

September/October 2024

# CRUSADE<sup>®</sup>

MAGAZINE



TRADITION  
FAMILY AND  
PROPERTY<sup>®</sup>

**“DO AS I SAY,  
*and there will be peace.*”**

How the Holy Rosary Expelled  
the Soviets from Austria



Soviet Communist troops, February 1943



Father Petrus Pavlicek



FORGOTTEN  
TRUTHS

# Why Purity Is the Queen of Virtues

BY PAULO ROBERTO CAMPOS

Cultivating the virtue of purity is indispensable in a genuinely Catholic home. Without it, the family enters a downward spiral that could lead to its ultimate moral and material decay.

On the contrary, in homes where the angelic virtue of purity is cultivated, all the other virtues find fertile soil to flourish. Family bonds are strengthened, the atmosphere becomes harmonious and socializing is pleasant. For this reason, many saints have said purity is the “queen of virtues.” Saint Francis de Sales used to say that “chastity is the lily of virtues,” which made people appear like angels.

Unfortunately, many media outlets, especially TV networks and the Internet, dump tons of impure garbage into homes. They spread open immorality and pornography to destroy the innocence of children, dissolve families and marriages, corrode good morals and even practice sexual perversion.

Here are some thoughts from great saints to help fathers and mothers raise their children by showing them the beauty of virginity and talking about the horror of the sins against chastity.

“Chastity, or cleanness of heart, holds a glorious and distinguished place among the virtues because

*“Holy Purity, the queen of virtues, the angelic virtue, is a jewel so precious that those who possess it become like the angels of God in Heaven, even though clothed in mortal flesh.”*

*—Saint John Bosco*



Purity is not for the weak. On the contrary, the practice of purity requires strength and conviction.

she, alone, enables man to see God; hence, Truth itself said, ‘Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.’” —Saint Augustine

“Humility is the safeguard of chastity. In the matter of purity, there is no greater danger than not fearing the danger. For my part, when I find a man secure of himself and without fear, I give him up for lost. I am less alarmed for one who is tempted and who resists by avoiding the occasions than for one who is not tempted and is not careful to avoid occasions. When a person puts himself in an occasion, saying, I shall not fall, it is an almost infallible sign that he will fall, and with great injury to his soul.” —Saint Philip Neri

“We must be pure. I do not speak merely of the purity of the senses. We must observe great purity in our will, in our intentions, in all our actions.” —Saint Peter Julian Eymard

“The pure soul is a beautiful rose, and the three divine persons descend from Heaven to inhale its fragrance.” —Saint John Vianney

“Holy Purity, the queen of virtues, the angelic virtue, is a jewel so precious that those who possess it become like the angels of God in Heaven, even though clothed in mortal flesh.” —Saint John Bosco ■

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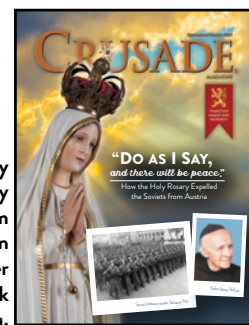
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M-191 (HF2409)

Our Lady  
promised victory  
over communism  
in a locution  
to Father  
Petrus Pavlicek  
of Austria.



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The Blessed Mother smiles when we ask for small things



TFP volunteers go toe-to-toe with liberal supporters of the blasphemous Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence



Photo courtesy of Philip Gaudier

Could this be happening in a public school? Yes, it can!

## CRUSADE

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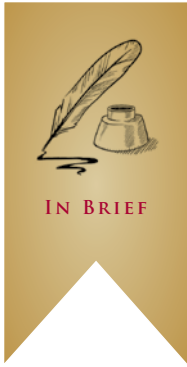
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## THE AMERICAN TFP

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) is an organization of lay Catholic Americans concerned about the moral crisis shaking the remnants of Christian civilization. Its earliest origins date back to January 1971, when the first TFP members started to group around the publication *Crusade for a Christian Civilization*. It is a civic, cultural and nonpartisan organization which, inspired by the traditional teachings of the Supreme Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church, works in a legal and peaceful manner in the realm of ideas to defend

and promote the principles of private ownership, family and perennial Christian values with their twofold function: individual and social. The TFP's words and efforts have always been faithfully at the service of Christian civilization. The first TFP was founded in Brazil by the famous intellectual and Catholic leader Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira in 1960. His work inspired the formation of other autonomous TFP sister organizations across the globe, thus constituting the world's largest anticommunist and antisocialist network of Catholic inspiration.



### **Governor Calls for Thirty Days of Fasting and Prayer**

Tennessee Governor Bill Lee signed a historic bill calling for thirty days of fasting and prayer starting July 1. The initiative aimed to combat societal issues by encouraging humility and

repentance before God. While focused on Tennessee, the bill may inspire other states to follow suit. A letter accompanying the bill, signed by State Senator Mark Pody and Representative Monty Fritts, urges churches to read the legislation to their congregations. It also encourages parishioners to examine their lives and confess their sins, seek forgiveness and commit to upholding God's principles, and participate in prayer and intermittent fasting to demonstrate repentance.

### **Wealthy People Trying to Live Forever**

The quest to extend the human lifespan is gaining traction among the wealthy, with billionaires like Jeff Bezos, Larry Page and Peter Thiel investing heavily in anti-aging research. While the anti-aging movement has gained popularity, it remains controversial within the scientific community. Critics argue that many treatments lack solid evidence and may offer false hope. Ethical debates also surround the idea of treating aging as a disease. Despite these challenges, the market for longevity therapies is expanding rapidly, projected to grow from \$27.1 billion in 2022 to \$44.9 billion by 2031. High-profile entrepreneurs are launching initiatives to push the boundaries of the human lifespan, offering advanced diagnostics and personalized medical plans that can cost tens of thousands annually.

### **Support for LGBTQ Movement Declines**

Recent data reveals a noticeable decline in support for LGBTQ-related issues in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. In the United States, support for same-sex "marriage"

has dropped to 51%, the lowest since the 2015 *Obergefell v. Hodges* decision. Similarly, an Ipsos poll indicates that Canadian support for various LGBTQ agenda items, including transgender bathroom policies and sex change treatments, is also decreasing. Canadians show significant opposition to these issues, with a notable percentage against same-sex "marriage" and adoption by same-sex couples. In the United Kingdom, the 2024 British Social Attitudes survey notes that, compared to 2019, twice as many Brits now oppose legal changes to sex on birth certificates for transgender individuals. The survey also shows a fourteen-percentage point rise since 2021 in those who believe trans rights have "gone too far."



### **Paris Olympics Opening Ceremony Sparks Outrage from Catholics Worldwide**

The opening ceremony of the Paris Olympic Games on July 26 sparked indignation among Catholics and other Christians worldwide due to a parody of the Last Supper. While the event featured a parade of athletes on the Seine River and a tribute to Notre Dame Cathedral's reconstruction, it was a scene with "drag queens," mocking the Last Supper, that caused outrage. The French bishops condemned the mockery, as did Catholics worldwide. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) issued a limp apology following complaints about the incident. Its intention to promote LGBTQ propaganda at the expense of the Catholic Faith was on full display.

### **Louisiana Law Requires Ten Commandments to be Displayed in All Classrooms**

Louisiana has passed a new law requiring the Ten Commandments to be displayed in every public school and college classroom. This makes Lou-

isiana the first state to enforce such a mandate. The law, effective since June 18, specifies that each school must prominently display the Ten Commandments in a large, readable format along with a 200-word explanation of their historical role in American education. Spearheaded by Republican State Representative Dodie Horton, the measure emphasizes the Commandments' significance in Louisiana's history and aims to promote a moral framework in classrooms amidst cultural challenges.

### **Vatican Deletes Controversial Synod Poll**

The Vatican faced criticism for removing an online poll that showed low support for the Synod on Synodality. The poll, posted on the Vatican's official social media, asked if synodality could enhance the Church's mission and participation. With 88% of respondents saying "no," the results were quickly deleted. The poll, which received around 7,000 votes and 136,000 views, was part of a global process set to conclude in October. Critics called the deletion hypocritical, while others suggested the results highlighted American resistance rather than a global perspective. The October gathering in Rome will finalize the discernment phase of the Synod on Synodality, which aims to create a more "inclusive and participatory" Church.

### **Ukraine's Greek Catholic Church Thanks Donors for Religious Medals Amid Conflict**

As Ukraine battles Russian aggression, the Greek Catholic Church highlights the spiritual fight. In a June 18 letter, Ukrainian Greek Catholic Bishop Mykhaylo Koltun, head of military chaplains, thanked Dr. Caio Xavier da Silveira, head of the Pro-Europa Christiana Federation, for organizing the donation of one million religious medals, distributed to soldiers and civilians. These medals, featuring Our Lady of Zarvanysia and Saint Michael, were donated by Societies for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) and related groups. Bishop Koltun described the medals as "a comfort from Heaven." ■



CHRIST IN  
THE HOME

# Must Children Tell the Whole Truth?

BY FR. RAOUL PLUS, S.J.

We have seen the difficulty and the necessity of giving a child a correct notion of consideration due to politeness and charity in the true spirit of sincerity. There is yet another difficulty: Many do not sufficiently distinguish the exact limits of sincerity or rather the degree of obligation to speak the entire truth.

There is no obligation to speak the entire truth to one who has no right to know it. We can use words in their usually accepted meanings; we can allow circumstances to modify the meanings of words; we can allow the hearer to deceive himself.

Saint Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, had to flee from the an-

knowledge of the exact extent of the duty of truthfulness.

Take a case that is more directly concerned with education. Here, let us presume that those who question have a right to the truth, the parents, for example. There is even in this case a principle intervening which does not allow them to push their right to know the truth by demanding an avowal of guilt. And this principle, which all moral theologians recognize and which is founded on great wisdom, is that no one is obliged to accuse himself. It is up to the accusers to prove the guilt and to punish accordingly if the guilt is proven. If the culprit admits guilt, it should be a reason for lessening the

*One of the most essential points in forming the child's conscience is to teach him to discern what is commanded from what is simply though earnestly counseled.*

ger of Henry II, the King of England. The king's emissaries pursued him. As he rode along on a horse with neither bridle nor saddle, he was stopped by armed men. "Are you possibly the Archbishop of Canterbury?"

"Well, my friends," he answered, "look and judge for yourselves whether or not this is the equipage of an Archbishop."

"Deceit and sharp practice!" some will protest. Not at all. Simply a clear

punishment. But to make self-denunciation a necessity is excessive.

Consider the case of a little child suspected of a fault. "Did you do that?" he is asked. According to correct morality, he cannot be forced to accuse himself. If the child says the whole truth, perfect! He is not obliged to. When he does, he is generous, doing more than he must; he has a right then to marked leniency. "A fault confessed is half pardoned." But



Even a well-intentioned parent oversteps his or her authority by demanding that a child reveal all.

one oversteps his power by commanding him to hide nothing, by telling him that he sins if he does not accuse himself. He does the better thing in accusing himself but commits no fault in not accusing himself; he is guilty of an imperfection but no sin.

Certainly, it is better to accustom the child to admit the truth at all times, but to make it a formal duty in every case is to urge the law beyond reason and to confound a generous attitude with an obligatory attitude. One of the most essential points in forming the child's conscience is to teach him to discern what is commanded from what is simply though earnestly counseled. ■

Taken from *Christ in the Home*, by Fr. Raoul Plus, S.J., A translation from the French. Nihil Obstat: John M.A. Fearn, S.T.D., Censor Librorum Imprimatur: Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, New York, June 19, 1951.



# Ten Reasons Why the Ten Commandments Matter

BY JOHN HORVAT II

There is a growing debate over the posting of the Ten Commandments in public classrooms and buildings. Many Americans feel this august collection of laws has a positive and much-needed effect on all who read them.

Those opposing the Ten Commandments claim the posting somehow represents the “establishment” of religion and not a list of rules for virtuous living.

However, the Ten Commandments have long been recognized as a universal moral code that could not be more contrary to our everything-goes culture as it barrels toward nihilism.

America needs the Ten Commandments—now more than ever. They should be spread, posted and obeyed everywhere, not just in classrooms. If society is to flourish, we must have guardrails that ensure order reigns, not violence and disorder.

Here are ten reasons why the Ten Commandments matter.

## 1. Without them, we are not truly free.

The Ten Commandments established limits so that we might better exercise our moral freedom. By using the command, “Thou shall not,” they identify the sinful and harmful actions (like lying, killing and stealing) that enslave us to evil and vice and thus inhibit the practice of virtue, which is the foundation of ordered liberty. To be morally free, we need the Ten Commandments.

## 2. They have always been revered and respected in America.

The Ten Commandments are embedded in our laws, engraved on our public buildings, enshrined in our tradition, displayed in public places and intertwined in our history. They occupy a special place in the hearts of countless Americans and must not be wrenched from their exalted position.

## 3. They are our higher law and undergird the legal order of the Christian West.

The Ten Commandments establish the existence of a supreme, just and benevolent Lawgiver—God. He is the source from which all law comes. The Commandments prevent the law from becoming subjective and capricious, where everyone establishes their own law based on personal whims, fantasies and passions. It prevents the tyranny of those who would impose their fancies on others without basis on principle or our human nature.

## 4. They summarize the moral law.

The Ten Commandments are rules that come from our human nature and help us reach fulfillment. Philosophers have long taught that the Decalogue is a summary of the natural law, which best governs our being, and we know it because it is written on the hearts of all (See Rom. 2:15).

## 5. They show all prodigals the way back to the Father’s Home.

Without the Ten Commandments, we might forget and abandon the practice of virtue. Vice obscures and distorts our vision of what is good and just and turns us toward evil habits. The display of the Ten Commandments is a constant and visible reminder of what we must do to lead virtuous lives in society.

## 6. They teach us to honor and respect legitimate authority.

By instructing children to honor their parents, the Ten Commandments teach us to honor and respect all who are invested with legitimate authority



In removing the cornerstone of Western civilization, the left intends to bring every moral structure tumbling down.

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*Atheists should not determine the norms of a nation because, regardless of their opinion, God exists, and we owe Him adoration.*



The Ten Commandments are hailed by philosophers as a summary of the natural law, and therefore the best way in which to govern our being.

and whose duty it is to guide society to the common good. In this way, society secures harmony and unity. Without authority, we have hatred, discord and chaos.

does not negate the duty of all—individually and collectively—to honor God publicly.



**7. By safeguarding the right to private property, they uphold order in society.**

By their insistence that we not steal or covet what belongs to others, the Ten Commandments help safeguard the right of private property and good order in society. The left hates the Ten Commandments because they allow for the reward of human work through the accumulation of private property, helping to secure peace and harmony among all.

Atheists should not determine the norms of a nation because, regardless of their opinion, God exists, and we owe Him adoration.

There are many other reasons why the Ten Commandments matter. The Commandments are a source of order in our days of disorder since they relate our duty to God and our neighbor. They are a guide for virtuous living that benefits everyone.

**8. They protect the family.**

The Ten Commandments safeguard the family and the moral order from the ravages of unbridled passions by insisting that we not succumb to adultery and licentious living. Thus, they are a source of stability, order, affection and fidelity for individuals and society.

Those opposed to the Ten Commandments have the burden of proof to show how obeying them jeopardizes society and does not lead to freedom, harmony and human flourishing. Ten Commandments opponents must reveal their own anti-rules and by what authority they impose them

on America. All societies must have rules and virtue if they are to have order. We suffer so much today because we have a culture that actively promotes free license and vice, which leads to anxiety, addictions and disorder.

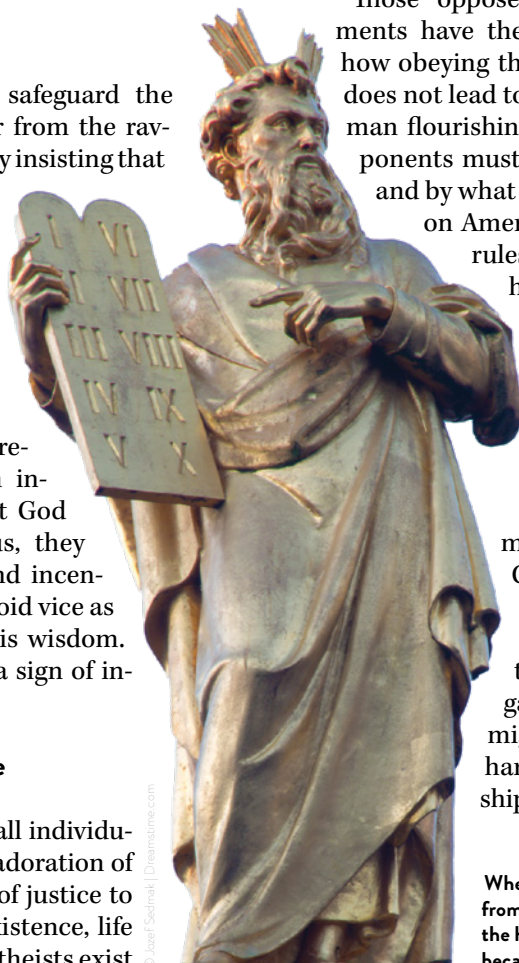
Above all, the Ten Commandments matter because God matters. They are a constant reminder that God exists, even if some unfortunate people deny it. He gave us these rules so that we might live in peace, order and harmony, thus giving Him worship and glory. ■

**9. They remind us of God.**

The Ten Commandments remind us not to offend an infinitely benevolent and just God by violating His Law. Thus, they provide a higher reason and incentive to avoid sin since we avoid vice as a way of loving God and His wisdom. To do otherwise would be a sign of ingratitude and scorn.

**10. They remind us to adore God, our Creator.**

The Ten Commandments call individuals and society alike to the adoration of God. This is a natural duty of justice to the Creator for giving us existence, life and purpose. The fact that atheists exist



When Moses brought the tablets down from Mount Sinai, what was written on the human heart through natural law became chiseled in stone.

# How to Develop a Lively Devotion to the Blessed Mother

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

**W**e rightly honor Our Lady under the title of Help of Christians. Our Lady helps Christians in so many ways that we could make an encyclopedia on this topic. One aspect of this help comes from having a lively devotion to Our Lady.

A lively devotion to Our Lady generally begins with some help from her that triggers a dawn of confidence to rise in the soul. True devotion to Our Lady usually begins with Our Lady extending her good offices to a person.

## How a Lively Devotion Develops

A man gets into trouble. It can be a spiritual crisis, an economic need or anything. He asks Our Lady to save him. While saving him from those difficulties, Our Lady also works inside his soul through imponderables and grace, whereby he acquires a taste of her maternal, smiling, affable and kind goodness. With this sample of her kindness, he gains a lively hope that she will heed him again in other difficult circumstances.

This experience leads to his insistent pleading for all kinds of graces. He should, above all, ask her for love of God. This habit of asking results in a crescendo of devotion to Our Lady. She becomes ever more maternal and inclined to favor him. Her assistance is more meticulous, which prompts the person to grow in this acquired taste for her affable and smiling providence.

At times, he asks Our Lady for real trifles. She grants these little insignificant things, like a mother who wants to give her child things great and small. Indeed, she smiles with special affection when asked for small things.

## An Aurora of Confidence

When this bond happens, the person experiences a kind of aurora of confidence. It is a dawn of true understanding that defines his relationship with Our Lady. Even if the soul goes through very long and tough trials and periods of aridity and difficulties, something of this lively confidence remains. It is a light that accompanies the person throughout his life, including the bitterest throes of death.

It is highly recommendable to ask Our Lady for the grace of placing ourselves on this special, tender loving path of making these small requests, since asking for these small favors forms an intimacy with her.

Sometimes she will even go beyond the favor we ask her. This happens when we ask her for something, which is not in her designs to grant. She desires that we pass through a trial to help our spiritual life. Thus, Our Lady does not give us what we ask but provides us with the strength to endure what is coming, which turns out to be a much bigger favor. She ends up giving something better than the original favor.

## Medieval Legends Present True Aspects of Our Lady

Medieval devotional books and legends about devotion to Our Lady present real and imagined stories that demonstrate the grace and kindness of Mary Most Holy in dealing with souls. They tell their stories in a magnificently amenable and interesting way.

Whether the story is true is not important, especially concerning the actions of its human characters. However, the stories are all truly characteristic of Our Lady's manner of acting. She really



The author, Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira, spent his life growing in and promoting devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

acts in this way portrayed in these stories. Although these are legends, they are theologically correct Marian legends that give us a precise idea and feeling of what Our Lady is like.

An example of this is an episode found in the writings of Saint Alphonsus Liguori in his book *The Glories of Mary*, which we reproduce here:

“Father Silvanus Razzi relates that a devout ecclesiastic who had a tender love for our Queen Mary, had heard her beauty so much extolled that he ardently desired once to see his Lady, and with humble prayers asked this favor. The kind mother sent an angel to tell him that she would gratify him by allowing him to see her, but on this condition, namely, that after seeing her, he should become blind. He accepted the condition.

“On a certain day, behold the Blessed Virgin appeared to him, and that he might not become wholly blind, he at first wished to look at her with one eye only but afterward becoming enamored of the great beauty of Mary, he wished to contemplate her with both, and then the mother of God disappeared. Deeply grieved at having lost the presence of his queen, he could not cease weeping, not indeed for his lost eye, but that he had not seen her with both. Then he began





In her maternal wisdom, Our Lady does not always give her children what they ask, but instead provides them with the strength to endure what is coming.

to supplicate her anew, that she would again appear to him, and he would be willing to lose the other eye and become entirely blind. 'Happy and satisfied, O my Lady,' he said, 'I will remain if I become wholly blind for so good a cause, which will leave me more enamored of thee, and of thy beauty.'

"Again Mary was willing to satisfy him, and again she consoled him with her presence; but because this loving queen can never injure anyone, when she appeared to him the second time, not only did she not take from him the other eye, but she even restored to him the one he had lost."

Whether this episode really happened is not important, because we know that this is how Our Lady actually is! She can have us go through dire straits to prove our love, take away one of our eyes or make us go through some anguish. However, she ends up rewarding us with a smile. Though we must pass through the necessary trials, everything ends with her smile.

Another better-known legend is the famous juggler of Our Lady. It tells the story of a monk who could not sing or pray well but knew the art of juggling, which he learned before entering the monastery. Wishing to please Our Lady, he went to a church late at night when

no one was there and presented his juggling act to her. Our Lady appeared to him and smiled to show how pleased she was by his small gift.

### Filial Confidence in Our Lady

We should act in a similar way. When



We should all be jugglers for Our Lady, doing our best to bring a smile to her lips.

presenting our offerings to Our Lady, however small they may be, we should be entirely confident that she will be pleased.

Our devotion to her will never be perfectly true if we fail to act in this

way. We must have an attitude of unquestioning ease and intimacy toward Our Lady. We must be like a son who, even when he saddens Our Lady, presents himself before her completely confident of obtaining her help and smile.

This attitude is the ineffably suave starting point of a lively devotion to Our Lady.

That is not to say that this attitude is enough. To the degree that our intellectual development allows, we should study the foundations of devotion to Our Lady. We need to have everything reasoned out well so that we might form profound convictions based on dogma. However, intellectual formation is one thing, and the life of devotion is another. Each one complements the other. This magnificent union of doctrine and devotion explains precisely why such a great Doctor of the Church as Saint Alphonsus Liguori wrote his book *The Glories of Mary*, which illustrates doctrinal theses with concrete devotional facts and stories.

Thus, we should pray to Our Lady, Help of Christians, to ask for the grace of a special sweetness in our devotion. ■

The preceding article is taken from an informal lecture given by Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira on May 18, 1964. It has been translated and adapted for publication without his revision. -Ed.



**“DO AS I SAY,  
*and there will be peace.*”**

## How the Holy Rosary Expelled the Soviets from Austria

BY CHARLES E. SCHAFER AND STACIE HISERMAN



**I**n the heart of twentieth-century Austria, a remarkable tale unfolded amidst the turbulent winds of political upheaval. One man stood resolute against the encroaching tide of communism. His name was Father Pavlicek, and his weapon was but a string of beads and fervent prayers. The unlikely hero in this tale of defiance was none other than the Holy Rosary itself, which miraculously expelled communists from Austria in 1955.

### Setting the Stage

In post-World War II Europe, communism spread and divided the continent. Austria, in Central Europe, faced this upheaval as the Iron Curtain descended. The proud Austrian people, rooted in Catholicism, confronted the atheistic threat. Amidst this, Father Petrus Pavlicek emerged, his life intertwined with his homeland's fate. Born during the First World War's aftermath, he faced

tragedy early, losing his mother. Raised in Vienna and Olomouc, his life was shaped by conflict.

As a boy, he felt a calling to religious life but later became indifferent. In 1935, during a serious illness, he experienced a conversion, reaffirming his vocation. Inspired by Saint Francis of Assisi, he joined the Franciscan order, taking the name Petrus, and was ordained in 1941.

Father Petrus faced peril when arrested by the Gestapo, accused of draft evasion. On May 13, 1942, he underwent a trial and was ultimately acquitted. Despite this, he later marched towards the western frontlines as a paramedic, only to be captured by American forces on August 15, 1944. Confined in Cherbourg-Octeville, France, he served as a prisoner of war camp priest, providing solace to fellow captives.

During his captivity, Father Pavlicek learned about Our Lady of Fatima for the first time through a humble brochure, sparking a profound spiritual awakening. This encounter ignited a fervent desire to heed Our Lady's call for peace and reconciliation. Upon his release on July 16, 1945, Father Pavlicek embarked on a new chapter of service in Vienna.

### Father Petrus Battles Communism at Home

Upon returning to his homeland, Father Pavlicek was dismayed to find it firmly entrenched in Russian communist rule. After the war, like Germany, Austria was divided into four occupational zones to be administered by the Allies—America, England, France



and the Soviet Union. The last was given Lower Austria, with its oil fields, agriculture and industry. While Germany returned to its native culture within two years, Austria was not so fortunate.

However, Father Pavlicek was to make a pilgrimage to the Marian shrine Mariazell in February 1946, which proved pivotal. Amidst prayers and penance, Father Pavlicek experienced an interior locution from Our Lady, instructing him: "Do as I say, and there will be peace." With unwavering resolve, he founded the Crusade of Reparation of the Holy Rosary for Peace in the World in February 1947.

In September 1948, Father Pavlicek introduced the Crusade's Acts of Reparatory Devotion in a Capuchin church in Vienna. These devotions, crowned by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, included sermons, confessions, blessings of the sick and infirm, and the recitations of the Holy Rosary. Father Pavlicek termed these devotions "assaults of prayer," likening them to sieges lasting up to five days, as he believed that "Peace is a gift of God, not the work of politicians." With this conviction, he emphasized the necessity of prayers that "storm heaven as soldiers storm a fort."

### Public Rosary Rallies Begin

The monthly processions with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima grew significantly. Father Pavlicek enhanced them by initiating an annual event where all Viennese parishes honored the Queen of Heaven on September 12. This date coincides with the feast of the Name of Mary, established in 1683 by Pope Innocent XI to commemorate the Christian victory over Turkish invaders in Vienna through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin.

Despite initial opposition, especially from Vienna's Cardinal Theodor Innitzer, Father Pavlicek persevered. The Cardinal initially declined to participate but eventually relented due to public pressure. By contrast, Prime Minister Leopold Figl wholeheartedly embraced the Crusade, pledging unwavering support and attendance. His successor, Prime Minister Julius Raab, upheld this tradition, showing a harmony between Church and State.

By 1955, over half a million Austrians had committed to daily prayers to Our Lady of Fatima, with the Crusade's influence extending to neighboring Germany and Switzerland. This fervent devotion, coupled with Marian processions, mobilized spiritual support against the encroachment of communism.

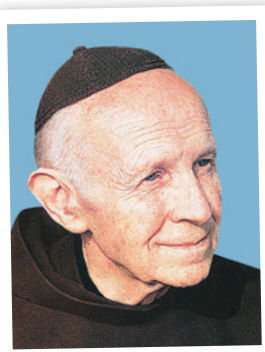
### An Unexpected Turn

In March 1955, the Soviets unexpectedly invited Austria to a conference, prompting Prime Minister Raab's plea for intensified prayers. Their prayers were answered in April with the Soviet withdrawal, leading to Austria's independence. On May 15, 1955, the Allied powers signed a treaty, and on October 26, 1955, the last Russian soldier left Austrian soil, marking a peaceful victory over communist oppression.

In Vienna, jubilant crowds marched, carrying torches and rosaries, thanking Our Lady of Fatima for liberating them from communism. Prime Minister Raab's prayer of thanksgiving marked the culmination of years of prayer and sacrifice for the nation's freedom.

Reflecting on this remarkable tale, we recall Our Lady's call at Fatima to pray the rosary daily for peace and conversion. Just as Father Pavlicek and his parishioners expelled communists from Austria through the Holy Rosary, it remains a powerful tool for overcoming modern challenges.

Father Pavlicek's victory over communism through the rosary stands as a powerful testament to the power of Our Lady's intercession and joins the numerous historic examples of the effectiveness of the Holy Rosary especially in times of crisis.



The peaceful face of Our Lady's spiritual warrior, Father Pavlicek.

### "The Rosary Priest"

While Father Pavlicek's story is the most recent example of the power of the rosary expelling communists, others in modern times have also inspired large-scale devotion to the rosary. Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., later called "The Rosary Priest," was one of those champions for family prayer in America.

Born into a devout Catholic household in County Mayo, Ireland, Patrick grew up praying the rosary together with his family nightly, a devotion which gave his faith a strong foundation.

In his early years, Patrick experienced his first success in spreading devotion to the Holy Rosary. For a time, he helped a family from a nearby village pick potatoes on their farm. Staying with that family, Patrick realized there was no "Spirit of Faith" in that household. He decided to share his love for Mary and the rosary with them, and the family began to faithfully pray the rosary every night.

From ages nine to seventeen, Patrick's only desire was to become a priest. After experiencing rejection from a few orders, Patrick gave up that dream to come to America. He was determined



**Above:** One of the most well-known public squares in America, Rockefeller Center in New York City, has been filled with participants in America Needs Fatima's annual rosary rally for 18 years. **Right:** A devoted child of Mary participates in one of 20,000+ rosary rallies held on the Saturday closest to Our Lady's Miracle of the Sun which occurred on October 13, 1917, in Fatima, Portugal.

to make his fortune in Scranton, Pennsylvania, "The Electric City."

Once there, Patrick searched for employment without success and ended up working as a janitor in the cathedral, where his desire to become a priest was reawakened.

After a serious illness and miraculous healing by Our Lady, he was ordained alongside his brother Tom on June 15, 1941, joining the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

While serving as a chaplain in Albany, New York, a new dream began to take shape in Father Peyton's imagination. He wished to establish the family rosary in ten million homes. With this ambition, he began his famous Family Rosary Crusade.

### "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together"

With much persistence and prayer, Father Peyton sought out influential people in order to get the word out about his Family Rosary Crusade. With further effort, he managed to get a platform on the Mutual Broadcasting System in New York to host his radio program. On May 13, 1945, the rosary was prayed on air for all to hear.

This was only the beginning. Father Peyton's program took off, receiving the largest following in the Mutual Broadcasting System to date. Later, he established inspirational radio, television and film programs. His famous motto, which reverberated throughout the world, became: "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together."

In 1947, Father Peyton inaugurated a billboard campaign, with the vision of promoting family prayer. Over the years, more than 200,000 billboards were displayed before the public eye, one of the most popular being: "A World at Prayer is a World at Peace." This message echoed Our Lady's insistent message at Fatima to pray the rosary every day for peace in the world.

### Millions Attend Rosary Rallies

Soon, Father Peyton began to host rosary rallies throughout the world. He wanted to share with families the simple message that family peace and unity can be achieved through family prayer. In total, he led 540 rallies worldwide, the first being held in Ontario, Canada, in 1947.

During that first rally in Canada, over 80,000 families (or 95% of the Diocese of London, Ontario) pledged to faithfully pray the family rosary. As impressive as

that number is, the rally crowds reached hundreds of thousands in other parts of North America and Africa, stretching into the millions in Latin America and parts of Europe and Asia. People lined the streets as far as the eye could see to hear about Our Lady's promises to those who pray the rosary.

Father Peyton's rallies were so successful because he used a whole-community approach to organize a rally. It was crucial that the rallies garner local support from the Archdiocese. Months ahead of time, parishes would participate in forty holy hours and forty Masses; sermons and formation about the importance of family prayer would be given; visits were made to hospitals and prisons asking people to offer their sufferings for the success of the rally. During the rally itself, families gathered for the rosary, a religious procession, homilies and Benediction.

Over time, Father Peyton convinced millions of people all over the world to commit to praying the rosary every day with their families.

Never without a rosary in hand, Father Patrick Peyton died peacefully on June 3, 1992, with these words on his lips: "Mary, my Queen, my Mother."

### A Timely Message

Inspired by Father Pavlicek and Father Peyton's public rosary rallies, as well as examples of the power of the rosary throughout all of Catholic history, the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) – America Needs Fatima (ANF) keeps the standard flying in our own times with devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, who insisted that we pray the rosary.

In 1917, Our Lady appeared at Fatima to three young seers with a message of warning and hope for humanity. If the world did not convert, the Blessed Mother said there would be suffering, famines and wars. To avert such disasters, Our Lady asked for prayer, penance and other measures. She also promised that: "Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph."

Today, Our Lady's message is more timely than

ever in light of the many sins of men and the turning away from the Faith. The America Needs Fatima campaign is dedicated to bringing this urgent message into people's homes and to the public square.

### **ANF: World's Largest Rosary Crusade**

In 2007, America Needs Fatima formed the idea of the Public Square Rosary Rally to encourage Catholics to get more involved in spreading devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. On October 13, 2007, Catholics gathered in public squares across the country to take part in more than 2,000 public rosary rallies. The American TFP organized these rallies for its America Needs Fatima campaign in honor of the ninetieth anniversary of Our Lady's Miracle of the Sun which happened on October 13, 1917, in Fatima, Portugal. As a first effort, the rallies were an overwhelming success!

Participants nationwide reported great joy in professing their faith in public. Catholics of all ages gathered for various programs, including hymns, speeches and other devotions. In those first rallies in 2007, America Needs Fatima distributed over 1,000 large banners calling for passersby to join with rally participants in praying for the conversion of America. News of the rallies spread quickly and to such an extent that there were rallies in every major city and all fifty states. In October 2022, over 21,000 rallies took place. Since 2007, over 200,000 Public Square Rosary Rallies have taken place in the month of October!

Rosary rallies now take place in thirty-five countries worldwide, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Germany, South Africa, India, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Spain, the United Kingdom, Venezuela and even communist China and Cuba. In over 22,000 locations and growing, TFP-ANF's Public Square Rosary Rallies have become the world's largest rosary crusade.

Monthly rallies are also held nationwide to beseech Our Lady's intervention for the nation and the world. Each month has a theme. A few examples are: December is in honor of Christ's birth at Christmas; in honor of Saint Joseph, the rallies in March are in defense of Traditional Marriage; another month, the rallies support law enforcement. June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in opposition to the celebration of "pride" month.

In the spirit of those before them, TFP-ANF also works year-round for the revival of the rosary in Catholic families through their Fatima home visitation program, in which a statue of Our Lady visits thousands of private homes yearly. They also distribute millions of rosaries, devotional items and calendars. Other activities, including

publications, email campaigns and protests are aimed at spreading Our Lady's Fatima message as well as promoting moral causes such as the fight for the unborn, traditional marriage and protesting public blasphemy.

### **No Problem Unresolved**

In 1957, Sister Lucia dos Santos, one of the Fatima seers, told Father Fuentes: "There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that cannot be resolved by the prayer of the Holy Rosary. With the Holy Rosary we will save ourselves, we will sanctify ourselves, we will console Our Lord, and obtain the salvation of many souls."

Throughout history, public rosaries have saved countries, as in the case of Austria. They too can save America, as human efforts continue to fail to solve America's key problems.

Like Father Pavlicek and Father Peyton, we must heed the words of Our Lady of Fatima to pray the rosary every day for peace, or as she interiorly told Father Pavlicek: "Do as I say, and there will be peace." ■

#### **Notes:**

1. "The Holy Rosary Throughout History," <https://www.fatimarosarypledge.com/history.html>.
2. Holy Family School of Faith, "Petrus Pavlicek and the Rosary Crusade," <https://schooloffaith.com/rosary-archive/petrus-pavlicek-and-the-rosary-crusade>.
3. "Father Patrick Peyton: The Rosary Priest," <https://www.fatherpeyton.org/chapters/chapter-1?hsCtaTracking=43958698-7ec8-4717-a36c-15d576ea6ed6%7Ca8519a27-11fa-4fbc-81b3-9bd830e2b041>.

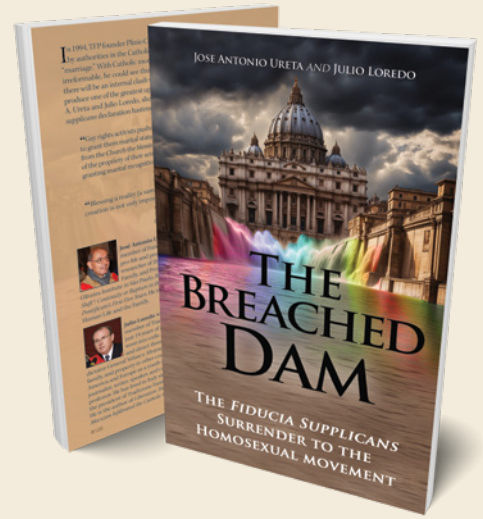


Like Our Lady's Fatima message itself, participants in TFP-ANF's rosary crusade provide a beacon of hope in a dark and self-absorbed world.



# New Book Asks: Is the Homosexual Revolution Inside the Church Reaching a Tipping Point?

BY JOHN HORVAT II



The infiltration of LGBTQ ideology in society is overwhelming. It invades every sphere of activity, especially in June. These same ideas are also rampant in structures inside the Catholic Church.

However, some tend to see this invasion as a not-so-hidden sub-culture inside the Church. They do not realize the full scope and intensity of this current.

## A Denunciation of the Homosexual Movement in the Church

A new book now reveals the full extent of this penetration in the Church and what it means for the future. Titled *The Breached Dam: The Fiducia Supplicans Surrender to the Homosexual Movement*, the timely work is a clarion call for Catholics everywhere to stand up to this danger.

Authors José Antonio Ureta and Julio Loredó are seasoned scholars who have written and spoken worldwide on the crisis inside the Church. Last year, they wrote a bestselling book called *The Synodal Process Is a Pandora's Box*.

Now, they have come together to write a short, easy-to-read 128-page book that explains how the Church got to this lamentable state.

The American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) published the English edition on May 27, 2024. This book will soon be available in eight languages (English, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Polish and Spanish).

The new book is sure to cause controversy.

## The *Fiducia Supplicans* Trigger

The work was triggered by the Vati-

can document *Fiducia Supplicans*, released last December. It allows priests to bless the partners of any “irregular couple.” This means any cohabiting or homosexual pair living together in sin can be blessed.

An uproar soon ensued, dividing the Church. Entire episcopal conferences declared their intention not to implement the blessings, while other dioceses enthusiastically embraced them.

The debate is not over, as many see *Fiducia Supplicans* as a bridge to further changes. Three points make the book timely and helpful to confused Catholics trying to understand the crisis.

## The Breached Dam Metaphor

The first point is the extensive infiltration of bad doctrine and practice inside the Church.

The authors use the fortunate metaphor of the breached dam, which perfectly describes the situation. A dam is usually not breached by an overwhelming wave that hits it and opens a breach.

Generally, it takes years of gradual undermining of the dam structure, which an ordinary storm can suddenly break down and let loose with a wall of water. The document *Fiducia Supplicans* is a tipping point for a great crisis that has been long prepared by what is called the “homoheresy” inside the Church.

The authors claim, “Such a gigantic change in the Catholic Church’s doctrine and pastoral care could not have happened overnight. The ‘homoheresy’ was spread ‘by infiltrating Catholic environments in the sixties with moral relativism and homosexual ideology.’”

The book abundantly documents the

undermining acts that raised the rainbow flag inside Church institutions and universities since the sexual revolution of the sixties. The list of promoters reads like a who’s who of the Catholic left of the last decades: Fr. Charles Curran, Fr. André Guindon, Fr. Anthony Kosnik, Fr. Daniel Maguire, Fr. Robert Nugent and Sr. Jeannine Gramick. Today, the main figurehead is Fr. James Martin, S.J.

## Church Officials on the Cutting Edge of the Homosexual Revolution

The second point is that this revolution is not only an outside attack upon Church teaching. It also comes from within. The authors identify what they call a “fifth column” that is “led chiefly by priests and nuns to promote the homosexual cause within the Church under the pretext of pastoral care for same-sex pairs.”

Today, this movement manifests itself not through hidden homosexual infiltration but wide-open participation in this revolution at Jesuit schools and colleges and other Catholic institutions.

These Church officials are on the cutting edge of the homosexual revolution. They are leading the flock and country astray. There is no attempt to hide it anymore. The dam is breached, and the waters are starting to pour in.

This is happening at the highest levels of Church government, including the statements and actions of the present pontiff and many cardinals and bishops who favor this revolution.

This support goes beyond written or spoken statements. The symbolic significance of the blessing of homosexual

(continued on page 22)



# AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA<sup>®</sup>

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

**PROGRESS REPORT**

## *From the Desk of Robert Ritchie*

Dear Soldier of Our Lady,

Every time we pray, we are reminded that our spiritual journey to Christ through Our Lady is our hope and salvation, no matter what we may face in the world. Our Lady calls us to pray her Most Holy Rosary with confidence, and she will fulfill her promise of the triumph of her Immaculate Heart.

There is no greater sign of this than the displays of love and devotion to Our Lady that take place during our annual Public Square Rosary Rally campaign. It continues to grow every year and, in 2023, more than 22,000 prayer warriors gathered as part of the world's largest rosary crusade.

Whether it was a single family or a group of hundreds of participants, people gathered nationwide to pray the rosary in public and ask Our Lady to help bring peace to the world. Public prayer is powerful! When others see you praying, they are drawn to what you are doing and want to pray, too.

That's why America Needs Fatima is once again hosting our Public Square Rosary Rally campaign in October. You can help promote devotion to Our Lady by signing up to host a rally in your town on Saturday, October 12, at noon your local time. It's easy to do! Just gather your friends, family and community members in a public place, and lead them in praying the rosary.

I hope that you are inspired to hold your own rally on October 12—to pray for America.

Please join me in public prayer to show devotion to God and Our Lady and ask them to bring peace to our world and save sinners.



Sincerely,

In Jesus and Mary,

Robert E. Ritchie,  
Executive Director



TAKEN FROM ANF'S PUBLICATION, *BATTLELINES*



### Sacred Heart Billboard Campaign Highlights Kingship of Christ

TFP-ANF supporters helped get more than 175 billboards installed for a nationwide campaign to proclaim June as the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Millions of drivers passed by billboards in places across the country, including New York City's Times Square; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Boston, Massachusetts; New Orleans, Louisiana; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Therese from Luray, Virginia, said, "When my husband and I first heard about the billboards last year, we felt a very palpable grace like a breath of air from Heaven and knew we wanted to be a part of it."

Richelle from Lafayette, Louisiana, said, "People were excited to participate and in a short time, we raised enough to put thirteen digital billboards around town."

Debbie, who helped with the Times Square billboard, said, "For the entire month of the Sacred Heart, the billboard was seen by tens of thousands of New Yorkers and tourists visiting the city. The Prince of Peace came to a city of conflict."



### Public Square Rosary Rallies Honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus

In addition to the nationwide billboard campaign, more than 1,000 TFP-ANF friends and supporters helped proclaim June as the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus by hosting Public Square Rosary Rallies in their towns.

In Miami, Rally Captain Carolyn received a special sign from Our Lord. "It rained for thirty minutes before our rally but completely stopped when we began the rosary. We felt the presence of the Holy Spirit and hope graces from our rally will bring everyone back to honoring Jesus' Sacred Heart."

In New Orleans, Louisiana, Celso and his friends prayed for over an hour in 95-degree heat. "Hundreds of people saw us during the rally and the honks of support were constant," he said.

Rally Captain Linda brought together a group in Magnolia, Texas. "We prayed for the illumination of consciences, conversion of sinners and a higher attendance at our rosary rallies and our nightly online rosaries," she said.

Rally Captain Rosa held one in Montgomery Walter Park in San Diego, California, and Rally Captain Nena organized one in El Paso, Texas.





**Go the extra mile and help TFP–America Needs Fatima  
by hosting a Public Square Rosary Rally close to your home!  
Just text PROTEST to 87837 or contact Jose Ferraz toll-free at (844) 830-3570.**

We thank our many rally captains who rise up to defend the innocent. Maria from Elmendorf, Texas, is one of our newest captains. She recently hosted a peaceful, prayerful rally of reparation and protest to defend God’s children.

At America Needs Fatima, we are committed to giving you the best assistance possible for your rally preparations. In addition to the rally manual and banner—provided to you completely cost-free—our team is available to create a personalized invitation flier for your rosary rally.



### **Miami Prayer Warriors Celebrate Twenty-Four Years of Public Rosary Rallies**

Rally Captain Sergio and his friends have been organizing a monthly Public Square Rosary Rally in Miami and Coral Gables, Florida, for the past twenty-four years.

Sergio said the group feels extremely blessed to host these rallies: “We prayed that the Sacred Heart of Jesus will conquer the sin of pride. We were happy to see there were

thousands of billboards and rallies proclaiming that Christ is King! We had many signs of approval for our rally from bumper-to-bumper traffic. It was a real blessing!”



### **Honoring Our Lady of Fatima in San Jose**

Rally Captain Robert hosted a rosary rally in San Jose, California, honoring the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima.

“We held the rally at the corner of a heavily-trafficked intersection and many people participated,” Robert said. “We received many honks from passing cars and some people made the Sign of the Cross. There were no incidents of any hostility. We thank Our Lady for the graces of the ANF rallies throughout the country honoring her first apparition at Fatima.”

He added that the group of prayer warriors included a sophomore from Santa Clara University who had attended a rally there protesting the university referencing Planned Parenthood on its website. He was pleased to see the student remain involved in attending rallies. ■



## Our Readers and Viewers Write

### From Our Readers:

“Thank you for all the good you do and have done and will do and are doing. Seems like so long ago you were in Towson, Maryland, protesting homosexual unions—it is overwhelming and intolerable that our country has gone further and further away from Our Savior Jesus Christ to whom we owe our salvation. May God continue to bless your endeavors to serve Mary through countless rosaries, vigils and rallies. May God reward you here and hereafter. We need courageous bishops and priests more than ever. Keep them in prayer. It’s easy being a communist in a free country, try being free in a communist country. Because we tolerated homosexuality, there’s now transgenderism madness, pedophilia, etc. One thing leads to another.”

*R.A., Sykesville, Maryland*

“I am thankful for the battles you wage against evil in stores, schools, etc., and I donate to support you as often as I can. I offer prayer support as your rallies start up because our American populace is more and more contentious against God and His people! If we do not repent as a nation, we will soon feel the hand of God’s judgement. God gave Israel corrupt kings as a wake-up call. We have such a leader now. Watching our people rebel and rejoice in evil is painful. Keep up your good work of love for purity and goodness to return to American hearts. I know you fight and expose evil, and that’s good enough for me—God Bless!”

*J.W., Surprise, Arizona*

“Thank you for the gold Guadalupe rosary and for bringing to my mind and heart the wondrous treasure of Fatima. What joy! We must ask: Come, beloved

Mother. What power can change the heart of a people lost in the unsubstantial—only the grace of God. Will she change the minds and hearts of those in league with the Father of Lies? We plead her intercession, amen. I love that your traveling statue of Our Lady of Fatima comes into homes and shares God’s love and peace.”

*C.M., Oriental, North Carolina*



“I am not a Catholic, but I am a believer in God, Jesus and His Precious Mother Mary. However, my wife of 65+ years is Catholic. She was baptized in the Church years ago. She is a victim of a terrible stroke that happened back in 2017. I am her loyal, loving caregiver—day and night. She can’t talk, stand, or walk. I pray very often to God, and I include Holy Mother of God, Mary, in my prayers. I ask God and Mary to heal my wife so we can share more priceless memories with each other. Please pray with me for her. I find the contents of your letters to be very encouraging and very needed!”

*F.K., Independence, Ohio*

“My youngest grandson will soon graduate from high school, and for his edification, I will give him this book you sent, *Fatima: A Message More Urgent Than Ever*. I must belatedly thank you

for the wonderful Sacred Heart rosary you mailed to me! I can’t tell you how much I love praying on it! It definitely won’t be wasted on me. God has truly blessed me in so many ways. I know Our Blessed Mother loves you dearly.”

*S.W., Marengo, Illinois*

### From Our Viewers:

“God bless you guys. Keep standing up for life and protecting the truly innocent who cannot defend themselves.”

*@natethomas6879*

“If you ever decide to come to Western Canada I know a lot of us who would stand with you! My husband and I pray you continue spreading the message and for St. Michael’s protection on you all.”

*@davyrantucci*

“Awesome!! May these young men grow up to be faithful crusaders for the Church and against the evils of our time. God bless! Viva Cristo Rey!”

*@paulinafranchini9089*

“I used to be pro-choice, but thankfully, God led me to some pro-life advocates on campus who helped completely change my view on abortion. Now, I stand firm to protect unborn lives.”

*@lonewolfx499*

“The moment the baby is conceived, that baby is purpose.”

*@shanahendricks9831*

“Viva CRISTO REY! Viva MARÍA SANTÍSIMA. NO to Abortion, No to Feminism, No to transgenderism.”

*@Pfcsss*



CUSTODIAN'S  
CORNER

# Our Lady's Role in a Flash

BY JOSEPH FERRARA



The author (right) with the hostess of a Fatima home visit whose story he tells below.

For many years, twenty-seven to be exact, I have had the honor and privilege of being a custodian of Our Lady's pilgrim Fatima statue with the America Needs Fatima home visitation program. I never cease to be consoled by seeing Our Lady touch the hearts of her children, even in these dark days of apostasy.

I had a visit with a very lovely Mexican-American family. About seventeen guests attended.

At a certain moment, the hostess gave an account of the remarkable happenings that coincided with her scheduling Our Lady's Pilgrim Statue visit to her home.

She explained that her friend, present at the visit, was responsible for her growing devotion to Mary. Her friend often insisted that she have more devotion to the Blessed Mother, which made her wonder why her friend was so emphatic, as she did not share the same conviction.

One day, she was driving with her children, and it suddenly dawned on her, "like a light," that "we have in Heaven a real Mother of flesh and blood who looks after her children and cares for us." She was so moved by this interior light that she exclaimed this "flash" she had of Our Lady's role to her children.

A couple of days later, the America Needs Fatima office in Kansas called her, inviting her to sponsor the visit of the pilgrim statue to her home. As Providence would have it, her whole family, including her husband and four children, was able to attend.

The friend who convinced the hostess to be more devoted to Mary was attentive and intense in her demeanor during the presentation, so I wondered what she was thinking. During the questions and answers session, she expressed her

astonishment, explaining that she had been following the TFP and America Needs Fatima intensely for the past two years, and suddenly, here we are "live" in front of her.

She and the hostess both purchased the book *The Synodal Process: A Pandora's Box*, coauthored by José Antonio Ureta and Julio Loredo. This book explains the current crisis afflicting the Church. One of them also purchased Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira's book *Revolution and Counter-Revolution*.

While purchasing the books, the hostess's friend mentioned that she was not always as devoted to Mary as she is now. She alluded that mothers often do not live up to what a mother should be. When visiting a Catholic bookstore, the clerk showed her *True Devotion to Mary* by Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort. She wasn't interested. Perceiving that she needed something different, the clerk cleverly showed her *The Glories of Mary* by Saint Alphonsus Liguori, which she purchased.

During a spare moment at work, she began to read her newly purchased book and could not get beyond page eight. She said tears were streaming down her face. From that day forward, she could not put the book down. She said even while vacuuming her home, she would have the vacuum in one hand and the book in the other.

One cannot help but see the extraordinary action of grace upon these individuals and their families. Our Lady intervenes on behalf of her faithful children. She has already promised the final victory when she uttered words of great hope in Fatima, "Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!" ■



# Persecuted for Protecting Children from Drag “Nuns”

BY JON PAUL FABRIZIO

What should a Catholic do when he finds out that a group of blasphemous drag “nuns” will be reading to children in a public library?

Protest.

That’s why the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) organized a rosary rally of reparation outside of a California library, where the Russian River Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence held a story time for children.

The “sisters” are a group of men who provocatively dress as nuns and hold satirical events that denigrate the Catholic Faith.

We discovered that this group would be reading to children at the Guerneville Regional Library in Guerneville, California. The library district’s website invited locals to “join the Russian River community and the local Sisters for a fun and fabulous storytime for all ages! A Guerneville Pride tradition.”

## Taking Up Arms

Shortly after finding out about the

event, we launched a petition asking the director of the Sonoma County Library system to cancel the event immediately. It gathered over 20,000 signatures, showing that Americans are tired of seeing the LGBT movement targeting faithful Catholics and young children.

On June 21, three of us drove to the county library headquarters to hand-deliver the petitions. We handed them over to the Deputy Library Director, Dara Bradds, who assured us that she would give the petitions to the director, Erika Thibault.

However the offensive event was not canceled, and on June 22, a force of concerned Catholics arrived at the library just thirty minutes before the story time was set to take place.

We unfurled a banner that read: “The blasphemous ‘Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence’ teach children to love sin and hate God’s Law. We vehemently protest this attack on our Faith!”

Once everything was set up, we recited the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries of the rosary, the greatest spiritual weapon in the fight against evil.

The evil we were fighting against was right before our eyes. It was saddening to watch parents leading young toddlers into the library. It was particularly hard to see that they were being introduced to immoral, anti-Catholic behavior at such a young age. Thankfully, the story-

time event didn’t seem too popular, and we only saw a handful of parents arrive with their children.

Instead, we faced off with about fifty counter-protestors, most of whom were older. They explicitly expressed their hatred of Catholics.

One woman told one of our volunteers, “I have a personal hatred for you. If you ever come back, I will destroy your car,” and many other hateful quotes. Unfortunately, we also caught a glimpse of two of the drag “nuns,” who wore garish attire that made a caricature of a religious habit.

We saw another man who was a Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence member who identified as a “priest.” He recited a blasphemous version of the Hail Mary while we prayed the rosary.

At that moment, it was clear to all of us that we were facing off with anti-Catholic bigotry. However, we were not discouraged. “The more opposition we faced, the louder we prayed,” said TFP bagpiper William Gossett. “We gave pious ejaculations that reflected our joy to defend moral values.”

One woman approached us and said, “Thank you so much for doing this! I live around here, and I am tired of having to deal with all this stuff!”

After reciting the rosary and enduring anti-Catholic bigotry for an hour and a half, we finished our rally.

## The Results

This rally was a victory. Thanks to the rally participants, this sickening event did not pass by unnoticed. Instead, thousands of God-fearing Americans were warned and encouraged to take action.

Additionally, this prayer protest set a precedent. Even on short notice, faithful Catholics are capable of organizing massive petition drives and protests.

Finally, this rally made reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. June belongs to His Heart, but LGBT agitators have hijacked it for the sin of pride.

The rally, however, reaffirmed a truth that is being ignored in a godless world. Just as Our Lord was being ridiculed by the impious, pious Catholics honored Him and declared, “Christ is King!” ■



These brave ladies continue praying their rosaries among shouts, accusations and foul language.



# God in School: Student-Run Rosary Club Converts Souls in Public School

BY CESAR FRANCO

Instead of retreating, one Texas high school student has started something daring. Philip confronted the immorality at his school by launching a rosary club. What happened next is extraordinary. Not only did his club flourish in a hostile environment, but young souls at Kingwood High School in Houston, Texas, started receiving graces of conversion.

What follows is an interview with the young man who started the rosary club and Cesar Franco, a TFP-Texas member.

**Mr. Franco:** What inspired you to begin a rosary club?

**Philip:** I was inspired to begin a rosary club after seeing the state of the student body at my high school. During my sophomore year, I began to notice the reality of the spiritual battle among the students at my school. I saw the drug use, the normalization of sexual promiscuity and the rise of the LGBT agenda, to name a few. The school library even created a 'shrine' for LGBT-identifying students, which promoted pro-LGBT literature and invited students to the new 'Gay-Straight Alliance' club that was formed.

I was saddened to see my peers dragging themselves into hell with the lies they had bought into. I knew there had to be a voice of reason on the campus. I thought: "If they can have their club, why can't we have one too?" I felt obligated to form the rosary club because Our Lady's rosary saved me from the darkness that the modern culture sows and encourages,



Philip, from Kingwood High School in Houston, Texas, began a rosary club in his public school that has had some miraculous results.

and my fellow students desperately needed what I had been so mercifully and generously given by Our Lady. They needed the Truth. I got together with some of my fellow Catholic students, and we began the endeavor to bring Our Lady into our school.

**Mr. Franco:** Can you share some positive experiences/impacts it has had?

**Philip:** I have many wonderful stories about how the rosary club has affected my school! A story that immediately comes to mind is about a student named Landon. One Friday during my junior year, he showed up at a club meeting, knowing nothing about the rosary. I quickly explained it to him, handed him a rosary with a prayer pamphlet and we began praying. Landon eventually became a regular club member and started associating with our Catholic student circle. Over the period of a year, he fell in love with the Faith. He is now in RCIA and will be initiated as a Catholic this Easter!

Another of the most noticeable signs of grace from the club is the interest it has attracted from Protestant students. Before many club meetings, I find myself explaining the rosary and the Catholic Faith to inquiring Protestant students. Over these two years, we've had plenty of Protestant students come to the club to see what the rosary is about and describe the peace they feel after they pray with us.

Finally, the biggest positive impact that the rosary club has had is the community it has fostered. I believe that the Catholic students at my school feel they have a refuge during their school day. After every rosary, students embrace and socialize. We're comfortable sharing our Faith in an environment that is normally so hostile to the very thing we love!

**Mr. Franco:** Was it hard to start?

**Philip:** It was not hard to start at all! We had the club up and running about two months after the idea was posed. Only two things were required of us from campus administration: a teacher to sponsor us and a club constitution. The sponsor provided us with a room and time to meet, and the constitution gave outlines of the club to explain our mission and purpose. From there, we collected rosaries and prayer pamphlets to give to students coming to the club.

**Mr. Franco:** What was your biggest challenge?

**Philip:** Our biggest challenge was to find a teacher who would be willing to sponsor the club. Most teachers are not open about their faith, so finding a Catholic teacher who would give us their room for half an hour every single week was daunting!

Thankfully, we found a teacher who subtly hinted that she was Catholic. We approached her, and she eventually agreed to be our sponsor, mentoring us through the application and club set-up process.



Fellow students gather around Philip [second from left, yellow tie] every week to pray the rosary in their public school, as well as socialize and support one another in their Catholic Faith.

**Mr. Franco:** What advice do you have for other students who want to start a rosary club?

**Philip:** My best advice is to find holy friends to help you start the club. I began the rosary club at my school with two of my friends from the youth group at my parish, and this made it much easier and less daunting when we could collectively get things going. My second piece of advice is this: Be not afraid! Be bold!

If you decide to begin a rosary club, the Blessed Virgin will surely be with

you, giving you an abundance of grace and assisting you along the way. Place everything into her hands, and she will take care of it! I also encourage you to read *The Secret of the Rosary* by Saint Louis de Montfort; it will invigorate your love for the rosary and give you all the motivation you need to promote it among your peers.

**Mr. Franco:** Were you ever afraid nobody would be interested?

**Philip:** I was never afraid of there being no interest in the club. I knew that my friends from the youth group at my parish would show up and had a desire to pray. Besides this, I understood that even if there were only two of us praying the rosary for the school, the Blessed Mother would see our efforts and protect us and all the students we were praying for! By the grace of God, the club started with six members, and after two years has grown to over fifty members!

**Mr. Franco:** What has worked to

promote the club at school?

**Philip:** The most effective way to promote the club at school has been through word of mouth. My peers are greatly moved when they see young people their age with such zeal and desire to honor Our Lord and Our Lady. High schoolers are at a time in their lives where they are searching for a deeper meaning, to look for what is really true. When we go about our lives with zeal and joy for the Faith, people notice and wish to imitate it!

I wear a suit and tie every Friday to promote reverence and show people that we give God our best. This always sparks conversations with students who are curious about why I'm dressed so nicely. These are the perfect moments to evangelize with the rosary and invite them to come to the club.

We also have a Remind group chat to send meeting dates and alerts directly to students' phones. Finally, we have set up social media accounts to show what we do in the club and encourage students to visit and pray with us. ■

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pairs, for example, is a major step toward changing the culture.

The authors note that "In the culture war to normalize homosexuality, symbolic facts are as important as the spreading of ideas, perhaps even more so, because they mobilize people's emotions and feelings, which today matter more than principles for much of public opinion."

### The High Stakes Around This Fight

The most important insight of *The Breached Dam* is that it shows just how much is at stake in this battle. This is not a minor discussion of morals or lifestyles. The fight lies at the center of the course that will determine the world's future.

Messrs. Loredano and Ureta affirm, "In Western society, the Catholic Church is the great dam that protects the strongholds not yet conquered by the neo-pa-

gan revolution."

Based on the Gospel and natural law, the Church is the principal force that prevents far-left ideological currents from achieving their goals of liberating the unbridled passions.

The authors believe that "the homosexual movement and the transgender ideology, whose demands, if successful, will lead to the dissolution of the family and the erasure of the fundamental moral principles on which any civilization worthy of the name rests."

That wall of what remains of Catholic teaching is the only thing preventing chaos from taking over the world.

### The Need to Resist

That is why Catholics must not sit back and hope the storm will go away. The Church provides everything in the line of sound doctrine and divine grace to overcome her enemies. Thus, Catholics must resist, challenge and denounce this monstrous denial of Church teach-

ing. *The Breached Dam* is an excellent place to gather material to engage in the fight.

Indeed, TFP founder Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira stated thirty years ago that "There will be an internal clash within the Church, and this internal shock will produce one of the greatest upheavals in history."

Today, his prediction is coming to pass. The dam is being breached. All hands are needed to push back the floodwaters.

Get the book now! *The Breached Dam: The Fiducia Supplicans Surrender to the Homosexual Movement* is now available for \$10.95. ■

To order your copy, scan this QR code or call 1-888-317-5571





**Left:** Each boy waits his turn to experience the thrill of cleaving a water jug in two with his sword. **Middle:** Camp attendees gather in the on-site chapel to sing the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary. **Right:** A traditional procession in honor of Our Lady that was worthy of the saints of old.

*(continued from back cover)*

them about the miracle of Covadonga.”

### Rediscovering Great Heroes and Epic Battles

Following the chronological history of the Reconquest, the boys learned about a courageous and faithful knight, El Cid. This champion saved Spain in the eleventh century from an invasion by North African Muslims.

Another talk was given about King Saint Ferdinand III (cousin of King Saint Louis IX of France). Some boys rated it their favorite meeting. It is easy to understand why. His life of piety and heroic deeds on the battlefield are difficult to match. He never lost a battle.

TFP member Domenick Galatolo gave one particularly sobering talk about the Siege of the Alcazar in 1936. The siege took place during the bloody and savage Spanish Civil War between ruthless communists and faithful Catholics. The communists killed over 6,800 Spanish clergy—bishops, priests and nuns—during the conflict. They also sought to annihilate a brave garrison of soldiers holed up in the Alcazar fortress in Toledo. With much prayer and great trust in God, the trapped soldiers made a heroic stand in the battered fortress. After fierce fighting, a relieving force saved them.

### Medieval Games and Food

While the talks informed the mind, frequent prayer uplifted the soul and games challenged the body. These included medieval-style games such as shield ball and French football. The boys

also competed for coveted prizes in archery, tomahawk throwing and chess.

Halfway through the adventure, camp participants traveled to the American TFP’s Headquarters in Spring Grove, Pennsylvania, for a tour of the property, followed by the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Latin, accompanied by an organ. The day concluded with a Spanish-themed meal: shrimp and herbs served in seashells that recall the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. Then, the main course: succulent Spanish lamb roasted on a spit over an open fire. Dessert was Torta de Santiago in honor of Spain’s patron, Saint James the Apostle, embellished with a Saint James Cross. The dining hall was adorned with medieval flags and different types of swords, calling to mind the epic battles of the Reconquista.

### Modern-Day Crusaders

During the Middle Ages, Spanish knights fought according to the Code of Chivalry, which called them to defend widows and orphans while fighting for what is greater, namely the Catholic Church and Christian civilization.

Following in the Spanish crusaders’ footsteps, camp participants defended the unborn and proclaimed their faith in the public square during two pro-life rosary rallies. Many boys said standing at a large intersection with a pro-life “honk” sign and praying a rosary was their favorite part of the camp. During the first pro-life campaign in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, one boy counted 532 honks of support from passing traffic!

### A Special Day

Each year, the summer camp is held at the St. Louis de Montfort Academy campus in Pennsylvania, amid rolling green hills.

However, the Academy property was incredibly blessed this year with the completion of a magnificent new grotto to Our Lady of Lourdes. The grotto is set on the hillside overlooking the campus.

A longtime friend of the St. Louis de Montfort Academy, the Most Reverend William Waltersheid, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, graced the camp with his presence in a ceremony to inaugurate and bless the Lourdes Grotto.

### What Can a Camp Achieve?

Fortified in their faith, these young men learned to fulfill their Confirmation duty as soldiers of Christ. They left the camp better prepared to confront the spiritual battles that await them in this fallen modern-day world.

Fight the good fight we must, trusting not in our strength but in the maternal intercession of Our Lady and Queen.

The words of TFP founder Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira sum up very well what these young men can achieve when they correspond to God’s grace:

“When men resolve to cooperate with the grace of God, the marvels of history are worked: the conversion of the Roman Empire; the formation of the Middle Ages; the reconquest of Spain, starting from Covadonga; all the events that result from the great resurrections of soul of which peoples are also capable.”

*Viva Cristo Rey!* ■

# “What Can a Group of Boys at a Chivalry Camp Do in Today’s World?”

BY JOSEPH GENSENS

On a hot June morning in rural Pennsylvania, a large room was packed with boys who listened in eager silence to the first of several meetings at the Call to Chivalry Summer Camp held from June 5–15, 2024. The event was organized by the American Society for the Defense of Tradition, Family and Property (TFP) and the St. Louis de Montfort Academy. This year’s theme was Catholic Spain and the Reconquista.

## A Miracle of Our Lady Saves Spain

To begin, TFP speaker Michael Chad Shibley told the boys the story of Don Pelayo. This fearless knight who started the Reconquista of Spain from the Muslims gathered soldiers in a small cave in the northernmost part of Spain.

During the Battle of Covadonga in 722, Don Pelayo and his soldiers faced an army of 180,000 Muslims that surrounded them. All seemed lost. However, he and his small band of warriors achieved a smashing victory through a prominent miracle of Our Lady. By defeating the Muslim army, he established a small foothold in Spain. “This is how the Reconquest of Spain began,” Mr. Shibley explained, “So if someone asks, ‘What can a room packed with boys at a Call to Chivalry Camp do in today’s world?’ tell(Continued on page 23)



Every chivalry camp provides its participants opportunities to discover that “youth was made for heroism.”

