

THE POWER OF THE ROSARY Part 2

After World War II, Austria was divided between four countries: America, France, the United Kingdom, and Russia. At the time, Russia was still communist. The section of Austria controlled by the communists was the richest, and included the city of Vienna. The Viennese were subject to all the atrocities and tyrannies of communism. However, in 1946, Fr. Petrus Pavlicek, after making a pilgrimage to Mariazell, the principle Marian shrine in Austria, was told by an interior voice: “Do as I say and there will be peace.”

To obey this inspiration of Our Lady, Father Pavlicek founded the Holy Rosary Crusade of Reparation in 1947. This Crusade consisted of the Viennese faithful coming out of their homes in order to participate in a public Rosary procession in the streets of the city. The intentions of the Rosary were for the end of communism in their country and in the world. At first, the processions were minuscule, but in time they grew to staggering proportions. In 1955, after eight years spreading the word about the Crusade throughout Austria, the Rosary processions would reach sizes of half a million people, about 1/10 of the Austrian population. Finally, through the help of Our Lady, the Soviet forces pulled out of Austria in October of 1955, leaving the country for good.

Even to this day military strategists and historians are baffled. Why did the Communists pull out? Austria is a strategically located country, a door to the West, rich in mineral deposits and oil reserves? In other words, Our Lady’s Rosary did what the Hungarian Freedom Fighters could not do.

A writer and diplomat of the 19th century, named John Cortes wrote: “Those who pray do more for the world than those who fight. If the world is going from bad to worse, it is because there are more battles than prayers!”

One more witness to the power of the Rosary for an entire nation is that of Brazil. The stage was all set in 1961 to take over Brazil just like Cuba. A woman named Dona Amelia Bastos heard of the threat of Communism for their country and decided that the women of the country will pray the rosary while the men “try to figure out politically” what to do to keep Brazil from falling into the hands of Communism. She formed CAMDE (Campaign of Women for Democracy). In Belo Horizonte, 20,000 women reciting the rosary aloud broke up the leftist meeting there. In Sao Paulo, 600,000 women praying the rosary in one of the most moving demonstrations in Brazilian history, sounded the death knell of the Communist revolution. Brazil was then kept from Communism at that time.

These women with rosaries in their hands or around their necks, issued a 1300 word proclamation:

This nation which God has given us, immense and marvelous as it is, is in extreme danger. We have allowed men of limitless ambition, without Christian faith or scruples, to bring our people misery, destroying our economy, disturbing our social peace, to create hate and despair. They have infiltrated our nation, our government, our armed forces and even our churches...

Mother of God preserve us from the fate and suffering of the martyred women of Cuba, Poland, Hungary and other enslaved nations!

May we in America wake up and find time to pray our rosaries in private, in the family, at Holy Hours, and in processions. Our Lady of Fatima did not say that the US would not see the errors of Russia – we are seeing them now! It is not too late – may we pray the above prayer as well as the Rosary for peace!

Our Lady of the Rosary pray for us!