



# FÁTIMA LUZ E PAZ

Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima

Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas

Quarterly publication

Year 20

69

*Like Mary, bearers of joy and love:  
Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor*

## The Message of Fatima as an Expression of God's Solicitude for Suffering Humanity

/ P. Carlos Cabecinhas

The great pilgrimage of 12 and 13 May marks the rhythm of the annual lifecycle of the Shrine of Fatima, not only because it is the most important and significant pilgrimage, but also because it gives visibility to the annual pastoral theme.

Celebrated this year, with many limitations, imposed by the pandemic context, this pilgrimage shall urge us to be more aware of our fragility and to entrust ourselves into the hands of the Lord, who lifts up the weak.

This pastoral year is the first of a triennium, which has the World Youth Day in 2023 as its horizon. Inspired by Pope Francis' words about this Day and its theme – "Mary arose and went in haste" (Lk 1:39) – we have chosen the title and theme of this triennium: Like Mary, bearers of joy and love.

However, if we want to be fully in tune with the journey of preparation for this Day, we cannot, in any way, ignore the reality of the pandemic that affects us, with all its consequences, because we are aware that it represents a deep pastoral challenge that needs to be considered globally in the life and action of the Shrine.

Thus, in this year 2020-2021, we will take as our theme "Praise the Lord who lifts up the weak". The intention is, in this context of pandemic, to pay special attention to human fragility, enlightening it with Christian faith and seeking to identify the contribution that the message of Fatima can offer to our experience of fragility. The biblical phrase that will guide us in developing this theme is: "Young man, I say to you, get up!" (Lk 7:14). From the Memoirs of Sister Lucia, we have drawn on the promise made to her by Our Lady upon the June apparition in Cova da Iria: "Are you suffering a great deal? Don't lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge" (IV Memoir).

Thus, in the course of this new pastoral year we intend to go deeper into the understanding of the message of Fatima as an expression of God's solicitude for suffering humanity, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary is an icon of the mercy of God. And we shall not fail to invoke the intercession of Our Lady and the Holy Shepherds so that we may overcome this pandemic situation as soon as possible.

## First Entirely Digital Edition of the Fatima Light and Peace Bulletin

In this issue you can access, besides the texts, several videos and news about the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima and the life of the Shrine, namely the International Anniversary Pilgrimages and the Theological-Pastoral Symposium, "Fatima Today: Thinking about Holiness".

Carmo Rodeia

The Fatima Bulletin Light and Peace, launched by the Shrine of Fatima in 2004, will be available only online, in the seven official languages of the Shrine and with the same periodicity, starting with this edition.

This quarterly publication, with an average print-run of 12 thousand copies per issue throughout these 16 years, remains committed to reaching out, promoting and disseminating the cult of Our Lady of Fatima.

The suspension of the paper edition now raises new challenges for the Shrine of Fatima, which has been taking, through this publication, the message left by Our Lady to all continents, aiming to be a living presence of Cova da Iria in each particular church: "United in faith and committed to spreading the message of Fatima, we have walked side by side" stated the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Father Carlos Cabecinhas, also director of the publication, in a letter sent to all subscribers.

"Today we are facing new challenges that must be measured against the times in which we live," said the Rector, recalling that the publication, free for subscribers, had

very high printing and distribution costs. This May edition will only be available online at [www.fatima.pt](http://www.fatima.pt).

The editions in the various languages will be maintained and anyone, from anywhere in the world, will be able to access this publication free of charge and to subscribe to the newsletter.

Besides interviews, reports and opinion articles, this digital publication of the Shrine of Fatima will also include texts, photos and videos illustrating the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima in the world, always in accordance with the editorial line of the Shrine of Fatima.

This edition, besides showing what the life of the Shrine has been like during this period of more restricted lockdown, throws hints on what will be the main activities of the Shrine during the summer, namely the name of the person who will preside over the great anniversary pilgrimages and the program of the Theological-Pastoral Symposium, which will take place in June, physically.

For any information, subscribers should contact [press@fatima.pt](mailto:press@fatima.pt).



# The Theological-Pastoral Symposium Challenges Us to Consider Holiness from The Present Moment Perspective

“Fatima, today: thinking about Holiness” is the theme of the Theological-Pastoral Symposium, which will take place between June 18 and 20. / Carmo Rodeia

“Fatima, today: thinking about Holiness” is the challenge that the Theological-Pastoral Symposium, organized annually by the Shrine, intends to launch between June 18 and 20, after last year’s initiative was postponed due to the pandemic.

Based on the example of the first two saints of Fatima, in particular Jacinta Marto, the Shrine intends to carry out a reflection of three days on the identity and the desire of any Christian community - holiness -, which has been its main feature for over two thousand years. The pandemic context that the country and the world are going through dictates a “today” - a favourable time in the Christian lexicon -, an opportunity to reflect on the condition of humanity itself.

“In Fatima it makes sense, today, to think about holiness through the experience that the event and the story of Cova da Iria propose to humanity which, in the twentieth century, is looking at itself through the intricate fabric of what it means to be humanity. Fatima also helped and continues to help us to read and live the holiness that is no longer consecrated to a ‘beata stirps’, but that includes ‘the saints by the door’”, says the president of the Scientific and Organizing Committee of the Symposium, Marco Daniel Duarte.

The Shrine of Fatima proposes, quite regularly, different forums of formation and reflection for pilgrims and other pastoral agents, from people who have the mission of teaching (be it parish priests, catechists, instructors of religious houses) to other people who live the message of Fatima and their ecclesial commitment in a very dedicated way.

“The symposiums, more than spaces of formation, are spaces of reflection that seek to open horizons in thinking about different aspects that are of interest to the Church in our time,”

admits the organizer of the



To view the programme and proceed with registration please click on the image above.

Symposium.

“One of the great concerns of the Shrine of Fatima has been to lead theologians and other researchers to look at Fatima - starting from the primary sources concerning this place, but also starting from its centennial history - from the ritual and spiritual practices that this place inspires. What the thousands of Fatima pilgrims live and feel interests the scholars and what the scholars reflect upon interests the pilgrims. This dialectic, even if at first sight it may not seem obvious, has been very much developed by these symposiums, whose reflection is fed by the praxis of the pilgrims and, at the same time, feeds this very praxis,” he further clarifies.

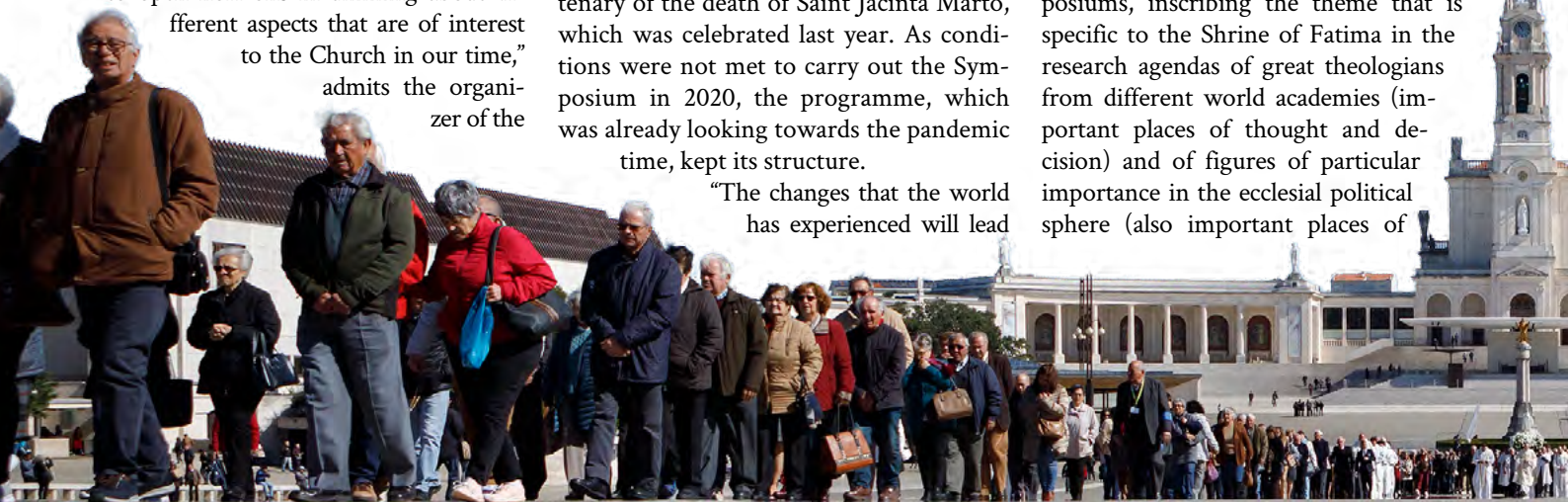
The theme of this Symposium was envisaged from the perspective of the Centenary of the death of Saint Jacinta Marto, which was celebrated last year. As conditions were not met to carry out the Symposium in 2020, the programme, which was already looking towards the pandemic time, kept its structure.

“The changes that the world has experienced will lead

the speakers to talk about Holiness - the general theme of the symposium - in the specific context in which it is proposed and lived, in the “today” - a word that is part of the title of the Symposium - that we are living through,” justifies Marco Daniel Duarte who also underlines the wider role of the Shrine in the debate and theological reflection of our days.

“Fatima has left its mark on the international theological reflection, perhaps more than one might think ‘a priori’. It has done so through the great challenges related to the very phenomenon of the Fatima prophecy, which has led the Church to reflect on many aspects, even to the point of bringing the highest magisterium to pronounce on the founding event of Fatima,” he clarifies.

“It has done so also through these symposiums, inscribing the theme that is specific to the Shrine of Fatima in the research agendas of great theologians from different world academies (important places of thought and decision) and of figures of particular importance in the ecclesial political sphere (also important places of





## Pilgrimages in May, August and October will be Presided by Three Cardinals

“Praise the Lord who lifts up the weak” is the pastoral theme of the Shrine that will be the focus of the summer in Cova da Iria. / Carmo Rodeia

thought and decision),” he further explains.

Through these forums, and namely through its Department of Studies, the Shrine of Fatima “is getting closer to many academies”, not only regarding the teaching of Theology, but also regarding other fields, because “only a competent interdisciplinarity can contribute to that desirable observatory on Fatima that will benefit the current reflection.”

“This is a work that is always going deeper. It took its first steps in the 40s, 50s and 60s of the last century and went through a really great development in the following decades. The 80s brought key contributions for fixing these themes as permanent concerns, with very important congresses on the contents of Fatima. The new millennium, particularly the dynamics surrounding the centenary of the apparitions, brought a remarkable periodicity to this type of forum,” adds Marco Daniel Duarte.

The last two symposia, and now this one, which will take place in 2021, have looked specifically at Fatima, in order to assess and make new breakthroughs on its hundred years of history.

“If the Shrine of Fatima does not continue to go deeper regarding these axes of reflection, it will betray its mission, inscribed in the mandate that Lucia testifies to have received from the Virgin Mary: learn to read,” says the Director of the Department of Studies of the Shrine of Fatima.

On the other hand, these reflection forums allow the internationalization of the Shrine, not only through the participation of international experts, but also through its own diffusion.

“This internationalization, which is already talked about in certain spheres of thought, will now have to spread and to give shape to a way of thinking about Fatima at the different levels of its experience. Continuing to invest in research is the right strategy to achieve this,” foresees Marco Daniel Duarte.



Cardinal Tolentino Mendonça



Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich



Cardinal Sérgio da Rocha

Cardinal Tolentino de Mendonça will preside, in May, the first anniversary international pilgrimage in Fatima, being the first time he presides a celebration in this Shrine since he was made bishop and then cardinal.

In fact, the three main international anniversary pilgrimages of the Shrine of Fatima, in May, August and October, will be presided by three cardinals from three different countries. Portuguese Cardinal Tolentino de Mendonça will preside over the May pilgrimage, while the August pilgrimage will be presided over by Archbishop and Cardinal of Luxembourg Jean-Claude Hollerich. And Sergio da Rocha, Archbishop of Salvador da Bahia and Primate of Brazil, will preside over the pilgrimage celebrating the sixth apparition in October.

The three prelates were made cardinals by Pope Francis and are part of the youngest group of cardinal electors in a future Conclave.

Monsignor José Tolentino de Mendonça is one of the most prominent figures of the Portuguese Church and an outstanding poet in the context of literature in Portugal and the Lusophone world.

Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, 62 years old, who will be in Fatima in August, for

what is also known as the ‘migrant pilgrimage’, currently presides the Commission of the Bishops’ Conferences of the European Community (COMECE).

At 61, he was the first Luxembourger to become a member of the College of Cardinals. He received the news in Portugal while on holiday. He maintains a close relationship with the Portuguese community.

In October, Cardinal Sergio da Rocha, Archbishop of Salvador da Bahia and Primate of Brazil, will be in Fatima.

The Brazilian cardinal was invited for the Pilgrimage of May 2020, but due to the pandemic he did not come to Portugal. Sergio da Rocha was Auxiliary Bishop of Fortaleza and Archbishop of Teresina, and was the fourth metropolitan Archbishop of Brasilia.

The anniversary pilgrimages will have as their theme the motto of the pastoral year: “Praise the Lord who lifts up the weak”, which aligns with the dynamic of the next three years, a period in which the Shrine will be focused on the preparation of the World Youth Day (WYD), planned for 2023 in Lisbon.



## Pilgrim Image of Fatima to be Ambassador of Peace in the Caucasus

Between September and October, the statue of Fatima will visit the first Christian country of this part of the world / Carmo Rodeia

The Pilgrim Image No. 2 of Fatima will travel to the Caucasus, in September and October, at the request of the Apostolic Nuncio in Armenia and Georgia, Archbishop José Bettencourt, who has already expressed “his joy” for this unprecedented trip.

This will be the first time that the Image visits these territories of the former Soviet Union, passing also, according to the Pope’s diplomatic representative, through Azerbaijan.

“The Catholics of the Caucasus rejoice at the news of the visit of the Image of Our Lady of Fatima to the region,” said the Archbishop, who was born in the Azores, in a message sent to the Shrine in Fatima.

The Image, which will pass through parishes and Catholic communities of the three countries, has a specific intention “of reconciliation and peace”, in a region where several conflicts remain “frozen”, while some were reactivated during last year, all of them threatening the stability and security of the entire zone.

For José Milhazes, journalist and author of the book “The Message of Fatima in the Soviet Union-Russia”, the presence of Fatima in the Caucasus “is particularly important in a region of the European Continent battered, for many years, by wars and serious political crises, because the message emanating from Cova da Iria is a message of peace among men,” he told the Shrine.

“Certainly the image of the Virgin Mary will be received with open hearts and arms in Armenia, the first country to proclaim Christianity as its religion in the distant year 301. Since 1989, Armenia has been involved in a war with neighbouring Azerbaijan, and these two countries need peace, they need a reconciliation which is taking time to emerge,” explains the journalist, who was a correspondent for SIC in Russia.

Living in Portugal, the journalist also underlines the “long and deep internal crisis” that afflicts Georgia.

“The presence of Fatima in Georgia will contribute to make hearts more peaceful, more open to dialogue and will certainly remind people of the contribution of the Portuguese missionaries to the rescue of the remains of the Georgian martyr Saint Ketevan, whose ordeal is represented in the tiles on the walls of the Convento da Graça, in Lisbon,” he said.

Also the journalist Aura Miguel, one of the winners of the Journalism Award instituted on the Centenary of the Apparitions, with a multimedia report entitled “Fatima in Belarus, a flame that the USSR did not extinguish”, produced in partnership with Joana Bourgard, recalls that the presence of the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Fatima in the Caucasus region can help to “consolidate peace and unity” among Christians and to “strengthen the dialogue with Islam” in this

strategic area between Europe and Asia.

The presence of the Pilgrim Image of Fatima will be a “privileged occasion to reinforce this longing for peace and dialogue, without any distinction of ethnic, linguistic, political or religious nature,” she concluded.



The Pilgrim Image will pass through the parishes of three countries on a mission of peace.





# Pilgrim of Hope and Peace Returns to Fatima

Pope Francis will visit Fatima during the World Youth Day in 2023. His intention was revealed by the President of the Republic after an audience at the Vatican. The Portuguese Church highlights Fatima's worldwide importance. / Carmo Rodeia

The return of Pope Francis to Fatima, in 2023, is an "enormous joy" and the "recognition of the importance of Fatima for the world". This is how the leaders of the Church in Portugal, and of the Shrine of Fatima in particular, reacted to the announcement made by the President of the Republic about the Holy Father's expressed wish to return to Fatima during the World Youth Day, that will take place in Lisbon in August 2023.

"This statement of the Pope saying he intends to come to Fatima in 2023 is for us a motive of enormous joy. He even intends to return to Fatima, since we already had the joy of counting on his presence on the occasion of the centenary of the apparitions, in 2017," said Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas.

At the end of his private audience with the Pope at the Vatican, on March 12, following his re-election, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa revealed that Francis, besides going to Lisbon, also wants to be in Fatima: "It was, as it had been five years ago [after Marcelo was elected head of state for the first time], an occasion to see how attentive the Pope is to everything. [...] He spoke, of course, of going to Portugal, in 2023, to Lisbon and to Fatima - he immediately added - on the World Youth Days," the President of the Republic said.

"Knowing today, after the meeting with the President of the Republic, that the Pope intends to return to Fatima," on the occasion of WYD, "is, indeed, a reason for great rejoicing, and the Shrine is obviously preparing to receive him with open arms."

"The WYD itself has a Marian theme - 'Mary arose and went with haste' - and, therefore, it means a lot to us and it impacts the life of the Shrine,"

said Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, highlighting: "This is already our pastoral option for this period" until the WYD, which "is now crowned with this news". In November 2020, the Shrine of Fatima announced that it would align the next three years of its pastoral action with the preparation of the WYD.

"For us, it also means preparing to welcome him in the best way and, above all, to live this moment intensely, helping pilgrims to experience the closeness not only of Mary, but also the closeness of Peter's successor," the Rector added.

The Bishop of the diocese of Leiria-Fatima, Cardinal Antonio Marto, considered for his part that this intention of Pope Francis is a recognition of the importance of Fatima for the world: "The intention of the Pope is certainly a reason for pride for all Christians in our country and a further recognition of the importance that Fatima has for the whole world," said Bishop Antonio Marto.

In the same statement, Bishop Antonio Marto added: "the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima happily welcomes the possibility of

the visit of Pope Francis to Fatima on the occasion of the World Youth Day to be held in Lisbon in 2023, communicated by the Presidency of the Republic."

"At this moment it is only an expectation as it will depend on the program of that event, one of the world's greatest gathering of young people," the Bishop stressed.

The President of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference (CEP), Bishop José Ornelas, also highlighted the importance that Pope Francis gives to Fatima and Marian devotion: "Fatima has a projection in the Catholic world, throughout the world, that is really huge. We recognize the importance that the Pope gives to Fatima and to the Marian devotion, not simply to the spirit of devotion to Mary, but to what it means regarding the role and importance of women in the Church that he has highlighted," said Bishop José Ornelas, also Bishop of Setúbal.

Moreover, the president of CEP said he was not surprised by this announcement, which "was expected", admitting that the majority of young people who will go to Lisbon on such occasion will also want to go to Fatima.

Pope Francisco was at the Shrine of Fatima for the first time in May 2017, in a visit of less than 24 hours, to preside over the celebrations of the centenary of the events of Fatima and the canonisation of Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the children who in 1917 claimed to have seen

Our Lady in Cova da Iria.

This was the sixth visit of a Pope to the Shrine of Fatima. Paul VI (1967), John Paul II (1982, 1991 and 2000) and Benedict XVI (2010) were the previous popes to visit Portugal.



# A year has passed since the Shrine of Fatima put into practice its lockdown strategy, a first in its whole history

The Shrine of Fatima recalls in a video the 365 days that deprived many of a pilgrimage to Cova da Iria / Diogo Carvalho Alves



The decision to suspend all liturgical celebrations with the physical presence of pilgrims was announced on March 13.

On March 14, 2020, due to the pandemic situation of the new coronavirus, a lockdown strategy, which was a first in the Shrine almost century-old history, was put into practice in the temple of Cova da Iria. One year later, the Shrine of Fatima recalls, in a video, this difficult year of privation.

The decision to suspend all liturgical celebrations held in the physical presence of pilgrims was announced right after the celebrations of the Pilgrimage of March 13, in accordance with the guidelines communicated by the Portuguese Episcopal Conference. The pandemic spread of a new respiratory virus required this difficult decision to be taken, as the priority was to protect the pilgrims and the Shrine's own staff. On the same day, the Shrine of Fatima guaranteed the daily broadcasting of the Mass and the recitation of the Rosary - which were from then on celebrated behind closed doors - through its digital channels, in an effort to mitigate the isolation stemming from lockdown measures, bringing to people the "comfort of the maternal lap they find in Cova da Iria."

Last year, the vast majority of the liturgical celebrations that took place in the Shrine of Fatima were held without the physical presence of pilgrims, as happened with the "difficult and challenging" Anniversary Pilgrimage of May 12 and 13, which, for the first time in the history of the Shrine, took place in a Prayer Area stripped of pilgrims; and with the Pilgrimage of October 12 and 13, attended by a limited number of pilgrims participating in person.

The lockdowns of 2020 and 2021 also entailed the cancellation or postponement of many of the pastoral, cultural and educational proposals of the Shrine of Fatima, as happened with the retreats, the temporary exhibition and the Theological-Pastoral Symposium, as well as with the 15th course on the message of Fatima, which were scheduled for June and November.

As some pilgrims shyly start coming again to Cova da Iria at the end of May, in order to guarantee the safety of all, the Shrine implemented a series of measures, which have been since then extended to the different spaces of Cova da Iria.

During these 365 days, the life of the Shrine was practically restricted to the celebrations and the welcome at the celebrations, which were the focus of the commitment of the collaborators, volunteers and employees of the Shrine of Fatima.

This hard and atypical year had a real impact on the daily life of the Shrine, but above all on the life of millions of people who found themselves unable to make their pilgrimage to Cova da Iria, assuming this deprivation in an act of love for their neighbour, protecting themselves and their families.

The effort required by this pandemic and the consequent lockdown involved everyone, as Pope Francis recalled in the very first days, when he said that "we are all in the same boat". The message of Fatima and the lives of saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto also invite us to hope and trust in God, to live in attention to others and to be part of the solution.

This video that recalls a year of lockdown also ends with a hopeful look into the future.



# The Shrine of Fatima Provides Hospitality as a Mission and as a Service to All Pilgrims

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the Shrine of Fatima implemented a strict contingency plan

/ Cátia Filipe

In the course of a century, the events of Fatima have gone from being a local phenomenon to a global one, and the bet on Spiritual and Religious Tourism has become a characteristic feature of the site.

In this context, Fatima occupies an important place, first as the most significant and striking destination for Portuguese religious tourism, but also for the variety of origins of the pilgrims who, each year, come to Fatima and prove that this is, in fact, a worldwide known and sought after Shrine. The celebration of the Centenary, in 2017, consolidated the internationalization of Fatima.

The Shrine of Fatima has been concerned with developing Fatima as a great destination for religious tourism

modation works to create conditions so that pilgrims, in groups or individually, have access to accommodation and food in the Houses that the Shrine put at their disposal, as well as to provide spaces and equipment for pastoral activities.

The Retreat House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, known for being the place where the Popes traditionally stay overnight when they visit Fatima, is located on the south side of the Prayer Area. This House provides spaces for retreats, educational meetings and other activities of a training-pastoral nature, as well as spaces for the accommodation of the respective participants. It currently has single, double and triple rooms, totalling 119 bedrooms and 191 beds. Regarding the spaces for pastoral activities, the Retreat House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel offers 9 rooms with a total capacity to welcome 552 people. The dining room has a capacity for 230 people.

The Retreat House of Our Lady of Sorrows, located on the northern side of the Prayer Area, has single, double, triple and quadruple rooms, with a total of 129 bedrooms and 278 beds. This House also offers 6 rooms for activities, with a total capacity for 430 people. The dining room can welcome 280 people.

The Pastoral Centre of Paul VI, located on the western side of the Shrine of Fatima, was inaugurated by John Paul II, on May 13, 1982. The Centre, designed by José Carlos Loureiro, has four floors and an area of 1.4 hectares. It has a large amphitheatre, with 2,124 seats, rooms for meetings, a chapel, accommodations in dormitories and a self-service refectory. About 243 people can stay overnight in 53 bedrooms. The Pastoral Centre offers 11 rooms, with a capacity for 1,125 people. The dining room can welcome 100 people.

The Pope Francis Youth Space has the capacity to accommodate groups of young people or families, with a total of 21 bedrooms, with 47 beds.

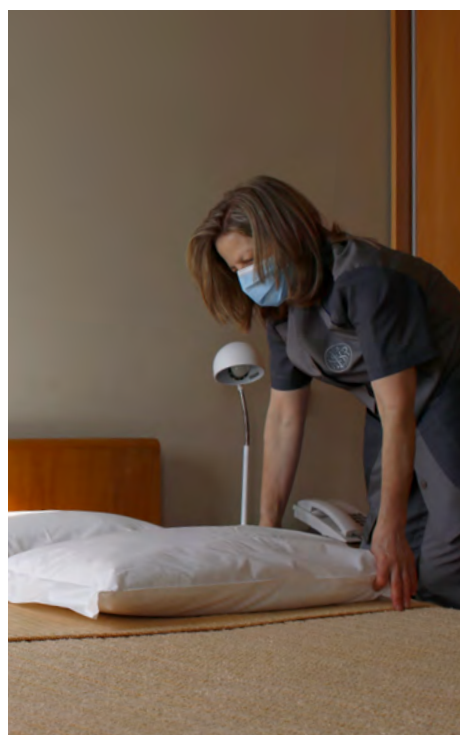
In all these infrastructures it is possible to stay overnight, on a bed and breakfast, half board or full board basis, or to have meals on your own. The

Department of Accommodation also offers catering as a complement to some activities.

The spaces for pastoral activities are equipped with multimedia tools.

In this time of a pandemic, the Shrine of Fatima has a strict contingency plan in place. Thus, the occupation rate is limited in any of the spaces and hygienic measures in all the places are reinforced, with the guarantee of an extended empty period, never less than 48 hours, between each occupation of the same room by different guests.

The Shrine of Fatima is a place of pilgrimage that celebrates its founding events, and the welcoming of the pilgrims is an essential feature of its mission.



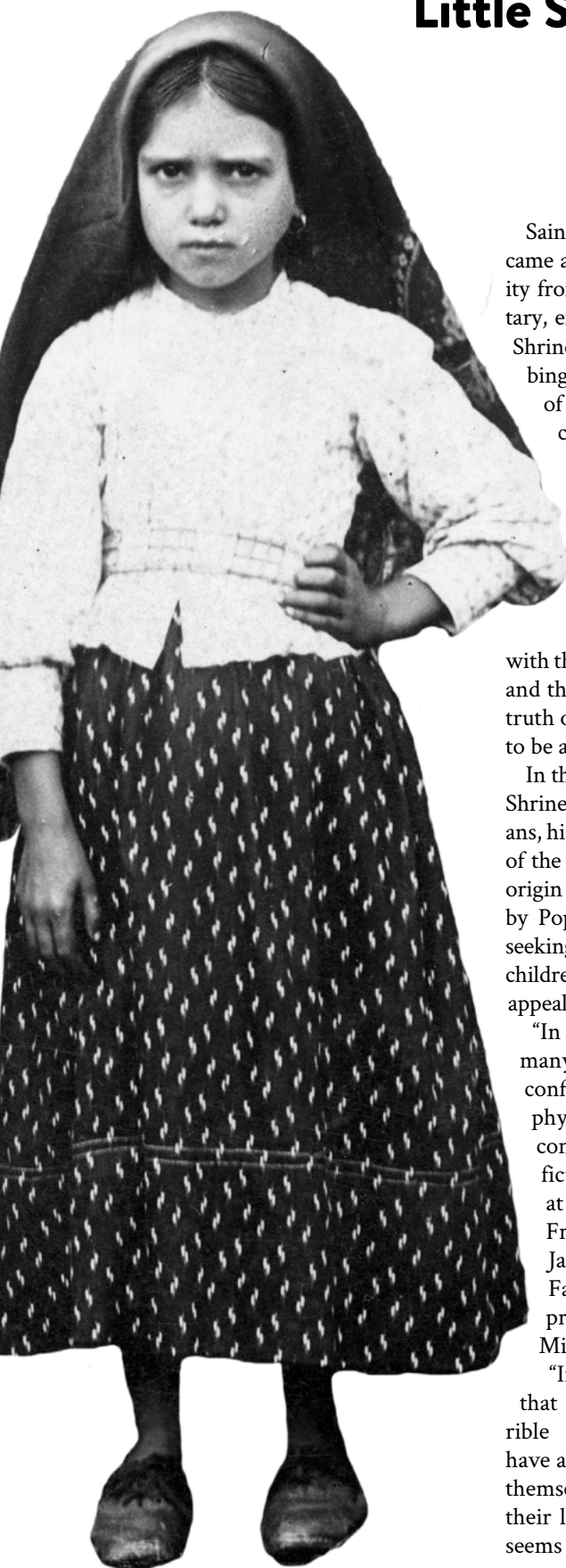
The Shrine of Fatima has the capacity to accommodate about 750 pilgrims.

ism and pilgrimage and, to this end, its primary mission is to welcome pilgrims, meeting their various needs and providing the right environment for an encounter with God. In this sense, over the years, the Shrine has developed services and tools to better respond to these needs. Its Department of Accom-



The dining rooms have a capacity of about 600 people.

## Documentary “Saints Neighbours”, produced and directed by the Shrine to celebrate the Little Shepherds’ Day, is available on the on demand VatiVision platform



Saints Neighbours - two children who became a light shining for the whole humanity from Fatima - is a one-hour documentary, entirely produced and directed by the Shrine of Fatima, in Portuguese with dubbing in Italian and English, about the life of the first two saints of Fatima, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, a life marked by the grace and mercy of God.

In these children history, we see the same paradoxical force that seals the whole history of salvation put into action: the infinite disproportion between the history of the proud and the powerful, with their schemes, strategies and conflicts, and the history of the humble who, in the truth of their existence, are invited by God to be a transforming leaven of humanity.

In this documentary, also available on the Shrine’s official Youtube channel, theologians, historians, religious and the very family of the miracle child whose miracle was the origin of the canonisation of the two seers by Pope Francis in May 2017, intervene, seeking to highlight what makes these two children from Serra D’Aire so special and appealing for the experience of faith today.

“In this atrocious period of humanity, many people were confronted and are confronted with a very hard reality of physical and psychological suffering, of confinement at home, of economic difficulties that will continue, of deaths at home of isolated people, a bit like Francisco, or hospitalised, a bit like Jacinta, in the hospital in Lisbon” says Father Franco Manzi, theologian and professor at the diocesan seminary of Milan.

“In this period, however, I notice that even in the hardest and most terrible moments of confinement, many have asked God for help, intercession, for themselves, but also often for others, for their loved ones and for humanity. So it seems interesting to me not only to un-



Documentary also available on the YouTube channel of the Shrine of Fatima

derline the doubt that always arises in view of the number of people exterminated by COVID in the latest months, but also the fact that us, Christians, we might ask ourselves: does it make sense to pray to God in a situation of need like this? Does God come to help us? Does he not? It seems to me that Francisco and Jacinta themselves



The testimony of the family of Lucas Maeda, the miracle child, can be seen in the documentary.



It is the first Portuguese content on the platform that, since last June 8, 2020, makes available series, films, documentaries and content of cultural, artistic and religious nature inspired by the Christian message under the high patronage of the Vatican.

Carmo Rodeia



Shrine of Fatima (click on the image to view).

can help us to take a step forward in this experience, because they teach us that the children of the kingdom of God dare to raise prayers of request to God Abba, to God the Father, because they have learned from Jesus himself to desire with him all that is necessary for our salvation and the salvation of others, but remaining on our

side, on the earthly side, on the side of the children of the kingdom," he further said.

"From this point of view, I would say that Jacinta and Francisco, Christian prophets, became imitators of Christ, living and original memories of him, and in this way they fulfilled their mission, which I would call prophetic. The Holy Spirit spoke to the Church through them, to the Portuguese Church and to the universal Church," says Franco Manzi.

Also speaking in the documentary are the former postulator of the Cause of Canonization of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, Sister Angela Coelho; the Director of the Department of Studies of the Shrine, Marco Daniel Duarte; the theologian Pedro Valinho Gomes; the family and the miracle child and the Carmelite Sister.

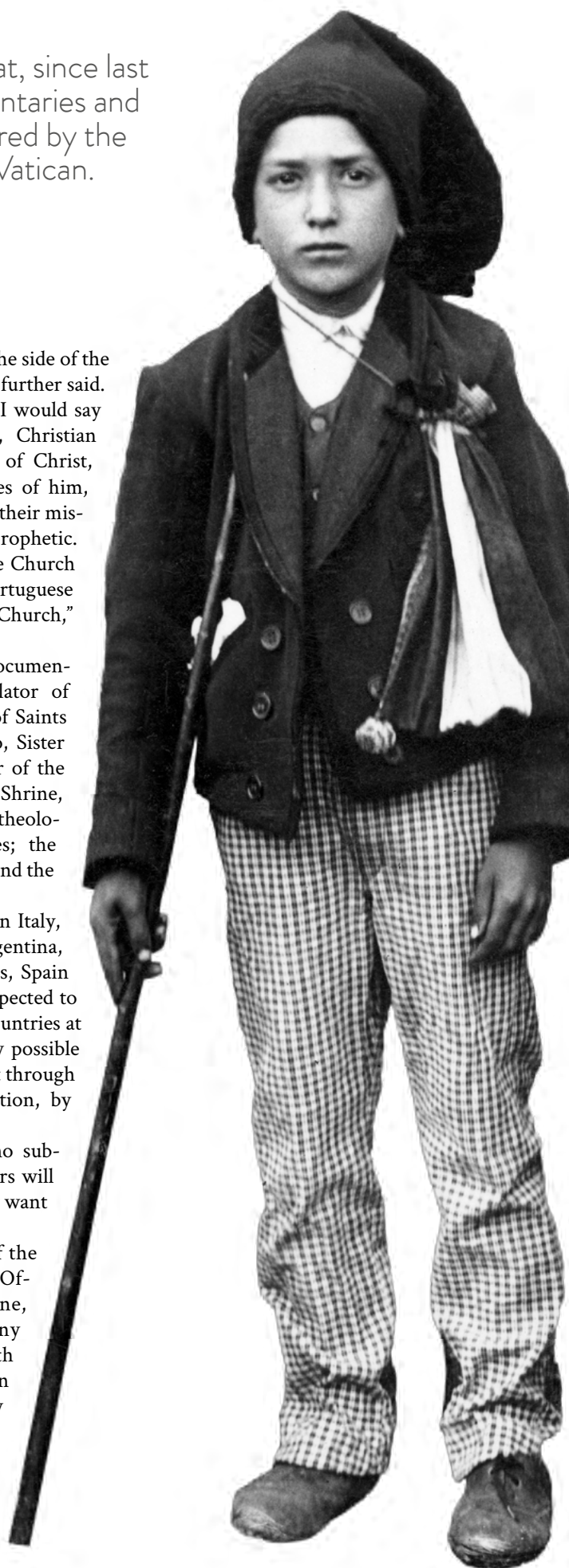
The platform is available in Italy, United States, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, Brazil, Philippines, Spain and Poland. VatiVision is expected to be made available in more countries at a later date, and it is already possible to access some of the content through the website, from any location, by registering on the site.

To access the platform, no subscription is required and users will only pay for the content they want to see.

VatiVision is the result of the union of two companies, Officina della Comunicazione, a film production company that usually collaborates with the Vatican, and Vetrya, an Italian technology company specialising in digital solutions. The project is sponsored by Ubi Banca, the fourth largest banking group in Italy.



In the documentary also intervene the theologian Franco Manzi (in the photo), the theologian Pedro Valinho Gomes, the former postulator of the Cause of Canonization of the Little Shepherds, Sister Angela Coelho, and the historian Marco Daniel Duarte.



# “The culture of compassion is the antidote to the culture of indifference of those who avert their gaze from their wounded brothers and sisters on the side of the road”

Antonio Marto, bishop of the diocese of Leiria-Fátima, presided the celebration in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary in Fatima. / Cátia Filipe

On February 20, in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, Cardinal António Marto, bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fátima, presided over the celebration and spoke of the proximity, compassion and tenderness of the Little Shepherds of Fatima, as an example for us to resist the pandemic and overcome fear: “The time we are living is difficult for everyone, it is a time of crisis at various levels, health, economic, social, ecological, cultural and also a crisis in human relations, which is perhaps the most serious,” began the prelate, warning that, in times of crisis, “it is very easy to fall into despair.” For the first time, the Little Shepherds’ Day was celebrated only in a digital environment.

“Our dear Little Shepherds are stars from whom closeness, compassion and tenderness shine forth, as a reflection of God’s relationship to us, and which must become a reflection of our mutual care for one another.” This is how “we will resist the pandemic and overcome fear, insecurity, loneliness, discouragement and suffering in its negative aspects.”

The Portuguese Cardinal stated that “one cannot live ignoring the others, because we are all in the same boat, all interdependent.” This was the message that Our Lady left in Fatima, at a time when the world was also going through a pandemic crisis and a world war. Through this experience “people realized that the closeness of God’s love was meant for all men and women, that He was



not at a distance, far away and indifferent, but that He was a God who made himself close and allowed himself to be approached by all, even the distanced and sinful, and excluded no one from his mercy.”

“The culture of compassion is the antidote to the culture of indifference of those who avert their gaze from their wounded brothers and sisters on the side of the road,” he said, as he considered that the Church “is called upon to be, in its mission, a field hospital that welcomes and cares for the wounded and helps heal the wounds with the balm of compassion.”

The first moment of the Little Shepherds’ Day was the Vigil of the Little Shepherds, a celebration that began with the recitation of the Rosary, followed by the veneration of the tombs where the main relics of the first two saints of Fatima, Saint Francisco and Saint Jacinta Marto, are kept.

In a space specially cared for and illuminated by candles, symbol of the light of Fatima, the Rector of the Shrine who presided over the celebration recalled the “two lamps that God lit” and which shall be for all the humanity an example of surrender to God.

*“In this time of crisis  
our dear little Shepherds  
must become a model of our  
mutual care for one another.”*

**CARDINAL DON ANTÓNIO MARTO**

Mass for the Feast of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto  
20 February 2021



# The Shrine of Fatima recalled the angelic apparitions

“Nowadays, we observe that many people receive communion, but they are not in communion with Jesus or with their brothers and sisters, and the Angel calls attention to this gift, the heart of our spiritual life”. / Cátia Filipe



EXPOSIÇÃO TEMPORÁRIA  
**OS ROSTOS**  
 DE FÁTIMA  
  
 OS ROSTOS  
 PROTAGONISTAS,  
 O ROSTO  
 DO ANJO EM FÁTIMA  
 ADVERTÊNCIA, PROTEÇÃO  
 E LAMENTO  
  
**Padre**  
**Manuel Antunes**

Father Manuel Antunes was the guest of the third video of the series presenting the exhibition “The Faces of Fatima: Images of a Spiritual Setting”.

In the spring of 1916, an angel, who presented himself as the “Angel of Peace”, appeared to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta in Loca do Cabeço. According to Sister Lucia’s description, he looked like a “young man, about fourteen or fifteen years old, whiter than snow, transparent as crystal when the sun shines through it and of great beauty.”

This moment was the starting point of a story that would profoundly mark Catholicism in Portugal and in the world.

The Cardinal Antonio Marto, bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima, considers that the apparitions of the Angel laid “the foundation of the message of Fatima.” As Father Manuel Antunes, chaplain of the Shrine of Fatima and national assistant of the Movement of the Message of Fatima, tells us: “We don’t know the purpose of these apparitions and the project that God had in the context of the message of Fatima, but we do know that the Angel is sent by God, that he is empowered to say what he says and that what he does is really like an order from God,” highlights the priest in statements recorded for the series of videos presenting the exhibition “Faces of Fatima”.

Based on the nucleus that speaks of this key moment for the message of Fatima, Fa-

ther Manuel Antunes recalls that these apparitions remain for some time “unknown, because Lucia thought that these apparitions were for them, in a personal way.” In fact, “these apparitions were to mark the Little Shepherds for all their lives and of course they didn’t stop doing their duty, I speak of looking after the sheep, but after the apparitions of the Angel, they gave a very spiritual meaning to life.”

These apparitions were based on three stages, “in the first apparition the Angel leads the children to adoration, in the second he leads them to penance and in the third to contemplation, and it was on these three foundations that the Little Shepherds grew in their spiritual life.”

The first apparition, in the spring of 1916, “comes as a reminder that God exists, that he is Father and Friend, but he is God and has a primordial place in the life of every individual.”

In the summer of 1916, the second apparition takes place and the Angel “invites the Little Shepherds to penance.” “It is at this moment that he identifies himself as the Angel of Portugal and asks for prayer and sacrifices. There is a call to true penance, which consists in doing our duty, and this

is the true penance of Fatima. But the Little Shepherds went much further, so much so that, in the fifth apparition of Our Lady, they received a very important message, which indicated that God was very pleased with the sacrifices”, explains the priest.

In the third apparition, in the autumn of 1916, the Angel spoke of the Eucharist, “as celebration, as communion, as presence in the tabernacles, but as a presence mistreated and misused, so much so that the Angel spoke of the sins committed against the Eucharist and insistently asked for reparation for these sins.”

“Nowadays, we observe that many people receive communion, but they are not in communion with Jesus or with their brothers and sisters, and the Angel calls attention to this gift, the heart of the Church and the heart of our spiritual life,” Father Manuel Antunes warns.

As neither Sister Lucia in her writings, nor the official questioning of the seers and their relatives, did specifically indicate the days of the three apparitions, which occurred in 1916, the Shrine of Fatima decided, in 2013, to evoke them on a date that would be close to the date of the first apparition.

# Time has come “to fight indifference and stand by the cross of those who suffer” says the Rector of the Shrine

For the monthly pilgrimage of February, Father Carlos Cabecinhas presided the votive Mass of Our Lady of Fatima, during which the death of Sister Lucia de Jesus was remembered. / Carmo Rodeia



The celebration took place without the physical presence of pilgrims but was followed by thousands of people through social and digital media.

Last February 13, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima challenged the more than six thousand virtual pilgrims who followed the Votive Mass of Our Lady of Fatima, broadcast from the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, to learn from Mary how to “console” and accompany those who suffer, especially in this time of pandemic: “It is in these hours that it is most important to fight indifference; to stand by the cross of those who suffer in order to console them, to alleviate their pain,” clarified the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima as he recalled the example of the Little Shepherds who, in the School of Mary, learned to always be close to those around them, even in the most difficult moments, even during the moments of misunderstanding, illness and loneliness. As Saint Jacinta said: “it was the promise of the Lady brighter than the sun that encouraged them.”

During the homily, Father Carlos Cabecinhas also remembered Sister Lucia as an example of someone who knew how to always trust in the maternal heart of Our Lady.

The seer of Fatima died 16 years ago and her body is buried in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima.

## Sister Lucia died 16 years ago and is on the way to beatification

Lucia Rosa dos Santos, later named Sister Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart, died on 13 February 2005, at the age of 97, after several decades spent cloistered in the Carmel of Coimbra.

“So that Fatima grow, there was a personal sacrifice in Lucia’s life which was very deep. She was someone who gave up everything, even her own identity,” emphasized Helena Matos, journalist, researcher and author of RTP documentary series *Fatima: Povo que reza* (Fatima: A People Who Prays), in the podcast #Fatima in the 21st Century, as she recalled what was required of the young seer when she entered the convent, from the request not to speak of Fatima to the impossibility of obtaining a fourth grade diploma, because her name could not appear on the exam list.

“It must have been something brutal. Only a person with an enormous capacity for self-denial could have been capable of such a thing, of assimilating all that,” says



Helena Matos, who does not spare praise for the personality of the seer, whose process of beatification is currently in course in Rome.

“We usually value activists highly, especially when they are women, but in the case of Lucia we have to realize that she has something much more special: an unequalled strength, determination and charisma,” despite having been denigrated by the press at the time, and even by her own family, especially by her mother, with whom she had a tense relationship, as Helena Matos emphasizes, insisting on the importance of truth and lies in the story of the life of the Carmelite nun.



# On the day marking the eighth anniversary of his election, the Shrine of Fatima invites pilgrims to pray in a special way for Pope Francis

Fr Carlos Cabecinhas presided over the March monthly pilgrimage mass, held without the physical presence of pilgrims. / C tia Filipe



The Rector recalled that in 1917, the world was also going through a pandemic situation, "one of the most dramatic moments of history".



Fr Carlos Cabecinhas, Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, presided over the Mass of the monthly pilgrimage of March, in the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, still without the physical presence of pilgrims.

On this day, which marked the eighth anniversary of the election of Pope Francis, Father Carlos Cabecinhas invited the pilgrims to pray in a special way for the Supreme Pontiff.

Union with the Holy Father is an important dimension of the message of Fatima, and praying for the Pope and his intentions "is an integral part of the message and daily practice here at the Shrine." "Let us entrust to the intercession of Mary and of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto the Holy Father, Pope Francisco, his ministry and his intentions," he said.

Francisco will come back to Cova da Iria in 2023, where he has already been on May 12 and 13, 2017, on the occasion of the Centenary of the Apparitions, having presided over the canonisation of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

The rector of the Shrine of Fatima considers that the liturgy of this day shows "paths of conversion, strengthens our hope and exhorts us to trust in God." "We will be

happy if, like Mary, we listen to the Word of God and seek to put it into practice in our daily lives," the priest said.

This Word of God, "which we are invited to welcome and live, following Mary's example, also speaks to us of hope: the hope that is so necessary in these difficult times we are going through," considers Father Carlos Cabecinhas, recalling also that Our Lady "does not forget those who have been entrusted to her as her children and, even in the midst of the difficulties of the present moment, she encourages our hope and strengthens our confidence."

Thus, "fruit of this maternal solicitude for us", the message of Fatima is "a strong invitation to trust, because God knows our fragility and is concerned by our suffering."

The rector of the Shrine of Fatima recalled the context in which the apparitions took place, "in a world plunged into darkness, at one of the most dramatic moments in history." In 1917, Our Lady "came to bring a message of hope and a strong appeal to trust."

In 2020, the celebration of the March monthly pilgrimage, held in the Chapel of the Apparitions, was the last to take place in the physical presence of pilgrims, before the Shrine of Fatima entered the first lockdown period.

## “We cannot be sleeping Christians” warned Cardinal Antonio Marto

For Holy Week and Easter, pilgrims to Fatima celebrate again in Cova da Iria

/ Carmo Rodeia e Cátia Filipe



D. António Marto attended the Palm Sunday celebration in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity.

The bishop of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima, Cardinal Antonio Marto, presided over the main Mass of the official programme on Palm Sunday and urged the faithful not to be “sleeping Christians” or “spectators at a distance”.

“Jesus tells us the same he told the disciples: ‘watch and pray’; we cannot be sleeping Christians, one cannot sleep during this time,” Bishop Marto warned.

At the end of the celebration, Bishop Marto spoke of the restrictions in place, which result in a different Easter, but nonetheless a moment lived with “fraternity”, in spite of the distance.

The Eucharist “is the highest expression of the merciful love of God” made concrete in the surrender of Jesus on the Cross, affirmed Father Carlos Cabecinhas in his homily for the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, the first great celebration of the Easter Triduum.

“The Eucharist makes present for us today that supreme act of merciful love which is Christ’s self-giving for us. We are the beneficiaries of this self-giving,” the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima emphasized to the pilgrims.

This year, like last year, because of the health situation in the country, the rite of the washing of feet, characteristic of this celebration, was suppressed. Nevertheless, it was evoked by the president of the celebration, who took off his chasuble and, putting on his stole, like the deacons,

approached the front of the altar where there were a basin and a jar of water, beside which he placed a towel, elements that symbolize that disconcerting gesture of Jesus who washed the feet of his disciples at the Last Supper.

During the celebration of the Passion, held in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima stated in his homily that the contemplation of the Cross “cannot be a sterile act of simple emotion”, but must imply a “true conversion”.

“Contemplating the cross cannot be a sterile act: it is a challenge to respond with love to the immense love of God. The awareness of the abyss of love without measure that springs from contemplation of the Cross, rather than moving us, calls us to conversion! A conversion of heart which manifests itself in a conversion of attitudes, choices and behaviour,” Father Carlos Cabecinhas stressed.

Based on the symbolism of the cross, and on the liturgy proclaimed on Good Friday, the head of the Shrine of Fatima recalled that the cross is the “supreme expression of God’s love for us”, being in it that His divinity is revealed.

“Christ is risen! He is alive for ever!”, it was with these words that the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Father Carlos Cabecinhas spoke on Easter Sunday, in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, of the “happy

proclamation that is at the centre of the Christian celebration of Easter”.

The priest also drew attention to the “troubled times in which we live, because of the pandemic that affects us and its numerous and dramatic consequences, this makes the conversion of sight an even more urgent necessity.”

“The great challenge for us, Christians, today, is to discover the signs of the presence of the living, risen Jesus Christ in the difficult situation we are going through, to discover and appreciate the signs of hope that are springing up around us and which may go unnoticed,” the Rector explained, and “with the gaze of faith, to recognize the presence of the risen Christ, who went around doing good, as the liturgy of this day states, in those who dedicate themselves, heart and soul, to help the direct and indirect victims of the current pandemic and to help those most in need, whether they are health professionals, the many informal carers, the many volunteers who take on initiatives so that nothing is lacking for the most fragile and disadvantaged, those most affected by this situation.”

Today, “we are also invited to be the presence of this same living and risen Christ, who went around doing good, overcoming our selfishness and comfort, in order to pay more attention to others and their needs,” concluded the priest.



# Fr Carlos Cabecinhas believes that “Despite the difficulties that each of us experiences and has to manage, it is in these difficult hours that it is most important to overcome indifference to the suffering of others”

Mass of the April monthly pilgrimage took place in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, with the physical presence of pilgrims / Cátia Filipe

The Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity hosted the Mass of the monthly pilgrimage of April, presided by the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Father Carlos Cabecinhas. This pilgrimage, the first to be held after the lockdown period, was physically attended by pilgrims, but was also followed by thousands of faithful through the social and digital media of the Shrine of Fatima.

In a reflection on the liturgy of this day, Fr Carlos Cabecinhas recalled that the Word of God proclaimed that day “exhorts us to trust in God and to hope, in these difficult times, but it also exhorts us not to neglect the care for the others.”

His first reading, from the Book of Revelation, was “an invitation to hope and a challenge to trust in God.”

He recalled that this book was written “in a situation of great sorrow, and aims to assure us that God never abandons us, and even less in difficult moments.”

“God is concerned by our difficulties, attentive to our tears and ready to wipe them away, He shall not let us live through suffering and pain in a state of loneliness full of despair; on the contrary, God, who knows our fragility and our worries and suffering, comes to help us,” the priest assured.

This year, the Shrine of Fatima took as its pastoral theme “Praise the Lord who lifts up the weak”, and the rector exhorted the pilgrims to strengthen this “certainty that arises from our faith, that the Lord comes as an aid to our weakness.”

Still referring to the liturgy of that day, Fr Carlos Cabecinhas spoke of the invitation to contemplate Mary, for through her “God continues to send his consolation to the afflicted hearts and transforms tears into joy.”

“The promise that God will wipe away our tears from our faces, an

expression of his tenderness and compassion for us, is often fulfilled through Our Lady,” he reiterated, recalling that “Glorified in heaven, she does not forget those on earth who continue to suffer and who have been entrusted to her as her children, she does not forget us, and even in the midst of the difficulties of the present moment, she encourages our hope and strengthens our confidence.”

The message of Fatima “is a message of hope and a strong invitation to trust, because God knows our fragility and is concerned by our suffering.”

But the Word of God “does not only exhort us to hope and trust: it also exhorts us to commitment in favour of those with whom we live or who cross our path.”

“The example of Mary, who stood by the cross of her Son, Jesus, shows us what our attitude should be in the face of the suffering of those around us: with her, we learn to stand by the cross of her suffering children,” said Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas.

“Despite the difficulties that each of us experiences and has to manage, it is in these difficult hours that it is most important to overcome indifference to the suffering of others,” the priest warned, challenging each one to be able to “accompany the cross of those around us.”

Our Lady shows that “our place is beside the cross of those who suffer: to help, to console, to support, to alleviate pain.”

It is to be recalled that the April 2020 monthly pilgrimage was experienced through social and digital media, as a result of the first major lockdown in Portugal, due to the COVID 19 pandemic. This year, the monthly pilgrimages of February and March were also celebrated without the physical presence of the faithful.



The monthly pilgrimage of April was physically attended by pilgrims.



## Church in Laguna, Philippines Receives Relics of the Little Shepherds

Pilgrims can venerate the image and the relics in the church of Lawaa. / Fr. David Reyes, Jr.



The Pope associated himself with this moment, sending a rosary.



The relics were entrusted to the parish by the Francisco and Jacinta Marto Foundation.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima has offered to the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima in Brgy - Lawa, Calamba City, Philippines, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of St. Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the three shepherds to whom Our Lady appeared in 1917.

Archbishop Socrates Villegas presided over the Thanksgiving Mass last Wednesday, January 13, to mark the official reception of the image and relics.

In the message sent by the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas,

the latter says that: "The Shrine of Fatima made this gift as a sign of communion with the entire community of the Parish."

Bishop Buenaventura Famadico, in response, expressed his gratitude saying: "I believe this new development will further increase the number of devotees and deepen our faith in God through the intercession of our Blessed Mother."

Pope Francis sent a Rosary and asked that it be placed in the hands of the Virgin.

The relics of St. Francis and Jacinta consisted of fragments of the wooden coffins

that originally contained the bodies of the two saints.

The relics were bequeathed to the Lawa parish by the Francisco and Jacinta Marto Foundation.

"Not all of us can go to Portugal," explained Father David Reyes, Lawa's parish priest, "so thank you for bringing a little bit of Fatima to us."

Pilgrims can venerate the image and relics when they visit the church in Lawa, especially on the first Saturdays of the month.

## SPAIN Alicante

Parish Santa Maria  
Magdalena Tibi

On the 20th of February, the liturgical feast day of Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, we celebrated a Mass in their honour, making known the important figures of Jacinta and Francisco Marto. A small group of children attended the celebration and prayed together the prayer of the Little Shepherds of Fatima.





# The Parish of Aljustrel, Alentejo, was Graced with the Relics of the Little Shepherds

/ Parish of Aljustrel

On March 5, 2021, 111th anniversary of the birth of the Little Shepherdess of Fatima Saint Jacinta Marto, the Parish of Aljustrel, in Portugal, was graced with the Relic of the Little Shepherds “Francisco and Jacinta Marto”, which from now on will be venerated by the faithful at the altar of Our Lady of Fatima, where stand also the statues of the two saints, beatified on 13 May 2000, by Pope Saint John Paul II and canonized on the same day in 2017 by Pope Francis, in Fatima, on the occasion of his visit to the Shrine for the centenary year of the apparitions.

The 2nd degree relic is a fragment of the coffins of the two Portuguese saints. It was granted by the Francisco and Jacinta Marto Foundation (former Postulation of the

Cause of Canonization), an institution of the Diocese of Leiria-Fatima whose main purpose is to contribute to the knowledge of the life and holiness of the saints and whose Director is Angela Coelho, of the Covenant of Holy Mary congregation, currently also Vice-Postulator of the Cause of Canonization of Sister Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart, a mission she has been carrying out since September 8, 2014.

This Relic granted to the Aljustrel Parish further strengthens the existing ties between Aljustrel and Cova da Iria, the parish having already received the visit of the Image of Our Lady of Fatima venerated in the Chapel of the Apparitions in 1947, and of the Pilgrim Image of the Virgin of Fatima in 2015.



Altar where the relics can be venerated.

# The Association of the Friends of Fatima was founded in 1982 and is based in Reggio Calabria, Italy

Since its foundation, the Association has proceeded in accordance with the teachings of the Church and in harmony with the Message of Fatima



The Association's aim is to spread the Message of Fatima.

The Friends of Fatima have begun their apostolate, and have accompanied, together with some priests, entire communities for their Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Marian initiatives have marked these years, sowing, in the light of the Gospel and the Message of Fatima, prayer, guaranteeing the closeness of God. Besides these initiatives, the

Association has the project of building a replica of the Chapel of the Apparitions, with the purpose of giving the opportunity to those who have already been to Fatima, to “return” and to those who have never had the opportunity to be in Cova da Iria, to feel, even remotely, the atmosphere that exists there.

Among the activities developed by the Friends of Fatima are the six celebrations of



Prayer every 13th day of the month is part of the activities.

the Eucharist, every 13th day from May to October, in the locality of Saint Basil, where there is a chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima.

Every 12th of the month, from May to October, a Prayer Vigil is held, always in a different church, in the Diocese of Reggio Calabria, in preparation for the Commemoration of the Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima.



# The Shrine of Fatima Adapts its “Summer Schedule” to the Contingencies of the Present Time

/ Cátia Filipe

From Easter on, the official programme of the Shrine of Fatima will undergo some changes, entering into force the so-called “Summer Schedule”, which extends until the end of October. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the programme will be modified in conformity with the measures in force in Portugal.

Thus, the point of reference for the Shrine’s celebration programme for the summer of 2021, especially with regard to the spaces where the celebrations will take place, is the one that was in force, for most of the regular time - outside of strict lockdown and post-reopening celebrations - during the summer of 2020.

Starting April 5, daily Mass at 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Basilica of the Holy Trinity. At 11 a.m., Monday to Friday, Mass in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity; on Saturdays and Sundays, this celebration will take place in the Prayer Area, as long as conditions allow. On Sunday, 4.30

p.m., Mass in the Chapel of the Apparitions.

From Monday to Friday, a Mass is celebrated in the Chapel of the Apparitions at 12:30 p.m.; on Saturday and Sunday, this celebration takes place in the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity, as long as conditions permit.

In accordance with Our Lady’s request, the Little Chapel of the Apparitions welcomes daily prayers of the Rosary at 2 p.m., 6.30 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. Also from Monday to Friday, the Rosary is prayed at 12 noon. On Saturdays and Sundays, the Rosary will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the same place.

This programme may be subject to change due to the evolution of the pandemic and the corresponding health measures in force. For more information, the website [www.fatima.pt](http://www.fatima.pt) shows the complete programme, as well as the respective changes.

**Editor:** Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas \* **Proprietor, Publisher and Editor:** Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima \* **Social Security nr.** 500 746 699 \* **Address:** Santuário de Fátima – Rua de Santa Isabel, 360 \* 2495-424 FÁTIMA \* **Tel.:** +351 249 539 600 \* **Fax:** +351 249 539 668 \* **Email:** [press@fatima.pt](mailto:press@fatima.pt) \* [www.fatima.pt](http://www.fatima.pt) \* **Printing:** Gráfica Almondina – Torres Novas \* **Legal Deposit:** 210 650/04 \* Isento de registo na E.R.C. ao abrigo do decreto regulamentar 8/99 de 9 de Junho – alínea a) do n.º 1 do Artigo 12.º.

## FREE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Send your subscription request to: [assinaturas@fatima.pt](mailto:assinaturas@fatima.pt)

Check out the language in which you wish to receive the issue: German, Spanish, French, English, Italian, Polish, Portuguese

Renewal or new subscription: National Bank Transfer (Millennium BCP): NIB: 0033 0000 50032983248 05

International Bank Transfer: IBAN: PT50 0033 0000 5003 2983 2480 5 BIC/SWIFT: BCOMPTPL

Check or Postal Money Order: To the order of: Fátima Luz e Paz,

Santuário de Nossa Senhora de Fátima, Rua de Santa Isabel, 360 – 2495-424, Fatima, Portugal

**Please help us spread the Message of Our Lady through ‘Fatima Light and Peace’!**

*News in this bulletin may be reproduced, provided the source and the author, in case there is one, are shown.*

FÁTIMA  
LUZ  
E PAZ