

Cardinal Pledges Continuing Fatima Devotional Program

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Continued devotion in St. Louis to Our Lady of Fatima was pledged by John Joseph Cardinal Carberry in ceremonies Sunday concluding the month-long visit here of the statue of the Pilgrim Virgin.

The special devotion to Our Lady of Fatima will include:

- a replica of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima placed permanently in the Old Cathedral;
- special Masses the first Saturday of every month;
- a yearly novena for peace each May at the Old Cathedral.

The Cardinal spoke at ceremonies at which the Pilgrim Virgin was crowned with a replica of the jeweled crown which Portuguese women donated in 1946 to adorn the original statue of the Blessed Mother at Fatima.

In his address, Cardinal Carberry spoke of the continuing need of prayer for peace.

"Never before has the subject of peace been so much before the minds of the American public," the

Cardinal told the crowd at the Cathedral. "Everywhere one turns, it is the all-engrossing subject in public life and in private conversation.

"World peace continues to elude the efforts of men and we, as individuals and as a nation, must turn

*Excerpts of Cardinal's Talk
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to God for assistance. The spirit of prayer and penance that radiates from Fatima has made a deep and lasting impression upon me, and it is my fervent prayer that all of us in the archdiocese join together in responding to the pleas of Our Lady of Fatima for prayer and sacrifice the road to peace," the Cardinal said.

The Cardinal also announced that, in order to encourage continued devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, an exact replica of the statue at Fati-

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ma has been received from Bishop John Venancio of Leiria, Portugal, the diocese in which Fatima is located.

This statue will be placed permanently in a place of honor in the Basilica of St. Louis IX on the riverfront, the Cardinal said.

"Our Lady will stand in the church beneath the great Arch, Gateway to the West, and, please God, she will stand as a reminder to all of us in St. Louis to rededicate our efforts to the cause of peace."

Auxiliary Bishop Joseph A. McNicholas, pastor of the Old Cathedral, spoke at the end of the Mass Sunday at the Cathedral and acceded to the Cardinal's request with enthusiasm.

"We gratefully accept this charge from His Eminence and we propose to use the presence of the statue to make the Old Cathedral a center of our prayers for peace," Bishop McNicholas said. "We particularly enlist the prayers of the young for whom peace is such a burning issue and whose young lives are the ones snuffed out in the horror of war."

Bishop McNicholas also announced a continuing schedule of prayers and Masses at the Old Cathedral in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. There will be:

- Special Masses on the first Saturday of each month, beginning with Saturday, June 6. The Masses will be at 7:30 a.m., 5:30 and 7 p.m. Ten minutes before Mass there will be a public recitation of the Rosary, and in place of the Prayer of the Faithful will be petitions addressed to Our Lady of Fatima.

- Each year, a novena of prayer for peace will be held at the Old Cathedral, beginning on May 4, 1971 and continuing for nine days, ending on May 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima.