

St. Jerome's Catholic Church — 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL  
November 2020 Volume 2 Issue 8

## Tomb of Carlo Acutis is opened for veneration ahead of beatification

Carlo Acutis, a Catholic Italian teenager who died in 2006, was beatified Oct. 10 in Assisi.

He was born May 3, 1991, in London, where his parents were working. Just a few months later, the family moved to Milan.

As a teenager, Carlo was diagnosed with leukemia. He offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church, saying "I offer all the suffering I will have to suffer for the Lord, for the Pope, and the Church." He died on Oct. 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi, at his request, because of his love for St. Francis of Assisi.

His cause for canonization began in 2013 after a miracle was attributed to his intercession, the healing of a Brazilian child with a congenital anomaly of the pancreas that year. He was designated "Venerable" in 2018, and was designated "Blessed" October 10.

As a young child, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his First Communion, he went to Mass as often as he could, and he made Holy Hours before or after Mass. He went to confession weekly.

He asked his parents to take him on pilgrimages: to the places of the saints and to the sites of Eucharistic miracles.

According to the priest promoting his cause for sainthood, he "...managed to drag his relatives and his parents to Mass every day."

He was known for defending kids at school who got picked on, especially disabled kids. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis family life.

Carlo loved playing video games. His console of choice was a PlayStation, or possibly a PS2, which was released in 2000, when Carlo was nine. We know he only allowed himself to play games for an hour a week, as a penance and a spiritual discipline, but he wanted to play much more.

A spokeswoman for Acutis' beatification said that the entire body was present when it was exhumed, but not incorrupt. "Today we see him again in his mortal body. A body that has passed, in the years of burial in Assisi, through the normal process of decay, which is the legacy of the human condition after sin has removed it from God, the source of life. But this mortal body is destined for resurrection," Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi said at a Mass at the opening of the tomb.

He lay in repose in a glass tomb where was venerated by pilgrims until Oct. 17. He was displayed in jeans and a pair of Nikes, the casual clothes he preferred in life.

His heart, which is now considered a relic, will be displayed in a reliquary in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi. His mother said that his family had wanted to donate his organs when he died, but were unable to do so because of the leukemia.



### FROM AROUND THE WORLD OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

New York diocese becomes largest in US to file for bankruptcy over 200 sex abuse lawsuits

Confraternity Bible Is Newly Republished

Pope Francis Recognizes Miracle Attributed to Italian Laywoman Who Died in 1997

Space Creatures and the Catholic Church

Virgin of Guapulo depicted in 2020 Christmas stamp from USPS

Mother Cabrini gets a new statue in New York City

After 'demonic' desecration, Louisiana church reconsecrated as details about priest emerge

Pope Francis calls for civil union law for same-sex couples

UK court to review Down Syndrome abortion law

41,000 people visited Italian teen's tomb amid beatification

Mississippi abortion decision due as Amy Coney Barrett joins Supreme Court

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete Grasso

Happy Fall and Harvest Blessings to everyone. We enter yet another season, not knowing what is happening with our brothers, church family, and community. As we wait for this horrific pandemic to end, we continue to learn to Live with it, and at the same time continue to pray, assist our priests, and do the right thing. As this disease continues, people are wrongfully trying to express the blame

on the individuals in charge, but bottom line, and this goes throughout history, the blame falls on the public and their unwillingness to do the right thing. For this reason, we will continue the ZOOM meetings and limit our exposure to each other.

I have always said that it is not fair to measure the effectiveness of an organization based on how many people attend meetings.

As Knights of the Divine Mercy of Jesus Council, we continue to be very active in helping at our church. As I write this message, we are preparing to help with the Trunk or Treat on Halloween. Also, our council is preparing to hand-build a grotto on the property to provide a beautiful shrine to honor our Mother Mary where everyone has

the ability to pray. In addition, we have been asked to participate in the youth program at St. Jerome's where we can assist in mentoring our youth. We are working to have a Christmas project with the young Christian Center; and last for right now, we are developing a New Year's Eve project to prepare our church members to prepare for Lent. Meanwhile, we continue to assist our clergy in fulfilling our wonderful sacraments of confession and holy communion. Don't watch these activities from the sidelines; jump in and help. Our country is about to enjoy one of our most important gifts, and that is the ability for a free election. Please exercise your right to vote and vote your faith.

Last, it is wonderful that our founder, Fr. Michael McGivney, is moving towards sainthood. This is the answer to many years of prayer.

Continue to pray for each other and our families. Also, pray for our nation and have a very happy and safe Thanksgiving season. We have much to be thankful for. Vivat Jesu.

## FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR



Fr. Tom Morgan

Recently, we have begun to enact steps for the return of: essential ministries, formational ministries, mercy ministries, prayer ministries, and hospitality and social ministries. We will

proceed with caution as we return to our ministries actively meeting.

We will be meeting with our ministries leaders for discussions of what will be required. All ministries will be asked to agree with the total implementation of the guidelines that they will be provided. This will include requiring ministry leaders to follow CDC guidelines, especially if the ministry leader is made aware that one of the ministry participants tests positive for COVID-19.

We will continue to update you as we move forward.



## FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR



Jim Hand

with what is called a jagged right edge. That means that the right side of the column is not flush against the right boundary line. This right flush causes extra spaces in a sentence which look rather awkward. You can see what I mean by looking at Pete's and Fr. Tom's articles. The extra spaces in some lines look odd; however, it's just

Brothers: First, I want to thank Joe Ghezzi for helping out with an article for this issue. I always appreciate such help.

In this column, I am experimenting

the computer trying to justify both the left and right sides of the column. It's a tossup which is preferred: a jagged right side of a column or an even right and left side. You be the judge.

Also, in this newsletter I have included a little humor in the creation article on page 6. Not everyone approves of putting humor in a newsletter. I guess I'm experimenting to see how you feel about it.

About a year ago, I started putting humorous cartoons in, but after a few negative comments from some brothers, I stopped doing it. I have included a typical joke in the next column. Plus, I have included a pithy comment below that holds a lot of truth.

Let me know what you think.

*Stupid is when you know the truth but continue to believe the lies.*

**DOES ANYONE KNOW WHICH PAGE OF THE BIBLE EXPLAINS HOW TO TURN WATER INTO WINE? ASKING FOR A FRIEND.**

## Fr. Tom Continues with Saturday Confessions, and Fr. Rob Helps with the Blessing of Animals in a Drive-Through



Saturday, October 3, 2020, was a busy time at St. Jerome. As usual, Fr. Tom heard confessions by the cottage. There was a steady stream of parishioners, lasting up to nearly two hours, from 9:40 to 11:40. Knights Chuck Lake and Bill Bannon were there to keep cars moving along. Then at 10:40, the Blessing of the Animals began with Fr. Rob in charge. There were many cars lined up with all kinds of pets. Although not pictured, Knights Pete Grasso and Greg Musick were there helping to direct traffic and take care of any problems. It was good to see so many parishioners in attendance.



(See blessing of motorcycles on next page)

## Blessing of Motorcycles



A couple of weeks after the blessing of animals (St. Francis's Day), Fr. Tom decided to bless motorcycles. These are a couple of those that showed up. Fr. Tom continues to introduce new ideas to the parish as he shepherds the flock.

## St. Jerome Parish Welcomes New Youth Ministers

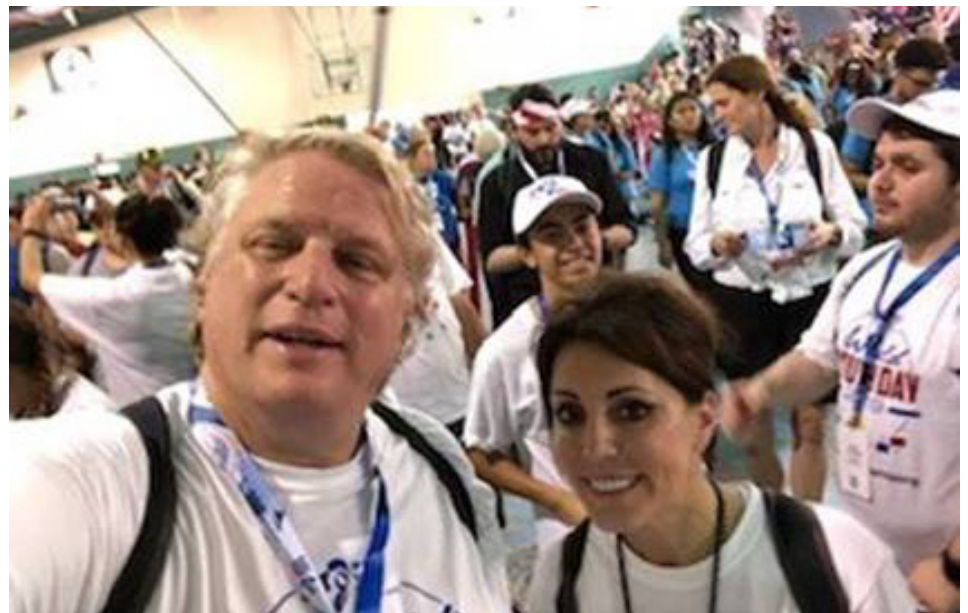
Michael and Marissa Guarino have dedicated their lives to the joy of the gospel and servicing the youth and the elderly over the past 20 years. This couple is known as the "dynamic duo" both in business and in ministry. Michael and Marissa are thrilled to launch the program, despite the many challenges that everyone has faced during this pandemic. The Guarinos will be dedicating Sundays as "family day" where all ages will be able to participate.

The day will kick off with middle school at 3:30 p.m. followed by Family / Life Teen Mass at 5p.m. where everyone will be able to experience the Holy Spirit with amazing praise and worship. Following mass the Guarinos invite all families to join together for a home-cooked meal. After dinner the high-school program will begin.

The Guarinos come to us with many years of experience and countless retreats, life-teen nights, camps, March for Life, World Youth Day, Good Samaritan Project, and so much more. They look forward to walking with the youth

of the parish and with Father Rob and are also looking for volunteers to help support this very valuable ministry.

For more information please email us at: [YouthMinistry@stjeromeonline.org](mailto:YouthMinistry@stjeromeonline.org) or 727-221-0229.



Michael and Maarissa Guarino bring their love for the Lord to St. Jerome Parish.



All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. It should not be confused with All Souls' Day, which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven.

Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is, those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

Generally, All Saints' Day is a Catholic Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are required to attend Mass on that day, unless they have an excellent excuse, such as serious illness.

All Saints' Day was formally started by Pope Boniface IV, who consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Virgin Mary and all the Martyrs on May 13 in 609 AD. Boniface IV also established All Souls' Day, which follows All Saints'.



St. Jerome's Parish has decided not to conduct a sit-down Thanksgiving dinner this year due to the need for social distancing because of COVID-19. We will, however, have a take-out dinner for those who might desire to pick up a meal for yourself or other family members.

This will begin at 1 p.m. and will consist of fresh turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, stuffing, green bean casserole and choice of pie (apple, pumpkin or pecan).

Please call the parish office at (727) 595-4610 to order your turkey dinner. SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10.00

All Souls' Day is a holy day set aside for honoring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go. Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter into heaven. The primary reference for this belief is 2 Maccabees, 12:26 and 12:32. "Turning to supplication, they



prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out... Thus made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin."

We will be remembering those who died between November 3, 2019 and November 2, 2020 at our "All Souls Mass" on Monday November 2, 2020, in the church. If you lost someone during this time you are invited to place a photo of your loved one on the "Wall of Remembrance," attend the 7:30 p.m. Mass on November 2, and place a candle in memory of your loved one during the special candle ceremony and "Litany of the Deceased" (the naming of those who died).

Please call the parish office to confirm that you will be present at the Mass and to confirm the name of your loved one that will be named in the "Litany of the Deceased."

## PLANS FOR THE GROTTO MOVING ALONG WELL

We are just getting started on the grotto, and the different ideas are flowing. We need to get in touch with paver installers to see if the cost is reasonable enough. Also we are hoping to get people to buy a paver with their name on it to help offset the cost. That would be a lifetime gift to the grotto project.

At this time we think that the most difficult part of creating the grotto is going to be the building of the alcove for the Virgin Mary. However, we have some ideas that should work.

As many of you know, the rosary is going around the lake, so it can literally be walked by parishioners.

The Stations of the Cross are a go as well. The project team still has to decide on the exact location, though.

Finally, we are planning on having lights shining on Our Lady, which will be an awesome touch that will bring everything together!

We hope when the weather begins to cool off we can get serious about starting to mix some concrete. Of course that kind of work belongs to young people so be prepared all you with strong backs to be ready to earn some sweat equity in the House of the Lord.

Vivat Jesu!  
Joe Ghezzy, Project Manager



Our Lady of Fatima stands in a temporary station in the Gathering Area.

## What Role Do Angels Play?

That every individual soul has a guardian angel has never been defined by the Church, and is not an article of faith; but it is the "mind of the Church", as St. Jerome expressed it: "How great the dignity of the soul, since each one has from his birth an angel commissioned to guard it." This belief in guardian angels can be traced throughout all antiquity; even pagans held a belief in them. It was also the belief of the Babylonians and Assyrians, as their monuments testify, for a figure of a guardian angel now in the British Museum once decorated an Assyrian palace and might well serve for a modern representation. Nabopolassar, father of Nebuchadnezzar the Great, says: "He (Marduk) sent a tutelary deity (cherub) of grace to go at my side; in everything that I did, he made my work to succeed." In the Bible this doctrine is clearly discernible and its development is well marked. In Genesis angels not only act as the executors of God's wrath against the cities of the plain, but they deliver Lot from dan-

ger; in Exodus an angel is the appointed leader of the host of Israel, and in chapter 32, God says to Moses: "My angel shall go before thee."

At a much later period we have the story of Tobias, which might serve as a commentary on the

words of Psalms: "For he hath given his angels charge over thee; to keep thee in all thy ways." Last, in Daniel 10 angels are entrusted with the care of particular districts; one is called "prince of the kingdom of the Persians", and Michael is termed "one of the chief princes."

This sums up the Old Testament doctrine on the point; it is clear that the Old Testament conceived of God's angels as His ministers who carried out His behests and who were at times given special commissions, regarding men and mundane affairs. There is no special teaching. The doctrine is rather taken for granted than expressly laid down; but in the New Testament the doctrine is stated with greater precision. Angels are everywhere the intermediaries between God and man, and Christ set a seal upon the Old Testament teaching: "See that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say to you, that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." (Matt., 10: 3, 10). A twofold aspect of the doctrine is here put before us: even little children have guardian angels, and these

same angels lose not the vision of God by the fact that they have a mission to fulfil on earth. Without dwelling on the various passages in the N. T. where the doctrine of guardian angels is suggested, it may suffice to mention the angel who succored Christ in the garden, and the angel who delivered St. Peter from prison. Hebrews 1: 14, puts the doctrine in its clearest light: "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?" This is the function of the guardian angels; they are to lead us, if we wish it, to the Kingdom of Heaven.

St. Thomas teaches us that only the lowest orders of angels are sent to men, and consequently that they alone are our guardians, though some scholars would rather say that any of the members of the angelic host may be sent to execute the Divine commands. Not only the baptized, but every soul that cometh into the world receives a guardian spirit; St. Basil, however, and possibly St. Chrysostom would hold that only Christians were so privileged. Our guardian angels can act upon our senses and upon our imaginations not, however, upon our wills, except "per modum suadentis", viz. by working on our intellect, and thus upon our will, through the senses and the imagination.

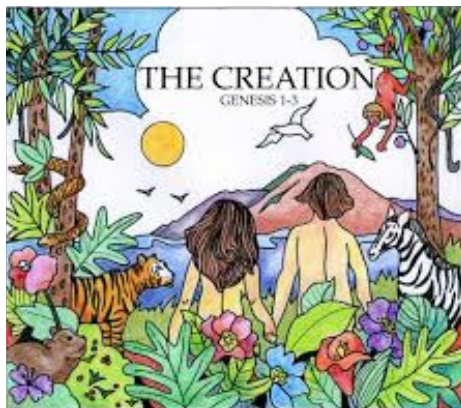
Finally, they are not separated from us after our death, but remain with us in heaven, not, however, to help us to attain salvation,

(This article has been edited for brevity.)

1. In the beginning, God created the Heavens and the Earth and populated the Earth with broccoli, cauliflower and spinach, green and yellow and red vegetables of all kinds, so Man and Woman would live long and healthy lives.

2. Using God's great gifts, Satan created Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream and Krispy Creme Donuts. And Satan said, "You want chocolate with that?" Man said, "Yes!" and Woman said, "and as long as you're at it, add some sprinkles." And they gained 10 pounds. Satan smiled.

3. God created the healthful yogurt that Woman might keep the figure that Man found so fair. Satan brought forth white flour from the wheat, and sugar from the cane and combined them. Woman



etables and olive oil in which to cook them. And Satan brought forth deep fried fish and chicken-fried steak so big it needed its own platter. And Man gained more weight and his cholesterol went through the roof.

6. God then created a light, fluffy white cake, named it "Angel Food Cake" and said, "It is good." Satan then created chocolate cake and named it "Devil's Food."

went from size 6 to size 14.

4. So God said, "Try my fresh green salad." So Satan presented Thousand-Island Dressing, buttery croutons and garlic toast on the side. And Man and Woman unfastened their belts.

5. God then said, "I have sent you heart healthy veg-

7. God then brought forth running shoes so that his children might lose those extra pounds. Satan gave cable TV with a remote control so Man would not have to toil changing the channels. And Man and Woman laughed and cried before the flickering blue light and gained pounds.

8. Then God brought forth the potato, naturally low in fat and brimming with nutrition. And Satan peeled off the healthful skin and sliced the starchy center into chips and deep-fried them. And Man gained pounds.

9. God then gave lean beef so that Man might consume fewer calories and still satisfy his appetite. Satan created McDonald's and its 99-cent double cheeseburger and said, "You want fries with that?" And Man replied, "Yes! And super-size them!" Satan said, "It is good." And Man went into cardiac arrest.

10. God sighed and created quadruple bypass surgery.

11. Then Satan created the Health Care System. Amen.



# AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA

*Because it's the solution for our times!*

## 'Blasphemous' Film *Habit* Sparks Petition to Block Release



The blasphemous film *Habit*, which portrays Our Lord Jesus Christ as a 'bi-sexual' female committing "salacious acts," is now in post-production with Elevated Films.

Paris Jackson, a self-proclaimed "fluid" sexual in real life and daughter of the late Michael Jackson, plays the part as a "gender-bending" Christ with a nose ring.

Citizengo.com reports: Hollywood is set to release yet another outrageous and blasphemous movie featuring Jesus Christ, this time portraying Christ as a woman who engages in a myriad of inappropriate and salacious acts while also serving as the romantic foil for the main female character.

According to early reports, the movie *Habit* will star Bella Thorne as a street-smart girl with a Jesus fetish who masquerades as a nun while trying to escape the consequences of a violent drug deal.

The film dishonors and mocks 'Jesus' as being a female, with a nose ring, who engages in salacious acts with a party girl who has a perverse Jesus fetish while masquerading as a Catholic nun in a traditional habit (hence the film's title) trying to hide from drug dealers she's involved with.

Such mocking, insolent, and blasphemous

story lines are offensive and must stop.

The very person of Christ is portrayed as immoral and a lesbian! One online critic noted: "Elevated Films has obviously gone too far. The company would never, in a million years, produce a film that defamed Muhammad in a similar fashion."

There is a well-known legal maxim that 'silence gives consent.' So we must not be silent in so important a matter as is now before us.

Our Lord was always patient with even the lowest sinners. But He always called them to conversion and repentance. This portrayal makes Him unnatural and vulgar.

I remain your friend,  
In Jesus and Mary,  
Robert Ritchie  
Director, America Needs Fatima  
www.ANF.org

## Saint Paul film highlights Christian hope in the face of persecution

*Paul Apostle of Christ* portrays Christian persecution in ancient Rome a timely reminder that people around the world continue to suffer for their faith.

"I know about the Christian persecution that is happening to this very day. I want the world to know about the Coptic, the Chaldean, the Assyrian Christians who were murdered," Jim Caviezel, who plays Luke in the film, said. "Here we are, making a movie that's very nice, but right now there are people that are struggling and suffering," reflected T.J. Berden, one of the film's producers.

The film is dedicated to people who are persecuted for their faith. Berden told CNA that he hopes the film's dedication helps audiences to "remember that there are people right now going through this. Send up a prayer. Think about them. Offer something up."

"What we go through here for our faith, especially in the United States, pales in comparison to what people in the early Church went through and what people around the world go through in terms of persecution," said Rich Peluso, executive vice president of AFFIRM Films, a division of Sony Pictures Entertainment that develops faith-based and inspira-

tional films.

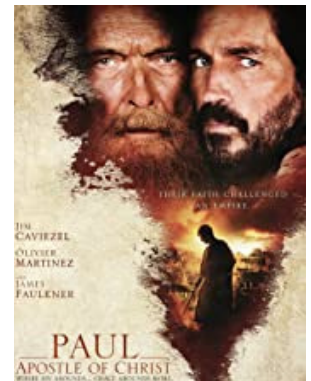
*Paul Apostle of Christ* is set during Emperor Nero's persecution of the Christian community in Rome. "People were being used as candles all over Rome and being burned alive, and yet he [St. Luke] was able to take a stand in the face of evil. He must have believed in the very words of Paul, 'to live is Christ, to die is gain,'" said Caviezel.

In the midst of this suffering, the film follows first-century couple Priscilla and Aquila as they wrestle with the question of whether the Christians should flee the city to protect their community or remain to be a witness to the Romans. This question, faced by persecuted Christian communities throughout the ages, has repeatedly captured the imagination of screenwriters and artists. In the 2010 film "Of Gods and Men," Cistercian monks take a vote as to whether or not they should stay in Algeria and risk martyrdom at the hands of Islamic fundamentalists.

Director and Screenwriter Andrew Hyatt told CNA that this decision is one of the authentic struggles highlighted in the film. Hyatt said that he sought to put Paul's writing into its historical context

through the film.

"Paul lived an experience. If he was writing anything, it was because someone needed to hear it and that was probably somebody



in his community. There was no idea of this Bible thing or someday billions of people will read this. It was more that it had to come out of a need, so I really wanted the dialogue and the Scripture to be weaved together in a way so that it felt like an authentic thing," he said.

"Saint Paul definitely teaches an entire life of conversion, an entire life of proclamation, an entire life of love and dedication to our Lord Jesus Christ and to do everything possible to proclaim Christ's love to the rest of the world," said Bishop Edward Burns at his Dallas diocese.

# Knights Participate in Our Lady of Fatima

On Saturday, October 19, 2020, our council helped to celebrate Our Lady of Fatima at the 9 a.m. Mass. They also stayed to say the Rosary after Mass. Following is an abbreviated account of the miracle.

In the spring and summer of 1916, three children who were herding sheep in Fatima, Portugal, said they were visited three times by an angel who identified himself of the Angel of Peace and Guardian Angel of Portugal. He taught them prayers, to make sacrifices, and to spend time in adoration of the Lord, they said.

The spring of the following year, 1917, they reported apparitions of the Virgin Mary whom they described as "...more brilliant than the sun." They said she told them, among other things, that on October 13 the Lady would reveal her identity and perform a miracle "...so that all may believe."

Newspapers reported the prophecies, and many pilgrims began visiting the area in anticipation of what might happen. The events of 13 October became known as the Miracle of the Sun. The woman wore a white mantle edged with gold and held a rosary in her hand. She asked them to devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to pray "...the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and an end to the war." While the children had never told anyone about seeing the angel, one of them—Jacinta—told her family about seeing the brightly lit woman. Lucia, another child, had earlier said that the three should keep this experience private. However, Jacinta's disbelieving mother told neighbors about it as a joke, and within a day the whole village knew of the children's vision.

The children said the woman told them to return to where they had encountered her. Lucia's mother sought counsel from the parish priest who suggested she allow them to go. That appearance occurred on June 13. On this occasion the lady revealed that Francisco and Jacinta would be taken to Heaven soon, but Lucia would live longer in order to spread her message and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

In the following months, thousands of people flocked to Fátima, drawn by reports of visions and miracles. The three children claimed to have seen

the Blessed Virgin Mary in a total of six apparitions between May 13 and 13 October 1917.

After some newspapers reported that the Virgin Mary had promised a miracle for the last of her apparitions on October 13, a huge crowd—possibly between 30,000 and 100,000, including reporters and photographers—gathered at Cova da Iria. What happened then became known as the "Miracle of the Sun."

According to accounts, after a period of rain, the dark clouds broke and the sun appeared as an opaque, spinning disc in the sky. It was said to be significantly duller than normal and to cast multicolored lights across the landscape, the people, and the surrounding clouds. The sun was then reported to have careened towards the Earth before zig-zagging back to its normal position. Witnesses reported that their previously wet clothes became "...suddenly and completely dry, as well as the wet and muddy ground that had been previously soaked because of the rain that had been falling."

Not all witnesses reported seeing the Sun "dance". Some people only saw



Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto.

the radiant colors, and others, including some believers, saw nothing at all. The only known picture of the Sun taken during the event does not show anything unusual. No unusual phenomenon of the Sun was observed by scientists at the time. A number of theologians, scientists, and skeptics have offered alternative explanations that include psychological suggestibility of the witnesses, temporary retinal distortion caused by staring at the intense light of the Sun, and optical effects caused by natural meteorological phenomena.



Sir Knight Brian Higgins, Manny Barros, Rick Hendrickson, Jim Cullinan and Paul Lee leave the sanctuary after putting the Blessed Mother on the altar.

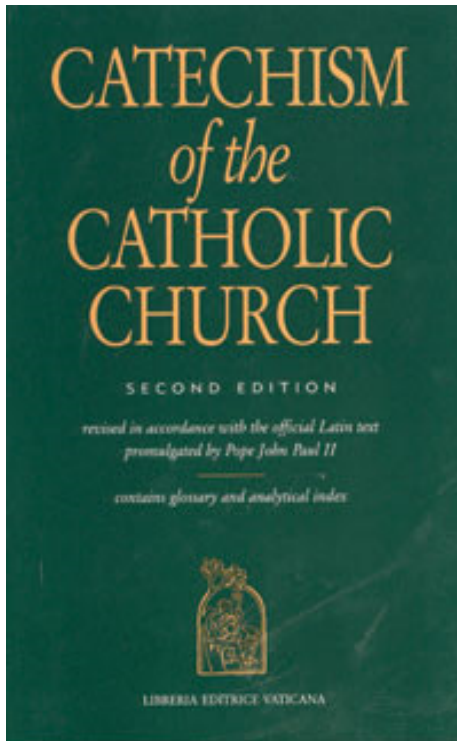
(See more pictures on the next page)



# MORE PICTURES OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA



Sir Knights Brian Higgins (left) and Bob Anderson (right) wear their regalia as they honor Our Mother of Fatima.  
The Knights of Columbus Council 17249.....Page 9



## What Does the Catechism Say about Angels?

326 Heaven refers to the saints and the “place” of the spiritual creatures, the angels who surround God.

328 The existence of spiritual creatures that scripture usually calls angels is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of tradition.

329 Angels are servants and messengers of God.

330 As purely spiritual creatures, they have intelligence and will: they are personal and immortal creatures

332 Angels have been present since creation and throughout the history of salvation. They closed the earthly paradise, protected Lot, saved Hagar and her child, stayed Abraham’s hand, announced births and callings, and assisted the prophets, just to cite a few examples.

335 In the “Churbic Hymn” of the Byzantine Liturgy, the church celebrates certain guardian angels: St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael.

336 From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd, leading him to life. Already here on earth, the Christian life shares by faith the blessed company of angels and men united in God.