

THE TRUTH ON THE FATIMA REQUEST TO CONSECRATE RUSSIA

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Do you still get the Fatima Crusader or other similar literature in the mail, or are well meaning friends pestering you into joining a movement to have the Pope perform in the proper way the consecration of Russia as requested by Our Lady at Fatima? If so, then read on.

I think that all priests used to get the Crusader in the mail, at least I did for many years, and once I had a clear idea what it was about and requested that my name be taken off the list, my request was not granted. I kept receiving it and finally put it into recycling, each time apologizing to Our Lady for putting her image on the cover into recycling. For decades I got it and tried to grasp the point of this crusade. I was told some of those still crusading for this consecration of Russia were not priests in good standing in their own diocese, released by their bishop, and some even went out to find another bishop. I understand that there are some bishops in India that are not always worldly wise and perhaps a little naïve; so it is not surprising that such priests would find a place to land.

Being a priest of Montreal I have years of experience with life and ministry as a priest and know how essential to fidelity as a priest is the virtue of obedience and loyalty to my bishop, a promise I made at my ordination as a deacon. My impression with the Fatima Crusader is of a priest manifesting a serious problem with authority and obedience. The Crusader gives the impression of a priest with a single issue like a dog on a bone, ready to defy the highest authority, which is precisely what is happening.

Our Church is no longer medieval, so defiant priests are not dragged off to a dungeon to be tortured for the good and salvation of their soul. They are free to err and to go on erring until their dying breath. In recent times, the only exception seems to relate to sexual issues. Sadly, some priests – though innocent they may be – are destroyed in some places by the simple fact of standing accused of impropriety; so fearful are some bishops of being accused of covering up wrongdoing. In other places, where there is a prominently favourable policy regarding active homosexual lifestyles in priests, priests who find this intolerable and speak up are persecuted and cut adrift by their bishop. They are white martyrs and witnesses to Jesus, who is the truth of God.

Regarding the Fatima secrets and the consecration of Russia to God through the Immaculate Heart of Mary as requested by Our Lady at Fatima, Pope John Paul II asked the bishops of the whole Church to join him in making this consecration in March or so 1984. I asked about the 1984 consecration here in Montreal and found out that Archbishop Grégoire did in fact, as John Paul II had requested of all the bishops of the Church, join the Holy Father on the same day in consecrating Russia and the Church to the Lord through Our Lady. Keep in mind; this is before the fall of the USSR. The Holy Father was deeply embroiled in relations with Churches behind the Iron Curtain, and like Pius XII with the Nazis, wanted to do God's will in a way that would not get the unwanted attention and stir up the ire of those raging tigers and precipitate wholesale persecutions of believers.

I read an account of an interview with Sr. Lucia in light of this rabid campaign of the Fatima Crusader regarding the 1984 consecration, and she said that it did fulfill the intentions and requirements of Our Lady. Now, what better authority could one get? The reader may Google Fatima secret with Sr. Lucia you be able to come across the sources I once found. For my part, I haven't the time now to look for them again, but may.

For my part, I have had it up to here with being deceived and manipulated by laity or priests who for reasons unknown seem to be suffering from terrible pathologies of conscience and just don't know how to let go of this issue and refuse to accept the validity of the 1984 consecration. Their identity seems so wrapped up in this thing that they probably feel they would die without this campaign. They seem very far removed from the Virgin who at Cana told the attendants regarding Jesus "Do whatever He tells you." and who herself had said to the angel Gabriel, "Let it be done to me according to your word."

Both Jesus and Mary gave us examples of obedience which seems to be an essential part of God's plan for our salvation, and over the years I have come to the conviction that the Fatima Crusader's entire tone and demeanour manifest a person or persons woefully lacking in this essential virtue. I believe the good Lord allows them to go on with their activities perhaps as a test for believers. Will we be taken in by the smoke and mirrors distracting our vigilance and common sense by tortured argumentation and complaints of persecution or see the reality behind it all and the people unwilling to obey?

There exists in the Church a balance between the hierarchical charisms and the spiritual charisms. Jesus himself submitted the spiritual charisms to the hierarchical charisms. Jesus told Peter and the apostles to bind and to loose as well as to forgive sins, and Paul told his faithful to test everything so as not to be misled. People with spiritual charisms unwilling to obey to lawful authority are like loose cannons on a ship threatening to tear the ship apart, deceiving themselves and a threat to deceive others. They are failing the test and they constitute a test for others.

Dear reader, your enthusiasm for Our Lady is commendable and a blessing for the Church, but as for all of us it can also be a point of weakness which can be subtly manipulated by others unless you remain vigilant and test everything that comes your way. Please don't take for cash everything that comes in the Post or over the Internet. Not all those with time on their hands or with financial means are sent by God. You will know them by their fruits Jesus said.

So what conclusions can you draw from one who perennially complains of being misunderstood and persecuted by the Church, criticizes a succession of Popes, is regularly having recourse to his status as a victim of the Church in order to appeal to his readership for urgently needed funds, and emotes a tone of desperation as though he were the last man standing on the face of the Earth willing to be faithful to God and to Our Lady, and the last priest caring about the salvation of the world?

In light of the evidence, I don't think it's going too far to suggest that the virulence of this crusade, which shows only contempt for the hierarchy of the Church and our supreme Pastor is inspired by the deceiver of the ages, the one Jesus called the "father of lies", the devil, the adversary of God and the accuser of the Church as described in the book of Revelation. Christian, be advised.

Letter by Sr. Lucia <http://www.ewtn.com/expert/answers/Fatima1984.htm>

Another witness <http://www.catholicdoors.com/faq/qu26.htm>

The infamous Fatima Crusader <http://www.fatima.org/essentials/opposed/cvrup3.asp>
<http://www.fatimacrusader.com/>

Another testimony <http://www.theotokos.org.uk/pages/cathnews/fatima/secret2.html>