



Director: Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas * Proprietor: Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fátima (Portugal) * Quarterly publication * Year VIII * Nr. 31 * 2011/11/13

Shrine keeps on walking towards centennial of apparitions

The Shrine of Fatima began, about one year ago, a walk of seven years of celebration of the centennial of the apparitions, which doesn't intend to be only an evocation of the past, but, rather, an occasion to spread the Message of Fatima and to rekindle the conscience of its richness and timeliness.

In this first of seven years, the event that inspired the thematic itinerary was the apparitions of the Angel to the three Little Shepherds in 1916. With the theme "Most Holy Trinity, I adore You profoundly!", we tried to focus one's attention on the centrality of God in the Message of Fatima and to stimulate an attitude of adoration in the pilgrims and devotees of Our Lady of Fatima.

The year's theme guided the large celebrations, specially the large pilgrimages of days 12/13, May through October. Besides that, there were many initiatives within this context held at the Shrine. Aware, however, that these initiatives reach only those visiting



the Shrine, we made available in our Internet site a set of contributions for reflection, prayer and animation of pilgrimages on the theme of this first year of celebration of the centennial of the apparitions. There you can find, in several languages, texts of theological reflection, catechetical supplements, programs of prayer and of celebrations, which we hope may have been a valid contribution for those devotees of Our Lady of Fatima throughout the world to live the theme of this year.

Next pastoral year, which begins on November 27 and has as theme the question put by Our Lady to the seers "Are you willing to offer yourselves up to God?", we are going again to make available these materials and supplements to all those who, at the Shrine or at large, wish to walk with us this celebration of the centennial of the apparitions.

Merry Holy Christmas!

Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, Rector

October 13: Pope Benedict XVI evokes Our Lady of Fatima

At the end of the audience of October 12, Pope Benedict XVI evoked Our Lady of Fatima while addressing the youth, the sick and newly-wed couples.

In the Vigil of October 12/13, anniversary of the sixth apparition of Mary at Fatima, the Pope said: "My thoughts go to Our Lady of Fatima, Whose last apparition we recall tomorrow. To the Heavenly Mother of God I entrust you, dear young people, so that you may respond generously to God's call. May Mary be for you, dear patients, comfort in your suf-

fering and accompany you, dear newly-weds, on your family journey still in its beginning".

In this general audience, Benedict XVI recalled the recent violence in Cairo and asked for prayers for peace and for respect for everyone: "This month of October invites us to persevere in praying the Rosary; may your families gather, this way, around Our Heavenly Mother, in order to fully cooperate in the designs of salvation that God has over you", he urged.

Earth from Fatima in House-Museum of John Paul II



On October 12, the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal, received a delegation from Poland, composed of the Director of the House-Museum of the Family of Blessed John Paul II, Fr. Pawel Danek, and its designer, Mr. Jaroslaw Klaput.

This delegation came to Fatima in order to take to Wadowice a little of earth retrieved from next to the *Azinhêira Grande* (large Holm-oak) located near the Little Chapel of Apparitions, key place of the Shrine of Fatima.

The House-Museum is promoting the reconstruction of the house, in Wadowice, where John Paul II was born in 1920. In order to recall the places visited by Blessed John Paul II during his pilgrimages, those in charge are collecting little amounts of earth from the localities visited by this Pope.

The purpose of this project, which will expand the museological space already existent, is to preserve the memory of John Paul II and impart to future generations the teachings of John Paul II, the message of his life and his entire legacy.

Fr. Pawel explains: “We want to show that John Paul II wasn’t a simple tourist, but a true Pastor, like St. Paul, a carrier of the Gospel and the Faith”.

On his turn, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima said that “we know that Fatima was in the heart of the Pope, as he was in ours”.

Fatima will be represented in the House-Museum of Wadowice in two segments of the exhibition: in the space dedicated to the attempt on the life of John Paul II on May 13, 1981, and in the space allusive to his pontifical pilgrimages.

According to the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, this symbolic link of Fatima to John Paul II’s native country is cause for “joy and satisfaction, not only because John Paul II visited Fatima three times, but also because the faithful always saw the pilgrim in him”.

Leopoldina Simões

Suggestion:

Visit “Fatima Light and Peace!”

The exhibition “Fatima Light and Peace” was inaugurated in August 2002 and the number of its visitors has since sharply increased. In the year 2007, during the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the apparitions, the number of visitors was the highest to date: 83,962; in 2010, the number was 81,111.

Going through the several rooms of this permanent exhibition, located in the Rectory Building, what catches one’s attention is, on the one hand, the value, the art and the magnificence of some objects and, on the other hand, the simplicity and the almost insignificant material value of many others. But the greatest value of each piece is symbolical and emotional, for it represents the abandonment, the thanksgiving, the homage, the devotion, the consecration of one person, one group of people or even of a region or country to Our Lady of Fatima.

The course through the exhibition begins with a film that recalls the main moments of the history and of the message of Fatima under the look of one of their protagonists, seer Lucia. As one advances towards the exhibition itself, one sees a great variety of small and large pieces of jewelry, objects of wax and plastic, bridal gowns, regional wear, military uniforms, a bicycle, liturgical vestments, rosaries, liturgical paraphernalia, etc.

The true “crown jewel” of the exhibition is really the precious crown which the statue of Our Lady of Fatima wears only during the great pilgrimages and on special occasions. This crown was donated by the Portuguese women on October 13, 1942, in thanksgiving to Our Lady for Portugal being spared involvement in World War II and has encrusted in it the bullet donated by Blessed John Paul II, in gratitude for the Virgin having saved his life during the attempt on his life on May 13, 1981, in St. Peter’s Square, Rome.

Specially two rooms recall the impact of the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima in the World: the room where are exhibited the donations made on the occasion of trips of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin and the room which recalls the visits of the Popes who turned pilgrims of Fatima and who wanted to leave, in this place, a sign of their gratitude to the Heavenly Mother.

“Fatima Light and Peace” is closed on Mondays, in the afternoon of December 24, on Christmas Day and on January 1.



Are you willing to offer yourselves up to God?

In the context of the coming pastoral year and having in mind the thematic cycle which the Shrine started in 2010-2011, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, has announced that the session of presentation of the second year of preparation for the Centennial of the Apparitions will be held on December 1, 2011, in the Chapel of the Death of Jesus, located in the area of Reconciliation, in the Complex of Most Holy Trinity Church.

He also announced that the next pastoral theme proposed to pilgrims and visitors by the Shrine will be: “Are you willing to offer yourselves up to God?”

The presentation session is free of charge and open to “organizers of pilgrimages, journalists, guides, priests, religious, civil authorities, principals of schools of Fatima and other individuals that may

be interested in learning more about the Shrine’s theme for the coming pastoral year”.

The program is scheduled to begin at 14h30 in “Convívio de Santo Agostinho” (St. Augustine’s Foyer) with the opening of the exhibition “On the trail of Light, the Apparitions of Fatima”.

Next, at 15h00, now in the Chapel of the Death of Jesus, a musical performance follows and immediately afterwards the Rector of the Shrine will say a few words.

Isabel Varanda, from the Portuguese Catholic University, presents at 15h30 the theme of the year; another musical performance follows; and, immediately afterwards, Fr. Manuel Morujão, a Jesuit priest, presents the topic “The offering of oneself to God – To live in oblation for the salvation of the world”.

The session ends after another musical performance set for 17h45.

Archbishop of Moscow presides over October's Pilgrimage



Pilgrims from more than thirty countries took part in Fatima, Portugal, in the celebrations of October's International Anniversary Pilgrimage.

Archbishop Paolo Pezzi, of Moscow, Russian Federation, presided over this pilgrimage. Upon his arrival in Fatima, he wrote the following message in the Guest Book of the Shrine: "It is with heartfelt gratitude that I come, as a pilgrim, to Fatima – Our Lady loves Russia and here we consecrate ourselves again to Her. Come, O Holy Spirit, come through Mary!"

Before his departure to Fatima, Archbishop Pezzi announced that he was com-

ing to Portugal accompanied by three groups of pilgrims from Russia and that he was going to tell all pilgrims that the message of Fatima "is so timely, because it isn't an ideological message – perhaps one contrary to another ideological message – but an interesting proposal made to another human being through one's own experience".

In his greeting words to pilgrims in the Little Chapel of Apparitions on the 12th, he stressed: "We are pilgrims on the way to a house...to the Father's House. We ought to decide whether we want to be pilgrims on this Earth and, therefore, searching for God; searching Christ to adore Him wherever He calls us to follow Him or whether we want to remain vagrants, people without a goal, people who don't respond to the Mystery of a God Who calls and, therefore, people who don't know where they are going. To

follow Christ by loving His Mother: this is the way to holiness, the way to life's goal".

In his homily during the Mass of the 13th, celebrated in the Prayer Area – attended by more than 85,000 pilgrims, it is estimated – Bishop Pezzi recalled "the need to convert". He also called the attention to the dangers when one lives without God: "The more I live thinking about what I am in the eyes of the Lord, the more my life is transformed, while, if I forget that, I lose the strength to fight, to build and, finally, I lose the joy of living. It is not by chance that all totalitarian powers – and our recent history shows it tragically – have as their main goal precisely this: to remove from people's minds the living memory of their past history, specially when this history is full of the religious dimension".

L.S.



Apparitions of Fatima help us to return to the fundamentals



Bishop Claudio Maria Celli, President of the Pontifical Council for Social Communication, visited the Shrine of Fatima at the invitation of the Portuguese Episcopal Commission for Culture, Cultural Patrimony and Social Communication and took part in the National Day for So-

cial Communication, this year under the theme "Digital Era: Revolution in Culture and Society".

His words were an incentive for those taking part in the Day. He invited the Church to face the challenge of digital culture and stressed the importance of the testimony of one's life also in the world of the media: "We are called to be credible witnesses in the midst of the digital culture".

During a Mass over which he presided, Bishop Celli spoke mainly on Fatima and the message which irradiates from this place. In this pastoral year, when the Shrine of Fatima recalls, in a special way, the apparitions of 1916 and the calls of the Angel of Peace, the Prelate said: "In this time of relativism, we ought to recuperate

the deep sense of the presence of God in our lives".

He also reflected on the prayer "*My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You!*", which the Angel taught Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta: "(to believe, to adore, to hope and to love) are verbs that mark a sense of life and an interior way".

The importance of spirituality in the professional performance of Catholic journalists was stressed when he spoke of the first apparition of Our Lady at Fatima: "To us who work in the vast field of the media these words ought to have a profound echo".

He concluded saying that the Apparitions of Fatima help the human being "to return to life's fundamentals".

Leopoldina Simões

Rector receives group from Senegal accompanied by Ambassadors

On the afternoon of October 13, the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, received a group of pilgrims from Senegal.

The group, accompanied by the Ambassador of Senegal in Portugal, Maymona Diop Sy, was received in the Rectory. The Ambassador was making a private pilgrimage to Fatima when she joined the group from Senegal.

In his greeting remarks, Fr. Cabecinhas stated that “to the Shrine of Fatima it is a joy to find such a numerous group visiting the Shrine”.

The group was composed of representatives from several Christian associations of Senegal, a country where, in the words of the Ambassador, “there aren’t inter-religious problems; good and bad moments are lived by the Senegalese the same way, independent of creed or religious tradi-



tion”.

In addressing the Rector of the Shrine, she asked that in Fatima prayers be offered for “peace in Senegal – where elections will soon be held (February 2012) – and for peace in the World”.

And she went on: “We are very grateful to you for receiving us; we feel very honored to be here; and we enjoy this hospitality so typical of Portugal. In Fatima, in this Shrine, the atmosphere is special, is spiritual”.

The group came to Fatima accompanied by a priest from the Archdiocese of Dakar.

The Rector of the Shrine of Fatima recalled that “peace is clearly linked to the message of Fatima” and ended his talk by saying that “you will all be present in our prayers; I ask God’s blessing for all of you”.

Indian Minister prays in Fatima

During his recent trip to Portugal, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation of India, Vayalar Ravi, visited the Shrine of Fatima together with his family, accompanied by the Ambassador of India in Portugal, Primrose Sharma.

On October 9, he was given a guided tour of the Shrine of Fatima, followed by an official reception by the Rector, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, who was glad to receive the group.

A native of Kerala, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation of India showed himself to be devoted to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, to Whom he came to ask that She bless his work and his country.



Equestrian walk ends with blessing of horses



Late afternoon on October 8, an unheard of celebration took place at one of the parking lots of the Shrine of Fatima: the blessing of animals, in this case, of about 40 horses.

It all happened after a walk organized by a group of horse fans from Ribatejo and Alentejo. The starting point was Golegã. They passed through and stopped at several locations, a course of about 35 kilometers, from Golegã to Cova da Iria (Fatima).

Chaplain of the Shrine Fr. António Sousa welcomed the horsemen and blessed the horses. He greeted the group on behalf of the institution; praised the healthy atmosphere during the whole walk; and wished that “Our Lady of Fatima may always accompany horses and horsemen”.

Group from Slovenia peregrinates to Fatima

In order to celebrate its 12 years of existence, the Slovenian Commission for the Consecration to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary chose Fatima as its preferred place to hold spiritual exercises. Thus, on July 18 thru 22, at the Shrine of Fatima was held a prayer retreat for a group of 93 from Slovenia: 45 lay people, including entire families, and 48 diocesan priests, religious of several Orders, seminarians and permanent deacons.

Dragica Cepar, spokeswoman for the group, recalls: "In 1943, during World War II, a very difficult time for our people, Slovenian Bishop Gregorij Rozman put all his confidence in the promise of peace made by Our Lady at Fatima to those countries that consecrated themselves to Her Immaculate Heart. In tune with Pope Pius XII, this Bishop was amongst those in Europe – right behind the Portuguese Bishops – who answered the call of Our Lady. After a solid preparation, in all parishes, during



Slovenian group in Fatima at the Hungarian Calvary, on top of the Chapel

the First Five Saturdays of the Month, between January and May of 1942, the solemn consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary took place in Ljubljana, on the last Sunday of May 1943, at the Marian Shrine of Rakovnik, administered by Salesian priests".

Immediately after the fall of Communism, the need to thank Our Lady

was very strong in the hearts of the Slovenians. Thus, after a petition signed by 300 people – bishops, priests, religious and lay people – there was born the Commission for the Consecration to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Dragica Cepar reports: "The Commission was instituted on December 17, 1998, by the Bishops Conference of Slovenia, which charged it with the promotion of the Consecration: personal, of families and of parishes. For that purpose, it provided the instruments and publications needed for a good preparation. The Bishops also entrusted to the Commission the task to follow up the people who made the consecration by gathering them periodically in prayer meetings, during which the consecration was renewed".

The spiritual exercises held in Fatima were directed by Archbishop Emeritus Aloiz Uran, aided by the President of the Commission, Abbott Emeritus Anton Nadrah, and member priests.

England welcomes meeting of European shrines

Shrine of Fatima marks presence

Towards the end of September, rectors and others in charge of Marian shrines throughout Europe gathered at the Shrine of Walsingham, England, for one more meeting of the "Réseau Marial Européen" (European Marian Network), an occasion for reflection on the topic "Evangelization and gestures of popular piety".

The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal, was represented by its Rector, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, and a Chaplain, Fr. Francisco Pereira.

Other persons in charge of shrines were also present; they came from shrines of several European countries, namely from Germany, Slovenia, Romania, England, Poland, France and Ireland.

In declarations to journalists, Fr. Alan Williams, Rector of the Catholic Shrine of Walsingham, spoke on the popularity of the phenomenon of pilgrimages: "Many people visit Catholic shrines, even when they aren't Catholic or are non-practicing Catholics; they are specially interested in the spirituality and are willing to travel in search of it".

During the time of this encounter,

those in charge of the different shrines made known to one another some of the main initiatives taken with the purpose of receiving well their pilgrims and visitors and evangelizing them.

The Rector of the Shrine of Fatima presented a short summary of the activities the Shrine is engaged in with the purpose of commemorating the Centennial of the Apparitions with a program that extends to 2017 and also gave a talk on "Gestures of popular piety at the Shrine of Fatima".

As the main manifestations characteristic of the popular piety of Fatima, Fr. Cabecinhas mentioned the prayer of the Rosary, the candlelight procession and farewell to Our Lady, the First Five Saturdays of the Month and the promises to walk on one's knees around the Little Chapel of

Apparitions. He also said that "the Shrine of Fatima tries to help pilgrims to match these practices of popular piety with the liturgy. To that end, the Shrine offers to organizers of pilgrimages guidelines and support materials".

The Shrine of Walsingham is located in the County of Norfolk and commemorates in 2011 its 950 years. It is an ecumenical place, which harbors two shrines: a Catholic one and an Anglican one.



Reparation Sisters of Our Lady of Fatima start mission in East Timor

Audacity and missionary spirit



On October 8, at the Headquarters of the Reparation Sisters of Our Lady of Fatima, in Fatima, Portugal, a Eucharistic celebration was held during which Sisters Amália Maria Saraiva Monteiro and Olívia Olivei-

ra Miranda were formally sent to the Diocese of Maliana, East Timor. Present at this celebration were the Sisters of both communities of Fatima, the Community of the Congregation's Headquarters and the Community of the original Mother-House, House of Our Lady of Sorrows. During this celebration, the two Sisters were sent to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to an Asian people, the Timorese people, who welcomed them on October 13, on their arrival in Díli.

During the Eucharist, the celebrant sent the two Sisters in mission *ad gentes* (to the pagans) and handed them the crucifix that now follows them in their mission. He recommended that they witness to the Good News with their own lives.

On October 11, day of departure to East Timor, the Novices presented the two with a hymn with an African rhythm, asking Mary, Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, to intercede for and bless the two new missionaries. A group of Sisters from both communities was present at this emotional farewell, expressed in tears, but also in daring missionary spirit of both those departing and those remaining and praying for the success of their first mission in East Timor.

Sister Ana Paula, Superior General

First image of Our Lady of Fatima arrives on 25 November, 1949

Cojutepeque, Central America, has Shrine of Fatima

In Cojutepeque, Cuscatlán, El Salvador, Central America, Archdiocese whose Archbishop is the Most Rev. José Luís Escobar Alas, there is a Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

Cojutepeque is a small and welcoming city of 64,000 inhabitants, located at 30 kilometers East of the capital San Salvador. It has as its "sentinel" the *Cerro de las Pavas* (Turkey Hill), known for its greenery.

On November 25, 1949, Archbishop Luís Chávez y González enthroned, on the summit of *Cerro de las Pavas*, the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, brought from Portugal.

This statue was damaged by an earthquake on February 13, 2001, but in 2005 a new statue, this time brought from Spain, was received with great joy.

On November 1, 2009, the Parish of Saint Joseph was founded as part of this Shrine of Fatima and Fr. Ernesto Bernabé Juarez Sánchez named pastor.

The Feasts of Mary on the liturgical calendar of the Church are always celebrated with solemnity, beginning with the 13th of May and including the 25th of November, celebrated as the day of enthronement of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima on *Cerro de las Pavas*.

On the vigil of these two celebrations a procession is held, along a mile and a half, through the space that separates the city from the hill, where the Shrine is located.

Throughout the years, pilgrims have placed there plaques of marble, concrete or metal, as a sign of thanksgiving for miracles received, through the intercession of

Our Blessed Mother, from God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

*Fr. Ernesto Bernabé Juarez Sánchez,
Pastor*



Our Lady of Fatima in Gurúè since 1940



Interior of Parish Church of Fatima in Ile.

In letter addressed to the Rector of the Shrine of Fatima, Fr. Carlos Cabecinhas, received this past October, the Bishop of Gurúè, Mozambique, recalled the strong devotion of the people of Mozambique to Our Lady of Fatima.

Bishop Francisco Lerma Martínez, from the Institute

of the Missionaries of the Consolata, spoke particularly of his diocese: Gurúè.

Bishop Francisco tells us that, on February 21, 1940, Bishop Teodósio Clemente de Gouveia founded the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima of Ile: "During the first years after its foundation, it was the diocesan clergy of Portugal who was in charge of the parish. From 1948 on, Dehonian priests were in charge".

Today diocesan priests of Gurúè are in charge of the parish, which cares for two hundred Christian communities.

Italy has new Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima



From its foundation in 1990 until today, the Work of Our Lady of Fatima in Montignoso, Gambassi Terme (FI), Italy, has become a great center of spirituality and the destination of tens of thousands of pilgrims from several places in Tuscany and from other regions of Italy.

Next to the small Church of St. Frediani (XII Century), inside the old walls of the City – defended, during the Middle Ages, by a military garrison stationed there – a permanent Nativity Scene presents to the view and to the prayer of the faithful the mysteries of the life of Christ, from the Annunciation to Pentecost, preceded by a biblical painting representing Original Sin. Always open to the public, the Nativity Scene shows, during Christmas time – from December 8 to January 31 – all its beauty, specially at dusk, by means of special effects of light and color.

The Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in union with the friends and the children of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, animate the life of the Work, which provides the best conditions for the ecclesial movement of the Family of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to express itself in its three essential components: male religious, female religious and laypersons. The common commitment is to spread the message and the spirituality of Fatima, in order to hasten – as Pope Benedict recalled in his trip to Portugal in May 2010 – the

triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, by witnessing to and bringing Christ to the World.

As part of the Work of Montignoso, there is a place of worship dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which reminds us of the Little Chapel of Apparitions in the Shrine of Fatima, Portugal.

The evening liturgies of the 12th/13th of the month, from May to October, in memory of the 1917 apparitions, are particularly solemn and very well attended; also the celebration of the First Saturdays of the Month, in order to make reparation for the offenses to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

On July 13, 2011, the Work lived a unique moment in its history: the erection, by the Bishop of Volterra - diocese to which Montignoso belongs - the Most Rev. Alberto Silvani, of the diocesan shrine.

At the request of this Bishop, the Holy See granted this shrine, in a permanent way, the privilege of offering to individual pilgrims a plenary indulgence for the pilgrimage to this shrine, on condition that they pray in the new shrine, on the 13th of the month, May thru October, on the Solemnities of the Assumption of Our Lady and of the Immaculate Conception; and to groups of faithful that come here in pilgrimage on any given day of the year.

During the vigil celebrations of July 12/13, 2011, the candlelight procession, the recitation and contemplation of the Holy Rosary and the solemn Mass presided over by Bishop Silvani were broadcast live by the Italian Television Channel “Telepace”. Present were about 4,000 faithful, who came from all over Tuscany and also from other Italian regions.

*Fr. Michael Tumbarello, ICMS
Rector of the Shrine of Fatima of Montignoso*



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

One week with Our Lady of Fatima

On the Feast of the 25th anniversary of the founding of our community, the Lord granted us a special gift. During the entire week, besides the continuous present of the Blessed Sacrament, the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima was with us. To us, who come from sad histories and destroyed lives, this was an honor and a sign of how the ways of God are unfathomable and nothing happens by chance. Mary is the One Who gave us new hope. Each one of us looks to Mary as the example of the ideal woman, specially as mother.

The gates of the community remained open day and night, looked after by Her, Who protected and supported us the whole week.

The presence of Mary united us: persons who didn't know each other and who little had in common felt united on Her arms of protection and under Her look full of love and tenderness towards each one of us, all children of the same Mother, with the important purpose of praying, singing and praising God.

If our community is this way blessed and supported, we owe it to Her. That is why more than three thousand people gathered in a tent to thank Her for the gifts which She offered to us during these 25 years and to beg Her intercession in favor of each person in the parish, each family, each volunteer, each benefactor, which, during all these years, have helped the community in different ways, thus making possible our existence.

The presence of bishops who marked the road of the community was also important: Don Giovanni D'Ercole led a prayer of interior healing which, through the intercession of Mary, marked, in a special way, the spirit of these days; the presence of Don Foresti and Don Sanguinetti made us relive the roots of our community, which began with the "yes" of Sister Rosalina in 1986, thus imitating Mary, with confident abandonment to the providence of God and with a little dose of healthy unconsciousness! Also meaningful was the presence of Bishops Don Beschi and Don Monari, who always help us understand, in a special way, the Word of God, in our day to day life.

In sum, it was a special week in the presence of a special woman, Mary, to Whom we can't say but: Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The young women of Community Shalom Miriam, Italy

Mary in our midst

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of Community Shalom, located in Palazzolo sull'Oglio (Brescia, Italy), it was a great joy to receive in our home, during an entire week, the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Our community was founded in 1986 by Sister Rosalina Ravasio. Its purpose is the full recuperation, namely, human, psychological and spiritual of many a youth that, along their lives, have gone astray.

Every day, in absolute gratuity, without any subsidy from State or families, this community prays, works and fights so that every youth may discover again his/her human dignity.

Prayer, pure and sincere relationships, work, the many experiences proposed, the constant testimony of numerous volunteers and, above all, the faith and determination of Sister Rosalina represent, to each one of us, incentives from God's Providence so that we may



be able to rebuild true lives.

The first challenge – the hardest – is healing.

The presence of this Mother, so near to us on this 25th anniversary, was a beautiful experience: Mary... so beautiful that we never left Her alone day or night.

Amongst the various moments of prayer and festivity, during a whole week, we left the door of our community open to all who wanted or felt in their hearts Her call. Mary has really invited crowds to adore Her Son Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Mary considers everyone Her child, both those near and those far away, but specially the last ones...and, in the midst of the crowds which arrived here, many have rediscovered Her as Mother... Mother of families, Mother of youths, Mother of the Church, Our Mother... Our Mother forever, pray for us!

The young men of Community Shalom

Institute of Our Lady of Fatima in Argentina celebrates Jubilee

This year of 2011 we celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Parochial Institute of Our Lady of Fatima in the Matienzo District of the City of Córdoba, Province of Córdoba, Argentina. 50 years ago, Fr. José Victorio Allegri and some parishioners, concerned with the evangelization, growth and education of children, started this work.

The logotype chosen for the Jubilee shows the image of the Holy Family. Since the Jubilee is for the glory and praise of the Most Holy Trinity, we thought it appropriate to place as model the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, where the Triune God received the homage it really deserves.

Together with the Archdiocese of Córdoba, our motto is "In the Holy Family we are brothers and citizens". This is the motto that guides us in belonging to the Catholic Church, to the Pilgrim Church of Córdoba, in communion with our Archbishop, the Most Rev. Carlos José Nález.

The Jubilee of the Institute began on May 15, 2011, international Day of the Family and Solemnity of Jesus the Good Shepherd. Our Archbishop presided over Sunday Mass.

The Jubilee lived a high moment on October 13, 94th anniversary of the sixth apparition of the Virgin at Fatima, and ended on November 1, Solemnity of All Saints.

*Fr. Luis Alberto Bergliaffa
Parish of Our Lady of Fatima and of St. Pius V, Argentina*

