

Full Throttle Activity at the Fatima Center

Fatima Center staff
October 31, 2013

The past few months have been some of the busiest in our Fatima Center history. We dealt with one major project after the next.

First, as you are aware, we conducted our *Fatima: The Path to Peace!* conference in Niagara Falls. It was held from September 8 to 13 and was an enormously successful event. It required massive amount of preparation and, thanks be to God, went off without a hitch. Many in the audience said it was the best such gathering they had ever attended.

We were also privileged to have in our audience priests and bishops from various parts of the world.

As we were preparing for the Niagara Falls Conference, news came from Rome that Pope Francis planned to consecrate the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The date was announced for October 13, 2013.



His Beatitude Ignatius Youssif Younan, Patriarch of Antioch, addresses our conference in Niagara Falls.



Thus, our Niagara Falls conference was no sooner completed than we immediately launched a campaign to remind Rome that Our Lady did not ask for the Consecration of the World, but of Russia.

We prepared posters and rolling billboards (trotters) that were spread throughout Rome in early October.

We put together a special 12-page journal in newspaper format titled *L'Osservatore di Fatima*. It was modeled on the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano* and published in the Italian language. This was prepared at lightning speed, our staff working in Fort Erie long hours to meet the deadline. Father Gruner traveled to Rome to personally oversee the final printing of the newspaper.



Our *L'Osservatore di Fatima* was published in both Italian and English.

We printed 200,000 copies and enlisted enthusiastic volunteers — young and not-so-young — to distribute them throughout Rome and beyond. We also prepared an English edition of *L'Osservatore di Fatima* now being mailed to our supporters throughout North America and beyond.

We also arranged that some of the main articles in our *L'Osservatore di Fatima* be published in a four-page section of *Il Tempo*, a major daily newspaper in Rome with a readership of 225,000.

This was all accomplished by Saturday, October 12, which was also the day *Il Tempo* published our material. In fact, by noon on October 12, virtually all of the *Il Tempo* had been sold out. We got our message to Rome, to the Vatican.

But there was a price to pay. Father Gruner attended the papal ceremonies at the Vatican on October 12 and 13. On both these days, Father Gruner was harassed by Vatican Security three times in the space of two days — twice on Saturday and once on Sunday.

Vatican Security and other law enforcement officers tried to remove him from Saint Peter's Square, and when Father Gruner rightly refused to comply, he was told in no uncertain terms to not try to approach or speak to the Pope (something Father Gruner had not intended anyway). Someone very high up in the Vatican wanted to ensure that Father Gruner did not personally get his message to the Pope.

This was nothing more than unjust harassment and intimidation tactics. You can read the details of this startling episode in the new *Fatima Crusader* (#107) that just went to press.

And in the midst of this full-throttle activity, we also published a new book catalog and our latest *Fatima Crusader*. Both went on press during October.



Over 200,000 *L'Osservatore di Fatima* newspapers were distributed throughout Rome and beyond.



Father Gruner and John Vennari on Fatima TV discussing Father Gruner's harassment by Vatican Security.

After Father Gruner's return from Rome, he and John Vennari filmed special editions of the TV program "Fatima Today" where Father Gruner tells the harrowing story of harassment by Vatican Security. You can access the programs by going to the [special video page](#) that contains the interviews on the event.

Of course, the greatest disappointment: in the end, Pope Francis did not consecrate Russia or even the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He recited a two-minute prayer that was kind of a general "Entrustment" to Our Lady, in front of the

Fatima Statue that was flown in from Fatima, but the words “consecrate,” “Russia,” “world,” and “Immaculate Heart” were not included in his Entrustment prayer. This, too, is detailed in the new *Fatima Crusader*.

Thus our work continues, the fight goes on, we have lost not one drop of determination to remind the world, remind Rome, remind the Vatican, remind the Holy Father himself that the key to world peace is in his hands.

We will continue to plead for the Pope to finally obey Our Lady of Fatima’s simple requests and consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in union with the bishops of the world.

And we thank you for your constant support that makes our vital work possible.

If you would like to receive our brand new Book Catalog, the English edition of *L’Osservatore di Fatima* or our new *Fatima Crusader*, please write us at: info@fatima.org