

On Reuniting the Catholic and Orthodox Churches

The Roman Catholic Church, through its Popes, can trace its beginnings all the way back to Peter. However, one thousand years ago, the church was fractured, leaving the Roman Catholic Church and Orthodox Church. Today, the greatest number of Orthodox Christians are in Russia. In 2004, Pope John Paul II sent the famous icon of Our Lady of Kazan, which he obtained from the World Apostolate of Fatima, back to Russia. She is the patroness of households in Russian families.

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happening and are true.*

An Orthodox Archbishop a decade ago wrote to the Pope for the purpose of entering his society and priests into communion with the Roman Catholic Church, while remaining Orthodox. In a similar letter to the Archbishop of Constantinople, the reasons explained for doing this was the apparitions of the Holy Theotokos at Soufanieh, Damascus, Syria.

There the ever Virgin Mary told the seer that Our Lord desires His church to be reunited and that it have one day for Pascha (Easter). She told the seer that those who divided the Church were wrong, those who kept it apart are wrong, that it is up to us to reunite it, and that if we do not reunite it, He will reunite it Himself and rake it over the heads of those who oppose Him. "We firmly believe these apparitions are happening and are true," wrote the Orthodox Archbishop to the Pope, the Archbishop of Constantinople and the Orthodox Patriarch of Moscow.

The late Sister Lucia of Fatima fame, said that Christian unity was always part of the purpose of the collegial consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, accomplished on March 25, 1984, by Pope John Paul II and the bishops, including Orthodox bishops, in communion with him.

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Soufanieh" by Fr. Robert J. Fox
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