

# Linking Our Lady of Fatima and the Holy Face

By Fr. Lawrence Carney



## Childlike Simplicity

The parables of Jesus were only understood by those who were generous, humble, and above all, charitable of heart. The Pharisees and Scribes had inordinate love of knowledge which only inflated their pride. Today the secular elites, idolaters, and traitors display similar sentiments by claiming that God is dead and that they are gaining godlike powers. But Jesus warned us to be like children: *“Amen I say to you, unless you be converted, and become as little as children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.”*<sup>1</sup> Those who follow private revelation with an ordinate obedience<sup>2</sup> may build on the faith which they have learned from their catechism which ought to give them certain virtues and gifts to understand the Providence behind the current crisis. Thus those who follow the Message of Our Lady of Fatima and see the correlations to the revelations of Sister Marie de St. Pierre and the devotion according to the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face, ought to begin to gain much wisdom and see the world crisis as God sees it.

### What Is the Connection of the Two Devotions?

May 13, 1917 was the date on which Our Lady of Fatima began to give messages to the three children about souls falling into hell,<sup>3</sup> a vision of hell, and a warning of a global cataclysm such as the world has not seen since the Great Flood. *Why did She choose May 13?* Perhaps there are many reasons, but She may be pointing to a devotion that was almost lost to oblivion until the past few years. Jesus told Sister Marie de St. Pierre not only that He wanted an army to be composed of valiant soldiers who would honor His Face like Veronica, but that this work would be attacked. “Satan will do all in his power to crush this work of reparation.”<sup>4</sup> Sister Marie went on to explain, “His aim is its annihilation, as Our Lord made known to me, but his efforts will be fruitless.”<sup>5</sup> In spite of the devil’s efforts, the Holy Face will triumph and the angels will aid in this victory. This devotion was to have the Holy Face as its object in order to do battle against our foes, to turn their faces back to God in *conversion*, and to prepare us for the Beatific Vision in which we shall see God face to face.

It was on May 13, 608, that Pope Boniface IV consecrated the old Pantheon, which had been built by Agrippa to Jupiter the Avenger, and later dedicated to the Olympic deities.<sup>6</sup> He purified this temple and christianized it by naming it after the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Martyrs. He had twenty-eight magnificently decorated carriages of saints’ relics delivered from the subterranean catacombs and placed them in the vanquished pagan edifice. Among these was the Veil of Veronica.

The holy Relic (the Veil) was exposed to the veneration of the faithful once a year, May 13, the anniversary of the first consecration of the church, as also in the days of calamity, to invoke the pardon and protection of God.<sup>7</sup>

Thus we have the connection. Paganism had its deities, Jupiter the Avenger and the lesser Olympic deities. But the Christ and His Way brought His Church and the ensuing Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Triumph of the Catholic Church. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the twelve-star general of the Christian troops, and Her one-star generals are the new “Olympians,” the athletes known as saints, showing the beautiful way along the royal road to Heaven.

It is also significant that the Relic of the Holy Face was exposed for veneration in times of calamity. So Heaven is telling us a parable today, that if you want a new breed of saints, bring out the Holy Face; if you want the triumph of the Church, pray the Chaplet of the Holy Face, which has that as its objective goal. It tells us that such a victory is only possible if we never separate the two Hearts, the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart. Sister Marie de St. Pierre said, "He told me to honor His Sacred Heart and also the Heart of His holy Mother, for these two Hearts were continually being wounded by blasphemy."<sup>8</sup>



Veil of Veronica

### What Is the Object of Devotion to the Holy Face?

Jesus spoke to Sister Marie de St. Pierre in an obscure Carmelite convent in Tours, France in the 1840's, giving her a simple message. **Blasphemy and profanation of Sundays and Holy Days are egregiously offensive to God the Father.** He then told Sister Marie the punishment that these crimes would bring upon mankind. God would not use the elements, but instead would send revolutionary men to subvert society. Jesus then named groups of these revolutionists, topping the list with Communists.

But with each curse there is a blessing, because in Divine Providence, God always allows an evil *only* in order that a greater good be accomplished. We have the evil revolution, but this adversity ought to stir up saints in these times to make reparation like Veronica did by breaking through the mob to wipe the Holy Face of Jesus. We render the same service to Our Lord today when we break through the mob of revolutionists who daily rob Jesus Christ of the majesty due to Him. Infiltrators and outside aggressors used as agents by the demons try to take away our Holy Roman Catholic Church. Jesus gives us a blueprint of how to escape from these thugs by performing this devotion as it is enshrined in the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face. In a word, the object of devotion to the Holy Face is **to make reparation**, to repair the relationship between God and our human family.

### What Are the Effects of Devotion to the Holy Face?

Devotion makes us tender toward certain aspects of God, His saints, or the Church. Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima encourages us to pray for poor sinners, to acquire a deep understanding of the Immaculate Heart through daily recitation of the Rosary, and to make reparation for the five blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart. Similarly, devotion to the Holy Face encourages us to make constant reparation, to give honor to the Holy Name of God, and to grow in virtues that will prepare us to expand our hearts in charity so that we will someday receive the reward of all rewards: the Beatific Vision, seeing God face to face.

When reading the Psalms, and coming across references to the Name or Face of God, I am struck to the core, and moved to draw more deeply into the mystery of the Godhead. We should all be disposed to such thoughts. Sister Marie de St. Pierre received several promises for those devoted to the Holy Face. Among these we find the following: "Those who by words, prayers, or writings defend My cause in the Work of Reparation, especially My priests, I will defend before My Father, and will give them My Kingdom."

Jesus said, "*My Kingdom is not of this world.*"<sup>9</sup> Those who are enrolled in and live this

devotion as it is intended, will experience even in their lifetime on earth many proofs of their privileged place in the Kingdom of Heaven.

### Why Should One Adopt This Devotion?

Blessed Pope Pius IX said, "*Reparation is destined to save society.*"<sup>10</sup> Just as the messages of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque were given to ward off the French Revolution, the messages given to Sister Marie de St. Pierre were given to ward off World Revolution, the revolution of Communists. Our Lord's revelations to her regarding Communism took place in 1847, just one year before Karl Marx's *Communist Manifesto* was published.

Venerable Leo Dupont, the 'Holy Man of Tours,' was a big supporter of Sister Marie de St. Pierre's revelations. He obtained a replica of the Veil of Veronica and burned a lamp before it night and day. Six thousand *certified* miracles were worked by his intercession and the oil of this lamp. This fact alone shows the cosmic proportions of the good which can be accomplished if enough souls enlist and live out the Devotion to the Holy Face. **To universally promote this devotion, Pope Leo XIII erected the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face in 1885.** The Archconfraternity remains headquartered in Tours, France and has associated confraternities throughout the world.

### How Does One Live Out This Devotion?

The Devotion to the Holy Face was actually designed for people who already have a large prayer life, as well as for those who are growing in prayer, and even for converts who are new to prayer, because it does not take up a lot of time. In my observation, Devotion to the Holy Face enhances one's devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary. It is the fulfillment of the French School, which had clients like St. Louis de Montfort and St. John Eudes to name a few. In short their motto was *ad Iesum per Mariam* ("to Jesus through Mary").

Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus – as given by Sister Marie de St. Pierre and approved as an Archconfraternity in 1885 by Pope Leo XIII – has a most beautiful complementarity with the devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; namely, in that the Blessed Virgin Mary crowns Her clients, Her slaves, Her repairers, and the devotees of Her Rosary and Her Fatima Message, with the grace to look upon the Face of Christ with the effect and gentleness of His Mother. When one who practices the Devotion to the Holy Face decides to enroll in the Confraternity of the Rosary, he or she receives special graces enabling him to pray the Rosary well.

A word to the wise: If you have not already done so, first enroll in the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary through the Dominicans living in your province. Second, enroll in the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face through the League of St. Martin. The form can be found at [www.martinians.org](http://www.martinians.org). When one is enrolled in the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face, one is expected to:

- 1.] Be inscribed on the register of the Oratory of the Holy Face;
- 2.] Receive the rule, with the certificate of admission;
- 3.] Recite every day, for the intentions of the Archconfraternity, in Latin or English, a *Pater Noster*, *Ave Maria*, *Gloria*, and the invocation: *Domine ostende Faciem tuam et salvi erimus*, (“Lord, show us Thy Face, and we shall be saved”);
- 4.] Wear a little effigy of the Holy Face, with a cross, a medal, or a scapular;
- 5.] Assist, as much as possible, at the monthly meetings;
- 6.] Propagate to the utmost of one’s power the devotion to the suffering Face of Our Lord.

In my observation, the Chaplet of the Holy Face is a powerful weapon in the arsenal of the Church Militant. It is like a mini-

exorcism because it invokes a verse from Psalm 67: *Arise, O Lord, and show us Thy Face, and let Thy enemies be defeated and let all that hate Thee fly before Thy Face.*<sup>11</sup> These are also the words used in the Minor Exorcism, approved by Pope Leo XIII, used by exorcists when they make a diagnostic examination of someone who is dealing with interference. St. Athanasius noted how devils hated this verse in Sacred Scripture the most. Our Lord asks us in this devotion to fight like little children hurling the instruments used to torture Him in His Passion at the enemy. This chaplet has as its chief aim, the Triumph of the Catholic Church.

### **What Are Some Concluding Remarks in Light of Current Events?**

Over the past four years, people have asked me what they ought to do in the face of the present seeming catastrophe. After a year and a half of prayer and reflection, my answer is: Be devoted to the Holy Face of Jesus. Ven.

### **THE LITTLE GOSPEL OF THE CIRCUMCISION is a little-known sacramental given by Heaven that emphasizes the power of the HOLY NAME OF JESUS!**

Our Lord gave this devotion to Sister Marie de Saint-Pierre, expressing His wish that His sheep be marked with His Holy Name by wearing the Gospel of the Circumcision (Luke 2:21), announcing to all nations that the Incarnate Word was called Jesus. He assured her that the Holy Name drives away demons, and all who place themselves under Its protection will receive great graces.

The Little Gospel Sachet looks like the square case depicted here. It contains a piece of paper on which is written:

- A) The Gospel of the Circumcision: *“At that time, after eight days were accomplished that the Child should be circumcised, His Name was called Jesus, which was called by the angel, before He was conceived in the womb” (Luke 2:21);*
- B) the initials of His Holy Name;
- C) a picture of the Holy Infant Jesus; and
- D) words recalling Our Lord’s victory over satan: *“When Jesus was named, then was satan disarmed!”*

This piece of paper is folded to fit inside the case along with a piece of palm blessed on Palm Sunday. The outside of the case, marked with a cross and the Sacred Heart, is worn in the same way as a medal.

To get yours, return the enclosed reply form or contact us using the information on page 31. **FREE OF CHARGE!** We only ask for a donation of \$8.00 to defray shipping costs.

**HONOR THE  
HOLY NAME  
OF JESUS  
AND DRIVE  
AWAY THE  
DEVIL!**



**LIMITED SUPPLY  
AVAILABLE!**

Leo DuPont, when asked what he thought of the *Communist Manifesto* when it came out in 1848, said that if the Communists have their way the whole world will be enslaved and all our churches closed. I think that he is a prophet for our times. But Heaven has equipped us for this epic battle. Since God has issued this scourge, it is He Who can lift it and give the remedial blessing. "If you walk in My precepts... you shall pursue your enemies and they shall fall before you."<sup>12</sup>

The wisdom of this devotion (not unlike devotion to Our Lady of Fatima) is that it gives its true clients peace. God will give these clients a wisdom that is not of this world, seeing events as God sees them. This is the time to merit and fervently ask, "O, Lord show us Thy Face and we shall be saved." St. Louis de Montfort said, "They shall carry on their shoulders the bloody standard of the Cross, the Crucifix in their right hand and the Rosary in their left, the sacred Names of Jesus and Mary on their hearts..."<sup>13</sup>

Imagine a vast army, one million mystical combatants joining under these two banners: the Holy Face of Jesus with His Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Would this not be the small force like Gideon's needed to reach the preordained amount prescribed by God to ensure the defeat of those wishing to enslave the world? O what a beautiful sight it will be to see the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart and the Triumph of the Church over the Worldwide Revolution!

What is the Triumph of the Church? What would it look like? King Josephat was greatly outnumbered by the vast army of Moabites and Ammonites, but he prayed a prayer like a golden arrow to wound the bosom of God. He had a Levite preach before the battle, encouraging the men to pray for God to fight this war for them. The king sent the singing men in the vanguard. They sang the mercies of God. They sang in a method of reparation for the blasphemy of the enemy. What happened? The enemy turned on each other. A house divided cannot stand. They commenced to fight a civil war among themselves. This was a type of the secular canons who chanted the psalms in the cathedrals of the world. Now they are long gone, but the Triumph of the Church

would see their return, and the enemies of the Church would turn on each other as long as that Christian vanguard remains on the front lines singing the praises of God. You may say, 'This will never happen.' But with confidence in prayer, any good, even the most improbable and miraculous, can happen. "With God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

Lastly, here are a few quick points. St. Thérèse of Lisieux enrolled in the Archconfraternity in its first year of existence, 1885! Members share in her graces.

St. Veronica broke through the mob to console the Face of Jesus. She is the female model of reparation. St. Dismas is the male version because he made reparation amidst all the blasphemies at the Cross. He recognized the Savior as He suffered on the Cross, having greater faith than even those who saw the glory of God. Jesus told him, "[T]his day thou shalt be with Me in paradise."<sup>14</sup>

One last note of interest includes the fact that some of the secular canons of the Cathedral of Tours were made the Priests of the Holy Face. In a word, this is one of the few devotions that has been promoted by the diocesan priesthood.

## THE GOLDEN ARROW PRAYER

*May the Most Holy, Most Sacred, Most Adorable, Most Mysterious and Unutterable Name of God be praised, blessed, loved, adored, and glorified in Heaven, on earth, and in the hells, by all God's creatures, and by the Sacred Heart of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Amen.*

### ENDNOTES:

- <sup>1</sup> Mt. 18:3.
- <sup>2</sup> Assent to the Deposit of Faith is required for salvation. The Deposit of Faith (which includes Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture) was closed upon the death of the last Apostle, St. John the Evangelist.
- <sup>3</sup> Just as the children of Fatima saw a vision of hell, Sr. Marie de St. Pierre received a similar revelation: "Another day, He presented to my view the multitude of souls who are daily falling into hell, and invited me in the most touching manner to fly to the rescue of these poor sinners." (Janvier, Fr. Desire, *Life of Sister Mary of St. Peter*, Tours, France: Priests of the Holy Face, 1884, p. 130.)
- <sup>4</sup> Scallan, Dorothy, *The Golden Arrow*, TAN Publishers, 1990, p. 125.
- <sup>5</sup> Janvier, p. 130.
- <sup>6</sup> *Veronica*, Thomas Richardson and Son, 1870, p. 19.
- <sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 21.
- <sup>8</sup> Scallan, p. 115.
- <sup>9</sup> Jn. 18:36.
- <sup>10</sup> Janvier, p. 338.
- <sup>11</sup> Ps. 67:2 (see also Num. 10:35).
- <sup>12</sup> Lev. 26:3, 7.
- <sup>13</sup> Montfort, St. Louis, *True Devotion*, no. 59.
- <sup>14</sup> Lk. 23:43.



**Father Lawrence Carney** was ordained for the Diocese of Wichita in 2007. For five years, he walked the streets of U.S. cities in cassock, carrying a Crucifix and a Rosary in each hand in an effort to bring souls to the Catholic Church. In 2014, he was appointed as chaplain of the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles. In 2017, he began the League of St. Martin, a pious association that prays for reverence, reparation, and reversion – the chief goals being enrollment in the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face and the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary. In 2022, continuing as chaplain of the Benedictine nuns and director of the League, he was appointed Apostolic Priest of Wichita, Kansas.