things when we hand them over: by not letting our lives become prey to fear, distress or superstition, by not closing our hearts or trying to forget, but by turning everything into a dialogue with God. God, who keeps us in his heart, then comes to dwell in our lives.

These, then, are the secrets of the Mother of God: silently treasuring all things and bringing them to God. And this took place, the Gospel concludes, in her heart. The heart makes us look to the core of the person, his or her affections and life. At the beginning of the year, we too, as Christians on our pilgrim way, feel the need to set out anew from the centre, to leave behind the burdens of the past and to start over from the things that really matter. Today, we have before us the point of departure: the Mother of God. For Mary is what God wants us to be, what he wants his Church to be: a Mother who is tender and lowly, poor in material goods and rich in love, free of sin and united to Jesus, keeping God in our hearts and our neighbour in our lives. To set out anew, let us look to our Mother. In her heart beats the heart of the Church. Today’s feast tells us that if we want to go forward, we need to turn back: to begin anew from the crib, from the Mother who holds God in her arms.

Devotion to Mary is not spiritual etiquette; it is a requirement of the Christian life. Looking to the Mother, we are asked to leave behind all sorts of useless

baggage and to rediscover what really matters. The gift of the Mother, the gift of every mother and every woman, is most precious for the Church, for she too is mother and woman. While a man often abstracts, affirms and imposes ideas, a woman, a mother, knows how to “keep”, to put things together in her heart, to give life. If our faith is not to be reduced merely to an idea or a doctrine, all of us need a mother’s heart, one which knows how to keep the tender love of God and to feel the heartbeat of all around us. May the Mother, God’s finest human creation, guard and keep this year, and bring the peace of her Son to our hearts and to our world. And as children, with simplicity, I invite you to greet her as the Christians did at Ephesus in the presence of their bishops: “Holy Mother of God!”. Let us together repeat three times, looking at her [turning to the Statue of Our Lady beside the altar]: “Holy Mother of God!”.

Courtesy: Vaticannewsagency

**TESTIMONY: Miraculous protection by Scapular of Our Lady
Mediatrix of all Grace of Batim, Goa**

On 24th Dec 2017 evening, my husband Erasmo was putting up our Christmas decorative lights. On finding a fault in the extension cord he was trying to check and repair the same with the current on. Suddenly his fingers slipped from the tester and landed into the box of live wires. He was electrocuted, stuck in that position and could not shake himself free. He called out to my sons in the adjoining room to switch off the mains.

Erwin, our son, came out of his room and saw his Dad shaking and shivering and immediately put off the main switch. His fingers and thumb were badly burnt, but he was safe. It could have been worse if nobody was near. He could have even suffered a cardiac arrest.

Truly it was a miracle he was saved! He attributed this miracle to our dearest Mother Mary. He devoutly wears the Blessed Scapular of Our Lady Mediatrix of All Grace, which I got for him from Dr Celcio Dias from Batim.

Truly we believe that Mary is with us always and protects us from all evil and danger.

Thank You Dearest Mother.

Erasmo and Anabelle Mendonca, Chinchinim, Goa

Privileges of the Scapular of Our Lady Mediatrix of all Grace (united to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Scapular) for those who wear it, after blessed by a consecrated Catholic Priest, in union with his Bishop and obedient to the Holy Father:-

- 1) In these times Our Lady shall protect and conquer souls for God.
- 2) We shall walk hand in hand and in Her Shadow.
- 3) No evil shall snatch us from Our Heavenly Mother.
- 4) Anyone who dies clothed in this shall not suffer eternal fire; and if wearing it they die, they shall be saved. <https://ourladybatim.blogspot.in/p/the-brownschapular-of-our-lady-of-mount.html>

Peace on earth? HERE'S HOW

By E. William Sockey III

In the spring of 1916, during World War I, Pope Benedict called on all the children of the warring nations to offer Holy Communion for an end of the war and peace on earth. An Angel appeared to the three children of Fatima and gave them Holy Communion. Francisco and Jacinta received their First Holy Communion from the Angel, who told the children he was the Angel of Peace.



The Angel relayed that peace could be obtained for their nation through prayer and sacrifices offered up as reparation for the conversion of sinners. When Lucia asked how to offer sacrifices, the Angel said to make everything we can a sacrifice, above all to accept and bear with submission the suffering we encounter each day, and offer it up as reparation for sin.

The next year, on May 5, Pope Benedict added “Queen of Peace, pray for us” to the Litany of Loreto and asked the entire Church to join with him in petition to Our Lady Queen of Peace for peace on earth. Eight days later, Our Lady appeared to the three children at the Cove of Peace in Fatima. She explained that war is a consequence of sin, and that peace can be attained only by reducing sin through the conversion of sinners. The key is that peace is the fruit of people loving God and loving their neighbors; sinning makes people selfish and uncaring about others and this leads to conflict, strife and war. Hence, if we want peace, we need to spread love of God and neighbor as widely as possible throughout the world, and this requires converting those who do not love God and their neighbors. If Christians ignore this responsibility, we will suffer the consequences.

What we are to do ?

Our Lady asked for prayer and sacrifice for the conversion of sinners. The daily Rosary is the most powerful prayer, because we pray 53 times to Our Lady, “pray for us sinners” and six times to Our Lord, “lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.” The Angel of Peace explained that the most effective sacrifice is to offer our daily trials and tribulations as

reparation for the conversion of sinners. Our Lady asked us to offer our sacrifices to God “for love of Jesus, for the conversion of sinners and as reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.” It is instructive that Our Lord told St. Faustina, in the Divine Mercy messages, that “prayer and suffering” is the most effective way to convert sinners.



So it is clear what we need to do. The Rosary alone is not enough. Our Lady herself told us that sacrifices of reparation are also necessary to obtain peace for our country and the world. The Angel of Peace told us the

most effective way to offer sacrifices of reparation is to offer up our daily trials and tribulations. Sister Lucia actually spoke about this, advising that Catholics embrace a radical conversion in the way we look at our suffering, seeing it as part of our mission to convert the world. We aren’t here referring to making voluntary sacrifices, but to accepting our crosses — the involuntary suffering that comes to everyone, even on good days — and turning them into acts of reparation for converting those who don’t love God or their neighbors.

We should begin each day — the moment we wake up, even before we get out of bed — with two prayers: “My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you; I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you,” and “O my Jesus, I accept and bear with submission whatever crosses God permits in my life today for love of you, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.” We should do our best to develop a habit of recognizing our crosses in our daily trials and tribulations and offer them up as they occur throughout the day. And we should let others know about the critical importance of daily prayer and sacrifice for the conversion of sinners in order to obtain peace for our country and the world.

We have an excellent brochure, “9 Seconds of Prayer to Change the World,” that our members can use to explain to others how to fulfill this request of Our Lady.

E. William Sockey III is the custodian of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the US. Taken from The SOUL Magazine, World Apostolate of Fatima, USA (www.wafusa.org) Used with permission, Soul FALL 2017 Edition.

THE FATIMA PRAYERS

PARDON PRAYER: My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.

ANGEL'S PRAYER: 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament!

SACRIFICE PRAYER: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

DECADE PRAYER: O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



‘God wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. If what I say is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace.’

How Do I Start the First Saturdays?

On July 13, 1917, Our Lady appeared for the third time to the three children of Fatima and showed them the vision of hell. In this vision Our Lady said that *‘God wishes to establish in the world devotion’* to Her Immaculate Heart and that She would come to *ask for the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays*...

What Do I Have to Do?

The devotion of First Saturdays, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima, carries with it the assurance of salvation. However, to derive profit from such a great promise of Our Lady, the devotion must be properly understood and duly performed. The requirements as stipulated by Our Lady are as follows:

(1) Confession, (2) Communion, (3) Five decades of the Rosary, (4) Meditation on one or more of the Rosary Mysteries for fifteen minutes, (5) To do all these things in the spirit of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and (6) To observe all these practices on the First Saturday of five consecutive months.

The idea of the Five First Saturdays is obviously to make us persevere in the devotional acts for these Saturdays and overcome initial difficulties. Once this is done, Our Lady knows that the person would become devoted to Her Immaculate Heart and persist in practicing such devotion on all First Saturdays, working thereby for personal self-reform and for the salvation of others. Our Lady has assured us that She will obtain salvation for all those who observe the First Saturdays for five consecutive months in accordance with Her conditions.

For more details please email: ourladybatim@gmail.com

Dates to Remember - February 2018

- 2nd: Presentation of the Lord
3rd: First Saturday, Service at Batim - see below for details.
5th: St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr
6th: Sts Paul Miki and his Companions, Martyrs
11th: Our Lady of Lourdes
14th: Ash Wednesday
22nd: St Peter's Chair, Feast

PRAYER PETITIONS AND TESTIMONIES

- + Your prayer petitions may be submitted online at: thebatimmessage.com
These prayer requests will be placed at the feet of Our Lady of Fatima in the the Church of Sts Simon & Jude and offered during the First Saturday Mass at Batim.
- + Your testimonies may be submitted online at:
ourladybatim5thdogma.com or emailed to: ourladybatim@gmail.com

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION IN HONOUR OF AND IN REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Church of St Simon and St Jude, Batim,
Tiswadi, Goa Velha, Goa 403 108 India.

- 1.00 pm:** +Stations of the Cross
2.00 pm: +Holy Rosary, +Adoration of the
Most Blessed Sacrament, +Divine Mercy
Prayers, +Consecration to the Immaculate
Heart of Mary, +Confessions.
3.30pm: +Holy Mass.

Services are held in Konkani and English

CONTACT DETAILS FOR TRANSPORT BY BUS:

Margao, Petrol pump closest to
Main Post Office 11am,
Mob: 9420712310

Panaji: Caranzalem near Post
Office at 1145 am, near Don
Bosco at 12pm,
Tel: 08322456306

Mapusa: From St Joseph's
Chapel, Near Police Station at
11.45 am, Mob: 9822167665

Calangute: From Calangute
Church at 1130 am,
Mob: 9421241248

In conformity with the directives of Pope Urban VIII, we have no intention of anticipating the judgement of the Holy Apostolic See and of the Church on Apparitions, reported by us, but not yet recognized; indeed, we submit to, and accept; her final decision without reservation.

Printed and Published by The Batimmessage.com

This newsletter is available online. A printed copy of this newsletter is also available FREE (except where otherwise indicated) at the Prayer Services in Batim, Goa.

An archive of previous issues is available on the website: www.thebatimmessage.com
Your prayerful support and donations - however small - is greatly appreciated!

Editor: DR. CHRISTOPHER DIAS

www.thebatimmessage.com

Asst Editor: ANNABELLE MENDONCA

www.ourladybatim5thdogma.com

Email: ourladybatim@gmail.com

For Private Circulation