

Servants of Jesus and Mary

Fatima Center

17000 State Route 30, Constable, New York 12926
(518) 483-8260 • www.sjmfatimacrusade.com

THE IMMINENT GREAT CHASTISEMENT CATHOLIC PROPHECY – NOW IS THE TIME

From the writings of Father Paul Kramer, B.Ph., S.T.B., M.Div., S.T.L. (Cand.)

At Fatima, the Mother of God revealed what must be done in order to obtain the conversion of Russia and world peace. What the prophetic revelations of Fatima make plain is that the Great Chastisement, foretold by the prophets and the Apostles in Sacred Scripture and announced through the ages by the Saints, is now at hand – it is about to take place unless sinful humanity repents, humbles itself and returns to God in faithful obedience.

It is such chastisements as these that constitute part of the Third Secret that Our Lady revealed to the children at Fatima – these things will take place if Her requests are not obeyed. When, according to reliable eyewitness reports, Pope John Paul II spoke about the "Third Secret of Fatima" in Fulda, he revealed a portion of it: "...the oceans will flood whole areas of the earth, and from one moment to the next, millions of people will perish..."

Cardinal Ratzinger (later to become Pope Benedict XVI), on November 11, 1984, stated in an interview that he had read the Secret and that "The things contained in this 'Third Secret' correspond to what has been announced in Scripture and has been said again and again in many other Marian apparitions."

In the apparition of the Blessed Virgin at La Salette (Sept. 19, 1846) Our Lady said to Melanie:

"God will strike in an unprecedented way. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth! God will exhaust His wrath upon them, and no one will be able to escape so many afflictions together..."

"All the civil governments will have one and the same plan, which will be to abolish and do away with every religious principle, to make way for materialism, atheism, spiritualism, and vice of all kinds..."

"Everywhere there will be extraordinary wonders, as the true faith has faded and false light brightens the people. Woe to the Princes of the Church who think only of piling riches

upon riches to protect their authority and dominate with pride... The [true] Vicar of My Son will suffer a great deal, because for a while the Church will yield to a large persecution, a time of darkness and the Church will witness a frightful crisis."

In addition to these temporal chastisements, there will be a great spiritual chastisement. The already published part of the Fatima Secret concludes with the words: "In Portugal, the dogma of the faith will always be preserved..." At this point of the message, Our Lady shifts from temporal to spiritual matters. Cardinal Ratzinger stated that the "Third Secret" refers to "the dangers threatening the faith and the life of the Christian, and therefore, of the world." Similarly, on September 10, 1984, Bishop Cosmo do Amaral, Bishop of Leiria-Fatima, stated in a conference at the Technical University of Vienna that the content of the "Third Secret" concerns our faith - "the loss of faith."

In the apparition of Our Lady of Good Success, which took place on Feb. 2, 1634, the Mother of God revealed to Mother Marianna de Jesus Torres:

"... at the end of the 19th century and into the 20th century, various heresies will be propagated... As these heresies spread and dominate, the precious light of Faith will be extinguished in souls by the almost total corruption of customs. During this period, there will be great physical and moral calamities, both public and private. The small number of souls who, hidden, will preserve the treasure of the Faith and virtues will suffer a cruel, unspeakable and prolonged martyrdom. Many of them will succumb to death from the violence of their sufferings, and those who sacrifice themselves for the Church and their country will be counted as martyrs. In order to free men from bondage to these heresies, those whom the merciful love of My Holy Son has designated to effect the restoration will need great strength of

will, constancy, valor and confidence in God... there will be occasions where all will seem to be lost and paralyzed.

"... the Masonic sects, having infiltrated all the social classes, would subtly introduce its teaching into domestic ambiances in order to corrupt the children... evil will invade childhood innocence. In this way, vocations to the priesthood will be lost, resulting in a true calamity... Priests will become careless in their sacred duties. Lacking the divine compass, they will stray from the road traced by God for the priestly ministry. How the Church will suffer during this dark night! **Lacking a prelate and father to guide them with paternal love, gentleness, strength, wisdom and prudence, many priests will lose their spirit, placing their souls in great danger.**

"... In order to dissipate this black cloud which impedes the Church from enjoying the clear day of liberty, there will be a formidable and frightful war... This night will be most horrible, for, humanly speaking, evil will seem to triumph.

"This, however, will mark the arrival of My hour, when I, in a marvelous way, will dethrone the proud and cursed satan, trampling him under My feet and fettering him in the infernal abyss. Thus, the Church... will be finally free of his cruel tyranny."

As Holy Scripture and the prophets remind us, those faithful to Holy Mother Church are not forgotten. The hour of triumph, as foretold in the Message of Fatima is promised. Remember, "Only She (the Immaculate Heart of Mary) can help you." We must all continue to use whatever means we have at our disposal to assist in bringing about the Consecration of Russia as Our Lady of Fatima commanded.

TIME TO PRAY

Modern man is like a squirrel on a revolving wheel. We're just going, going, going. We barely have time to do the work we are supposed to do. Obligations proliferate. The great Alexander Solzhenitsyn said that we must jump off the wheel if we are to return to a sane life. And I am very pleased to say, I jumped off the wheel.

I retired on January 2 (2008) and what I've discovered astonishes me. I live in a beautiful place. I didn't know it. I am now able to take walks and to get to know the trees and the birds. God gave us nature to delight us, and nature is healing. But if we don't have time to look at nature, it cannot heal us.

I'm spending more time listening to good music. I found a book written by an old musicologist in 1948, the year I was born. It is an analysis of the Mozart piano concertos for the average listener. I am getting to know them one at a time. There are 27 concertos. I suspect they will last me most of the rest of my life.

And there is the sheer joy of finally having time to pray. Most of us have to squeeze our prayer life in between these endless activities or to pray while we are rushing here or there, or when we get up in the morning before we race off somewhere, or late at night when we find ourselves falling asleep halfway through our prayer, not because we mean to insult Our Lord, but because we are exhausted. And I realize now I should have spent more of my life jettisoning this and that activity, or not worrying

about certain things.

So, this old squirrel gives you one piece of advice: jump off that wheel. It is madness. And you never go anywhere. The wheel just goes round and round, and the faster you run, the faster the wheel goes, and the faster you get nowhere at all.

Perhaps the greatest joy since my retirement is that most days, I have time to say all fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary in a settled, quiet place. You'll notice that this beautiful statue (Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima) shows Our Lady with the Rosary in Her hands and the Scapular. And Our Lady told us long ago – we got the message through St. Louis de Montfort – that the time will come when the faithful will be left with the Rosary and the Scapular.

Where will everything else go? We are beginning to see how certain aspects of Faith that lifelong Catholics took for granted are disappearing, or becoming harder to find. At the same time, Our Lady said that She would one day help save the world through the Rosary and the Scapular. These will be the means by which Her Immaculate Heart will triumph. That is a great consolation. We know that day of triumph will come.

But how do we get there? One way is by clinging to the Rosary and understanding the promises of the Rosary. We know that the Rosary is a great aid to salvation. Those who pray Her Rosary regularly as She requested, increase their chances of going to Heaven.

Now we can never presume. Presumption is a sin. And the Saints never announced they were going to Heaven. In all humility, they were willing to say they hoped for Heaven, which is the hope we all must have.

Saint Teresa of Avila was shown the vision of the place reserved for her in hell. We all have a spot reserved for us down there. Whether we do there is our choice. So, we don't presume we are going to Heaven. We don't despair that we are going to hell. We hope and pray the Rosary.

Michelangelo's "Last Judgment," that great painting behind the altar in the Sistine Chapel, is so filled with motion and life that it is hard for the eye to see it all. One of my favorite parts of this enormous painting is a great angel on a little cloud. The angel has a Rosary, and there are two souls clinging to the Rosary that this great angel is lifting towards Heaven.

It's beautiful: two souls being hoisted to Heaven clinging to the Rosary. When I pray the Rosary now, that is part of the image I try to keep in mind. I am going to hang onto that Rosary and hope that through the grace of God, and His angels, and the Blessed Mother, I'll be hauled up there in spite of the weight of the sins of my whole life, not to mention my flesh pulling me towards what's below.

In the next Issue (Part II)

Dr. White explains the context of the Joyful and Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.



Detail from Michelangelo's "Last Judgment"

Dr. David Allen White was a friend of Father Gruner's and a sought-after speaker at our Fatima Conferences. A lover of Shakespeare, a respected author on the Catholic Faith; Dr. White shares with us his poetic and in-depth treatise on prayer and the Most Holy Rosary. His thoughts were so inspiring, it would not do it justice to simply select excerpts for this Newsletter, thus we will print it in its entirety in a three-part series. Although this transcript was taken from a speech at our Cleveland, Ohio Conference in 2009, Dr. White's poetic and in-depth presentation of Catholic truth transcends time – truth is infinite.

A VICTIM SOUL FOR OUR LADY

By **Ellen Montgomery**

with excerpts from Saint Bernadette Soubirous by **Abbe Francois Trochu**



"I do not promise to make you happy in this world, but in the next."

These prophetic words, spoken to Bernadette Soubirous by the

Blessed Virgin Mary, would play out in unimaginable ways following Our Lady of Lourdes apparition to her "little confidente" (as she affectionately referred to Bernadette) in 1858.

The Initial Apparitions

Thursday, February 11, 1858, the Soubirous family was in need of firewood in their damp and cold habitation. Bernadette, her sister Toinette and a classmate, Jeanne set out for Massabielle a place that would forever change the life of the soon to be seer of the Immaculate Conception, better known as Our Lady of Lourdes. This day would be the beginning of a series of 18 apparitions.

Bernadette, who had been left by her sister and friend on the opposite side of a canal, was anxious to join them to collect branches and bones (bones were a source of financial gain). As she took off her stockings, she heard the sound of wind and looking up saw a girl in white who greeted her with a slight bow of the head; and then stretched out her arms slightly from her body as she opened her hands. Over her right arm hung a Rosary. After moments of normal fear, Bernadette took out her Rosary as did the girl she saw in the grotto, but only Bernadette prayed while the beautiful girl just moved her fingers over the beads without moving her lips. When the Rosary was finished, the girl bowed and smiled and retired within the niche of the grotto

and disappeared. Upon further recollection, Bernadette did see the girl bow her head at the Gloria Patria and move her lips to recite this prayer, surely an early indication that this was the Mother of God having no need to recite the other prayers of the Rosary.

Returning home that day would prove a return to normalcy. After Toinette related Bernadette's vision to her mother, she immediately thought they were childish tales and proceeded to strike both girls with the rod she used for spreading the blankets. Toinette blamed Bernadette for the punishment. And thus, after a vision of Paradise, the poor little 'dungeon' girl had dropped down to earth again.

Owing to Bernadette's child like demeanor she was anxious to relate her vision to the sisters at the school she attended. Sister Damien admonished her to refrain from talking about what she had seen saying: "My dear little Bernadette don't talk about it; they'll make fun of you." And sure, to her word, the chemist's daughter, Sophie, aged nine, proved the most vicious among the opposition; she 'greeted Bernadette's story with a slap on the face.'

From this point on, Bernadette would be maligned, hounded and instructed to stay away from Massabielle. Even the good sisters after the third apparition on February 19th vainly taunted her with, "Ask the Lady, then, to help you learn your Catechism." To which Bernadette offered only polite silence and a sad smile.

Aunt Basile, sister of Bernadette's mother, was another matter. She scolded Bernadette, "People are talking a lot about you; all sorts of things are being said. You mustn't go there anymore!" Bernadette said their remarks didn't bother her and thus she turned her aunt's attitude into acceptance and offered for her to join her at the grotto the next morning.

The ninth apparition would prove very disconcerting to the assembled crowd upon seeing Bernadette dig in the dirt and drink muddy water as she was commanded by Our Lady. "This would prove to be the never-failing spring that was going to be revealed by her timid fingers but was not actually created that very minute by a miracle of the Almighty, none the less its discovery was a divine prodigy."

When Bernadette's face was visible again, various exclamations broke out from the crowd. "Everyone began to say: 'She is out of her mind!' and with increasing disappointment the cry 'She's mad!' which grew louder upon seeing her pluck a handful of a weed and proceed to eat of it. People left that day ashamed to have ever come to Massabielle, but if they had lingered longer, they would have seen the miraculous spring grow in size.

Stepping back to the eighth apparition where Our Lady exhorted Bernadette with these words: "Penance, penance, penance!" ties in perfectly with the events of the ninth. Having to crawl on her knees, drink muddy water which dirtied her face, chew a wild plant which had a repulsive taste and to crown all, listen to the hostile shouts... in this way the messenger of the apparition was beginning to put into practice her austere cry of the eighth: "Penance, penance...!"

To be continued....





ST. JOSEPH

By **Ellen Montgomery** with research from *Lives of the Saints*
edited by **Rev. Hugo Hoever, S.O. Cist., Ph.D.**;
Saint Joseph the Family Saint by **Divine Word Publications**

It is hard to imagine that the head of the Holy Family, St. Joseph, is so little known. There are

countless volumes on Our Divine Savior and His Blessed Mother, but very little mention, even in Scripture, on St. Joseph. Despite this brevity, he has been given many titles and his lineage attests to the honor that should be ascribed to the foster father of Jesus.

St. Joseph, the pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of our Blessed Lord, was descended from the royal house of David. Despite his obscure life as a village carpenter, he was chosen by God, and Scripture tells us that he was just, pure, gentle, prudent and a lover of holy silence. Above all, this humble guardian of the Child Jesus was unfailingly obedient to the divine will.

After the Mother of God, not one of the offspring of men was ever so endowed and graced with natural and supernatural virtues as was St. Joseph, her spouse. He exemplifies a true example of a Christian; pure of heart, chaste, humble, patient, and gentle yet graced with fortitude and manliness becoming his position as the protector of Jesus and Mary.

Poor in worldly possessions and honors, he was endowed with the nobility and beauty of holiness. On December 8, 1870, the Vicar of Christ, Pope Pius IX solemnly proclaimed St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, as the Patron of the Universal Church and from that time his feast has been celebrated on March 19th as a feast of high rank. In fact, fervent devotion in the East, in the country of Malta, has been a day of remembrance since the 10th century. As well, in most regions of Spain, Saint Joseph's feast day is a public holiday.

St. Joseph, as the Patron and Protector

of the Universal Church, from his exalted place in heaven watches over and protects the Church Militant on earth. His patronage extends over the Mystical Body of Christ, over the Christian family, the Christian school, and all individuals who appeal to his patronage and intercession, especially in the hour of death; for he who, when dying, received the charity and affection of his foster Son, Jesus, and his Virgin spouse, Mary, surely can be trusted to obtain for poor sinners the mercy of God and the grace of a peaceful and holy death. Untold millions have invoked St. Joseph as the patron of a happy death.

Truly, volumes could be written on the foster father of Christ, St. Joseph, but he chose to be silent to teach us to turn to Jesus and Mary and through them learn of his personal sanctity and the way to obtain heaven.



*St. Margaret Clitherow
(St. Margaret of York) 1556-1586*

Secular Saints

By *Ellen Montgomery*
with research from *Secular Saints* by *Joan Carrol Cruz*

Queen Elizabeth of England enacted laws in the 1570's against Catholics, initially imposing fines and as time went on the punishment of death. Margaret Clitherow a married Englishwoman of the time was raised Protestant, but within several years after her marriage to John Clitherow and bearing him two sons and a daughter she "found no substance, truth nor Christian comfort in the ministers of the church of England, nor in their doctrine itself, and learning also that many priests and lay people suffered for the defense of the ancient Catholic Faith she readily became a Catholic."

One would think that surely Margaret, the mother of three and the wife of an unwavering Protestant, that she would abandon all thought of becoming a Catholic in the face of possible fines and or even death. But Margaret was shrewd in the practice of her Faith. True, her husband, who loved her dearly and did not object to his wife's conversion, suffered subsequent fines when Margaret was missing from the Protestant services, and even endured her absence from the home when arrested repeatedly between 1577 and 1584. It was during these imprisonments that Margaret learned to read and upon release and returning home she developed habits of prayer and devotion and the practice of fasting four times a week.

Eventually Margaret arranged for Catholics of the area to attend Holy Mass. Her biographer, Father John Mush wrote of her that,

She had prepared two chambers, the one adjoining to her own house, whereunto she might have resorted any time, without sight and knowledge of any neighbors...The other was a little distant from her own house, secret and unknown to any but to such as she knew to be both faithful and discreet...

Despite these measures to conceal the practice of her Faith and the priests who would frequent her home to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, when her son Henry went to Douai, in France, to receive a Catholic Education at the seminary, this now took on public notice. Sending a son or daughter outside the Kingdom to receive a Catholic education was considered a crime. On March 12, 1586, two sheriffs came to the Clitherow home and discovering Margaret's secret hiding place they imprisoned her in the Castle.

Try as he might, the judge could not convince Margaret to admit her guilt, and to his dismay she replied, "Having made no offense, I need no trial." She repeatedly rejected a trial and steadfastly refused to acknowledge the Protestant church of Queen Elizabeth. The Council was then forced to pronounce the sentence which English law decreed – that she should be pressed to death.

On March 25, 1586, the Feast of the Annunciation, at eight in the morning, Margaret was led to the place of martyrdom. "All marveled to see her joyful, smiling countenance." Arriving at the place, she knelt down and with a strong voice she prayed for the Pope, cardinals, clergy, Christian princes and especially for Queen Elizabeth, that God would return her to the Faith and save her soul.

Margaret was placed on a sharp stone, arms extended and bound to posts, a slab of wood laid over her and weights dropped upon it as her bones broke at every additional weight that was placed upon her. Her last words were: "Jesu, Jesu, Jesu, have mercy upon me." Margaret was only 30 at the time of her death. On October 25, 1970, she was declared a saint by Pope Paul VI before a crowd of fifty thousand in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome. Her home itself, located at No. 35 The Shambles, is now a chapel in her honor and where services are held every Saturday.



Servants of Jesus and Mary, Fatima Center

17000 State Route 30, Constable, NY 12926

110 Park Street, Malone, NY 12953

Phone: 518-483-8260 Toll Free: 1-800-369-0258 Web Address: smtatimacrusede.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 1 st Sunday of Lent Ss. Perpetua & Felicity	7 St. Thomas Aquinas Day of Fast	8 St. John of God Day of Fast	9 St. Frances of Rome Day of Fast & Ember Day	10 Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste Day of Fast	11 Ember Day Day of Fast & Abstinence St. Casimir, St. Lucius I	12 St. Gregory the Great Ember Day Day of Fast
13 2 nd Sunday of Lent	14 Ferial Day Day of Fast	15 Ferial Day Day of Fast	16 Ferial Day Day of Fast	17 St. Patrick Day of Fast	18 St. Cyril of Jerusalem Day of Fast & Abstinence	19 St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Day of Fast
20 3 rd Sunday of Lent	21 St. Benedict Day of Fast	22 St. Isidore the Farmer Day of Fast	23 Ferial Day Day of Fast	24 St. Gabriel the Archangel Day of Fast	25 Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Day of Fast & Abstinence	26 Ferial Day Day of Fast
27 4 th Sunday of Lent: Laetare St. John Damascene	28 St. John Capistran Day of Fast	29 Ferial Day Day of Fast	30 Ferial Day Day of Fast	31 Ferial Day Day of Fast		

MARCH 2022

THE MONTH OF ST. JOSEPH