

# Foreword...

**J**esus, Our God and Savior, manifested the intentions of His Sacred Heart with absolute clarity. He taught us to pray for the coming of the kingdom of God on earth, and sent His disciples to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. And Mary, His and our Mother, reflects in Her Immaculate Heart, as in a perfect mirror, the same intentions.

“Do whatever He tells you,” She says to us. The Church did a good job in the first thousand years of its history. The first millennium in the life of the Church left the world far less pagan than it found it. But now that we approach the end of the second millennium, what account can the Church Militant offer for its apostolate? The world is far less Christian and far more pagan — more immoral — than it was in the year one thousand.

Christ could do all things without us, because as God, He is almighty; but this is not His manner in dealing with us; He wants His triumph to be through His Mystical Body — The Church. And whenever His Church is even partly responsible for one human being dying without receiving the full benefit of what He died for on the Cross, we add another disappointment to His Divine Agony and another wound to the Heart of His Mother.

This is unquestionably the meaning of Our Lady’s message in the Fatima apparitions, as the best students of these great heavenly events have concluded. This is also the purpose and the full meaning of the Doctrinal Crusade of Saint Benedict Center. We have always been convinced of the mystical unity of our Crusade with the message of Our Lady of Fatima, and are most happy to find, in the brilliant if concise account of Frère Michel de la Sainte Trinité, such a confirmation of the truth of this unity. We are confident that when the famous Third Secret of Fatima is eventually revealed, Father Feeney and the Crusade of Saint Benedict Center will be vindicated.

As we shall see in this little summary of the epoch of Fatima by Frère Michel, Our Lady has asked for two things: one from the hierarchy of the Church (the Pope and the Bishops in union with him), and one from all the faithful.

Of the Pope and the Bishops, Our Lady asked for the solemn consecration of

Russia to Her Immaculate Heart by a conspicuous act to be answered by Heaven with stupendous miracles, the greatest being the conversion of Russia to the One True Faith under the Pope. These miraculous events will force all nations to turn in awe toward that one Church *outside of which no one at all can be saved*.

Of the faithful, Our Lady asked for constant praying of the Rosary. Praying the Rosary brings showers of graces upon the earth. The Pope and the Bishops need these special graces in order to perform what has been asked of them.

The Pope and the Bishops in union with him constitute what is called the Magisterium of the Church. That simply means that they are the teacher or teachers of the way of salvation.

In today’s doctrinally-confused world, all of the persons of the Magisterium need the prayers of the whole Church if they are to execute their teaching mission properly. For to what purpose would God call all nations of the world to be disciples (students) if the teachers themselves are confused, or do not teach each lesson with clarity and uniformity, or prefer to keep their light under a bushel? *“For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound who shall prepare for the battle?”* (1 Cor., 14:8).”

If the Pope does not reveal the Third Secret, the people will not amend their lives and turn to God in prayer.

And if the faithful do not pray, the hierarchy will lack the graces needed to perform their duties properly, and to cooperate with the Pope in the consecration of Russia.

That is why, in a spirit of true Catholic obedience and true Catholic docility, we should support, encourage and, above all, challenge our leaders and teachers in the Church to honor the requests of Our Lady.

That is why, in imitation of the children of Fatima, we must pray for the Pope so that he may soon reveal the Third Secret of Fatima.

That is what the miracle of Fatima is all about and, in the final analysis,... that is what the Crusade of Saint Benedict Center is all about!

Faithfully, in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

*Brother Francis, M. I. C. M.*

# The Third Secret of Fatima



*The following article was originally given as a talk by Frère Michel de la Sainte Trinité (left) at the Vatican Symposium on Fatima, sponsored by the "International Fatima Rosary Crusade" on November 24, 1985. We reprint the talk given by Frère Michel with full permission from The Fatima Crusader.*

Since the Third Secret of Fatima has still not been officially revealed, it seems obvious at first sight that we can know nothing of its content. This, however, is only so in appearance. For if it is true that this vital secret remained absolutely impenetrable in 1917 when it was revealed by the Blessed Virgin to the three shepherd children of Aljustrel, or in 1944 when it was written down by Sister Lucy, or yet again in 1960 at the time when it was to be publicly revealed to the world by Pope John XXIII, that is no longer the case today. Indeed, for more than 40 years, a number of certain facts concerning it have become known. They form today an impressive mass of sure information from which the historian can precisely retrace its entire history and expose its essential content with a considerable degree of certitude. Such has been my double concern in writing my third volume of *The Whole Truth About Fatima*, which is completely devoted to the mystery of the Third Secret.

It is this minutely detailed demonstration that I shall attempt to present to you this evening while simplifying and summarizing much of it, for I must be brief. But I will tell you enough about it, I hope, to show you how important this final secret of Our Lady is; how it is at the very heart of the Message of Fatima, and finally why it is urgent for the good of the Church that it be revealed to the world according to the command of the Blessed Virgin.

## I – THE DRAMA OF THE THIRD SECRET

It was in July/August, 1941, in her third memoir, that Sister Lucy mentioned for the first time the division of the Secret of Fatima into three distinct parts. "The Secret is composed of three distinct matters," she writes, "and I shall disclose two of them." The first is the vision of hell and the designation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as the Supreme Remedy offered by God to humanity for the salvation of souls. "In order to save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart." The second is the great prophecy concerning a miraculous peace which God wishes to grant to the world through the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the practice of Communions of Reparation on the first Saturdays of the month. "If people heed My commands, Russia will be converted and the world will have peace." And there is also the announcement of terrible punishments if people persist in not obeying Her requests. As for the third part of the Secret, in 1941 Sister Lucy declares that for the moment she is not permitted to reveal it.

### The Writing Down of the Secret

The dramatic account of the writing down and the transmission of this vital Message begins in 1943. The hour of providence had then struck. Sister Lucy was living at that time in the convent of the Dorothean Sisters of Tuy, in Spain. In June, 1943, she suddenly fell gravely ill. Her condition was so alarming that Bishop da Silva, the

Bishop of Leiria, became worried. He feared that she would die before having revealed the Third Secret of Our Lady and he sensed that it would be the loss of an exceptional grace for the Church. Canon Galamba, the friend and advisor of the Bishop, then suggested to him an extremely judicious idea: that he at least ask Sister Lucy to write down, forthwith, the text of the Third Secret and then that she place it in an envelope sealed with wax, to be opened later.

On September 15, 1943, Bishop da Silva went, therefore, to Tuy and he asked Sister Lucy to write down the Secret "if she really wanted to." But the seer, undoubtedly under the impulse of the Holy Spirit, was not content with this vague order. She requested of her Bishop a written order, formal and perfectly clear — that is very important. The final Message of the Virgin of Fatima is, as previously were Her other requests, linked to the marvelous promises. It is an exceptional grace offered by God to our 20th Century in order to meet its most urgent needs. But again it is necessary that the pastors of the Church have sufficient *faith* and *docility* to the designs of Heaven in order to be instruments of this outpouring of grace that God wants to bestow upon the world through the sweet mediation of His Immaculate Mother. In 1943, God desired that it be the Bishop of Leiria, who should demand of this messenger the writing down of the Third Secret.

In mid-October, 1943, Bishop da Silva made up his mind. He wrote to Sister Lucy, giving her the express order that she had besought of him. However, new difficulties would arise. Sister Lucy experienced at that time, for almost three months, a mysterious and terrible anguish. She has related that each time she sat down at her work table and took her pen in order to write down the Secret, she found herself obstructed from doing it. One must, no doubt, see there the last outburst of Satan against the messenger of the Immaculate One. Guessing what a terrible weapon this great prophecy could set up against his dominion over souls and his plan to penetrate the very heart of the Church, such a trial endured by the seer thus indicated the magnitude of the grandiose

event which was about to be carried out, should the Secret be put down on paper. On Christmas Eve, Sister Lucy confided to her director that she had still been unable to obey the order that she had been given.

Finally, on the 2nd of January, 1944, (this is very little known) the Blessed Virgin Mary Herself appeared again to Lucy. She confirmed to her that such was truly the Will of God and gave her the light and the strength to accomplish the writing that had been commanded.

The extreme care that Sister Lucy then took to transmit it with complete safety to its recipient, Bishop da Silva, is a new proof of the exceptional importance which she attributes to this document. She did not wish to entrust it to anyone but a Bishop. It was Bishop Ferreira, Archbishop of Gurza, who received from the hands of Sister Lucy the envelope sealed with wax containing the precious document. He delivered it the same evening to Bishop da Silva.

Concerning the transmission of the Secret to the Hierarchy, it is necessary to underline four facts of the highest importance:

1. The immediate recipient of the Secret was Bishop da Silva and he could have read it at once. Sister Lucy told him so from the Blessed Virgin. But frightened by the responsibility that he would have to assume, he did not dare, he did not wish to have knowledge of it. He then tried to commit it to the Holy Office, but Rome refused to receive it. It was then agreed that if Bishop da Silva happened to die, the envelope would be entrusted to Cardinal Cerejeira, the Patriarch of Lisbon. It is therefore false to say, as has been so often repeated after 1960, that the Third Secret is destined explicitly and exclusively for the Holy Father!
2. It is true, however, — I will provide several proofs of it in my book — that Sister Lucy wanted Pope Pius XII to