

Continued Attacks on Pope Francis – Radical Traditionalists Defaming Pope over Malta

[New Era World News](#)

CHARACTER ATTACKS ON POPE FRANCIS from a hand full of far right traditionalists have become common place. A few months ago it was *Amoris Laetitia*, this week it is about scandals and abuses revolving around the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. Interestingly, both cases involve the traditionalist, Cardinal Raymond Burke who in each instance is the man behind the frontal assault on the pope. It is becoming increasingly clear who the real villain is or might be.

What follows will be confusing, if the two major players and their titles are not clearly delineated and distinguished before proceeding.

Major Players:

1. GRAND MASTER – Fra Matthew Festing (British)
2. GRAND CHANCELLOR- Albrecht von Boeselager (German)

Pope Francis is being accused of tyrannical abuse of office, of being a man who cries for mercy yet knows how to play political hardball when it comes to his opponents. Even if true, so what? Is not this exactly what is expected of a virtuous and competent leader, a man rich in mercy yet courageous enough to act with full authority when the situation calls for it? Is not this the model for leadership that the traditionalists opposing Francis have yearned for and have placed before us in the image of Christ the King who will come in power and glory to judge the living and the dead? Some

Traditionalist never tire of stressing God's justice: "He is not just love, he judges us too." As stated many times by New Era, although what the traditionalists are stating might be true, we are living in an Hour of Mercy! Instead of justice, men and women in tune with God's Spirit should be pleading for mercy and performing acts of reparation out of love for poor sinners to spare them from God's justice. As was stated in a previous article, they had better watch what they are asking for because it might soon be falling on their own heads.

Apparently, Cardinal Burke did not learn from the *Amoris Laetitia* imbroglio, which lost steam after Cardinal Mueller, the Prefect for the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, announced that "[there is no problem with its doctrine.](#)" So instead of *Amoris*, the issue is now the handling of a few traditionalists in the Sovereign Order of Malta.

Background

In November of 2015 Cardinal Burke and Grand Master Festing attempted to have Grand Chancellor von Boeselager removed from office using the charge of disobedience after the latter refused to step down at Fester's command. Then according to CRUX, in order to secure his removal, Fester and Burke cooperated with the Lepanto Institute (a traditionalist Institute that does not shrink from acting as critic and guardian of the Church's internal affairs) to further investigate charges that von Boeselager had "signed off" on a program to distribute condoms as part of a Malta medical mission program that he headed. Boeselager had, however, been previously exonerated of those charges. **The Order of Malta had already investigated the issue and had cleared the Grand Chancellor of any wrong doing.** According to [CRUX](#),

"The Vatican had also been informed at the time."

Since this is the case, the issue becomes broader in scope. If already cleared, why were Cardinal Burke and Grand Master Fester intent on reopening the case? Cardinal Burke did not let up; after gathering additional evidence on von Boeselager, he continued to press the issue. Because Boeselager has the support of several high ranking Vatican dignitaries and prominent German Bishops, Burke needed the support of the pope. He apparently succeeded because after meeting with the pope, Francis wrote him a letter in which he specified that:

“Catholic moral precepts must be followed but that the differences should be resolved through DIALOGUE RATHER THAN EXPULSIONS.”

This point is key and the fulcrum on which the whole story turns: Cardinal Burke subsequently exceeded the authority given to him in the pope’s directive. Instead of solving the issue through “dialogue” as instructed, he proceeded to maneuver to have Boeselager removed from office. In true Burkeian style, he accused the Grand Chancellor of being a “liberal”. As such, he should resign; both Burke and Festing insisted. When Boeselager refused, they charged him with disobedience and removed him from office.

Interesting, as CRUX points out, the only person that was actually disobedient was Cardinal Burke himself, disobedient to the pope’s clear directive. Not only had the pope told him to handle the situation through dialogue, the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Parolin,

“...wrote twice to the American cardinal to make clear that the pope had approved no such action. He also made clear Boeselager should be reinstated, and any differences between them resolved through dialogue.”

It was at this point that Pope Francis intervened and asked a commission to investigate, but Grand Master Festing refused to

cooperate citing the fact that the Order is a sovereign entity and that the issue was an internal affair they would handle themselves.

What is Going On?

As a sovereign entity the Order argued that it did not have to submit to a papal inquiry. Further since the Vatican Yearbook lists the Order among “States with embassies accredited to the Holy See” and not among its religious orders, even though they are a lay religious order, it did not have to comply with any requests from the pope. Lawyers for the Order contend that Order’s Constitution clearly specifies that “religious members”...are only subject to their appropriate Superiors in the Order.” Therefore, it is argued that the pope, in order to pierce this legal bubble, would have to abrogate their rights and laws, which he has not done.

Since the pope has apparently disregarded these stipulations, he is being accused by writers such as [Phil Lawler](#) of “unprecedented papal intervention” into the affairs of that venerable body.” Lawler insists that this action of Pope Francis

“...fits into a pattern that should, at this point, worry all faithful Catholics. Under Pope Francis, the Vatican is systematically silencing, eliminating, and replacing critics of the Pope’s views.”

For the record, the Order of Malta does have international juridical identity, but

[“...it is also a lay religious institute whose members profess loyalty to the pope, and as such is subject – as are all recognized Catholic organizations – to the jurisdiction of the Holy See in religious matters.”](#)

As CRUX further point out, the argument about sovereignty “beggared belief”. Cardinal Burke had attempted to use the pope’s authority to get Boeselager to resign then turned around and insisted that the pope has no authority in the matter.

” Given that Burke’s attempt to use the pope to justify Festing’s sacking of Von Boeselager (Burke) had (himself) dragged the papacy into its internal affairs.”

Festing, apparently urged on by Cardinal Burke continued the fruckus, and Pope Francis continued **investigating through a committee headed by Archbishop Sivano Tomasi**. According to [Catholic World Report](#) (CWR), the “situation is now a full-blown crisis.” Why is it being presented as a crisis? Because some traditionalists are trying to mar the pope.

As of last Tuesday, January 24, the papal committee completed its investigation and Festing was called to the Vatican to meet with Pope Francis. In the Catholic version of “fake news”, The CWR correctly states that after Pope Francis met with Grand Master Festing a second time, he showed him the Papal Commission Report containing documented information about organizational dysfunction relative to his leadership and indicating the need for extensive reform of the Order beginning with its ruling clique consisting of fifty to a hundred knights drawn from Europe’s traditional nobility.

The investigation must have been thorough and convincing: **At the end of the meeting Festing tendered his resignation in writing**. Then Francis took further steps: He declared all actions taken by the Order since the dismissing of von Boeselager (December 6, 2016) as “null and void” including his elected replacement. Festing acquiesced unlike Burke, who has refused to stop fighting:

“Even after Festing had agreed to the pope’s request to resign, Burke tried to persuade him to retract, in effect

telling him to keep fighting Francis, [according to sources in both the Vatican and the order.](#)

So How did the Order Respond?

The stage was set for a battle between the Vatican and the Knights of Malta; however when the information reached Malta and was digested by its Sovereign Council; they, like Festing, also acquiesced to Francis' requests. They accepted Festing's resignation and reinstated von Boeselager as Grand Chancellor.

On January 25, Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin wrote on Pope Francis' behalf to members of the Order's Governing Board. He stated that, the Grand Commander, **Ludwig Hoffmann von Rumerstein, is now in charge of the Order** and that

"...in the renewal process which is seen as necessary," Pope Francis would "appoint his personal Delegate with powers that he will define in the act of appointing him."

Cardinal Burke, it appears, will find himself further demoted; that is, his use of "soft-power" as papal liaison is being eroded. First he was removed from the Apostolic Penitentiary to become the Vatican's liaison with the Order of Malta, which responsibility is now being redefined and down-graded to a mere "titular role". Francis' legate, not Cardinal Burke, is now the pope's "official spokesman during his mandate" pertaining to formal relations between the Order and the Holy See.

Be that as it may, the main thrust of these moves, as noted by CRUX "is not to silence Cardinal Burke, but to reform the Order's constitution and governance so that it better serves the purpose (mission) for which it exists, something that Burke failed to do: seeing that the knights better serve their

ancient charism to **defend the faith** and **assist the poor**. The latter was a mission area stressed by Boeselager, while the **camp supported by Festing and Cardinal Burke** favored a more **traditional agenda to bolster their financial portfolio** and

"...build up the elite quasi-monastic arm of the knights (stressing the military aspects, trappings of nobility, and social-cultural-theological traditionalism, rather than placing the main thrust of their efforts on pastoral and charitable works consistent with the pastoral spirit of Vatican II and the modern papacy). Although those stressing the former number "only around 50 of the 14,000 members of the order, they are the ones who hold the leadership positions of the world-wide knights, and elect its leader."

A small clique that many members have grown weary of. Consequently according to [Catholic World Report](#):

"Boeselager and his allies in the Vatican "have triumphed.

However, the Catholic World Report could not help displaying its loyalties by asserting that

"These allies have carried out a sordid campaign of leaked letters from Cardinal Parolin's department, which served the sad and obvious end of framing a public narrative in which Fra' Festing supposedly 'defied' the explicit wishes of the Pope."

But, according to [CRUX](#)

"The reaction from traditionalists and critics of the pope has been apopleptic, seeking to portray Francis as an autocrat imposing his vision of the Church on a hapless conservative order. In reality, he is doing no more than what popes have always done with Catholic organizations that suffer from abusive or dysfunctional leadership which

undermines their witness."

"Francis has done the same with other religious orders or societies, such as the Peru-based Sodalitium. Benedict XVI did the same with the Legion of Christ, among others."

"Why should Francis's critics believe this one is any different? Sadly, some have become so invested in Burke's campaign against Francis over Amoris Laetitia that they have failed to spot what this is about."

Clearly, there are two conflicting interpretations of events, one favoring Cardinal Burke and a small camp of traditionalists, the other favoring von Boeselager and those who want to engage in pastoral and charitable works per the instructions of Pope Francis. Since there is division in the Order exacerbated by confusion in the press, it appears that some other agent having an agenda contrary to the Holy Spirit's unifying charity are at work.

Is Anything Else Going On?

Changes being experienced around the world relative to the growing global rising against liberalism are being echoed in **the Church as it has finally begun to take decisive steps to deal with the infiltration of Masonry and Masonic influences into its various dicasteries, departments, orders etc.** Like the nations of the world reacting to the rising tide of liberalism, the Vatican is reacting to the rising tide of Masonry, which like liberalism has become an unbearable cause of dysfunction, division, and confusion that needs to be thrown off.

Thus, according to the CWR:

“There is much more” going on. Edward Pentin of the National Catholic Register [reported on January 7th](#) that Cardinal Burke had been asked by Pope Francis to expose problems within the Order: “Hopes that the contraceptive scandal would be addressed came on Nov. 10, when Cardinal Burke was received in private audience by Pope Francis. During that meeting, the Register has learned, the Pope was ‘deeply disturbed’ by what the cardinal told him about the contraceptive distribution. The Pope also made it clear to Cardinal Burke that he wanted Freemasonry ‘cleaned out’ from the order, and he demanded appropriate action.”

According to Robert Monihan writing for [Inside the Vatican](#):

“During the past several months, quietly and privately on most occasions, but sometimes publicly, a word has been whispered and spoken aloud in Rome in a way unlike any other time in the 33 years that I have been writing about Vatican affairs. That word is freemasonry.”

Apparently, Pope Francis equated the condom scandal and other reports of activities in the Knights of Malta along with division within its ranks and dysfunction as indicators of Masonic infiltration, which he wants out of the order and out of the Church.

Monihan echoed what was reported by the CWR:

“Published reports have stated something that few have noted, but which must be studied and explained: that Pope Francis, in a meeting in November with Cardinal Raymond Burke, gave Burke a very unusual instruction. The Pope, it is reported, during their November 10 meeting, asked Burke, the American cardinal who is the ecclesial Patron of the Knights of Malta, to carry out an important and delicate task: to ferret out

and remove from the Knights of Malta all members who are... freemasons."

The pope followed-up was with a letter to Cardinal Burke, in which he "underlined the cardinal's constitutional duty to promote the spiritual interests of the order and **remove any affiliation with groups or practices that run contrary to the moral law**. Here, repeated, is the critical phrase":

"The Pope also made it clear to Cardinal Burke that he wanted Freemasonry 'cleaned out' from the order..."

Monihan correctly identifies Cardinal Burke as "one of the leaders of the 'traditional' faction in the Church and in the College of Cardinals because of his raising questions about the "progressive" teaching of Pope Francis, especially in *Amoris Laetitia*. Although the issue of condoms and leadership are being or have been rectified, the vetting of Masonry and Masonic influence in the order will be an ongoing saga as Pope Francis attempts to do in the Church what leaders around the world are doing in the State: ridding their countries of liberalism and the disorganizing influence of Masonry.

Masonry is a fraternity of Satan, the Father of Liars. As such, it has long been characterized by Gnosticism, Esotericism, and double meaning; **it advances error by crafting antithetical ideologies which it sets in apparent opposition** in order to ravish the truth and lull unsuspecting victims into its deceptive web. Its symptoms include, confusion, dysfunction, and division. In dealing with this diabolical sect, Pope Leo XIII invoked the Blessed Virgin Mary:

"Let us take our helper and intercessor the Virgin Mary, Mother of God, so that she, who from the moment of her conception overcame Satan may show her power over these evil sects, in which is revived the contumacious spirit of the

demon, together with his unsubdued perfidy and deceit”
([Humanum Genus](#)).

Pope Pius IX was equally clear:

*“WE strongly exhort them to beware of the perfidious discourses of sectarians who, under a disguise of honesty, are inflamed by an ardent hatred of the Religion of Christ and of all legitimate authority: they have but one thought with the sole aim of exterminating, all Divine and human rights. Let them all be fully conscious of the fact that the affiliates of such sects are as the wolves who, as Our Lord predicted, **come disguised with sheeps hide to devour the whole flock.**”* ([Multiplices inter](#)).

Those who advance error can be easily detected. They cover themselves by pointing their fingers at deviating others at the opposite end of the spectrum. Realizing that most traditionalists are true sons of the Church appalled with abuse and desirous of high sanctity, we hope that the conflict between traditionalists and liberals within the hallowed Order of Malta is *not* a manifestation of a Masonic dialectic and that traditionalists controlling the inner circle at Malta and pointing the finger at supposed liberals are not part of the cabal that Pope Francis is vetting and wants “cleaned out” of the Order. How traditionalists members of the Order fare in this process will be interesting to see. Those who cry loudest against an abuse are often the perpetrators of abuse themselves.

New Age Globalists in Guise of Geopolitical Analysts Trying to Hijack Era of Peace

[New Era World News](#)

ANY IMPARTIAL OBSERVER OF GLOBAL EVENT can discern the Hand of God at work in the world as [Russia is being converted](#) and the nations of the world are one by one in the process of rejecting global liberalism while many are reasserting their Christian patrimonies ([Western Europe](#), [Eastern Europe](#), [Africa](#), [Poland](#), [France](#), [Asia](#), [Argentina](#), [Middle East](#)).

While New Era has been reporting on these changes since its inception, secular and liberal pundits have also begun to observe the many changes occurring world-wide. They are, however, **misinterpreting, and thus misrepresenting, them as a *political movements***, movements referred to as [“Populist”](#), when in fact these are primarily moral, cultural, spiritual and religious movements. However, there is at least one commentator, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, a much more sophisticated player, who realizes that the fast-paced global movement underway is *not* a typical populist cry for economic justice, but a deeper more rotund-paradigmatic movement having cultural, moral and spiritual dimensions as well. One of the few think-tank/institutes that recognizes the unique and broad scope of the current global movement is the [Schiller Institute](#). The Schiller Institute bills itself as the “Forum for a New Paradigm” and a “New Era of Civilization.” LaRouche recently stated at Schiller Institute Seminar (Jan. 11, 2017):

“What we see right now is a completely new paradigm

emerging... Obviously the idea for what was the axiomatic basis of the globalization system since 1991 to insist on a unipolar world, is failing, or has failed already."

Summarizing her presentation in which she called for a new international economic order and the revival of a classical Renaissance in culture, the [LaRouche PAC](#) stated:

"Sublime, is the only fitting word to describe Helga Zepp-LaRouche's deep and beautiful presentation and the atmosphere she created... at the Schiller Institute/EIR seminar held in Stockholm on January 11th, under the title "Donald Trump and the New International Paradigm." Her speech moved the audience to address the fundamental epistemological, deeper meaning... of mankind in the universe. This deeper meaning even touched the diplomats present... In all, there were seventeen diplomats among them seven ambassadors. Four European countries were represented, nine from Asia, and four from Africa... Among the other participants there were contacts from different Swedish associations working for friendship with Russia, Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, the Baltic Sea area, and another group working to leave the EU, as well as three businessmen contacts and longtime activists of the Swedish LaRouche Movement.

A few days later, after the Trump inauguration, Helga percipiently stated:

"The next days will witness many revolutionary developments, qualitatively new, resembling nothing ever seen previously in all of human history. But there is one thing which is known now, and already is inevitable and unavoidable. Their system (neocon-liberalism) is finished. It is over, and it can never come back. Yes, they can raise a ruckus, as they are doing. They can make a bloody mess if they are allowed to—but they will never be able to bring that system back from the grave. Thank God, now we are done with it forever.

Almost immediately following the results of the Presidential election, Lyndon LaRouche announced that ["it was not \(only\) the United States that had rejected Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and everything they stood for—it was the world that had rejected them. It was a global phenomenon."](#)

LaRouche is correct about a "completely new paradigm emerging". However, **she misrepresents it as a Schiller Institute initiative** aimed at rectifying the many errors of a rapidly eroding neo-liberal world that has characterized modernity.

In discussing LaRouche's ideas in an online intelligence report, members of the Schiller Institute reveal the ideological potency of the founder's ideas and initiatives:

*"He (LaRouche) went on to point to the success of the (his) Manhattan Project—of organizing the American people around the necessity, and possibility, of choral beauty—despite all of its difficulties (see [EIR, Jan. 8, 2016](#)). **That Manhattan Project is now the key to history**; if LaRouche had not launched it as he did in October 2014, now all would be lost.*

Who are the LaRouche's, what is the Schiller Institute, and exactly how does an institute whose analysis of the situation is so astute offer solutions that run contrary to the vision for an *Era of Peace* expressed by the Mother of God at Fatima?

What Does LaRouche Say that Sounds So Sublime and Convincing?

LaRouche hopes to gain her listener's confidence by being an astute observer of the the global liberal demise and by presenting herself as an opponent of effete liberalism and of decadent liberal culture. According to the [Schiller Institute](#)

"The clock of mankind has advanced to a point where the old lackluster ways will no longer work. According to all

established criteria, mankind has gambled away all its chances for survival. Too many catastrophes are crowding in upon us, the entropic process has proceeded too far and the rift between the U.S.A. and Western Europe is all but accomplished."

Demonstrating her astute observation skills, the collapse of liberalism, and subsequent opportunities for an *Era of Peace* she states:

*"We are indeed in very, very fascinating times. And I think there is much reason to be hopeful....There are accumulations of strategic realignments which have shaped up over the last three years, but especially in the last year, where one can actually see that the potential for a completely new kind of relation among nations is on the horizon, and that **we may actually have the chance to bring a peaceful world.**"*

Adding to the sublimity of her message, Ms. LaRouche states:

*"**What we see right now is a completely new paradigm emerging,** a system which is based on the development of all, a "win-win" potential to cooperate among nations, and obviously the idea for what was the axiomatic basis of the globalization system since 1991 to insist on a unipolar world, is failing, or has failed already. And with that, a system which tried to maintain this unipolar world with the policy of regime change, of color revolution, or humanitarian intervention, or so-called humanitarian intervention to defend democracy and human rights, obviously has led the world to a terrible condition, but this is now coming to an end."*

Then, in language reminiscent of recent New Age Reports, she traces the movement's etiology:

["It started in a visible form with the vote of the British population in June last year for the Brexit, which was the](#)

first real upset; everybody was taken totally unawares, except a few insiders. This anti-globalization revolt was obviously continued with the election of President Donald Trump in the United States; it was continued with the ["no" to the Italian referendum](#) organized by Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, to change the Constitution.

LaRouche is avante-garde, progressive and intellectually confident, enough to be an advocate of cooperation between the United States and Russia because such cooperation can usher in an *Era of Peace*. In her own words:

*"So the fact that Hillary did not win the election was **extremely important for the maintenance of world peace**. And I think that of all the promises that Trump made so far, the fact that he said that he will normalize the relationship between the United States and Russia, is, in my view the most important step. Because if the relationship between the United States and Russia is decent, and is based on trust and cooperation, I think there is a basis to solve all other problems in the world."*

LaRouche even gets the roles of the United States and Russia in Syria and the Middle East correct – a very astute observer indeed:

*"Ash Carter, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, just gave a press conference where he said that **it was only the United States which has fought ISIS in Syria**. Now, it takes some nerve to say that, because **everybody in the whole world knows** that without President Putin's decision to militarily intervene in Syria starting in September 2015, and the tremendous support of the Russian Aerospace Forces for the fighting of the Syrian troops, the present military situation in Syria would have never developed. And it was to the contrary, the very dubious behavior of the United States supporting various kinds of terrorist groups which prolonged this process and*

slowed it down.”

Evaluating the Trump effect, LaRouche correctly ties it to a global phenomenon (because the *Era of Peace* is a global phenomenon):

“Donald Trump is actually part of a global process which is underway; and which is not going to stop until the reasons for this process – which you can actually call a global revolution – until the causes are removed.”

“This period of history, which I would say started with the collapse of the Soviet Union, and which led to what we call “globalization,” is coming to an end. Or, has come to an end already. Now obviously, that process, which really started immediately with the broken promises of the United States and others not to expand NATO to the Russian border; which subsequently was broken many times. The recent deployment of U.S. and NATO troops and military equipment to the Russian borders is just the latest example of that.”

Yes, the United States has broken promises related to NATO expansion along the Russian border and yes the period of liberal global hegemony is coming to a close.

As attestation to this fact, LaRouche points out the “depraved” and “degenerate” culture spawned by liberalism that must be modified if the world is to advance into a new and prosperous era:

“We have to reject the popular culture associated with modern globalization, because it is depraved and degenerate. And that we had to go back to the revival, a Renaissance, of the best traditions of every culture, and have a dialogue among them.”

LaRouche is clearly a coruscating observer and social-cultural critic; however she misses, and therefore fails to represent, the Mariological dimensions of the global movement underway. Moreover, the solutions she offers run contrary to authentic Christian renewal of the type associated with Fatima and the *Era of Peace* promised by the Mother of God.

Who is LaRouche and What is the Schiller Institute?

When they founded the Schiller Institute [Mr and Mrs Schiller insisted](#):

*“We are founding the Schiller Institute. We do so not only because there is a vacuum we need to fill with institutions willing **to revive the spirit of the American Revolution and the German classical period**. We are founding the Schiller Institute because Schiller’s special method of approaching world-historical problems is the **only one** which can still bring about a solution today. The kernel of this method can be defined in Schiller’s own words: Man is greater than his fate. Even if the objective situation looks almost hopeless and desperate, we, like Schiller, are sure that a courageous spirit and human reason will always be able to find the higher level where the problems are solvable..*

In its own words:

“The Schiller Institute is working around the world to defend the rights of all humanity to progress –material, moral and intellectual. It is named after [Friedrich Schiller](#), the great 18th-century German poet and playwright, whose works have inspired republican opposition to oligarchic tyranny worldwide.”

“In America, the Institute, a non-profit corporation

headquartered in Washington, D.C., was founded in May 1984. The Schiller Institute is also established in Australia, Canada, Russia, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, and has a growing influence in Asia, Africa and the Middle East."

LaRouche – Schiller Initiatives

Education:

"The whole education system must be changed. You have to throw out algorithms, you have to throw out mathematics, you have to go back to basic scientific discovery. You have to go to a Classical culture. And I think that that is so absolutely important why the Schiller Institute must really be a guiding force in this process, because you know, the popular culture in the United States is so detrimental to the idea of creativity, that I think we have to really intervene in this situation in a very, very powerful way."

Culture:

Because modern culture is so bereft of artistic, philosophic and humanistic ideas it is easy to criticize. In the context of post-modern culture anything "classic" sounds good. Thus, LaRouche is able to slip in a significant negative cultural element in the name of a good *vis a vis* modernity:

"The future of civilization will be a dialogue between Plato, Schiller, Confucius, Tagore, and many other great poets and scientists of the past."

The nations of the Western World have their roots in Christendom, but LaRouche envisions a return to paganism.

According to the [First Things](#),

*“Schiller prefigures the Whig interpretation of history, in which enlightened Protestantism gradually triumphs over the medieval obscurantism of the Catholic Church. Schiller’s interest, to be sure, is not religious but political; **his neo-Hellenic “Classicism” was explicitly non-Christian.***

Schiller was avowedly anti-Christian (at least as far as institutional Christianity is concerned-against the institution but not the religion *per-se*), even accused of being a Free Mason:

“His two book-length histories are unabashed Protestant polemics. The first is a sympathetic portrayal of the Netherlands’ revolt against Catholic Spain.... The second is a history of the Thirty Years War, which makes the astonishing claim that “Europe came out of this frightful war unoppressed and free” because it destroyed forever the principle of Catholic universal empire.”

As far as being a Mason, it has not been conclusively demonstrated, but many have made the allegation linking LaRouche, the Schiller Institute, and Masonr:

*“Lyndon LaRouche, the one-time U.S. Trotskyist who embraced conspiracy theories as he lurched to the extreme right through the 1970s. LaRouche includes Masons and Gnostics in his overcrowded pantheon of evildoers, which is slightly odd given that **he was once happy to see himself and his followers as part of a “neo-Platonic humanist” conspiracy against oligarchical enemies.** He also venerates the eighteenth-century German Romantic Friedrich von Schiller, who was not only a Mason but also, according to J.M. Roberts, a member of the Illuminati.(One of the many LaRouche front groups is called the Schiller Institute.)*

Others, like author [Carol White](#), are not so credulous:

“Larouche is a Grand Orient Freemason and so not to be trusted completely. This Larouche is an agent of the Hegelian Dialectic, setting up two false opposing movements which are both controlled by the same sect usually freemasonry to have an appearance of a “natural” synthesis (old age of liberalism versus new paradigm). However if you have two glasses of hot water BUT you NAME one cold water even if you mix them you will still only have hot water regardless of names.”

Masonic or not, the LaRouche model looks and sounds suspicious and even more so since his mentor, Friedrich Schiller, was a Christian in name only:

“Schiller’s support of the Protestant cause was nominal rather than heartfelt; [he was no Christian, but man of the enlightenment](#), a self-styled “citizen of the world.”

This is precisely the problem with Schiller and with LaRouche: self-proclaimed citizens of the world *not* proclaimed citizens of the Kingdom of God, men of the Enlightenment, a period in which a New World Order, *Novos Ordo Seclorum*, was introduced by like minded men, many of them Freemasons, which helps give credence to the supposition the Schiller was himself a member of the lodge.

The Mother of God or LaRouche – How Do LaRouche-Schiller Initiatives Run Contrary to Fatima?

According to LaRouche human beings are an evolving species. Speaking [like an agnostic socio-biologist she states](#):

“If you look at the evolution over a longer period of time, life developed from the oceans with the help of photosynthesis; then you had the development of ever higher

species, species with a higher metabolism, higher energy-flux density in their metabolism."

In a document entitled "The Next Stage of Human Evolution", the [LaRouche PAC](#) states:

"That next stage of evolution is a whole interlinked complex—moral, material, psychological, and scientific—all of these aspects closely intertwined, as they always have been in Lyndon LaRouche's thinking. One word for this next stage of our species' evolution is the "New Paradigm." The New Paradigm, as Helga Zepp-LaRouche has memorably said, "where we become truly human."

Thus, according to LaRouche, human beings progressively solve their problems by advances in technology and intellectual attainment *etc.* Although there is much truth to ponder in these assertions, there is no mention of God, prayer, charity imitation of Christ, the Church or the sacraments *et al.*

LaRouche is *not* seeking a new vision of economics rooted in the precept of charity, "*Solidarnosc*". LaRouche proposes turning the pages back to earlier chapters in liberal history, to the times of Roosevelt, Hamilton, and Glass Stegall, (a 1930 act that limited securities, activities, and affiliations within commercial banks and securities firms) as if permitting commercial banks to engage in security activities caused the current economic crisis, a crisis that has been brewing for decades and even centuries as attested to by the acceptance of business cycles as a natural phenomenon associated with capitalism. The global system needs much more than a return to financial regulation of the Glass Stegall brand. Obviously financial regulation is needed – the whole question must be revisited . However, the type of change needed is far more extensive than that proffered by LaRouche. According to the Schiller Institute:

“The only solution, at this point of deep breakdown, is to implement [LaRouche’s four laws recovery program](#) on an emergency basis”:

- 1.[Reinstate FDR’s Glass-Steagall banking separation](#)*
- 2.[Return to a Hamiltonian System of national banking](#)*
- 3.[Invest federal credit for productive employment](#)*
- 4.[Launch a crash program for fusion power](#)*

According to the [LaRouche PAC](#):

“LaRouche’s Four Laws provides the only basis for the United States to save itself from collapse and join in collaboration with China, Russia, India, and other nations participating in the global economic renaissance centered around China’s New Silk Road program.”

There is muster in this latter point as well, partial and specious truth (to be discussed in the future).

The main reason LaRouche is able to make such a brilliant analysis of the current global situation and then provide such a weak reform platform is due to a commitment to the Enlightenment and a refusal to let go of the deist dream for a better world without the Holy Trinity – god yes, perhaps the deist God of Nature, but not the Holy Trinity.

LaRouche is a strong advocate of Classical culture, which she associates with the Enlightenment. One of Schiller’s mission as stated above is **“to revive the spirit of the American Revolution and the German classical period.”** In other words, the Schiller Institute, like the Schiller’s themselves, is anti-Catholic, perhaps anti-Christian all around.

Quixotically, The Enlightenment was itself the bedrock and purveyor and source of modern liberalism. The Schiller Institute thus proposes going forward by first going backward,

backward to the founding principles of the Enlightenment and then forward again. Perhaps they think they can do it better if they get a second try.

In true Enlightenment and New Age style, LaRouche seeks a universal syncretism:

'From the beginning, we said that such a new world economic order can only function if it's combined with a Classical Renaissance...That we had to go back to the revival, a Renaissance, of the best traditions of every culture, and have a dialogue among them. For example, in Germany, obviously you would emphasize the German Classical culture of Schiller, Beethoven, and all of Classical music; in China, you would emphasize Confucius; in India you would emphasize the Vedic writings, Tagore (a Pirali Brahmin), and so forth.

Of course there is no mention of Christianity. No it is part of a "xenophobia" that must be healed:

"People get completely excited, because they discover that there are beautiful things to discover in other cultures! And once you study and know these other cultures, xenophobia and racism disappear!

New Era is perplexed: What does a Chinese citizen and devotee of Confucianism or a Hindu Brahmin do when he or she comes into contact with a French or Polish devotee of Jesus Christ and His blessed Mother? Does the Oriental person get healed of their cultural xenophobia or only the Christian? Does the Hindu Ashram give way to the Greek Academy or are they all acceptable because they share common principles found in all religions and cultures as LaRouche seems to think:

"Because you realize that it's beautiful that there are many cultures, because there are universal principles to be discovered in music. One musician will immediately understand

another musician because it's a universal language."

It is beautiful that there are many cultures, and beautiful that there is a Christian culture too, a culture that LaRouche fails to mention, but one she implicitly demeans as a purveyor of "xenophobia". If she believes there is such a disease as xenophobia, but that purveyors of Classical culture along with Confucius in China and the Hind Vedic culture as well as that of Plato and Tagore are exempt, if she believes all of these are grand and precious cultural attainments, which culture then is xenophobic except her own, the one she fails to mention, i.e., Christian culture?

It seems that LaRouche desires Americans and Europeans to be healed of their cultural ailments but those from a Hindu or Oriental background are OK. Presumably Christianity is also OK, if it gives up its evangelical component and accepts all religions as equal AS LONG AS THEY CONTAIN AND REFLECT THE "UNIVERSAL" DIMENSIONS, dimensions that LaRouche, along with Theosophists, Gnostics and Masons believe and teach are present in all religions – a grand religious synthesis in which Jesus Christ who suffered and died for all humanity is no longer the savior of all humanity, but is equivalent to a Pirali Brahim, a being who himself honors higher more evolved gods and "ascended masters", gods and masters who say wonderful things but none who took the form of a slave and died for anyone. The story of the Incarnation, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ is unparalleled in the annals of comparative religion.

[At one point LaRouche endeavored to cooperate with the Catholic Church,](#)

"At one point, LaRouche decided he wanted to work with the Roman Catholic Church – he was hoping to get in with the Church. So, suddenly, he was pro-Catholic. At that point, many members converted to Catholicism. But when he discovered

that the Catholic Church wanted no part of him, in 2000, LaRouche launched a vicious attack on the Catholic members of the organization, including commissioning items for the daily internal briefing memos attacking members for going to church. In a savage campaign, he drove most of the Catholics out of the organization.

After driving out Catholics from his organization, LaRouche, like Masons and Thesophists, [further manifested his anti-Catholicism.](#)

“Take the Papacy in a certain earlier period. You had a great leader who built all the water systems in Europe [Charlemagne]. He did it; and as soon as he died, Hell broke loose. And the Catholic Church became a piece of sodomy, immediately at that point. You have to know what happened when Charlemagne died; after his death, the Satanic movement took over the Catholic Church.”

In short, LaRouche and the Schiller Institute are just another front for liberalism, a very sophisticated front – one that offers one of the most progressive Christian geopolitical analyses imaginable. For example, LaRouche’s “Producerism” and anti-imperialism makes him appear to be an opponent of capitalism, when in actuality he is an advocate:

“Producerism, with its problematic distinction between productive industrial capital and parasitic finance capital, was central to LaRouchite economics, as [it enabled LaRouche to be procapitalist and “anti-imperialist” at the same time](#)

LaRouche’s ideas might be complex and sophisticated, but in the end – because such ideas neglect the Incarnation and subsequent Christian prophetic content – no matter how resounding, they work against authentic human and social development.

Nothing really new here except a brilliant expose of the changing times that can be interpreted as a **Masonic** bailout in the guise of helping humanity progress to its next stage of evolutionary development. LaRouche's analysis and solutions are similar to the "Reform Liberalism" unfurled by FDR, a reform that rescued capitalism from the throes of socialism by engaging in Keynesian economics and deficit spending.

Neither LaRouche nor Schiller represent a forward march toward human dignity and Christian social renewal. They represent an adroit and very clever manipulation of events in the guise of progressive change, an attempt to hold onto a financial and cultural empire by appeal for change that simply returns the world to a previous chapter in a how-to-book that brought the world to the place where it stands now. In other words, the only thing sublime about LaRouche and Schiller are the slippery words and concepts they employ. Correctly seeing the world groping for change, they hope to continue profiting by representing themselves as enlightened avante-garde agents of an merging paradigmatic shift while refusing to let go of the liberal agenda that brought about the collapse we are now experiencing. [Perhaps this is why Lyndon LaRouche was sentenced to a fifteen year prison term](#) for conspiracy to commit mail fraud involving more than \$30 million in defaulted loans, and 11 counts of actual mail fraud involving \$294,000 in defaulted loans.

Mr. LaRouche maintained that he was

"...the victim of a Government campaign to keep him from alerting the nation to a wide variety of threats and from otherwise expressing his unorthodox political views".

It seems as though the LaRouche phenomenon is still operative – trying to alert the nation, and the world, this time to a wide variety of new possibilities that are nothing but a Masonic sham attempt to keep people from seeing

the possibility for *authentic* integral social, cultural spiritual, economic and political renewal-renewal rooted in the Holy Trinity. Real change, real peace, prosperity and progress will be achieved when the world returns to its God, to the Holy Trinity, Someone LaRouche fails to mention.

Liberals Gone Assad Still Here World Moves Toward Peace in Astana

[New Era World News](#)

ON DECEMBER 30, PRIOR TO THE NEW YEAR, *New Era* reported that the Russian, Turkish, and Iranian foreign ministers gathered in Moscow to discuss the situation in Syria. As a result of the meeting, the three announced their willingness to facilitate future negotiations between Damascus and Syrian opposition groups.

As a result of the meeting, the Troika issued a document referred to by the New York Times as ["The Moscow Declaration"](#). Among its eight articles, the "Declaration" states:

- **Iran, Russia and Turkey express their readiness to facilitate and become the guarantors of the prospective agreement being negotiated between the Syrian Government and the opposition.** They invited all other countries with the influence on the situation on the ground to do the same.

Consequently, On December 30 the Assad government and the main Syrian opposition groups agreed to a nationwide cease-

fire. [Turkey's Anadolu News Agency](#), reported that Russia and Turkey agreed to act jointly in order to guarantee implementation of the ceasefire agreement; they have been actively monitoring violations since that date.

The Russians, Iranians, and Turks decided to act without the United States. **Under President Obama, the United States neocons suffered a humiliating defeat, an international debacle far from their vision for a New American Century – The US was being taken out of the game and placed on the bench by the Russians.**

“Russia (however) said the United States could join a fresh peace process once President-elect Donald Trump takes office on Jan. 20” ([Reuters, Dec 30, 2016](#)).

Russian Secretary of State Sergey Lavrov stressed these sentiments in a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin:

“I would like to express the hope that as soon as the administration of Donald Trump takes office, they will also be able to join these efforts [to settle the Syrian crisis] so that we could jointly work in this direction” ([CNN News](#)).

Russia has in fact extended an invitation to the Trump administration to send a representative to attend the talks in Astana. Now that he is president, he will face opposition from neo-conservative and neo-liberal statesmen and from ranking officials in the Pentagon and intelligence community, men and women opposed to any cooperation with the Russians.

We will soon find out what the United States under President Trump is going to do – the Astana meeting began yesterday (January 23) in Kazakhstan as scheduled. It is the first time, since the conflict began six years ago, that high officials from the Syrian government have sat at a negotiating table with high officials representing the armed opposition to

discuss cessation of a war that has claimed over 400,000 lives.

At the outset of the meeting (being held at the Rixos President Astana Hotel) Iran, Turkey, and Russia welcomed the various delegates including representatives of the Syrian government and members of armed opposition groups opposed to the Syrian government. The Syrian government is being represented by Bashar Jaafari (Syria's Permanent Representative to the UN) who voiced extreme difficulty sitting down with countrymen who have helped ravage Syria supported by, an cooperating with, an overwhelming influx of foreign terrorists backed by an immense amount of foreign aid and assistance:

"This has been extremely painful for us to sit in the same room with other Syrians linked to foreign agendas and working for foreign powers."

Delegates stressed the situation cannot be solved by military intervention. Although the military is necessary to assure adherence to the cease-fire-peace initiative, the imbroglio must be resolved diplomatically, a process that will involve the United Nations.

"There is no military solution to the Syrian conflict...it can only be solved through a political process based on the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 2254 in its entirety."

The cooperating powers all agreed to the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of the Syrian nation, implying that **they will uphold the right of Syria as a sovereign nation**, a nation entitled to determine for itself who its leaders will be and who will be invited to fight alongside it against common enemies.

“The delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Turkey, in line with the Joint Statement of their Foreign Ministers made in Moscow, on December 20, 2016 and the UN Security Council resolution 2336...”reaffirm their commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic as a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, non-sectarian and democratic state”

It appears as forecast in our earlier report that the Syrian High Negotiation Committee (HNC) the umbrella group for Syrian opposition groups has not been invited. The “HNC is a Saudi-backed and formulated umbrella organization.” Given the fact that the HNC is headquartered in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, home of Sunni radicalism, of Shariah Law and Wahhabi and Salafist ultra-extremism led by Saud monarchs who rule their country with a tight fist, it seemed clear that they would not be invited. For centuries the Sauds have been locked in deadly combat with Shiite Iran and have been the prime supporters of jihad and terrorism in Syria. It is hard to imagine a group supported by the Sauds involved in a peace process that will strengthen the hands of its enemies viz., Iran, Russia and Turkey. Moreover, the HNC, supported by Great Britain has insisted, that **President Assad must be removed from office within six months of any transition.** This is contrary to the Syrian initiated democratic process envisioned by the Russians and the Syrian people themselves who voted overwhelmingly in Assad’s favor in 2014.

Moreover, according to [Aljazeera News](#)

“The HNC would reject any agreement struck by Russia and the US if it largely differed from the HNC’s terms.”

To bolster military operations to secure the cease-fire (in spite of opposition groups such as the HNC and other terrorists *not* invited to Astana), it was agreed yesterday

(Jan 23) that (1) **Iran will cooperate *militarily*** with Turkey and Russia to assure the ceasefire and (2) that Syria's indigenous opposition forces will be separated from the various terrorist organizations operating within the country (al-Nusra-ISIL-Daesh), organizations supported by Saudi Arabia and represented by the HNC. The terrorist groups will be subject to the combined wrath of Iran, Russia and Turkey who reiterated their "determination to fight jointly against... them."

This in itself is an extremely significant development. **In the past Saudi Arabia has brokered deals with Turkey to keep Iran in check; now, it appears that Turkey is switching allegiance. By Turkey now combining with Iran, it is Saudi Arabia that is checked and potentially threatened.** The Saudis are further feeling the heat due to Russia's combining its forces with both The Turks and the Persians (Iran). Implicitly, Saudi Arabia is being warned. If tensions do not cease; it is highly likely that Saudi Arabia will find bombs dropping on the Arabian Peninsula and Trump might not be there to intervene, *esp.* if he is working with the Russians to bring peace to the Middle East.

It appears that the Astana meeting is intended to foster peace between the Assad government and Syrian opposition, that is with opposition from Syrian citizens (not imported terrorists) who have issues with the government. Once these issues are resolved, the UN can take up negotiations with the terrorists who are unruly even at a meeting. In all likelihood, Syria is being united, internal grievances mollified and divisions healed before the Russians, Turks and Iranians begin pounding the terrorists into oblivion – as Trump has stated "I would bomb the shit out of ISIS".

<https://youtu.be/KK79N5zOmZQ>

Before this can happen, bombing the “shit” out of ISIS, Assad wants to unify his country and mitigate any grievances to assure the full support of his countrymen in the war that is about to be unleashed on the terrorists unless the UN can somehow avoid the coming conflict, a conflict that will presumably involve the US aligning with the Russians, Turks, Iranians and Syrians against ISIL-Deash-al Nusra *et al.*

Tuesday’s meeting concluded with the three guarantors issuing a join-statement supporting the upcoming UN Geneva talks and the participation of Syrian opposition forces (not necessarily the terrorists) within them.

Meeting Concluded but Not Over

The January 23 meeting was open to the press. Today, Jan 24, participants are meeting *en banc* behind closed doors to engage in further discussions between the Syrian government and opposition forces. Apparently, President Trump has been contacted and responded positively; **it is reported that the United States has a representative there.** According to [Sputnik](#):

*“Damascus delegation is set to speak first, followed by the armed opposition, Russia, Iran, Turkey, **the United States** and the United Nations.*

Kairat Abdrakhmanov, Foreign Minister of host Kazakastan, is optimistic:

“I am confident that the meeting in Astana will provide the necessary conditions allowing to find the acceptable solution of Syrian crisis for all the interested parties in the framework of Geneva process under the auspices of the UN and will be a significant step forward to peace and stability

in Syria. I wish you successful and fruitful negotiations...Kazakhstan believes that the only correct way to resolve the situation in Syria should be negotiations based on mutual trust and understanding."

Abdrakhmanov also stressed his wishes for a successful start that will lead to a breakthrough opening the way to the diplomatic side of things to occur in Geneva under UN auspices on February 8, 2017.

"We are providing you with the platform and the conditions to start negotiations... The next few days are very important," the delegates he said "should use this opportunity to ensure a real breakthrough."

The Astana round involves representatives of the armed opposition whereas the Geneva round will be a political process involving diplomats. **The Astana round is primarily a military round involving maintenance of the ceasefire that will prepare the way for the Geneva Round in February.** Highly significant is the role Russia is playing in cooperation with the UN. **It is Russian military might in cooperation with Iran and Turkey that the UN is relying on to bring the contending parties to Geneva** to engage in higher diplomatic talks. In the past, meetings were attempted in Geneva but armed opposition groups refused to participate. Astana therefore represents a breakthrough, and if the talks proceed well (along with a successful ceasefire) there is hope for significant progress in Geneva.

As a result the Astana talks will focus primarily on military issues. Strategies and agreements intended to enhance the volatile ceasefire are expected to be the main issue on the agenda. These agreements, if reached, will pave the way for a political settlement of the Syrian crisis in Geneva. Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister of Russia emphasized this point:

The talks in Astana are “an important contribution to... a comprehensive political settlement in Syria which will continue in wider activities in Geneva in early February.”

However, if neocon war hawks respond like the liberal robotons taking to the streets in various US cities, if the war hawks are as un-accepting of Trump's Russian initiatives or of Russia brokering a peace treaty while the US plays second fiddle, disruption or attempted disruption of the new administration can be expected. If the neocon response is anything like the liberal response, further unrest can be expected in Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East. The fact that ISIL and Jadhat Fatah al Sham (al Nusra Front), who maintain control of large swathes of Syria's oil fields, are not at the Astana meeting is indicative of a latent backlash waiting for Trump – these are forces who were, and have been, supported by neocons during the Obama administration. If Trump is unable to adroitly handle domestic opposition against Russia and Assad, opposition rising from war-hawks in his own party and from liberals on the left who will use the opportunity (who will do anything to put the new president in a quagmire) to disrupt his administration, the situation will grow worse, not better.

However, do not count the rising American majority out, the men and women who rose to put Trump in the White House. If the liberal neocon cohort has not learned its lesson, the same people who voted for Trump will themselves soon take to the streets in unprecedented numbers in support of their new president and of America's new peace initiatives. They are tired of war-mongering, of being lied to, of unpunished criminal acts, of disruption and constant belly-aching from hypocritical and spoiled extreme liberal leftists – they have simply had enough. If things continue as usual, “same old-same old”, it can be expected that they will soon be heard from in a rising crescendo of support for peace and cooperation with Russia and other cooperating nations throughout

the world as the promised *Era of Peace* dawns upon humanity.

President Trump and the United States have an opportunity to work with Russia and the global community toward world peace. But to be successful they must resign themselves to the reality that the neocon-neoliberal vision for a new American Century must be modified. The age of liberal global hegemony is coming to an end. Increasingly, the nations of the world are opting for national sovereignty and a restoration of traditional family values as the *Era of Peace* promised at Fatima continues to dawn upon the nations.

The United States can either adjust and cooperate or continue suffering one foreign policy embarrassment after another. It is either cooperate for peace or, as concluded in the previous article, a continued fall into irrelevance, something the Americans are unaccustomed too. If this happens, due to lack of cooperation with Russia *et al*, the liberals [and their neocon allies](#) who help make it a reality will have something real to cry about.

First Visit of Our Lady of Fatima – May 13, 1917

[New Era World News](#)

FATIMA IS SITUATED IN THE FOOTHILLS of the *Serra de Aire* Mountains about one hundred miles north of Lisbon, Portugal. It has become a worldwide pilgrimage destination and international shrine visited by every modern pope as a place

of human spiritual and social renewal. Saint John Paul II referred to Fatima as the, "Marian capitol of the world." Fatima was once a little known Portuguese village, until a series of three angelic apparitions prepared the way for a visitation by Blessed Virgin Mary to three small children thereafter drawing more than four million visitors annually to the site. Fatima is of such contemporary importance that **one of the first actions taken by newly elected Pope Francis was to consecrate his entire pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima.** This was followed by World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, which he also consecrated to Our Lady of Fatima. **Then, on Oct. 13, 2013 he consecrated the entire world to Our Lady of Fatima** followed by conversations with Vladimir Putin relevant to Christianity in the modern world and the role of Russia in defending Christians in the Middle East as will be detailed in this series of articles on Fatima.

The Fatima story begins with three visit by the Angel of Peace in 1916 to prepare them for the coming of the Virgin Mary the following year. The first apparition of Our Lady took place on May 13, 1917, just prior to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. On this date the Mother of Jesus appeared at Fatima to three shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto. She came to turn the nations embroiled in world war back to God and to make an appeal for world peace.

Thereafter, she visited the children on the 13th of every month for six consecutive months making a number of prophecies now popularly known as the "Three Secrets of Fatima." According to the official Catholic interpretation, the three secrets involve Hell, World War I and World War II, and the attempted assassination by gunshot of Pope John Paul II. The apparitions culminated with the unprecedented "*Miracle of the Sun*," which she performed before a gathering of some 70,000 pilgrims and skeptics (including atheists and Free Masons) on October 13, 1917 as she had said she would so that "all might

believe”.

First Visit by the Blessed Virgin Mary, May 13, 1917

Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia were taking a rest from tending sheep on a slope in the Cova da Iria where they were passing time playing at building a stone wall when a flash of lightning appeared in the east. Sensing rain, they hurried towards home. Half way down the slope there was another flash of lightening. After proceeding a few more steps they beheld a beautiful Lady all dressed in white. She was more brilliant than the sun and radiated a clear and intense light.

The children stopped immediately in front of her and were bathed in the light that radiated from her in all directions.

Our Lady's first words were reassuring, like those of the Angel of Peace who began his visit by consoling the children: *“Do not be afraid”*:

“Do not be afraid. I will do you know harm!”

“Where are you from?” asked Lucia

“I am from heaven”

“What do you want of me?”

*“I have come to ask you to come here for six months in succession, on the thirteenth day, at the same hour. Later on I will tell you who I am and what I want. **Afterwards, I will return here a seventh time.**”*

“Shall I go to heaven too?”

"Yes, you will,"

"And Jacinta?"

"She will go also."

"And Francisco?"

"He will go there too, but he must say many rosaries,"

"Is Maria das Neves in Heaven?"

"Yes, she is."

"And Amelia?"

"She will be in purgatory until the end of the world."

"Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you as an act of reparation for the conversion of sinners?"

"Yes, we are willing."

"Then you are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort"

As she pronounced these last words, She opened her hands communicating an intense light which penetrated their hearts to their innermost depths of their souls enabling them to see themselves in God, who was the light. In this light, they saw themselves more clearly than in they ever saw themselves in any mirror.

Then moved by a communicated interior impulse, they fell to their knees repeating:

“Oh, Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, my God, I love You in the most Blessed Sacrament!”

Finally, Our Lady told them to:

“Pray the rosary every day in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war.”

Then she rose serenely to the east and disappeared into the empyrean.

LESSONS:

The children had been prepared for this visit from the Queen of Heaven by first being introduced to the Holy Trinity by the *“Angel of Portugal”* who instructed them during his first visit to ask pardon for those who **“do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love Him.”**

Saying this prayer three times helped make the transition to the next angelic apparition in which they were taught to constantly offer prayers and sacrifices in reparation for sins by which God is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of poor sinners.

“You will thus draw down peace upon your country, I am its Angel Guardian, the Angel of Portugal. Above all accept and bear with submission the suffering which the Lord will send you.”

The children were taken progressively deeper into the mystery of Divine Love and Justice, which require a closer imitation of Jesus who never ceased offering prayer and sacrifice for

sinners. They were taught that they could win grace for their country in this way. They were also taught that those who pray for sinners can, like Jesus, be expected to suffer for sinners, if they are willing.

Finally, during the third angelic apparition, they were taken deeper into the mystery of the Eucharist, which is both the answer to sin and the cause of God's greatest displeasure rooted in the apathy and sacrileges committed against Jesus Christ by ungrateful men who fail to recognize the supreme sacrifice made by the Son of God to make divine life accessible to humanity by the offering of His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity available to all men and women as the means of deepest communion with the Holy Trinity. The angel appeared with the Sacred Host and Chalice and beckoned the children to thrice repeat the prayer he had taught them to recite prior to their receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ that united them to the mystery of the Holy Trinity present in the Eucharist:

During the third apparition, they were taught a new prayer of adoration and reparation necessary to win grace for the conversion of sinners:

“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of you the conversion of poor sinners.”

They were also told that Jesus is horribly outraged by ungrateful men and that they should do more than pray but to worship God and receive Holy Communion by which they could “repair for the crimes of men and also console Jesus.

After Holy Communion, the angel prostrated himself on the ground and three times repeated the same prayer of consolation, adoration, and reparation to the “Most Holy Trinity” for the conversion of sinners.

“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in (1) REPARATION for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, (2) I beg of you the CONVERSION of poor sinners.”

This completed the preparatory phase by which the children were taking step by step deeper into the mystery of the Holy Trinity expressed in the mystery of the Eucharist and the need for adoration and reparation through Eucharistic prayer and daily sacrifice offered to the Trinity for the sins of men, esp. sins against the Eucharist.

Significantly, the first apparition of Our Lady ended, as it had with the Angel of Portugal, with adoration and love of the Blessed Sacrament.

“Oh, Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, my God, I love You in the most Blessed Sacrament!”

Afterward, the Virgin Mary concluded Her first visit with one final request. She asked the children to continue praying the rosary.

Thus, Our Lady linked the Rosary and the Eucharist, as St. John Bosco had linked devotion to Mary, “*Auxilium Christianorum*” (Help of Christians) and Her Divine Son, Jesus Christ in his well-known dream of the two pillars, which the Church Militant (the Church on earth) headed by the Pope must

honor to obtain victory over the world and the enemies of Christ. In effect, the Virgin Mary was beginning to unfold the relationship between the Eucharist and the Rosary as the supernatural and Divine means offered by the Holy Trinity and the Queen of Heaven and Earth to obtain world peace:

“Pray the rosary every day in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war.”

Introduction to Fatima-Divine Mercy and Role of Poland-Russia in Crushing Liberalism

[New Era World News](#)

This series is being written because of the immense importance of Fatima for the modern world.

THIS YEAR THE CHURCH IS CELEBRATING the centenary of the appearance of the Mother of God at Fatima, Portugal in 1917. Since that time Fatima has become the world's most prominent center of Marian devotion, a place that John Paul II referred to as the “Marian capitol of the world.” Given the fact that the Our Lady of Fatima precisely foretold the outbreak of World War II, the rise of communism and the persecution of the Church, Her other prophecies concerning the conversion of Russia to be correlated with an “Era of Peace” are of especial relevance since, unlike the former that have already occurred, these prophesied events are in the process of occurring. Any impartial observer of global events can discern the Hand of God at work in the world as [Russia is](#)

[being converted](#) and the nations of the world are one by one in the process of rejecting global liberalism while many are reasserting their Christian patrimonies ([Western Europe](#), [Eastern Europe](#), [Africa](#), [Poland](#), [France](#), [Asia](#), [Argentina](#), [Middle East](#)).

While New Era has been reporting on these changes since its inception, secular and liberal pundits have also begun to observe the many changes occurring world-wide. They are, however, **misinterpreting, and thus misrepresenting, them as a *political movements***, movements referred to as ***“Populist”***, when in fact these are primarily moral, cultural, spiritual and religious movements. Unlike other populist movements that have focused on economic and social justice, equal rights for the little guy etc. **this new “populist movement” differs from previous populist movements because of its global scope and because it is characterized by moral and spiritual dimensions including the frothy rejection of liberalism** that, all taken together, indicate or hint at its religious nature. Although the movement has profound political ramifications, it is not political in essence. At its core, the populist movement [sweeping the globe](#) is related to Our Lady’s promises made at Fatima, promises pertaining to the ***“Conversion of Russia”*** and a corollary ***“Era of Peace”***. This highly unusual global movement has a religious or theological etiology that intersects with politics, what New Era refers to as theopolitical or ***“Theopolitics”***.

It behooves everyone, Catholic, Protestant and non-Christian to know the Fatima Message due to the import of its contents, contents that are unfolding in front of our eyes on a daily basis. The current spiritual movement was foreseen by St. Louis Marie de Montfort. De Montfort is a highly significant saint for our times. His evangelical work is so exceptional, that another saint, Saint John Paul II, exhorted the “apostles of today” to draw inspiration from his life and work:

“Now that the need for a new evangelization has become

imperative in most parts of the world, Fr de Montfort's zeal for the Word of God, his solicitude for the very poor, his ability to make himself understood by the simplest folk and to stimulate their piety, his qualities for organizing, his initiatives to sustain fervour by founding spiritual movements and to involve the laity in the service of the poor, all that, with practical adaptations, can inspire the apostles of today" ([Letter on 50th anniversary of de Montfort's canonization](#)).

De Montfort's facund treatises on the Virgin Mary are so exceptional that John Paul II (in his [Encyclical Redemptoris Mater](#)) recommended de Montfort's Marian spirituality to all the faithful:

"Marian spirituality, like its corresponding devotion, finds a very rich source in the historical experience of individuals and of the various Christian communities present among the different peoples and nations of the world. In this regard, I would like to recall, among the many witnesses and teachers of this spirituality, the figure of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, who proposes consecration to Christ through the hands of Mary, as an effective means for Christians to live faithfully their baptismal commitments".

One of the main reasons for De Montfort's contemporary relevance is his perspicacious understanding of the role of the Virgin Mary in the "End Times", times which we are entering.

How do we know we are entering the end times? One complex and difficult way is the study of sacred scripture especially eschatological literature. A more simple approach is the fact that Jesus promised to be with His Church until the end of time:

"Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of

the world" ([Matt 28:20](#))

And that the Holy Trinity would reveal to the Church all that was going to happen:

"I have yet many things to say to you: but you cannot bear them now. But when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will teach you all truth. For he shall not speak of himself; but what things soever he shall hear, he shall speak; and the things that are to come, he shall shew you" ([John 16: 12-13](#)).

Then, years after His Ascension, Jesus appeared to Saint John on the island of Patmos and He has continued to appear to His saints at special times throughout history.

*"And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks: And in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks, **one like to the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the feet, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.** And his head and his hairs were white, as white wool, and as snow, and his eyes were as a flame of fire, And his feet like unto fine brass, as in a burning furnace. And his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars. And from his mouth came out a sharp two edged sword: and his face was as the sun shineth in his power."*

*"And when I had seen him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he **laid his right hand upon me**, saying: Fear not. I am the First and the Last, And alive, and was dead, and behold I am living for ever and ever, and have the keys of death and of hell. Write therefore the things which thou hast seen, and which are, and which must be done hereafter" ([Revelation 1: 12-19](#)).*

In the 20th century Jesus revealed Himself to a highly

regarded Polish saint, Saint Faustina Kowalska, a poor Polish nun to whom He appeared prior to World War II. Among other things, He confided to her His love for humanity and His desire to bless the world with an outpouring of Divine Mercy before His final coming as “Just Judge”. He also revealed His special love for the nation of Poland from which He said would come the “spark” that would prepare the world for His Second Coming.

Saint Faustina Divine Mercy Message and the End Times

The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion is based on revelations given by Jesus Christ to Saint Faustina who recorded the revelations she received about the Mercy of God in a [voluminous diary, which contains the Message of Divine Mercy](#) (PDF), mercy that God intends for all humanity, especially for those most steeped in sin. Thanks to the love and work of Saint Faustina, Devotion to the Divine Mercy has spread throughout the world.

(c) Knights of Columbus Supreme Council

Devotion to Divine Mercy has gained the highest approbation of the Catholic Church. It has been placed on the universal liturgical calendar of the Church as the **Feast of Divine Mercy** celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter, also the day on which Pope John Paul II, the “Pope of Mercy” breathed his last breath as the Vicar of Christ and “Apostle of Mercy.”

JESUS SPOKE TO SAINT FAUSTINA ABOUT HIS SPECIAL LOVE FOR POLAND

“I bear a special love for Poland, and if she will be obedient to My will, I will exalt her in might and holiness. From her will come forth the spark that will prepare the world for My final coming” (Diary, 1732).

The **spark of fire** that would come forth from Poland began with the pontificate of Saint John Paul II and is spreading around the globe. Poland is the first nation in the 21st century to actually declare Jesus Christ as its king and the Mother of God as its Queen, acts that were carried out by the nation's president, prime minister, parliament and princes of the Church including the Primate of Poland.

*In the presence of President Andrej Duda, Prime Minister, Beata Szydło, and other ranking state officials the bishops prayed: "We entrust to you the Polish people and Polish leaders. Let them exercise their power fairly and **in accordance with Your laws.**"*

"Rule us, Christ! Reign in our homeland and reign in every nation – for the greater glory of the Most Holy Trinity and the salvation of mankind."

The Polish Parliament (Sejm) announced its conviction that the Mother of God has a place of "special importance" for the nation, so special that they, the Polish Parliament itself, have officially declared 2017 as a jubilee year in honor of Mary whose coronation they have formally recognized as Queen of Poland.

"The Polish Sejm, convinced of the special importance of Marian devotion for our homeland – not only in the religious aspect, but also social, cultural and patriotic – establishes 2017 (as) the Year of the 300th anniversary of the Coronation of the image of Our Lady of Czestochowa,"

The world press is only now beginning to take notice of the special tenor of the events happening in Poland and related events happening around the globe. *The liberal establishment is being shaken to its foundations* as Poland is being joined by Hungary, Slovakia, the Philippines, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Malaysia, France, Austria, Moldova, Bulgaria and Russia *et al.* A general global uprising

of Euro-skeptic Christian political parties and social movements is rapidly gaining momentum throughout the continent as well as in Asia and Africa. Increasing numbers are rising to challenge secular liberalism and reasserting their Christian or native patrimonies.

Russia is being converted as promised at Fatima, but Poland has stepped forward igniting the flame of love promised by Jesus. From Poland is coming forth the spark of spiritual renewal, of life giving and cleansing mercy, that flows from the Heart of Christ the King.

Jesus told Saint Faustina that **Poland would be the instrumental “spark” that would prepare the world for His “final coming”**. Images of that spark that is igniting a fire across Europe and beyond can be viewed in the video below.

We are living in or about to enter into the “Hour of Mercy”, the time preparatory to Christ’s final coming, a time foreseen by St. Louis Marie de Montfort, a time, in his words, when

“...great men filled with the Holy Spirit and imbued with the spirit of Mary” ...will destroy sin and establish the kingdom of Jesus Christ.”

“They are the “great souls filled with . . . zeal” ([True Devotion 48](#)), “superior to all creatures by their great zeal” ([True Devotion 54](#)). The action of the “true apostles of the end times” ([True Devotion 58](#)) consists of spreading “the fire of divine love” everywhere; they are themselves “a flaming fire” ([True Devotion 56](#)). In the battle against evil and the enemies of God, these great saints “will become, in Mary’s powerful hands, like sharp arrows,” and they will leave “an

odor of death" among the worldly ([True Devotion 56](#)). Their work will not be limited to reforming the Church, but will include extending it to "the idolators and Muslims" ([True Devotion 59](#)).

De Montfort wrote of the Second Coming of Christ to "reign over all the earth and to judge the living and the dead". Prior to His coming, he foresaw "great men filled with the Holy Spirit and imbued with the spirit of Mary", men whom he said will "destroy sin and establish the kingdom of Jesus Christ." Poland has already taken the first steps in bringing this eschatological vision of De Montfort to fruition. As of November 1, 2016, Jesus Christ is the King of Poland.

"These great souls filled with grace and zeal will be chosen to oppose the enemies of God who are raging on all sides. They will be exceptionally devoted to the Blessed Virgin. Illumined by her light, strengthened by her spirit, supported by her arms, sheltered under her protection, they will fight with one hand and build with the other."

De Montfort concludes:

"Towards the end of the world ... Almighty God and His holy Mother are to raise up saints who will surpass in holiness most other saints as much as the cedars of Lebanon tower above little shrubs....Mary scarcely appeared in the first coming of Christ..."

"But in the second coming of Jesus Christ, Mary must be known and openly revealed by the Holy Spirit so that Jesus may be known, loved and served through her."

All the above provide strong reason to believe that the world is entering (or has already entered) into a graced moment of

sacred history, a time that Jesus, Himself, said was preparatory to His final coming, a time that has been confirmed by the highest authority in the Church, a time in which the Virgin Mary's Fatima prophecies pertaining to the conversion of Russia and a corollary Era of Peace are being fulfilled. Since there is strong reason to believe what Our Lady foretold at Fatima is upon us (during this 100th anniversary year of Her 1917 appearances), it is through this "Fatima Lens" that we can correctly discern what is happening around the globe – the so-called global populist phenomenon is a prodigious phenomenon related to Fatima and the coming Christian renewal during an Era of Peace prior to the final onslaught by the anti-Christ at the end of the world.

It is the purpose of this "Fatima Series" to familiarize the reader with the Fatima Message beginning with the **three visits by the archangel Michael in 1916**, followed by **six visits of Our Lady in 1917** and other visits to Sister Lucia at **Tuy and Pontevedra, Spain and Rianjo**. The series will also include an article on the **Three Secrets of Fatima** and another about the **Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart**. This later article will conclude the series; it is also the most contentious issue in Fatima circles. There are many strong Catholic traditionalists who argue that the consecration requested by Our Lady has not been fulfilled because She specifically asked for the [consecration of "Russia"](#), but John Paul II, who made the consecration in 1984, did not mention Russia.

Specifically, instead of "Russia", John Paul II consecrated ["individuals and nations"](#) and the ["world" but not Russia](#).

"In a special way we entrust and consecrate to you those individuals and nations which particularly need to be entrusted and consecrated."

"In entrusting to you, oh Mother, the world, all individuals and peoples, we also entrust to you this very consecration of the world, placing it in your motherly Heart."

Because he did not mention "Russia" specifically, many have *wrongly* concluded that the consecration is invalid – even though affirmed by every pope since John Paul II and by Sister Lucia herself.

New Era will demonstrate the erroneous nature of this false contention. Using the formal Fatima literature accepted by both parties (those who accept and those who reject the validity of John Paul II's 1984 consecration) it will be demonstrated that **Pope John Paul II's 1984 Act of Consecration accurately fulfill's Our Lady's requests** and that the far-right Fatima detractors are not only disobedient but also in gross error.

In fact, ***for the first time*** it will be shown from the Fatima documents themselves that it was the "world" not "Russia" that **should have been consecrated**. In other words, John Paul II after studying the literature brought to him in Gemelli Hospital (where he was treated and recovering from assassin's wounds) acted correctly: The "world" not just "Russia" needed to be consecrated. The pope was not derelict in his papal duties; he was not hemmed in by diplomatic agreements (*ostpolitik*), nor did he suffer from fear of Communist retaliation as maintained by many ultra-traditionalists. John Paul II acting in his role as Supreme Pontiff understood the Fatima Message and its cultural and historical contexts, the contexts in which it was given in 1917 and in which the Church was living in 1984. **After conducting an exhaustive and prayerful study of the documents, graced by wounds he united to the blood of Christ, he purposefully worded the consecration the way it was delivered because it was the correct prayer formula as requested by both Our Lord and Our Lady as will be shown.**

UNDERSCORING THE IMPORTANCE OF FATIMA FOR THE MODERN WORLD

Beginning with Pope Pius XII, every modern pope has either pointed out the importance of Fatima, visited Fatima, or consecrated "humanity", the "world", or "Russia" to Our Lady of Fatima. Modern papal consecrations include:

- **Pope Pius XII October 31, 1942** consecrated all of humanity over Vatican radio in Portuguese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
- **Pope Pius XII December 28, 1942** repeated the consecration at St. Peter's
- **Then on July 7, 1952**, the same pope consecrated all the people in Russian lands to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- **Pope Paul VI November 21, 1964** renewed in the presence of the Fathers of the Vatican Council (but without their participation) the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart.
- **Pope John Paul II May 13, 1982** on a trip to Fatima to thank Virgin for miraculous recovery, consecrated the world to the Mother of all Peoples.
- **Then on March 25, 1984, Pope John Paul II** conducted a worldwide collegial consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at St. Peter's Square before statue of Our Lady of Fatima flown in from Fatima.

Later Sister Lucia, the last survivor of the three children to whom Our Lady appeared in 1917, confirmed the validity of the March 25 consecration made by Pope John Paul II.

WHERE IS FATIMA AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Fatima is situated in the foothills of the *Serra de Aire* Mountains about one hundred miles north of Lisbon, Portugal.

It has become a worldwide pilgrimage destination and international shrine visited by every modern pope as a place of human spiritual and social renewal. Saint John Paul II referred to Fatima as the, "Marian capitol of the world." Fatima was once a little known Portuguese village, until a series of three angelic apparitions prepared the way for a visitation by Blessed Virgin Mary to three small children thereafter drawing more than four million visitors annually to the site. Fatima is of such contemporary importance that **one of the first actions taken by newly elected Pope Francis was to consecrate his entire pontificate to Our Lady of Fatima.** This was followed by World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro, which he also entrusted to Our Lady of Fatima. **Then, on Oct. 13, 2013 he entrusted the entire world to Our Lady of Fatima** followed by conversations with Vladimir Putin relevant to Christianity in the modern world and the role of Russia in defending Christians in the Middle East as will be detailed in this series of articles on Fatima.

The first apparition of Our Lady took place on May 13, 1917, just prior to the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia. On this date the Mother of Jesus appeared at Fatima to three shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto. She came to turn the nations embroiled in world war back to God and to make an appeal for world peace.

Thereafter, she visited the children on the 13th of every month for six consecutive months making a number of prophecies now popularly known as the "Three Secrets of Fatima." According to the official Catholic interpretation, the three secrets involve Hell, World War I and World War II, and the attempted assassination by gunshot of Pope John Paul II. The apparitions culminated with the unprecedented "*Miracle of the Sun*," which she performed before a gathering of some 70,000 pilgrims and skeptics (including atheists and Free Masons) on October 13, 1917 as she had said she would so that "all might believe".

The Virgin Mary told the children that Holy Mother Russia, the bastion of Orthodox Christianity, would become a communist nation and that it would lead a world-wide persecution of the church and that various nations would be annihilated.

She also told the children that in the end Russia would be converted if and when the pope in union with all the bishops of the world consecrated Russia to her Immaculate Heart.

After much stalling, intrigue and diplomacy, as mentioned above, Pope John Paul II finally made the requested consecration on March 25, 1984. He was moved to do this for several reasons, chief among them **the would-be assassin's bullets that struck him landed on May 13, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima**, which he was celebrating in Rome. In his own words,

"It was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path and in his throes the Pope halted at the threshold of death" (Pope John Paul II, Meditation from the Policlinico Gemelli to the Italian Bishops, 13 May 1994).

While recovering in Rome's Gemelli Hospital he had the Fatima texts removed from the Vatican Archives and personally presented to him. **Lying in the hospital, prayerfully studying the Fatima dossier, he recognized himself as the pope "dressed in white"** spoken about in the "third secret", the pope whom Our Lady referred to when she told the children that the "holy father" would have much to suffer, implicitly at the hands of the communists.



Pope John Paul II Recognized Himself as the Pope Dressed in White in the Third Secret of Fatima

Subsequently, he had the bullet removed from his body sent to Fatima to be placed in the crown of the Virgin statue. Then, on March 25, 1984, he proceeded to consecrate the world to Our Lady of Fatima in union with the bishops. Following that collegial act he then also decided to publicly reveal the much guarded "Third Secret of Fatima" for the first time since it was given to the children in 1917.



Pope John Paul II Consecrating the World to Our Lady of Fatima

Following the 1984 papal consecration, as promised, communism was toppled, the Solidarity movement gained momentum in Poland, the Berlin wall came down and one after another the nations behind the “Iron Curtain” were given political and then religious freedom – [Russia was being converted as Our Lady of Fatima had promised.](#)

The granting of religious freedom in Russia was followed by an increasing number of significant events including the removal of the communist flag from over the Kremlin for the last time on *Christmas day, December 25, 1991* thereby symbolizing the end of atheistic communism and foreshadowing the return of Russia as a world power to its ancient Christian patrimony—the rebirth of Christianity on Christmas day.

A new spring-time was occurring in the North. Russia had reemerged as a sovereign nation granting religious freedom to Christians and other world religions. and then Vladimir Putin

committed Russia to the protection of Christians throughout the Middle East. On June 1, 2010, President Dmitry Medvedev signed a new law commemorating July 28 as a national holiday thereby officially recognizing the founding of Russia as a Christian nation with the baptism of Prince Vladimir in Kiev in 988. Speaking at the annual celebration commemorating the “Baptism of the Russ,” he said:

“The continual work of the Russian Orthodox Church will affect the revival of Christianity in our nation. Thanks to the Orthodox faith, Russian culture through the years, has acquired Biblical values on which the system of moral ideals for our nation is built” (US Department of State, 2010).

It is the purpose of this “Fatima Series” to familiarize the reader with Fatima beginning with the **three visits by the archangel Michael in 1916**, followed by **six visits of Our Lady in 1917** and other visits to Sister Lucia at **Tuy** and **Pontevedra**, Spain and **Rianjo**. In all there were 14 apparitions and locutions: Three angelic apparitions prior to the six consecutive appearances of Our Lady in 1917. These were followed by five more post 1917 apparitions/locutions to Sister Lucia from 1925 through 1931 and several important communications between Sister Lucia and her spiritual director that are essential to the Message of Fatima.

NOTE

The following articles will focus on the essential communications that took place on each of these dates. Description of the apparitions are borrowed from Sister Lucia’s Memoirs: *“Fatima in Lucia’s Own Words”* (2007), Fatima, Portugal.