Father used to say that many people misrepresent the Faith, not by intention, but because of miseducation. A big part of the mission of The Fatima Center has been and continues to be the transmission of the Faith as it has always been taught to do constant combat against novelty and heresy. Andrew received much training in this mission and is well versed in Father’s views relating to the Faith and the Fatima Message.

Andrew possesses much of the training that priests receive. Indeed, he knows a great deal more than many who have come through seminaries that are not sound on doctrine or discipline. His advice is often sought. Andrew has long been a member of the Board of Directors of The Fatima Center and is therefore already a voice in all major decisions about our work and how to best continue the mission to which Father Gruner dedicated his life.

It seems fitting that Andrew should now be the person to tell you about what Our Lady’s Apostolate is doing as “Triumph: 2017!” unfolds and we grow ever closer to the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions.

Please join us in praying for Andrew as he takes on this new role. He will need patience, fortitude and sometimes courage, to do the right thing and stand up to those who do not have what is best for the Apostolate at heart. To many of us, he is a familiar face and an old friend. To some of us, he may be a figure who has worked quietly and steadily, out of the spotlight and, perhaps, unknown. But to all of us, he is now the Vice President of The Fatima Center and will work diligently with all of us until the Triumph of Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart. Please pray for Andrew, pray for the Consecration of Russia, and help us to keep lifting high the banner of Our Lady for all to see.
Andrew Cesanek has been a supporter of The Fatima Center for the last 28 years. For the past 17 years, Andrew has worked full time for Our Lady's Apostolate. For much of that period, he worked without compensation. The veteran staff at the apostolate's headquarters in Fort Erie, Ontario, seldom saw Father Gruner without Andrew by his side. He was Father's protégé, student, confidante and friend.

Father was loved by many people, but few could match his whole-hearted commitment to The Fatima Center. Father would amaze, and sometimes exhaust, those who came to know him by his constant focus on his work. He never vacationed, rarely took a day off; he worked long into the night and, when he awoke in the morning, he would immediately take up where he had left off the night before. He was tireless. Few could keep up with him. Andrew was among those few.

Father would sit, often into the early hours of the morning, working at his kitchen table with Andrew sitting across from him. Andrew would proofread articles, provide Father with research material, consult with him on ongoing Fatima Center projects. Father relied on Andrew's expertise in computer engineering, a subject in which he holds a Master's Degree, to launch, edit and maintain the web sites that are part of The Fatima Center's extensive media apostolate. And he knew that Andrew could be relied upon to do any job he gave him.

Andrew left a successful career as an engineer for the Motorola Corporation in late 1999 to dedicate himself entirely to putting all of his skills at the service of The Fatima Center. Father believed that Andrew has a vocation and encouraged him in every way to continue his writing and research for Our Lady's Apostolate.

The difficulty Andrew faces is the same that Father faced throughout his life: His dedication to the Fatima Message runs counter to the current in the post-Vatican II Church, in which many wish to forget about Fatima and the traditional Catholic Faith on which the Message is based. Andrew was blessed to have learned the Catholic Faith in its fullness and integrity and never to have departed from it.

During his many years at The Fatima Center, along with his work as information technician, Andrew also wrote articles, some of which appeared in the apostolate's flagship publication, The Fatima Crusader. He read all he could, just about all that is available, on the Fatima Message and its history. Perhaps only Father Gruner was more knowledgeable on the subject, but even Father would rely on Andrew at times to supply details that would confirm his own memory.

Andrew studied Latin and theology under Father's guidance. He also took courses online for two years from a traditional Catholic group, Christ the King. He had already obtained a Masters Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Massachusetts.

Andrew continued to work by Father Gruner's side, reassured by Father that he was called to give his life to Our Lady in a special way. Andrew daily served Father's Mass. He acted as sacristan for all the apostolate chapels. He co-ordinated Masses and devotions at conferences and Rosary rallies throughout the world.

Andrew became an indispensable part of the apostolate. So much so, that Father Gruner seldom traveled anywhere without Andrew. This wide travel and vast experience helped to give Andrew an insight into the present problems facing the Church and sensitivity to the difficulties faced by Catholics who simply want to be loyal to Our Lady and the Faith of their fathers.

In the years before he was taken from us so suddenly, Father Gruner relied on Andrew, not just for his technical knowledge, but for his theological knowledge. So much printed material is produced by The Fatima Center for distribution throughout the world! It is no small task to keep it all on track. Andrew helped to do this. But more importantly, Andrew was entrusted with making certain that the content of these publications conformed to Catholic teaching.

His years of careful and diligent study, his many late nights discussing the Faith with Father Gruner, and his love for the Church transformed Andrew into a man of solid knowledge concerning the dogma and disciplines of the Catholic Faith. Father would assign Andrew copy editing duties for various texts, with the added responsibility of reviewing content for orthodoxy.

Thus, Andrew developed an eye for anything that is the least questionable or imprecise in the statement of Catholic truth, most especially as it relates to Marian doctrine and the Message of Fatima. He and Father would discuss any formulation of words that might in any way be misleading, and then decide how best to correct that formulation and bring it into line with the constant teaching of the Church.
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