



Star of the Stormy Sea

Quarterly Newsletter of the Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success Spring 2016

'Star of the Stormy Sea of my mortal life, May your light shine upon me so that I do not stray from the path that leads me to heaven.'

(Taken from "The Testament of Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres" January 16th, 1635)

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April 20th, 2016 Feast day of La Dolorosa, Our Lady of Quito, Ecuador

Dear Friends of the Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success,

On the morning of **April 17th, 2015**, we received word that Ecuador had been hit by a massive 7.8 earthquake that hit many cities along the coast. The epicenter, **Pedernales**, home to 40,000 people, was flattened to the ground with 60% of the structures gone. The count, as of today, is 246 dead and 2547 injured. There have been some 163 aftershocks, mainly in the Pedernales area. A state of emergency was declared in six provinces of Ecuador. Quito, which lies about 120 miles southeast of Pedernales, felt this intense quake. It is interesting to note that while thousands of Ecuadoreans lost their homes and some even their lives during this earthquake, the **Ecuadorian President, Correa**, was at the **Vatican** attending a conference where **Bernie Sanders** addressed "immoral and unsustainable" wealth inequality and poverty. **Bolivian President, Evo Morales**, who is renowned for his anti-imperialist, socialist rhetoric, was also in attendance. Was Heaven trying to tell Ecuador something?



La Dolorosa, Quito, Ecuador

Inquiring on the sisters' safety after the quake, the Mother Abbess replied: **"...this very strong earthquake occurred while we were participating in the Mass. Thank God all is well in our monastery. In reality, the Blessed Mother of Good Success is the mistress of this holy house and she protects Her integrity and our lives. Thank you for your concern and your prayers."** And to all who have prayed for them and all of the suffering victims of the earthquake during this time, Mother added: **"Dios les pague!" (May God reward you!)**

This event called to mind another earthquake whose **110th anniversary** was on **April 18th**-the **San Francisco earthquake** which was also **7.8** in intensity, but one that killed 3,000 people, destroyed 25,000 buildings on 490 city blocks and left 300,000 of the 410,000 city's inhabitants - homeless. It was on this very topic of the San Francisco earthquake that on **April 20th, 1906**, a Jesuit priest in a boys' boarding school titled: **St Gabriel** in Quito chose to speak to the boys at dinner. The priest talked about **the suddenness of the tragic event and how thousands died from one minute to the next**. Afterwards, during a conversation amongst the boys revolving around this topic and how they would want to be in the state of grace and receive Communion before such an event, a supernatural prodigy took place.

It was in front of this very image, shown above, that this talk and chatter occurred. It is the miraculous image of **"La Dolorosa" [The Holy Virgin of Sorrows] in Quito, Ecuador**. It is a French oleograph bought from a street merchant depicting Our Lady with seven swords in her heart - representing her seven sorrows. She is shown holding the nails of Her Son's Passion. It hung on the wall of that boys' school cafeteria. As in many of Our Lady's numerous earthly manifestations, she chooses to reveal herself to the pure and innocent souls of children, so it was that she once again chose three of the youngest of the thirty-six boys attending St. Gabriel's to first notice Her presence there amongst them. These 3 boys had recently received their 1st Holy Communion that past Thursday which happened to be Holy Thursday. **The manifestation occurred on April 20th, Easter Friday. And so these boys glanced at this image and noticed that the eyelids of the Blessed and Most Sorrowful Mother began to open and close.** One of them immediately began

to recite the Our Father and Hail Mary in front of the image. The other two went to call their friends to see this wonder. In the end, all thirty-six boys together with Father Andrew Roesch, witnessed the miracle of this famous picture.

The same miracle of becoming animated [**at times even with even more changes of expression and skin color**] occurred several times after this, once more in favor of the boys at the school, but this time in the chapel, to which the picture had been taken. Subsequently, the canonical ecclesiastical authorities, and the Vicar General ordered the picture to be transferred in procession from the College to the Church of the Jesuit Fathers. At the church the prodigy was repeated several times before the crowds gathered there. Again and again the wonder repeated itself. At one time for three consecutive days. At Riobamba, the same wonder was witnessed before a reproduction of the picture by more than twenty persons, among whom was the president of the municipality. Many, many conversions took place. These occurrences happened at time when the Church was being terribly persecuted by **Freemasonry that was advocating a hostile secularism from Catholic education and they focused on the Jesuits**. Catholic Ecuadoreans saw in the Miracle of Dolorosa, **Our Lady's concern for the future of Ecuadorian children and youth** that awakened in them, throughout the country, a strong momentum of religiosity. In 1954, **the 50th anniversary of the first miracle**, His Holiness **Pope Pius XII** ordered the Canonical Coronation of the **miraculous image of Our Sorrowful Mother, declaring her Queen of the Catholic Education in Ecuador**.

Prayer to La Dolorosa del Colegio [the Sorrowful Mother of the College] : Oh, Sorrowful Mother! by thy tears, by the crown of thorns, by the nails that Thou carries in Thy hands, by the swords of sorrow with which our sins transpierced Thy Heart, turn Thy eyes of mercy towards us and obtain from thy Most Holy Son intense sorrow for our sins and lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity. Oh, Sorrowful Mother! Protect the holy Church, Protect our country, Protect the youth, Protect the children. Amen.

On the topic of the 100th Anniversary of the Angel of Peace, Fatima and Chiesa viva...

Enclosed you will find the latest **Chiesa viva # 486** translated into English. It contains: **Fr. Luigi Villa's last editorial**, his **Rosary Crusade article of 2009** and then **Dr. Adessa's article on the topic of Fr. Villa and Card. Siri**. Before reading this edition we wish you to reflect on the messages of Our Lady. As well, let us recall and commemorate the **100th anniversary of the Apparitions of the Angel of Peace** to the Fatima children, precursor of Our Lady. In all of these apparitions of both the Angel and Our Lady, **the theme was always not only prayer, but penance**. Once, The Angel actually appeared and asked the children what they were doing, as if to scold them for their idleness during the hot summer months. If these dear little ones, who were chosen by Heaven, were guilty of such things, how much more are we? On the heels of this anniversary of the Angel of Peace, we will find ourselves at the 100th anniversary of Fatima.

As Our Lady of Fatima repeated the theme throughout the 6 months, we would do well to follow her advice:

- **May 13th, 1917:** "Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you, as an act of reparation and in supplication for the conversion of sinners? You are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort."
- **June 13th, 1917:** "I want you to continue saying the Rosary every day. And after each one of the mysteries, my children, I want you to pray in this way: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins and save us from the fire of hell. **Lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need...**"
- **July 13, 1917:** 'You have seen Hell, where the souls of poor sinners go. **To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart**. If people do what I am going to tell you, **many souls will be saved and there will be peace...**'"
- **August 19th:** Pray, pray a great deal, and make sacrifices for sinners, for many souls go to hell, because they have no one to pray and make sacrifices for them."
- **September 13th, 1917:** "Continue the Rosary, my children. Say it every day that the war may end.... **God is pleased with your sacrifices...**"
- **October 13th, 1917:** "I want you to continue saying the Rosary every day... **People must amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins. They must not offend our Lord any more, for He is already too much offended!** "

In conclusion, with all of our spiritual endeavors, one would do well to remember the mission Our Lady of Fatima gave to us. She reminded us ever so gently yet solemnly **to not only pray but to make sacrifices to obtain our requests for one without the other is fruitless!** And should we not be all consumed with this mission as the children of Fatima were? Our Lord warned us thru Sr. Lucia about the failure to heed **His request of the collegial consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of His Mother:** "Make it known to My ministers, given that they follow the example of the King of France in delaying the execution of My command, they will follow him into misfortune. It is never too late to have recourse to Jesus and Mary.' And it was exactly one hundred years to the day of Our Lord's request to St. Margaret Mary that the King of Frances was deposed! Despite the appearance of our grim future, remember these optimistic words of Our Lady of Fatima: "In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph"