

# MEMO from Bishop Edward M. Rice

To: Pastors, Directors, Principals

Re: Final Week of 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima, Oct. 7-13, 2017



As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the final apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, His Eminence Donald Cardinal Wuerl will preside over the Consecration of the United States of America to the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima. The Mass, on Friday evening, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), will be broadcast live on EWTN to 140 nations!

Every diocese in the United States has been asked to unite itself to this occasion and so I request that all **parishes with elementary schools** celebrate an **All-School Mass on Oct. 13, 2017**. Sample petitions may be found at the end of this missive. A special **Worldwide Children's Eucharistic Holy Hour** will be held at **10 a.m. (ET) on Oct. 13**; please invite P.S.R. children to these activities and events so that they, too, can participate in the consecration. Of course, adults (parents) should be encouraged to participate as well. Those **parishes without a school** are encouraged to offer the **rosary at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 13 followed by 7 p.m. Mass**.

The entire week, Oct. 7-13, 2017, can be a set aside for special celebrations including the recitation of the rosary, a special Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament, the crowning of an image of Our Lady, or a "movie day" on the apparitions. More information can be found on the resources I've listed along with the petitions.

A diocesan prayer card is being developed with the image of Our Lady of Fatima and a prayer of consecration for each of our parishes, missions, CCMs, and schools, and will be available for **pick up** at the **September Clergy Days of Reflection**. Please make these readily available so that each of us may be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

In closing, please do not let this opportunity pass: Last year the Diocese was able to be consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as part of our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. What a beautiful opportunity we now have to be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima. Please utilize the resources available through the resource links I've provided.

Thank you.

Most sincerely yours, in Christ,

*+ Edward M. Rice*

The Most Rev. Edward M. Rice  
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

## **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR COUNTRY, FAMILIES & WORLD**

### **First Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017 Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary**

- 15th Annual Worldwide Children's Eucharistic Holy Hour to be broadcast live via EWTN from the parish church of the Little Shepherds of Fatima, Portugal.
- Five First Saturday devotions — learn more <http://childrenoftheeucharist.org/100th-anniversary-celebration>

### **Continuing through the week, Oct. 7-13**

- Worldwide Rosary Congresses-24/7 Adoration/Rosary/Sacrifices in parishes across the globe:
- Tutorial slip books on how to initiate sacrifices of reparation in the lives of children and families. Learn more from the link: <http://childrenoftheeucharist.org>

**Friday morning, Oct. 13, 2017**, we urge clergy, teachers, and parents to plan to gather their students and children, before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the final apparition at Fatima, Portugal.

### **Friday evening, Oct. 13, 2017 — Worldwide Candlelight Rosary**

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will consecrate the USA to Our Lady of Fatima's Immaculate Heart during the evening Candlelight Rosary prayed in five languages; additional Marian devotions will include closing Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. EWTN will broadcast the Worldwide Candlelight Rosary to over 140 nations: [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)

## **SUGGESTED PETITIONS**

1. May Our Lady of Fatima guide and protect our Holy Father, Pope Francis; Edward, our Bishop, and all the priests, religious, and seminarians of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, we pray to the Lord....
2. We ask Our Lady of Fatima's protection for all marriages: May she strengthen family life and guide all children in the ways of holiness, we pray to the Lord...
3. We pray that all members of the Church respond to Our Lady's plea to pray the rosary daily for peace in our world, we pray to the Lord...
4. Through the message of Fatima, may we be inspired to enter into acts of sacrifice for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins of the world, we pray to the Lord...
5. We pray for the conversion of all sinners, especially those enslaved by addictions of any kind: May Our Lady be a source of strength, drawing them closer to her Son, we pray to the Lord...
6. For those who have died: May Our Lady of Fatima escort them to the presence of her Son, we pray to the Lord.