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## Gold Rose is now at “Fatima Light and Peace”

Two months after Benedict XVI’s pilgrimage to the Shrine of Fatima on May 12 thru 14, the Gold Rose donated by the Roman Pontiff to this Shrine can now be seen at “Fatima Light and Peace”, the continuous exhibition located in the Rectory Building.

It is made of gold, silver, pearls and marble by the jewelry shop Brothers Tavani (Rome) and consists of a main branch with four roses of different sizes and little branches with leaves. The rose branch is interweaved by a rosary of gold and pearls, having at the center a silver heart surrounded by thorns. The base consists of a silvery vase showing engraved at the center the coat of arms of Pope Benedict XVI and the date: XIII-MAII-MMX.

Besides feeling honored by this gesture of the Holy See for the second time, the Shrine of Fatima is also glad that the Gold Rose is enriched with symbols specifically connected to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima. This art work is also unique since it embodies elements intimately related to the iconography of Fatima, shown in the fact that the set of little branches surrounds the heart pierced by the thorns of one of them and also in the fact that it embodies a rosary of gold and white pearls. The Gold Rose alludes, thus, through these symbols, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to the title with which the Virgin Mary is venerated at the Shrine of Fatima.

*Marco Daniel Duarte*

## Mary had to be present



Fatima is very grateful to Pope Benedict XVI for his pilgrimage of May 12/13, 2010. The Shepherd of the Universal Church, who cares for the entire flock of Christ, manifested special attention to the Portuguese and to all those who love Our Lady of Fatima.

We see this visit, made during the year specially dedicated to Jacinta because of the centennial of her birth and of the tenth anniversary of her beatification, as a response to her simple lament: “So many people come here, but the Holy Father never does!”

We also notice that Our Lady looks after the Church of Her Son with unequalled zeal. In a time marked by so many sins and so many persecutions, She wanted to console Her children, beginning with the Holy Father, sorrowful for the infidelity of some.

The pilgrimage of Benedict XVI, a pilgrim amongst pilgrims, showed that the Church trusts in the protection of Mary and is willing to follow Her command: “pray, make sacrifices and do penance for the conversion of sinners”. For his part, the smile of the Pope showed to the world that the disciples of Christ always have reasons to be joyful and hopeful.

The Pope visited Fatima during a crucial time for the life of the Church and, therefore, Mary had to be present!

*Fr. Virgílio Antunes,*  
Rector of the Shrine of Fatima

# “Feast of Faith” with Our Lady of Fatima

The Diocese of Leiria-Fatima, in which the Shrine of Fatima is located, has St. Augustine and Our Lady of Fatima as her Patron Saints.

The City of Leiria, seat of Diocese and of District, lived, between May 21 and 23, a unique moment. The Diocese offered to the faithful days of prayer and celebration, leisure and fraternization, in an initiative joined by several civil authorities.

The purpose of the initiative, according to Bishop António Marto, was to provide “an opportunity for the Diocesan church to realize that she is alive and to be aware of her contribution to society and, consequently, gain self-esteem”.

From the whole set of activities and celebrations under the title of “Feast of Faith”, one particularly stands out: the coming to Leiria of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima which is permanently enthroned in the Little Chapel of Apparitions and which left the Little Chapel only for the 11th time.

On arrival of the Statue to the City, on May 21, there took place a candlelight procession and the City’s main square turned into a Prayer Area.

Bishop Marto, on behalf of all those present, greeted effusively the Patron Lady and entrusted the Diocese to Our Lady: “You know well, dear Mother, how much I have desired to have You visit this City and the Cathedral of Leiria, so I could invoke Your special protection for this City, so I could thank You for the innumerable graces You have obtained for my ministry and so I could consecrate the Diocese to Your Immaculate Heart”.

Afterwards, Bishop Marto gave his answer to this question: “What does Mary have to say to the city of men?”

His answer was: Our Lady “brings to mind the Mother Who looks after Her children. In Her discreet way, She brings peace and hope to all during life’s happy and sad moments. She is the Immaculate Mother Who repeats to men of our time what She once told, at Fatima, to seer Lucia: «Be not afraid! I’ll never abandon You! My Immaculate Heart will always be Your refuge and the way which will lead you to God».”

And he added: “By Her presence, Mary speaks to us of God, brings to our minds the beauty and grandeur of His Love. She speaks to us of the Church which springs from this Love and of



which She is Mother and Model. And She calls us to live, in faith, the Word of God, to witness charity by serving our neighbor and to keep a vigorous hope even amidst tribulations.”

The remaining days with their many activities and celebrations of the “Feast of Faith” were marked – as stressed by Vicar General of Leiria-Fatima Father Jorge Guarda – “by prayer, beauty and joy”.

During the Mass that concluded the “Feast of Faith”, celebrated late afternoon on May 23, Fr. Jorge Guarda commented: “Bishop Antonio Marto

forcefully urged the faithful to wish for and to correspond to the grace of holiness, which is available to all through the Holy Spirit. At the end of the procession with the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, next to the Church of St. Augustine, Co-Patron Saint of the Diocese, the emotion of the farewell to Our Lady with white handkerchiefs took over the faithful making them shed tears which ran down their faces. Thus ended three intense days of spirituality and ecclesial communion, which brought together thousands of people of all ages.”

*Leopoldina Simões*

## Shrine recalls Pope's visit to Fatima

The Shrine of Fatima has decided to recall and pay tribute to the pilgrimage of Holy Father Benedict XVI to Fatima, during his visit to Portugal on May 11 thru 14, by issuing a stamped envelope commemorative of the stay of Benedict XVI in the shrine-city. It is available since the beginning of July.

Also through its correspondence by letter, the Shrine of Fatima reminds the country and the world of a remarkable pilgrimage, which, in the words of Fr. Virgílio Antunes, Rector of the Shrine, revealed "great beauty and emotion" and served of stage for the message of Fatima "as a great herald and prophecy for the Church and for the world of our time".

From the stamp printed on the envelope – a graphic work by "Correios de Portugal" (Portugal's Mail Service) – stands out the image of a Pope with arms open, in a greeting gesture, and, behind him, a nocturne picture of Most Holy Trinity Church.

Let us recall that Most Holy Trinity Church was inaugurated on October 12, 2007, by Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone, Legate of Pope Benedict XVI, sent to preside over the celebrations of the conclusion of the 90th anniversary of the Apparitions of Fatima. It was in this church that, during his apostolic trip of May 2010, on the afternoon of the 12th, the Pope prayed Vespers with priests, religious, deacons and seminarians. In this same venue, on the afternoon of the 13th, Benedict XVI met with organizations of social pastoral care.

*LeopolDina Simões*



## International Meeting at Fatima

Between the 1st and the 4th of July, the City of Fatima received the 44th World Meeting of Vespas, an Italian brand name of mottos.

Vespa World Days 2010 was organized by "Vespa Clube de Fátima", which said that the main purpose of this initiative, "besides creating and offering conditions to our visitors, is to show the friendliness and hospitality that this region is known for."

The multifaceted cultural and fraternization program of this 44th world meeting of more than two thousand "vespists" included also the participation in a Mass celebrated in the Shrine of Fatima, in Most Holy Trinity Church, on June 4, after a parade from "Vespa Village", which was visited by more than six thousand people, to a parking lot of the Shrine, where the mottos were parked.

The Mass was celebrated by Chaplain Fr. Artur Oliveira, of the Shrine of Fatima, who urged the faithful to witness and live, in their day to day affairs, the Word of God.

After Mass, the parked vespas as well as their drivers and riders were blessed.



## Europe needs mending

The appeals of the Auxiliary Bishop of Porto marked July's International Pilgrimage. In his two homilies in Fatima, Bishop João Miranda spoke of the causes and consequences of the current crisis.

On the evening of the 12th, he asked for "mending" and a New Order for a "decadent Europe, in need of mending so that hope and confidence may return to the nations". To the Church he asked for a "New Pastoral Order".

On the morning of the 13th he mentioned social injustices and attempts against life, and proposed an examination of conscience: "The



poor are being trampled under foot and the powerful stand firm on their clay thrones. We are killing the nation's youth with empty promises. We are abandoning the family and creating false notions of family". This is what he told the pilgrims from more than fifteen countries, during his homily in the Mass of the 13th, in the Prayer Area of the Shrine of Fatima.

In his appeals he stressed that "the world crisis will not go away until each of us makes an examination of conscience and comes to the conclusion that all of us, one way or another, is guilty of what is happening".

## Children's Pilgrimage to Fatima



As part of the celebrations of the Centennial of the Birth of Jacinta Marto, seer of Fatima, the Children's Pilgrimage to Fatima on June 9/10, spoke to the young ones of Jacinta Marto as an example of a life of commitment and dedication to others and of great love and prayer for the Church.

Also it was not forgotten that this year we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the beatification, by John Paul II, in Fatima, of Jacinta Marto and of her brother Francisco. The theme of the pilgrimage was a call: "Do you wish to offer yourselves to God?", question put by Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds of Fatima, to

which Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta said "yes".

About 200 thousand pilgrims, of whom 30 thousand were children, took part in the main celebrations of the pilgrimage on June 10.

The President of the Children's Pilgrimage, Most Rev. Manuel Clemente, Bishop of Porto, presided over the main Mass of the Pilgrimage. Concelebrants were: Most Rev. António Marto, Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, and 160 priests.

In words understood by the children, Bishop Manuel Clemente urged the young ones to listen to Heaven, listen to God, and to offer their lives to others and to God.

## To welcome Christ in Migrants

The August 12/13 pilgrimage will be presided over by Bishop Claude Schocker, President of the National Service for Pastoral Ministry amongst Migrants in France.

The theme the Shrine of Fatima proposes for reflection to its pilgrims and visitors during the month of August is: "By the Spirit you'll live" (cf. Rom 8, 13).

But because Fatima these days is filled specially with pilgrims from the "Pilgrimage of the Migrant and the Refugee", organized by the Bishops' Committee for Human Mobility – Portuguese Catholic Work for Migration (OCPM), another motto is proposed to them: "With Francisco and Jacinta Welcome Christ in Migrants and Minor Refugees", based on the theme of the Message of the Holy Father for the 96th World Day of the Migrant and of the Refugee: "Migrants and Minor Refugees".

In every pilgrimage to Fatima, OCPM has always placed, as a particular intention, a Portuguese community in a specific country or a specific community of migrants in Portugal.

OCPM is organizing this pilgrimage as part of the 38th National Week of Migrations and says: "This year we want to emphasize the Portuguese community residing in France and the French Church, which accepts it".

For August 15 is also being prepared a National Day of Solidarity with the Pastoral Ministry of Human Mobility.

## Congress speaks of life and witnessing of Jacinta Marto

The number of participants in the Congress "Jacinta Marto: from Encounter to Compassion", held at Paul VI Pastoral Center, Shrine of Fatima, Portugal, on June 4 thru 6, exceeded all expectations.

Five hundred ten people took part in this initiative of the Shrine of Fatima, which intended, as announced by the President of the Scientific Committee, Fr. Vítor Coutinho, "to mark the centennial of the birth of Jacinta Marto, by providing an opportunity to revisit this exceptional child".

At the end of the Congress, according to the Relator, José Carlos Carvalho, of Portuguese Catholic University, "Bishop António Marto, of Leiria-Fatima, presented three tasks left to the Shrine by the Congress: memory, prophecy and company".

To the first Bishop António added the need to announce the Message of

Fatima as a place for the memory of the suffering of the world of men and of the suffering of the men of this world. This memory will thus be a critical instance of much narcotic and anesthetic culture, of much narcissistic culture, which forgets time, the crucified, history and the essential of life.

In what pertains to prophecy, the Bishop emphasized the biblical meaning – that word of God that brings hope to the history of men by giving meaning to history and opening it to a future. This happens because of God's compassion towards His people, towards mankind. Similarly, Jacinta and Fatima are prophetic words, and compassion towards the world constitutes the prophecy of a future, of a different world.

"Company" is the Samaritan task of the Church, which consists in being present in situations of despair. To ac-

company the crucified of our time by sharing with joy, like Jacinta, is a different word".



# Mozambique's President of the Assembly of the Republic visits Shrine of Fatima

While in Portugal in an official visit, Verónica Macamo, President of Mozambique's Assembly of the Republic, accompanied by her husband and a couple of dozen of members of Mozambique's Parliament, visited, at the end of the morning of June 16, the Shrine of Fatima, where she was warmly received by the Rector, Fr. Virgílio Antunes.

Mrs. Macamo, during the official reception, held in the Rectory Building, described to the Rector of the Shrine the "good rhythm" at which Mozambique currently progresses and told him that the main objective of Mozambique's efforts in the near future "is the eradication of poverty".



And she went on: "We, in Mozambique, have been living in peace for the last 16 years. We feel that this is a lasting peace, for all political forces seem to be committed to it. We chose poverty as the greatest enemy of Mozambique".

Fr. Virgílio, on his turn, stressed with satisfaction that

indeed Portugal has received news that the country lives in peace, news that is welcomed by the people and the Church of Portugal. The Shrine itself – the Rector said – follows up what is going on there and keeps good relations with Mozambique's Church; it is even studying "ways to support the development of the great shrine dedicated to our Lady of Fatima in Mozambique, the Shrine of Fatima, in Namaacha".

*Leopoldina Simões*

## Shrine of Fatima in Namaacha, Mozambique

The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Namaacha, Province of Maputo, Mozambique, was erected to commemorate the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.

Work began in 1942, around the 25th anniversary of the apparitions, and the Shrine was inaugurated on August 29, 1944.

The largest pilgrimage to it is held yearly on May 13. In one of the last ones, in May

2008, the pilgrims were glad to receive a message from the Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, Most Rev. António Marto: The Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Namaacha "prolongs, thus, in Africa, the echo of the private Message Our Lady brought for all mankind".



## New Shrine of Fatima in Brazil

On May 13, 2010, the Archbishop of São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro, Most Rev. Orani João Tempesta, signed the Provision erecting a new shrine of Fatima in Brazil.

The new Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima is located at 900 Avenida Baltazar da Silveira, within the Parish of the Immaculate Conception, District of Bandeirantes, Vicariate of Jacarepaguá. The space for prayer and celebration of Mass is currently being built and it will be a replica of the Little Chapel of Apparitions of the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal.

This shrine – according to the document signed by Archbishop Tempesta – "represents the foundational charisma of the archdiocesan association Afternoon with Mary".

In this same month of May, Archbishop Tempesta wrote an article in which he stressed the importance of and the love for Our Lady, "the Woman of Yes", and in which he also recalled the pil-



grimage of Holy Father Benedict XVI to Fatima, Portugal: "We followed with joy and devotion the trip of Pope Benedict XVI to Portugal and, specially, his visit as a pilgrim of Fatima. He himself said that it was as a pilgrim that he went there to celebrate the 10th anniversary of canonization of Little Shepherds Francisco and Jacinta. We recall with emotion the entire message of Fatima, which intends to bring into the open what Christian revelation already teaches, but which always needs to be renewed. This is the mystery of private revelation".

The Prelate also stressed that "we can't exclude Mary from our spirituality and our Christian living, for where Mary is absent Christ also becomes unreal and abstract. Wherever Mary appears within Christianity, every abstract thing, every vacuous shape and every obstacle disappear and every soul is immediately touched by the Heavenly World".

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## Five thousand faithful in Porto Alegre for VIII Pilgrimage

As a Mother present in the life of Her children and worried about them, Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima went out, during the month of May, to visit thousands of children, adolescents and students in dozens of schools of the Parish of Students of Porto Alegre, located, since its creation, next to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

In total, there were nine days of pilgrimage and visits to the schools of North Porto Alegre (RS) with the statue of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, brought from Portugal in 2002. Students and teachers had the opportunity to pay homage to Our Lady with prayers, hymns, plays and praise.

It was beautiful to see the commitment and advanced preparation on the part of teachers and students from each school in order to welcome properly the statue of the Mother of God. There weren't missing either beautiful altars, flowers, posters and colored ribbons made

to celebrate Her presence, a presence that encourages, generates peace and brings comfort and hope of a better future for these children, adolescents and youths, to whom we entrust the future of the country.

During this Novena, Our Lady re-



ceived many a visit at the Shrine dedicated to Her, located in District Ruben Berta, Porto Alegre, as well as during the Masses celebrated in the Church of St. Rose de Lima, near the Shrine.

During the Novena, different priests,

who always help out at this Shrine, preached on different glories of Mary, Our Mother and Mother of God.

On Sunday May 16, there took place a great pilgrimage, with people coming from several parishes neighboring the Shrine and which ended with Mass presided over by the Rector of the Shrine, Fr. José Luiz Schaedler, and concelebrated by a group of priests who help out at the Shrine.

This procession and festive Mass were attended by about 2000 pilgrims, who had the opportunity to express their love and admiration for the Mother of God. It was a moving and well attended event, in which the pilgrims manifested their faith by means of bands, little flags and posters.

Together with private petitions, there was presented, in this Pilgrimage of Fatima, a common petition for the success of the construction of the new shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima.

*Elias de Nardi, Brazil*

## In Toledo, Spain, Devotion to Little Shepherds Grows

The Liturgical Feast (February 20) of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, brother and sister, who died at the age of 10 and 9 respectively, and seers

of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917 and beatified by John Paul II in May 2000, didn't go unnoticed in Talavera, Diocese of Toledo, Spain.

Promoted by the Catholic movement World Apostolate of Fatima, it was celebrated on the afternoon of February 23 and the protagonists were children.

Hundreds of young pupils from the religious education centers of the city, as well

as from other schools and parishes, began gathering at 15h30 next to the arches of Jardins do Prado (Meadow Gardens).

The solemn procession started off at 16h00 towards the Basilica of Our Lady of Prado (Meadow), where the group was received by Rector and Vicar General Fr. Felipe Díaz-Guerra, who immediately presided over the Mass in honor of the Blessed of Fatima.

Fervent devotion to our Francisco and Jacinta in our city is growing noticeably. Their lives are a simple and eloquent lesson with impact on the lives of our children and adults.

*Luís Parro Torres, Spain*



# Italian Parish consecrated to Immaculate Heart of Mary



During the visit of a Pilgrim Statue of Fatima, May 4 thru 13, the parish of St. Joseph in Pontedera (PI), Italy, whose pastor is Fr. Giulio Giannini, was consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It took place precisely on the 13th and it was done by Angelo Cardinal Comastri, Vicar General of His Holiness for Vatican City and Archpriest of the Basilica of St. Peter.

It was an unforgettable day with the presence of more than three thousand people, not only from Pontedera, but also from other towns of Tuscany. The presence of Cardinal Comastri represented a blessing for the entire community. The text of the Act of Consecration was purposely composed for this celebration by the Cardinal and was read during the ceremony of the inauguration of a commemorative plaque, located in the sanctuary of the Church

dedicated to Our Lady, where also a statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary has been installed.

We felt on that May 13, in our hearts, a strong spiritual union with the Shrine of Fatima in Portugal. On that day the Holy Father was in that sacred place (Fatima) and we had the visit of the Statue of the Pilgrim Virgin... It was Heaven's will.

On the days prior to the 13th, Pontedera lived another great triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. For several days there was intense and rich prayer

also the sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who animated the recitation of the Rosary and the Eucharistic Adoration.

The brothers Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary read and explained the message of the White Lady to the many present. Many souls accepted in their hearts this precious message and manifested their desire to consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

There remains to talk about the procession on May 8, when the streets of Pontedera were festively illuminated and in which about three thousand people took part. Fr. Giulio offered a meditation on the Holy Rosary, commenting the words of Our Lady in Her apparitions at Fatima.

During these nine days, the Church was always filled with many people, from morning to evening. About thirty thousand people may have attended and there were 10,700 Holy Communions.

Pontedera is linked, for several years now, to Portugal, now more than ever, because Our Lady always unites Her children in order to lead them to Her Son Jesus.

*Alessandra Bimbi,*  
Italy



and meditation on the message of Fatima. We had with us bishops of several dioceses of Tuscany: Bishops Fausto Tardelli, Giovanni Paolo Benotto, Mario Meini, Alberto Silvani. Present were

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## Fátima – Light and Peace

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## As time approaches for Centennial of Apparitions...

A word to shrines, parishes, associations, education and health institutions, media, tourism and pilgrimage agents,

Marian greetings to all of you!

How is the devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima lived there? What is the history behind the emergence of the invocation of Our Lady of Fatima at your institution? What charisma is there? How is the Statue of Our Lady venerated in your church? Which main celebrations and cultural and theological activities are there celebrated throughout the year? Does your community live any special event related to the devotion to our Lady of Fatima?

The Centennial of the Apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima is fast approaching!

Let us live this journey until 2017 with joy, prayer, dedication and devotion!

The Editorial Staff of "Fátima Luz e Paz".

## 93rd Anniversary of Apparitions Celebrated at Port of Santos

On May 13, 2010, at the Port of Santos, State of São Paulo, Brazil, many devotees of Our Lady of Fatima gathered to celebrate the 93rd anniversary of the apparitions of 1917 at Cova da Iria, Fatima, Portugal.

The celebration began at 15h30 with a procession with the statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, from Our Lady of Fatima Square, Santos, to the Parish of St. Benedito, in Afonso Pena Avenue, where the Mass of Our Lady of Fatima was celebrated.

Msgr. Joaquim Clementino Leite presided over the Mass.

After Mass, the procession continued, now towards the Monument to Our Lady of Fatima, erected in Port of San-

tos, where all the faithful present were blessed.

The Monument to Our Lady of Fatima in Port of Santos celebrated 58 years of existence in December 2009. It is a beautiful monument, built with the collaboration of all the workers of the former "Companhia Docas de Santos" (Docks of Santos Company).

*Maria Alice de Almeida Leça, Brazil*



## Cardinal Sepe pays visit to Pilgrim Statue



On June 30, we celebrated with particular solemnity a Mass presided over by His Eminence Crescenzo Cardinal Sepe, Metropolitan Archbishop of Naples, at the Parish of Most Holy Crucifix, Torre del Greco, Archdiocese of Naples, Italy. Numerous faithful attended this Mass and also paid homage to the Heavenly Visitor from Fatima.

The celebration was scheduled so as to coincide with the 15th

anniversary of the priestly ordination of the local pastor, Fr. Orazio Morra.

At the end of Mass, after paying homage to the White Pilgrim, Cardinal Sepe was warmly greeted by the faithful.

Between April 10 and September 10 the Pilgrim Statue is visiting Italian towns. The Italian Marian Movement *Messaggio di Fatima* (Message of Fatima) is in charge of the organization and promotion of the pilgrimage.

*Moreno Marroni, Italy*

## Russian Youths in Pilgrimage to Fatima

It was with great joy that, on July 13, Rector Fr. Virgílio Antunes welcomed, on behalf of the Shrine of Fatima, a group of pilgrims from the Russian Federation.

Received early afternoon in the Rectory, the nine pilgrim youths were accompanied by Fr. Mikalai Vaitsekhovitch and two religious sisters, one of which Portuguese.

During the July 12/13 Anniversary Pilgrimage, an eastern Icon of Our Lady of Fatima was enthroned in the Little Chapel of Apparitions. Painted in Russia accord-

ing to traditional techniques and donated to the Shrine of Fatima in 2007, this Icon has a rosary suspended from the right hand of Mary and, on the left hand, the word Heart (surrounded by thorns) is written. Besides the traditional inscription "Divine Motherhood of Mary", there we find also written the following words: "Icon of the Most Holy Virgin of Fatima. In You, Unity".

