The great Marian shrines of the world gather in Portugal: an international congress in Fátima and Nazaré on the future of shrine ministry



From 12 to 14 November 2026, the Portuguese cities of Fátima and Nazaré hosted the International Congress of Marian Shrines, an important occasion for encounter and discussion that brought together representatives of some of the world's most significant Marian pilgrimage sites.

Among the shrines taking part were the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France, and the two important Portuguese places of worship in Fátima and Nazaré. This international gathering provided an opportunity to share experiences, testimonies and pastoral perspectives, focusing on the identity and mission of Marian shrines in the contemporary Church and society.

The proceedings were opened by H.E. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, with a reflection entitled *“Marian Shrines in the Context of the Church of the 21st Century”*. His address offered insights into the vocation of shrines, which are called to interpret the changes of our time without losing their spiritual identity and the centrality of the proclamation of the Gospel.

The gathering in Fátima provided an opportunity to strengthen dialogue and cooperation among the major international Marian shrines, reaffirming their fundamental role in the Church's evangelizing mission.


CONGRESSO
INTERNACIONAL
DE SANTUÁRIOS
MARIANOS
SANTUÁRIO DE FÁTIMA — SANTUÁRIO DA NAZARÉ
12, 13 e 14 de novembro de 2026
SANTUÁRIO DE FÁTIMA
SHRINE OF FATIMA
CONFRARIA DE
NOSSA SENHORA
DA NAZARÉ
Programa e outras informações em
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