

✠ J.M.J. ✠

***“Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” – 2 Corinthians 6:2***

Grace and peace to you,

God is Lord of all things, including time. In her wisdom, Holy Mother Church has provided a most wondrous rhythm to the liturgical year, with its Temporal and Sanctoral cycles, to teach us the mysteries of the Faith, to help us live our faith, and so to draw us towards Heaven. It is fitting, then, for our calendars to reflect the beauty and holy order which God has placed in the Church’s annual cycle.

Catholics are generally familiar with the Temporal Cycle, which follows the mysteries of the life of Christ. Advent, by recalling the great expectation of the Messiah in Old-Testament times, alerts us to prepare for the Second Coming and Final Judgment of Our Lord. At Christmas, we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ. Heeding His Gospel to repent, we intensify our penance (fasting, almsgiving, prayer) during Lent. Thus purified, we joyfully celebrate the great triumph of the Resurrection at Easter.

Our Lord ascends into Heaven and then sends the Holy Ghost at Pentecost. As the days grow shorter and the trees lose their foliage, we turn our attention to the Four Last Things and pray with greater zeal for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

We profit greatly by meditating upon these events, as we must and should. In general, these are the mysteries which all self-identified Christians agree upon. What about the other very important mysteries of our Catholic Faith, which also require our attention and devotion?

Why did Our Lady choose to appear at Fatima each month between *May and October*? We cannot know all the reasons of Divine Providence, but consider that these months fall in the “time after Pentecost,” which reflects the life of the Church between the first Pentecost and the Second Coming of Christ.

During this privileged time (which is anything but “Ordinary,” as the revised liturgical calendar terms it), the Church calls us to meditate more profoundly upon unique mysteries pertaining to Christ’s Mystical Body and the supernatural life. Prominent among these are the feasts of Corpus Christi and the Precious Blood, the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Triumph of the Cross and the Sorrows of Our Lady, as well the power of grace found in the Holy Rosary and the Brown Scapular. These feasts are all *distinctly Catholic*.

Our Lady of Fatima came to remind us of these truths. Her appearances during these months reflect Her maternal solicitude drawing us to these unchanging dogmas *which save*, yet are being neglected – even denied – by so many Catholics today. When we live these truths well, we live a truly Catholic life as God intends.

The Church has also provided numerous litanies, which we can use to ponder and grow in our appreciation of the great mysteries of the Faith. In the enclosed calendar, one invocation from each of various litanies graces each month’s page, to remind us every time we look at the

calendar to utter just that short prayer, or some similar aspiration. We will draw down great graces upon ourselves and our families as we develop this pious and prayerful practice.

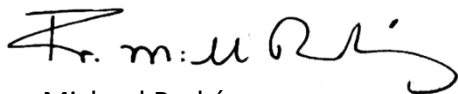
Our calendar has other new features, designed to make it a more useful devotional tool for living more faithfully in accordance with the Message of Fatima. These include:

- A saint for every day, whose powerful aid awaits only our invocation. A daily post at our website will help familiarize us with these saints and further our devotion to them.
- Traditional days of penance (now voluntary), to help motivate and inspire us to do more penance – as Our Lady requested – to make reparation for sinners. We show our love for God by doing more than ‘the bare minimum’ required by current Church law.
- Visual reminders of First Fridays and First Saturdays, to help us practice these devotions.
- An explanation and checklist for practicing the First Saturday devotion *every month* and not just for five consecutive months, encouraging us to offer the devotion for ourselves and our loved ones.
- A Fatima timeline, including brief descriptions of crucial events illustrating the full Message of Fatima and why it is more important today than ever before.
- A presentation of The Fatima Center’s theme for 2021. The need for *Reparation* is urgent. The sins of the world have reached historically unprecedented levels and will continue to draw down chastisements from Heaven, afflicting the good and the bad, until Heaven’s command for the Consecration of Russia is fulfilled.

We hope the information and beauty found within this calendar will inspire you – and many others – to learn more about Fatima and the great mysteries of the Catholic Faith. In these sad times for the Church, we see the Faith being lost all around us, just as Our Lady of Fatima warned would happen. We *so need* to preserve and strengthen our faith!

Please help us spread the Faith and the Fatima Message by making a donation to help defray the costs of producing this calendar and by ordering additional copies to be given – perhaps as a Christmas gift – to loved ones, friends, and neighbors!

In Jesus, Mary and Joseph,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. m. Rodríguez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Father Michael Rodríguez  
Diocese of El Paso, Texas

**P.S.** Please contact The Fatima Center to request copies of this calendar. We suggest a minimum \$10 donation per calendar. We do all we can to spread Our Lady’s Fatima Message and help restore the Catholic Faith through our printed and online materials. We rely on your prayers and generosity to carry on this vital work. *Please help us today.*