

WE NEED PRIESTS

To Promote the Fatima Message

The following excerpts were taken from a television program on the topic of The Fatima Movement of Priests. Father Gruner's words are timeless, as always.

by Father Nicholas Gruner, S.T.L. S.T.D. (Cand.)

If we want to be loved by Christ, we should accept the spiritual maturity that Christ gives the Blessed Virgin over us by the very fact that, if we are going to be the beloved disciple – and we should all be beloved disciples – then we should accept Christ's will that She become our Spiritual Mother.

The Blessed Virgin came with a message at Fatima for the Church. Saint Thomas tells us that God sends prophets or messengers to every generation to remind the faithful what they must do to save their souls. So, the prophecy and the prophet of our time, par-excellence, is Our Lady of Fatima, and so Her message is for our time.

Unfortunately, up to now, the words of Our Lady, more exactly, the words of Sister Lucy, tell us: "Our Lady is very sad because no one has paid attention to Her Message." Sister Lucy points out that most people have not paid

enough attention: "Neither the bad nor the good."

She said that over 50 years ago, but it's even more true today than it was in 1957. What we need is – **priests** to promote the Message of Fatima.

Now, I promote the Message of Fatima and I'm sure I could do better, but even if I could do it perfectly, I don't think it would be enough. I'm one priest. I've been able to do a fair amount of work in this area, but just imagine if there were a hundred priests, each with his own little Fatima apostolate. We've been successful, by the grace of God, and certainly through the help of our friends and supporters.

We've raised the number of Rosaries offered by several million. If every priest could raise a million Rosaries, you'd have hundreds of millions of Rosaries offered for the fulfillment of Our Lady's request.

That would certainly have a tremendous impact on getting the Consecration of Russia done, not to mention, if we had more priests helping to get more books and leaflets and pamphlets out there. And even though we translated some of our material into six languages, there are still a lot of other places that we don't reach with those languages – but we could, with the help of more priests.

We have put together a manual articulating some pretty specific principles for priests to follow in *The Fatima Movement of Priests*. This isn't just: "Go forth and preach Fatima – see you later."

Knowing, Communicating and Defending the Dogmas of the Faith.

You may ask: "What does that have to do with Fatima?" Well, first of all, the beginning of the Third Secret, the words of Our Lady, says: "In Portugal the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved", which implies, as you well know, that in all other parts of the world, the dogma of the Faith will *not* be preserved.

Our Lady Herself, is saying, "Look, preserving the dogma of the Faith is important!" And why is it important? Because Our Lord says: "When the Son

of man comes at the end of time, will He find faith on earth?" The dogmas are what encapsulate the teaching of Christ, in, shall we say, very precise language and its dogmatic terminology. There's no misunderstanding.

If you're going to draw up a contract, you have very precise language. You draw it up, in which case then, you say: "Now both parties know exactly what each other one is signing to and agreeing to." Well, that's what dogmatic theology does. It basically takes the terms of Scripture and other common parts of those terms and puts it into formulas which only have *one* meaning.

Obviously, everybody deals with this. When they get up in the morning, they ask for coffee. They didn't ask for tea, they didn't ask for an egg, they asked for coffee. They know what they asked for. So if we can do that in our daily life from the moment when we get up, to the moment we go to bed, we can also do that in the most important thing we do in life – in our relationship to God. So, if we can do that with our relations with each other and even talking to ourselves, we can certainly do it when we talk to God. That's why doctrine and dogma are fundamental to the Message of Fatima – because



Father Gruner led pilgrimages to the well where the Angel made his second appearance. The Angel said to the children: “What are you doing? Pray, pray very much! The Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High.” Let us apply the Angel’s spiritual direction to ourselves.

Our Lady came to warn about an attack on dogma.

It is crucial that the priests who participate in this Fatima Movement of Priests should be constantly promoting the teaching of the Ordinary Magisterium of the Church down through the centuries – that Mary is the Mediatrix of all Graces.

The doctrine is there. Many priests and certainly many of the faithful don’t know it’s a dogma because it has not been defined formally. But there are two ways a dogma is infallible. One

is by formal solemn definition, which is called the *ex cathedra* statements of the Pope. And this is one dogma that has not been taught that way.

However, having said that, in the First Vatican Council – that’s from the council of 1870 – it points out that there are dogmas taught infallibly by the Ordinary and Universal Magisterium. That means, what the Church has always taught everywhere, at all times, all through the centuries. Pope Leo XIII says: “All graces come to us from God the Father, through the sacred Humanity of

Jesus Christ, through the hands of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to us, through the Church.”

Now, some Catholics have a difficult time accepting that God’s grace comes to us through Mary, as Mediatrix. However, if they think about it for a moment – just think about the salvation of mankind – certainly it comes from Jesus Christ, but it was entrusted to the Blessed Virgin first, chronologically speaking, in order for Christ to save us. He has to shed His Blood. As it says in Scripture, there’s no salvation without the shedding of blood. There’s no redemption of sin without the shedding of blood.

So, Christ saves us by shedding His Blood; but where did He get His Blood from? Well, He got His Blood because He became man. As God, He couldn’t shed His Blood, so the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity became man. How did He become man? Gabriel, the Archangel, asked permission of the Blessed Virgin for Her to be His mother.

He is literally of one flesh with the Virgin Mary. He was Her flesh and blood. The fact is, He also had to be of the flesh of Adam. You see, Adam and Eve are the father and mother of all mankind in the flesh. And so, by becoming a Son of Mary, He

became a Son of Adam. Adam had sinned and, therefore, the redemption has to be by a Son of Adam. So, by His own way of treating our free will, He would not become man of the Blessed Virgin without Her saying, “Yes”.

She had to say “Yes” before He would become man. So, the whole of salvation was entrusted to Her, waiting for Her to say: “Yes.” Christ came to us only through Mary by the Divine Will itself.

So, it’s only fitting that, now that Christ has ascended into Heaven and the Holy Spirit has come upon the Church, that He would send the Holy Spirit to us with the graces that God gives us, also through Mary.

It’s only by the grace of God, the grace of God won for us through Christ, and particularly through His sacrifice on the Cross – it is only through Christ – that we have grace. But, it’s only through Mary that we have Christ, and Christ was able to win this grace for us.

Our Lord, on the Cross, said to John, the disciple whom He loved very much: “Behold your Mother.” He was saying that, not just to John, but to all mankind. And so, if we want to be loved by Christ, we should accept the spiritual maternity that Christ

gives to the Blessed Virgin over us, by the very fact that, if we are going to be the beloved disciple – and we should all be beloved disciples – then we should accept Christ’s Will that She become our Spiritual Mother.

The Second Vatican Council actually points out that She is our Mother because She generates us into the life of sanctifying grace; and the word used in Latin is *generavit*. I learned that the word generate is not made up out of nowhere; it comes from John 3:3 when he says: “Unless a man be born again of water and the Holy Spirit.” Well, a man is born again by his baptism when he’s baptized by the priest. He’s born again of water and the Holy Spirit. At the same moment, Mary generates him into a life of sanctifying grace. It’s a little hard to explain that.

Another way to look at it, is, people are always asking for us to pray for them. Who better to pray for us than the very Mother of God? Even Luther referred to Mary as the Mother of God. It is defined by the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD that Mary is truly the Mother of God.

That leads us to the Fatima Message. Mary’s mediation is part and parcel of the Fatima Message, which is obvious,

because She comes to earth and says that souls will be saved and there will be peace on earth if Russia is consecrated to Her Immaculate Heart. So, God Himself is sending us the message that He is going to bestow these singular graces on the Church and all of humanity, only if we honor His Mother.

There Are Concrete Ways of Communicating the Fatima Message

Part of this movement is that every priest should be promoting in any way that he can – the particulars of the Fatima Message, the prophecies that it makes, the promises that it offers and the warnings of the errors that it tells us about.

First of all, what is the profession of a priest? A priest is to deal with men concerning things of God. I think that Saint Paul talks about them as being a kind of ambassador from God to men. His purpose is, he is trying to save souls. So it is by Divine Providence that every priest interacts with somebody else. Even a hermit priest probably has to spend part of his time simply praying for sinners, even if he doesn’t meet very many, if any. But, the fact is, most priests are interacting with people. There are 405,000 Catholic priests

in the world and there are one billion members of the faithful. So, there's an average of 2,470 people per priest.

I have heard the question asked: "I'm just a parish priest. I have all these duties. How am I going to find time to conduct a Fatima Apostolate?" There are always some people in the parish who have more time and are willing to help. He could ask: "You come to Mass everyday anyway. Why not just lead the Rosary fifteen minutes before Mass starts?"

Everytime Our Lady appeared at Fatima, She said: "Pray the Rosary." "Could you, My dear children, pray the Rosary?" "Pray the Rosary every day." So, a priest can get ten people in his parish who come to daily Mass, or a hundred, or how many there are to help him in leading the Rosary. He can also ask that same person or another person: "Why don't you start a block Rosary in your section of town?" And they could do that for the intention, for example, of the Consecration of Russia. A priest can also offer Masses for the Consecration of Russia and the release of the Third Secret; or he can offer Mass intentions for the Triumph of the Blessed Virgin, or for world peace.

Our Lord said: "Pray a great deal for the Holy Father, that he would do it." So, we can pray for the Holy Father. A priest could also start a parish group devoted to making the Message of Fatima known and lived.

Sister Lucy told us we should not wait for the Pope. Don't wait for the bishops to issue commands in this area. We have to act on our own. We have to reform ourselves. We have to save ourselves and the people in our path. But she didn't say: "Don't wait for the priest." The priests are basically on the front lines of this struggle.

The point I have been trying to drive home is, if the priest doesn't initiate this movement to get the leadership of the Church to do what the Message of Fatima requires, who will? If they fail to do it, it won't happen.

We're now close to a century since Our Lady appeared in Fatima, and time is running out. The world situation is getting worse. Our Lady said: "If My requests are granted, Russia will be converted and there will be peace." But She warned: "If My requests are NOT granted, then entire nations will be annihilated." So, it's up to the priests at this point, as it really always has been.



SOCIETY OF SAINT JOHN *Vianney*

Reaching out to Catholic Clergy Around the World

GODLY PRIESTS URGENTLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT

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!
- ✝ They need resource materials
- ✝ They need further training
- ✝ And they 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 event of Fatima is certainly a true story and it encourages many people to be devoted to Our Lady and to be devoted to Our Lord by simply remembering Our Lady's maternal gestures, as well as Her maternal interaction with the children when She spoke to them at Fatima. But it's more than just a story; it's more than just something to encourage your devotion; it is a prophetic message of worldwide significance.

Not only the very existence of nations, but also the freedom of the whole world is at stake. Sister Lucy tells us that: "Russia will be the instrument of chastisement, chosen by Heaven to punish the whole world for its sins if we do not obtain, beforehand, the conversion of that poor nation." But the only way to obtain this conversion is through obedience to Our Lady of Fatima; it's through the Consecration of Russia. The Fatima Movement of Priests is an initiative from The Fatima Center to foster a greater allegiance to the Fatima Message among the Catholic clergy of the world.

But, this movement is not only for priests, the laity can participate as well – not by becoming as we could say "card carrying members" – but

simply by fulfilling in their own lives, the five basic points of *The Fatima Movement of Priests*.

1. Total adherence to the dogmas of the Faith as infallibly defined by the Magisterium;
2. To believe and preach the constant teaching of the Ordinary and Universal Magisterium on Our Lady's special role as Mediatrix of All Graces;
3. To understand and promote the full Message of Fatima.
4. To pursue unwaveringly the true Consecration of Russia by name in a public ceremony conducted by the Pope and all the bishops of the world in obedience to Our Lady of Fatima and to Her Divine Son;
5. To live the Fatima Message in our daily lives and to promote it by word and example.

To bring about the Consecration of Russia, the priests have to be much more involved. Encourage your parish priests to join *The Fatima Movement of Priests*.

Write us and ask us for more information. We'll be happy to send it to you.

God bless you. Pray the Rosary every day. 