Continuing to Spread the Full Fatima Message

BACK WHERE IT BEGAN
~ OTTAWA ~
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fatima Center Vignettes: About…The Fatima Crusader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>The Fatima Center Advisory Council of Priests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The Work of The Fatima Center Is More Relevant Than Ever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Father Albert Kallio, O.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>“(Fatima’s) Urgency Cannot Be Exaggerated”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Father Paul McDonald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Our Lady of Fatima and the One Thing Necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Father Michael Rodríguez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Living the Fatima Message in the Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Father Isaac Mary Relyea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Front Cover: Canada’s National Pilgrim Virgin Statue in procession. The Fatima Center’s staff is joined by students from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy in New Hamburg, Ontario, at the May 2018 Pro-Life March in Ottawa, Ontario, where the first issue of The Fatima Crusader was published.
SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION OF THE NATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN OF FATIMA STATUE

After decades of extensive travel, Canada’s 50-year-old National Pilgrim Virgin statue of Our Lady of Fatima needed a complete restoration. We realized that having traversed hundreds of thousands of miles the world over for decades, accompanied by its faithful custodian, Father Nicholas Gruner, the beloved image of Our Lady was showing undeniable signs of age and touch.

Divine Providence led us to discover that just across the border from our head office in Canada, and close to our Buffalo, New York office, there is a renowned church art firm, a family business, called Swiatek Studios with 50 years of experience. Stacey Swiatek carried out the expert restoration process at the beginning of Our Lady’s month of May, restoring the representation of the Blessed Virgin and Her crown to their original splendor.

The newly-restored statue was quickly brought to Canada’s annual March for Life in Ottawa, on May 10, where it was publicly seen for the first time in the same city where it was first housed and entrusted to Father Nicholas Gruner, and this within the 50th anniversary year of its papal blessing and commissioning. The statue then travelled to Kansas City, Missouri on June 9.

When it is not on the road, the statue remains in The Fatima Center’s chapel, where we pray the daily Rosary, remembering the intentions of all our apostolate supporters and praying for them, their family members, relatives, loved ones and dear ones. We hope to bring Our Lady’s statue to many more people, so that they can appreciate its deep beauty and experience Our Lady’s maternal intercession.
This year marks the 40th anniversary of *The Fatima Crusader*.

In the summer of 1978, Father Nicholas Gruner launched what has since become the signature publication of The National Committee for the National Pilgrim Virgin of Canada (which organization eventually became known internationally as The Fatima Center).

The Canada office – often referred to by Father Gruner and staff as the head office, as the apostolate expanded internationally – is where Father Gruner began this full-time work of spreading the full Fatima Message in 1977 and where he continued this work for 38 years until his death in April 2015.
The first issue of *The Fatima Crusader* was published in black and white. Though the paper was of a larger size (8-1/2 X 11) than the magazine of the last 23 years, this issue consisted of just 8 pages.

On the front cover was a picture of the apostolate’s signature National Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima statue, for which the Canadian office was founded and originally named.

Fittingly, one or more pictures of the signature statue of the apostolate appear in all issues of the apostolate’s signature publication – either on the front cover, back cover, or somewhere inside the magazine.

The larger format of *The Fatima Crusader* was maintained for the first 48 issues with one exception, Issue 42, which was a special commemorative issue on the 1992 bishops’ conference in Fatima, Portugal. The number of pages rapidly increased in increments eventually reaching 32 pages by issue number 7 published in the spring of 1981.

The number of issues published per year also varied, with only 1 or 2 issues going to press in each of the magazine’s early years.

Issue number 8, published in April 1982, was the first issue to depart from black and white. This was a partial color issue but not on the glossy paper we’ve become used to.

Father Gruner’s goal was that the magazine be published quarterly, which he finally achieved in 1983 having published two double issues - Issues 11/12 in May-July and Issues 13/14 in October-December. These were also the same issues first published in 4-color and first printed on glossy paper.

Father did all he could to make the mailing of the magazine as cost sparing as possible. Beginning with

---

*In the Summer of 1978 Father Gruner introduced The Fatima Crusader, This is the first issue published 40 years ago.*
Issues 11/12, the magazine was sent as a self-mailer with postal Bulk Permit, return address and addressee information all on the back cover. Also included as part of the magazine were Father’s letters to supporters, prayer intentions and reply forms, and postage paid business reply envelopes. It was mailed as a complete unit. This was the most economical means at that time, and (with the exception of Issue 42) was used up to and including the last large size issue, number 48 (published in Winter 1995).

In the first four years of publication (1978 – 1982) encompassing the first eight issues of the magazine, the only address listed was the address where the magazine was written and published - the head office in Canada.

But as Father Gruner expanded the apostolate by accepting offers of help in distributing The Fatima Crusader from those providing a place for an office (such as in the United States, Ireland and the United Kingdom), and by opening new offices internationally (such as Italy, India, Philippines, and Portugal), the number of address locations listed in the magazine grew.

Father Gruner used a variety of companies for printing the full-color issues (depending on which company was willing to offer the lowest price), but the magazines were (and still are) packaged and prepared for mailing – whether domestically or internationally – by and under the direction of staff in the Canadian office.

After each new issue’s initial mail-
ing, extra copies are sent by truck or sea shipment from the Canadian office to our other offices and distribution centers, whence they are sent to our supporters in those various countries who request duplicate copies for themselves or others.

In 1985, Father relocated The Fatima Center’s headquarters from Ottawa to Fort Erie, principally for the sake of its proximity to the U.S. city of Buffalo, New York (thus giving our staff a convenient point of access to the U.S. Postal Service). Though all of our mailings are prepared at the Canadian office, a short drive across the Peace Bridge allows those pieces destined for the Apostolate’s supporters in the U.S. to be sent at domestic rates.

Beginning with Issue 49, the dimensions of the magazine were scaled down to the shorter, narrower size we are familiar with today.

Issue 49 was a special issue titled The Magnificent Promise for the Five First Saturdays. First published in 1995, more than 1,000,000 copies of this magazine have been printed and distributed over the years. And it is the only issue of The Fatima Crusader printed in 5 other languages: Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, and (most recently) Russian.

The number of pages per issue has varied over the years, most issues being 64 pages, and some 96, but the record length was Issue 64 which had 128 pages. Published in the summer of 2000, it was the first issue after the release of what the Vatican claimed was the entire Third Secret, but which was actually only part of the Secret - the lesser part. The title on the cover was: The Third Secret Revealed?, and this special issue contained a groundbreaking article written by Andrew Cesanek titled “Are There Two Original Manuscripts on the Third Secret?”

For the next seven years The Fatima Center was heavily criticized for that article’s contention – that the Third Secret contains both a Vision and Our Lady’s words explaining its significance, recorded by Sister Lucy on separate documents, one of which remains hidden to this day. Then suddenly the landscape changed.

Issue 86, titled Special Third Secret Issue and published in the summer of 2007, contained an article written by John Vennari, reporting on the explosive testimony of Archbishop Loris Capovilla – former secretary to Pope John XXIII, the first pope to open the envelope containing the Third Secret – which exonerated Father Gruner and The Fatima Center’s position by confirming that there are indeed two original manuscripts to the Third Secret.

The landmark 100th Issue of The Fatima Crusader was published in the autumn of 2011 – 33 years after the first issue of the magazine was introduced.
Many organizations and companies consider the 100th edition of a trademark publication an occasion of rejoicing or celebration. Father Gruner and Our Lady’s apostolate were no different. I remember how pleased he was when this issue was produced.

Issue 112 (published in the summer of 2015 – 37 years after the first issue was introduced and a few months after the death of the magazine’s founder) was a memorial issue “Dedicated in Loving Memory to Father Nicholas Gruner: The Fatima Priest”. This first issue published without the magazine’s founder marked a very sad time for the apostolate and its followers.

Eight issues and two years later, Issue 120 (published in the autumn of 2017) was another landmark issue, reporting on the achievement of a goal of Father Gruner’s that was in progress at the time of his death, but not accomplished during his lifetime – The Fatima Center’s historic first trip to Russia.

Though there might be a tendency for some to think that past issues of The Fatima Crusader are outdated and offer little value, the exact opposite is the case.

The content of past issues is not only not outdated, but often has become even more significant years after originally being published.

Some of the issues even have content that appears almost prophetic when re-read 20 or more years after its original publication.

For those who have collected issues of the magazine over the years, I urge you to hold on to them. Don’t give them away. They are a priceless historical record of what has happened in the Church and the world since Our Lady appeared at Fatima in 1917.

And as important as the magazines are now, they will be considered even more important after the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is finally done. The subsequent dramatic conversion of Russia and the world will result in the world wanting to know all about Our Lady of Fatima and Her message. Therefore The Fatima Crusader magazines will be sought for the information and historical record they provide.

We know that sometimes people give away their only copy of an issue because they want someone else to read it. Instead, just call us, and we will send an extra copy of the issue you wish to share. You may also download a copy off of our website, where each new issue is uploaded shortly after publication.

For more Fatima Center Vignettes, visit our website at www.fatima.org
Although we live in days of “diabolical disorientation,” as Sister Lucy of Fatima described them, we are not without good and holy priests to guide us in these difficult times. As Our Lord said, “I will not leave you orphans.” (John 14:18) It is true that the sudden death of Father Nicholas Gruner in April 2015 took away The Fatima Center’s beloved guide, father and director of almost four decades. But we have not been left without exemplary priests, secular and religious, to guide us along our way in serving Our Lady of Fatima and spreading Her saving Message, Her Peace Plan, for our times. Several priests have shown themselves to be true spiritual fathers to Our Lady’s
The FaTima Crusader

Apostolate, and have generously given of their precious time and many gifts to help with this work, now deprived of its heroic champion of so many years.

At the beginning of the significant centenary year of Our Lady’s apparitions, 2017, “The Fatima Center Advisory Council of Priests” was formed, to solidify and organize the moral and spiritual support and guidance provided by these clerics. They currently number four, three of whom are secular, or diocesan clergy, while the other is a religious priest, belonging to the Dominican Order (well-known for spreading Marian devotion, especially by preaching the Holy Rosary given by the Blessed Virgin to the Order’s founder, Saint Dominic).

We should also note that there are additional priests who assist us in various ways without allowing us to give public recognition to them, and many other good, solid priests who support our work, but who cannot commit to this advisory council due to their pastoral commitments.

While we understand that there will never be another Father Gruner, all of the priest-advisors personally knew the “Fatima Priest,” and gratefully acknowledge his role in their own priestly lives, especially in their understanding, studying and preaching of Our Lady’s Message. Each of them, in their own way, has long admired Father Gruner’s many gifts, his holiness, his heroic commitment day in and day out to the traditional Catholic Faith and to the Message of Fatima, and above all, his complete dedication to the holy Mother of God.

The offers of assistance came from ecclesiastics of diverse backgrounds and priestly roles, and served as a testimonial to the efficacy of Father Gruner’s continuous explanation over the years that the Message of Fatima is meant for all.
FATHER PAUL MCDONALD was ordained in 1988 and is currently pastor in a nearby diocesan parish in Ontario, about a 20-minute drive from The Fatima Center. Father McDonald was a very good friend to Father Gruner and Our Lady’s Apostolate for many years. He came to know Father Gruner while still a seminarian; and, fluent in French, he helped with the translation (from the original French) and publication of the monumental three-volume set *The Whole Truth About Fatima* by Frère Michel de la Sainte Trinité. Since Father Gruner’s death he has helped in a variety of ways, including offering the Traditional Latin Mass at our apostolate chapel, writing articles for *The Fatima Crusader*, doing short programs for our Fatima TV, and speaking at Our Lady’s Army of Advocates conferences – most recently, at our conference in Dallas this past March.

FATHER MICHAEL RODRÍGUEZ is a traditional Catholic priest from El Paso, Texas. He studied in Rome and was ordained in 1996. He has served as pastor for a number of churches in his diocese, as well as Vocations Director. Father Rodríguez speaks English and Spanish fluently, and is proficient in German and Italian. He has spoken at a number of Our Lady’s Army of Advocates conferences, preached The Fatima Center’s first Marian Retreat (March 2017), was the spiritual guide at The Fatima Center’s pilgrimage to Fatima in the centennial year of Our Lady’s apparitions (July 2017), and has visited our Apostolate several times.

FATHER ALBERT KALLIO, O.P is now a professor at Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in Silver City, New Mexico, having previously served as pastor at Our Lady of Peace Church in Vernon, British Columbia. While still a seminarian, he met Father Gruner for the first time in 1979, actively seeking Father’s advice regarding his vocation. He entered the Dominican Order in France in the late 1980’s, and was ordained a priest in 1994. He has travelled the world to preach (which is his Order’s mission) ever since, particularly about Our Lady and consecration to Her. He has spoken at various Fatima Center conferences and hosts our Q&A Fatima TV program: *Ask Father*.

MONSIGNOR PATRICK PEREZ is pastor of Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Garden Grove, California. For more than 20 years, he has been a dear friend and supporter of The Fatima Center. He studied at a traditional seminary in Italy, and was ordained in 1993 by Alfons Maria Cardinal Stickler. A Professor of Theology and Liturgy with a profound knowledge of the history and development of the Roman Rite of Mass and an expert on the modern errors against the Catholic Faith, Msgr. Perez holds his degree in Theology from the Pontifical University of Maynooth in Ireland. He served as Rector of the Institute of Christ the King seminary in Italy for a year before undertaking pastoral work in the United States. In 2011, he received the honor of becoming a monsignor. Over the years, Msgr. Perez has attended and spoken at several Fatima Center conferences, and has written articles for *The Fatima Crusader*.
Fr. Albert is a traditional Dominican friar who first came to know Father Nicholas Gruner in 1979. Originally from Saskatoon, Canada, he was ordained a priest in 1994, and now serves as a professor of theology at Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in Silver City, New Mexico. He is a valued member of our Fatima Center Advisory Council of Priests.

IT WAS JANUARY 1979. I was in Toronto in first year theology at St. Michael’s College as a lay student, seeking a religious Order where I could pursue my vocation. One night I got a call from a friend back home out west.

“You won’t believe it!” he said. “There’s a priest who came to our parish with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima and he was quoting St. Thomas Aquinas and talking about the Rosary and the Scapular and about doing penance and reparation. The Church was full, people came from all over the city and he enrolled everyone in the Scapular. Some people possessed with demons starting crying aloud but he just calmly sent them away. His name is Father Gruner and he lives in Ottawa. You’ve got to go see him!”

The first three months in Toronto had been discouraging to say the least. The school was ridden with modernism of the most extreme brand: rampant ecumenism (we studied with Protestants and even had Protestant professors), liturgical madness (“communion” distributed in wicker baskets full of slices of whole wheat bread passed hand
to hand, sermons given by women professors who openly advocated ordination of women priests) and even outright heresy: one professor went so far as to deny explicitly in class the Divinity of Christ and when the Archbishop had him resign, it was attacked as a blatant infraction of academic freedom!

The state of religious Orders was no better. For example, the Dominicans – the Order I was interested in joining – had a mixed community of friars and sisters living in the same house under the authority of Father Kelly Walker, one of the most modernist professors in the whole school. When I sought out the advice of an old Dominican, a Master of Sacred Theology and renowned author of a book on St. Thomas Aquinas, I found him in his office in suspenders, sitting before his typewriter, a cigarette hanging out of his mouth: “Be prudent,” he counselled me, “Just be quiet in class so you can get ordained.”

When I received this call from home, then, about Father Gruner I didn’t hesitate. The next free weekend I went to Ottawa to see this priest who was like no one I had ever heard of before. His advice was clear and imperative: “What are you doing in Toronto?” he said to me. “There is no point going there, that’s not the Faith.” Suddenly new horizons opened up before me. He spoke of a bishop in the Philippines who was orthodox. “Or perhaps,” he added, “you could go to Rome – at least there they tolerate orthodoxy.”

Rome seemed a little less exotic than the Philippines (although it was obvious that for Father Gruner the whole world was like his backyard; he vaguely mentioned something about some bishop in Guatemala as well, I think...) and I had at least been there before and knew a little Italian. So, a few months later, I was off to Rome and the Toronto School of Theology was just a bad memory.

Father had offered me a job helping him tour the country with the statue of Our Lady which I had originally accepted, but finally it became clear that I ought to continue pursuing my vocation without delay – I did however organize a tour in Saskatchewan for him and the statue of Our Lady before leaving for Europe, a tour which I found out later, worked out to be a great success in some places and aroused ferocious opposition in others – in the Newman Center on
campus, for example.

Thus for me, as for countless others, Father Nicholas Gruner was the priest God used as an instrument to guide me in the confusion reigning in the Church after Vatican II. I was to meet him on and off again over the years: our paths seemed to cross every once in a while, as if to remind me of that initial grace that had been given to me through him. At Rome in 1982 when he came for the canonization of Saint Maximilian Maria Kolbe with Brother Francis Mary, OFM Conv. and a group of pilgrims, a number of us from the Congregation I belonged to in Rome, went out to give some conferences to his pilgrims at their hotel outside of Rome.

Then later, after having been ordained with traditional Dominicans in France, I visited The Fatima Center while in Canada, to preach a retreat. I remember finally managing to speak to Father around midnight during a pause in his never-ending activity and him responding in his characteristic, deadpan tone to my amazement at the scale of the operation he had put together: “This place runs on a shoestring budget.” He was, after all, a graduate in Commerce!

The last time I saw him was a few years ago at a Catholic Family News conference at which I gave a talk. He had grown old and grey, but retained the same strikingly-calm demeanor he always had, which came from his absolute dedication to the cause of Our Lady. This gave him a simplicity and a peace that only such singleminded people as he possess, people like Saint Maximilian Maria Kolbe who lived for his “idée fixe,” the Immaculata.

The news of his death saddened me, of course, but, although it was sudden, it wasn’t surprising. He “died with his boots on,” working for Our Lady – how could it have been otherwise?

As for those of us who remain, we must take up the torch and continue the work Father Gruner started. For the work of The Fatima Center is more relevant than ever because it is transmitting the authentic Message of Fatima. The importance of this Message for the present world is obvious to anyone who believes in it, and one day will be obvious even to those who have not believed in it, although for them it may well be too late for them to profit by it. Anything any of us can do to further the transmitting of this Message has this same importance, and Our Lady and the souls She helps through us will be eternally grateful.
The Fatima Movement of Priests (FMP) helps good priests and bishops (as well as lay people) to work together for the triumph of Mary’s Immaculate Heart through the Consecration of Russia. Thus, peace will be brought to the world and MILLIONS of SOULS will be saved. Priests committed to the Movement (FMP) are already missionaries for Our Lady of Fatima. They preach the Message of Fatima throughout the world. To date, hundreds of priests from six continents have committed themselves to this great work.

**The Priests Working in the Fatima Movement (FMP)**
- Need your prayerful support!
- Need resource materials
- Need further training
- And need your help!

Help The Fatima Movement of Priests Through the Society of St. John Vianney. The Society of St. John Vianney will help collect gifts for the work of The Fatima Movement of Priests. Your monthly offering to the Society can be earmarked for the support of The Fatima Movement of Priests.

**Join Today! Society Members Enjoy Many Unique Benefits…**
- Special Masses
- Newsletters
- Prayers
- Spiritual assistance by phone, letter, prayer cards, & more.

**We Need Your Support!**
To become a member or for more information, just fill out the enclosed form or call us toll-free at 1-800-263-8160.
The following is a concise but moving reflection on the experiences with Father Gruner of our priest advisor, Father McDonald, while he was a young seminarian, and why he continues to support Our Lady’s Apostolate as a priest of 30 years.

**FATHER PAUL MCDONALD**

I first met Father Nicholas Gruner, the Fatima Priest, in about 1981. Canada’s National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, blessed I believe by Pope Paul VI, was present at St. Anne’s Church, in Niagara Falls, whose parish priest, a Doctor in Canon Law, saw no problem with what he was doing and allowing, although there were already rumblings of...

“*(Fatima’s)* Urgency Cannot Be Exaggerated”
Father’s future troubles.

I spoke to Father and he invited me to come and see him in Fort Erie. I was studying for the priesthood at the time. I had enough sense not to advertise the visit, or have a trumpet blown before me. And this is how I came to cooperate with the final editing of *The Whole Truth about Fatima* by Frère Michel de la Sainte Trinité. That was a great grace for me. At the time, this work was hidden. I came, so to speak by dark of night, like a Nicodemus… So down through the years, I would cooperate with the work of spreading the integral Fatima Message.

I recall that before I met Father Gruner I knew he was right. He was being attacked by a writer in *The Wanderer* in those very early 80’s. But the critic, in pages and pages of small print, failed to mention Father’s strongest and most conclusive argument in regard to the fact that Russia was then, and to this day remains, not properly consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: specifically, publicly, collegially and in a spirit of reparation.

The fact that trumped all other arguments was that Pope John Paul had mentioned – twice – including after the consecration of the world that he had done, “those nations whose consecration from us You [O Virgin Mary] are awaiting”. But the critic passed over in silence this fact, which Father had supported with photographic reproductions of *L’Osservatore Romano*. So I said to myself, of the critic, that if he was so dishonest,
he a great Fatima expert, and left out what I, a veritable pip-squeak knew, then he was wrong. And Father was right.

And Father has also been vindicated in so many ways, in regard to the fact that we have NOT – I say it publicly – received the full Third Secret. “We didn’t get the whole thing,” as Mother Angelica famously said.

And if Father was in trouble, or seen to be in trouble, with some Vatican authorities, that is a sordid tale of obfuscation and monkey business that is very, very shameful.

Almighty God has proposed His Divine solution for the salvation of “many souls” and for peace, the Peace of Christ, in this poor world. The Fatima Center continues the work of Father Gruner, or better, the work of Heaven in making known the full message of Fatima “in all its purity and integrity, in all its rigor and vigor,” as Pope John Paul II liked to say of the Faith itself. And this is about the Faith anyway. For the Fatima Message, among other things, is about “dangers to the Faith and to the life of Christians” in our time, as the then-Cardinal Ratzinger told us, of the Third Secret.

So, I strongly urge all of you to take part in this great mission in any way possible, and to be very generous in supporting this crucial and vital work.

**Given that the Fatima Message concerns the eternal salvation of millions of souls and the existence or annihilation of entire nations, its urgency cannot be exaggerated.**
OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND THE ONE THING NECESSARY

Father Michael Rodríguez, a Priest of the Diocese of El Paso, Texas

On May 13, 1917, at the Cova da Iria, outside the village of Fatima, Portugal, the most holy Mother of God appeared to Lucia dos Santos and her two cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto. She asked them, “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you for the conversion of sinners?”

One month later, on June 13, 1917, Our Lady comforted Lucia, saying, “Do not lose heart, I will never forsake you! My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.”

And one month after that, on July 13, 1917, Our Lady declared to the shepherd children, “You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart.”

The conversion of sinners, leading souls to God, and saving poor sinners from the fires of hell—it should not surprise us that this is the most urgent concern of our dear Mother in Heaven. Time and time again, most especially at Fatima, 101 years ago, our most clement, loving, and sweet Mother, the Virgin Mary, has descended into this vale of tears, to remind, exhort, and assist us in the one thing necessary: the salvation of our souls.

St. Alphonsus Liguori, Doctor of the Church (1696-1787), teaches: “One thing is necessary (Lk 10:42) – the salvation of our souls. It is not necessary to be great, noble, or rich in this world, or to enjoy uninterrupted health; but it
is necessary to save our souls.”

(The Way of Salvation and Perfection, Meditation XVII)

Do we truly believe this? It is absolutely certain that the one thing necessary is the salvation of our souls, yet do we believe it? Are we living our daily lives in accordance with this truth? For example, in your conversations with others what do you talk about? Do you speak about hatred of sin, love of God’s commandments, and saving your soul, or do your conversations involve only mundane matters? Do you spend more time on your physical appearance, or on the purity of your soul? Do you spend more time and money on your physical health, or on the well-being of your soul? What do you value and what do you live for? Do you give more importance to your reputation and what people think about you, or to pleasing God and living in a state of grace?

The holy Doctor, St. Alphonsus Liguori, continues: “For this has God placed us here: not to acquire honors, riches, or pleasures, but to acquire by our good works that eternal kingdom which is prepared for those who, during this present life, fight against and overcome the enemies of their eternal salvation.”

(The Way of Salvation and Perfection, Meditation XVII)

Our Blessed Mother, so merciful and ever solicitous for the salvation of souls, came to Fatima, to show us the way to the eternal kingdom of Her Son, and to help us fight against and overcome the terrible enemies of our eternal salvation.

Think about the significance of this! This is the why of Our Lady’s Fatima Apparitions! Our loving Mother is concerned with the one thing that is necessary in our entire existence. The Fatima Message is more urgent and relevant today than ever, because the eternal life of souls is at stake, and yet the vast majority of people continue to disregard and disobey Our Lady’s admonitions and requests!

That over which Sr. Lucia of Fatima lamented more than sixty years ago, is even truer today, in 2018:

“The Blessed Virgin is very sad because no one has paid attention to Her Message, neither the good nor the bad. The good, because they continue on the road of goodness, but without paying mind to this Message. The bad, because of their sins, do not see God’s chastisement already falling on them presently; they also continue on their path of badness, ignoring the Message. But, Father, you must believe me that God is going
to punish the world and chastise it in a tremendous way.” (Interview with Father Augustín Fuentes, December 26, 1957)

Dear readers, I exhort you with all the grace of the priesthood to consider the magnitude of the spiritual chastisement with which we have been punished over the past fifty years: the Catholic religion has suffered a near universal and continuous attack from within, i.e. from our own shepherds!; in disobedience to God and the two-thousand year Liturgical Tradition of the Catholic Church, the Mass of All Time (commonly known as the Traditional Latin Mass) was radically changed; in disobedience to God and the two-thousand year Liturgical Tradition of the Catholic Church, the entire sacramental and devotional life of the Church was radically changed; in disobedience to God and the two-thousand year Doctrinal Tradition of the Catholic Church, many elements of Catholic doctrine have been ignored, diluted, suppressed, scoffed at, “updated,” and altered; in disobedience to God and the two-thousand year Tradition of the Petrine Office, we have had (for the past five years) two men dressed in white, Benedict XVI and Francis; there has been a devastating loss of (a) priestly and religious vocations, (b) holy vocations to marriage and large Catholic families, and (c) Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable institutions.

Remember, the one thing necessary is the salvation of one’s soul, and salvation depends on the integrity of the Catholic religion. If the Catholic religion is undermined, diluted, changed, or reduced to an equal footing with all the false religions, there cannot be a more direct attack upon the salvation of souls! We profess solemnly at the beginning of the Athanasian Creed, “Whoever wishes to be saved must before all else adhere to the Catholic Faith.” It is a terrible chastisement indeed, when, due to our infidelity to God and the Catholic religion, we divest ourselves from even having access to the Catholic religion, pure and unadulterated! It is similar to God saying, “Well, insolent man, since you have disobeyed, since you have despised My path of salvation and instead sought to change it in accord with your own will, you shall now be deprived of it; you shall be left to suffer the consequences of the counterfeit religion of your own making!”

Please, understand that the Fatima Message is more urgent and relevant today than ever before, because the unhappy consequences of our mounting sins and disobedience to God become
increasingly dire, and continue to expand, affecting more and more souls! **The eternal destiny of billions of souls is at stake!** Ever since 1929, our Popes have been in a state of grave disobedience to God by failing to heed the directive of the Mother of God to consecrate Russia to Her Immaculate Heart! Ever since 1960, our Popes have aggravated this state of grave disobedience to God by failing to heed the directive of the Mother of God to make public the contents of the so-called “Third Secret of Fatima!” _Woe, o woe are we!_

**So what are we to do?** One, do your very best to be faithful to the Fatima Message, by praying the Holy Rosary, wearing the Brown Scapular, performing the Devotion of the Five First Saturdays in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and promoting the Traditional Latin Mass and authentic Catholic doctrine. Two, spread the Message of Fatima to all the people you know, encourage them to live it, and pray for them to cooperate with God’s grace through Mary. And three, please consider supporting The Fatima Center with monthly donations, so that the blessed apostolate begun by Father Nicholas Gruner (*requiéscat in pace*) may flourish and bear abundant fruit.

I would like to close with a word about the Blessed Virgin Mary and Father Nicholas Gruner. God, in His goodness and mercy, granted me a special Marian grace at the very beginning of my priesthood, for which I am eternally grateful. I was ordained to the priesthood on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1996. Thus, I was able to consecrate my priesthood to the Virgin Mary and Her Immaculate
Conception from the very outset. Every year on December 8th, I have renewed this consecration and made an offering of white roses to Our Blessed Mother, the number of roses corresponding to the number of years of priesthood granted (so, for example, last year on December 8th, I offered Our Lady twenty-one white roses). There have been many, many graces which I have received from God through the hands of the Virgin Mary, associated with the anniversary of my priesthood, and the nine days of spiritual preparation leading up to it. The actual date of my ordination has been a constant reminder to me of a deeper truth: the origin of my priesthood is in the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Just as Her Immaculate Heart is completely absorbed in God and the salvation of souls, so too this must be the life and rule of my priesthood.

Hopefully, many of you are familiar with the book which Father Gruner authored less than a year before his death, Crucial Truths to Save Your Soul. I urge you to read, re-read, and give this book as a gift to others! This book is a beautiful sign of the closeness of Father Gruner’s heart to the Immaculate Heart of Mary because the book’s pressing concern is the same as that of the Heart of the Mother of God: the one thing necessary, the salvation of our souls. Let us take the dedication of this book to heart; Father Gruner wrote, “May this little book and all the limited efforts of The Fatima Center Apostolate contribute to the Triumph of Jesus and Mary all over the entire world—very soon.”

Remember, the one thing necessary is the salvation of one’s soul. Jesus Himself proclaimed this to His disciples, “For what doth it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his own soul? Or what exchange shall a man give for his soul?” (Mt 16:26) The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, full of tenderness, mercy, and compassion, came to Fatima for this express purpose . . . the one thing necessary; She came to lead poor souls to Heaven, and to save them from the fires of hell.

Dear children in Christ, may God grant you special graces to heed, promote, and live the Message of Fatima. This was the holy apostolate of Father Nicholas Gruner, and it remains such for The Fatima Center. May God inspire you to support this work with your generous contributions, and may He reward you as only He can. Amen.
Before St. Thérèse died she said: “I will spend my Heaven doing good on earth.” She has brought many souls to the Faith and strengthened the Faith of the lukewarm and pious alike.

St. Thérèse, pray for us and send us a rose!

“I will send down a shower of Rose Petals from Heaven.”...St. Thérèse

You Too Can Send Roses From Heaven
You can help spread Our Lady of Fatima’s Urgent Message of Hope and Peace throughout the world, even after God calls you to your eternal reward. You know that Millions of souls will be lost if Our Blessed Mother’s requests are not heeded and the Consecration of Russia is not done as She requested.

For the sake of those souls, as well as your own, we beg you to remember Our Lady’s Apostolate in your will.

MAKING A BEQUEST FOR THIS IMPORTANT WORK IS EASY

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-263-8160 or write us at the address found on the inside back cover. Or e-mail us at info@fatima.org

There is no obligation!
The following edited transcript is Part One of a talk given on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at the “On Borrowed Time: The Battle for Marriage and the Family” Our Lady’s Army of Advocates conference in Dallas, Texas.

Father Isaac Mary Relyea

The Fatima Center made a decision that this year, they are going to focus on the defense of the family. As we heard already—and we can never hear it enough—Sr. Lucy told Cardinal Caffara that the final battle between Our Lord and the kingdom of satan, would be over marriage and the family. That is the final battle, the battle that we are in now.

We know where the enemy is striking. We know that we have to strengthen ourselves and the Church, so that we can get through these hard times and save our souls. The devil is very smart; ... he’s going to go and strike the foundation. As we’re going to see, part of the foundation of society, of course, is the family. …

My friends, we can see how important the Message of Our Lady really is. Our Lady came to save souls. She’s the Mediatrix of all grace, the Co-Redemptrix. Her mission is one with Her Son’s: it’s to save souls. She came to warn us—She warned us about Russia. As we can see, Russia has spread her errors throughout the whole world. We could see in Brendan’s talk this morning, it seemed like he went on and on about the errors, because there are so many— but it was just the tip of the iceberg.

You have to be careful because you
don’t want to despair. The devil loves to try to get us to despair, to think that there’s no hope. But as long as we’re children of Our Lady and we’re in the true Church, of course there’s hope.

We see that the number one error of Russia that spread throughout the whole world is atheism. That’s the main error. If you want to sum it up: There is no God. We can see in our world, in our country, that it’s a godless country. It makes me sick that people think that because a man named Donald Trump was elected president, we can all rest and everything’s going to be alright. It’s a joke! …

What are we rejoicing about?! You know why? Because we’re losing our faith! … There are only two kingdoms, as Saint Ignatius said in his Exercises: the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of satan. You can’t be in the middle – you’re either with God, or you’re against Him. We say “God bless America,” but

It’s disgusting. Scripture says “Do not put your hope in man,” only in God. God will never disappoint us. We’ve got to wake up.

That’s one of the purposes of having these conferences. We tell it like it is. We need a healthy dose of reality, but we need remedies, too. How are we going to do that? We’re going to listen to Our Lady. She gave us Her “Peace Plan.” Mother knows best – Her plan works.

The Communists said that one of the ways they will infiltrate us is the education system. Look at these so-called “colleges.” What are they teaching kids? They don’t believe in anything – anarchy, that’s it. They talk about peace and love, but they’re the ones who want to kill. It’s out of control. I was at a dinner once, and some good Catholic people there were bragging that their daughter was at Yale. I said to them, “Are you for real? I wouldn’t send my dog to Yale!”

Knowledge for the sake of knowledge will bring you to hell. They’re not even giving you true knowledge, true philosophy. What is philosophy? You seek wisdom, you seek truth. What is truth? “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life,” Our Lord said. And Jesus is the one thing you can’t teach.

Our schools have been infiltrated,
and now we have generations that have been led astray. I was born in 1959. When I was growing up, if you didn’t have it, most parents had the Faith. If they didn’t have it, your grandparents had it. But now, what do we have? Generations with no faith, and it shows.

They have infiltrated society through education. They will try to take over the world – and they are trying very hard. There’s only one problem with these morons: they leave God out of the equation, they leave Our Lady out of the equation, Her Who crushes the head of the serpent (which means their head, because they’re part of that serpent, just as we’re part of the Mystical Body of Christ).

Christ is the Head, Our Lady is the Nexus that connects the Head to the Body. Those that are baptized into this Church, are baptized into the Body, crushing the head of the serpent. When Our Lord was conceived in His Mother’s womb by the power of the Holy Spirit, we were – in a mystical way – present there with Him. Why? Because we’re the Body of Christ.

The same thing goes for these devils. They serve their master. The problem is, that they have more zeal than we do. They’re willing to go to any extreme to promote the kingdom of satan.

Look at the many ways that this agenda, the errors of Russia, have infiltrated our country. Look at the media. If you think Fox is good news, you’ve got a problem, because you don’t know the truth. They’re devils, like the rest of them! They don’t tell you the truth, it’s propaganda! There’s no more news, they don’t just report news. They all have an agenda. And God forbid you say that homosexuality is an abomination – they’ll hang you. So let them hang us! We’ll go to Heaven.

We see that the homosexual agenda is constantly promoted on television. People tell me that now there are commercials of men kissing men, girls kissing girls. You want your children to watch that?! …

You’ve got companies like Disney – let me tell you something, my friends. Disney is from hell. You should boycott them! I don’t care what anyone says, I’ve been a priest for almost 19 years. I’ve been constantly involved in fighting the evil one, the demonic with deliverance prayers. You name it, I’ve done it. I’m constantly going to people’s houses that are infested with demonic spirits.

The evil one can get in your house in certain ways. When he’s in,
You’ve got companies like Disney – let me tell you something, my friends. Disney is from hell. You should boycott them!

You see things: doors opening and closing; the room will get ice cold out of nowhere in the heat of the summer; stenches; infestation of rodents, bugs – I’ve seen it all. When I go to houses like that, we have to try and find the open door. What’s the open door? How did the devil get in this house? You let him in! How? Through that TV, number one.

Disney is evil, it promotes the homosexual agenda. I know people who went to Disney – of course, they didn’t listen to me. They said: “Father, when we got down there, there was a homosexual parade with nude men. They didn’t even want to give us our money back.”

Why would you want to support a company like that? They own many other companies that promote satanic music, satanic rituals. It’s demonic. They’re putting curses on their things. They’ve got them embedded a lot in their movies, from Snow White down, male body parts. If you think it’s a joke, look it up.

I’ve just had a couple of incidents with Disney that I’ll tell you about. A woman I know, they have a lot of problems. Good traditional Catholics who go to the Tridentine Mass, pray the Rosary, you name it, but the devil got in somehow.

What I’m finding is this: the devil is going after the good families, the holy families. He doesn’t have to go after the other ones – he owns them. He doesn’t have to do anything to get them to follow him – they follow him on their own.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe says that many people blame the devil for their sins, whereas actually they’ve got nobody but themselves to blame. He said that the devil doesn’t bother most of those people, because they do it willingly, but he said that he will viciously attack
those who want to consecrate themselves and follow God, because the devil doesn’t want us in Heaven. He doesn’t want your children in Heaven.

Do you know what was the test that satan failed? It was revealed to him that Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, would take flesh of a Woman, that She would be the Queen of Heaven and earth, and that She would be above the Angels – She would be the Queen of the Angels. And he said, “Non serviam,” – I will not serve, I will not bow down before a Woman Whose human nature is below an angel’s nature.

He wouldn’t serve. So human beings like you, myself, we have a chance to obtain what he has lost for eternity. Unlike human beings, they [the devils] didn’t get a second chance. When the angels sinned, they were cast into the pit of hell instantly, and they will be there for eternity. Eternity!

So the devil goes after those that are serious, and I’ve been seeing this over the last 10 years especially – that children are all of a sudden having problems, in good families, not even watching TV. They have wicked nightmares; I do the deliverance prayers, and they go away. I make exorcised salt and water for the family, I teach them how to use these weapons, and then these things go.

But this one lady had many problems. I told her: “Get rid of all the Disney stuff in the house.” So they went through the house and did so. They thought they got rid of all the Disney stuff, but they didn’t.
One day, one of the little girls went to her sister and said, “I have bad underwear on.” She had on underwear with a Disney emblem on it. They didn’t take it off right away. When the girl went to bed, and she started manifesting in her sleep – going wild, screeching and screaming uncontrollably for no reason – the mother said to get the underwear off.

They had a fire going, and they threw the underwear in it. The underwear wouldn’t burn for a while (some say because they put fire retardant on it – because everyone looks for a natural answer, of course, and that’s fine) but all of a sudden it went up in flames. It formed into a big ball of black smoke, the size of a cantaloupe, about eight inches in diameter. It came out of the fireplace, toward the mother, about two feet away. She said a prayer, and then – poof – it was gone. No ashes, no dust, nothing. Because it had curses on it! You can believe it or not.

Another friend called me, a very good Catholic. He said, “My daughter’s flipping out, Father. I don’t know what’s going on.” I know the family well, and she was screaming. I heard her screeching. He said that she had taken all her clothes off, and was screaming, kicking, out of control in her room, and she ran under the bed when he called me. She didn’t want to hear my name.

So I said, “Put it on speakerphone,” and I did a deliverance prayer. He couldn’t believe it: she came out from under the bed, stopped crying and put her clothes on, and walked away like nothing had happened.

I told him, “I’m telling you what your problem is – your problem is Disney.” She was obsessed with Disney. She dreamed about Disney. She had all Disney things. I told him, “You have to strip her of all the Disney stuff.”

Most parents are slow to act. “Oh Father, you’re a radical. You’re over the top.” I say, “Yeah, OK. You love your daughter so much but you’re going to let her be tortured by these evil ones? Shame on you!”

Sure enough, this would happen periodically. But he would get rid of some more, get rid of some more. She was flipping out again, so I said, “It all has to go!” He got rid of everything, got it out of the house, and now the children are sleeping – because he has six children, and all of them were having wicked nightmares, waking up. Now that the Disney stuff is gone, that’s gone.

Continued in next issue ...
THE FATIMA CRUSADER is published by The National Committee for the National Pilgrim Virgin of Canada. It is distributed in the U.S.A. with the cooperation of The Fatima Center USA Inc.

DIRECTORS CANADA: Leonard Cecere, Miriam Gruner and Joseph DiZillo. This printing, 125,000 copies. This magazine is sent free of charge, but a donation to cover the cost of postage and printing is appreciated. It is only through the generosity of our supporters who give more than the minimum that we are able to continue publishing this magazine. Your continued prayerful support is greatly appreciated.

OVERSEAS OFFICES: Italy – Piazza Risorgimento 14, 00192 Roma, Italia | Philippines – Parkville Apts No. 0121, Sacred Heart St., San Antonio Village, Makati City 1203, Philippines. Portugal – Apartado 4032, 3030-901, Coimbra, Portugal | Ireland – Fatima House, 6 South Avenue, Lios Rua, Ballyvolane, Cork City, T23C62F Ireland
FORTY YEARS AGO

“Our Lady came to save us from the unnecessary sufferings imposed on us by unjust systems of government that oppress and persecute millions of people in the world today. Yet the world around us seems blind to the fact that temporal and eternal happiness are possible. Our Lady tells us that by amending our lives and serving God we will have peace and happiness, during life on earth and in Heaven after death. Serving God is a pleasure and a joy – His yoke is easy and His burden light. The World cannot give us this peace and happiness. Our Lady at Fatima came to remind us of the Gospel – the Good News – the Word of God which brings true peace, true joy, and true happiness.”

— Father Nicholas Gruner, The Fatima Crusader, Issue 1, Summer 1978