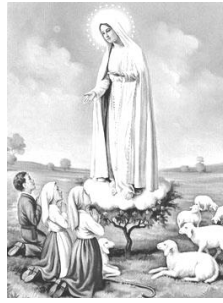


# Fatima

## 1917 - 2017



## The Story of Our Lady of Fatima

Situated 120 kilometers Northeast of Lisbon, Portugal, is the town Fatima, where, in 1917, at the *Cova da Iria*, an extraordinary sequence of events occurred. Conversion and prayer are at the heart of Mary's messages; yet the miracles and unexplained phenomena that accompanied the events 100 years ago continue to intrigue people around the world.

Mary's apparitions in 1917 were not the first miraculous events reported there. Two years before she appeared to the three shepherd children, **Lucia dos Santos** and her cousins, **Jacinta** and **Francisco Marto**, they saw a strange sight while praying the rosary in the field, according to the memoirs of Sister Lucia, who became a Carmelite nun.

"There before our eyes, we saw a figure poised in the air above the trees; it looked like a statue made of snow, almost transparent in the rays of the sun," she wrote. The next year, the mysterious figure appeared again, this time approaching the children close enough "to distinguish its features."

"Do not be afraid! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me," Sister Lucia recalled the angel saying.

The three told no one about the angel's visit and received no more heavenly visits until 13 May 1917. While they tended their sheep, they were startled by two flashes of lightning. Then the children saw a "Lady dressed in white" standing on a small tree. They described her as "more brilliant than the sun." It was the first of six apparitions of Mary.

**May 13:** When the children asked who she was and where she came from, the Lady said she was "from Heaven" and that she would reveal her identity later. She asked the children to come back to the Cova da Iria on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the month for the next six months, and she asked them to pray the rosary every day "in order to obtain peace for the world," and the end of World War I. The visions were controversial, and a local Provincial administrator briefly took the children into custody, believing that the prophecies were politically motivated.

**June 13:** The Lady said she would take Francisco and Jacinta to Heaven soon while Lucia would remain on Earth "longer" to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart.

**July 13:** The Lady said she would reveal her identity in October and "perform a miracle for all to see and believe." She revealed three secrets. Two were not shared publicly until 1941 and the third, written down by Sr. Lucia and sent to the Vatican, was released in 2000.

The first secret involved a vision of hell in which the children saw "a sea of fire" with demons and human souls shrieking "in pain and despair." The second was that, while World War I would come to end, a "worse one will break out" if people continue offending God. The children were told that calamity would be prevented if Russia was consecrated to the Immaculate Heart. Sister Lucia confirmed that the consecration was done properly by Pope Pius XII in 1942 and by St. John Paul II in 1984.

The third secret was a vision of a "bishop dressed in white" shot down and amid the rubble of a ruined city: The official Vatican interpretation was that it referred generally to the persecution of Christians and, specifically, to the 1981 assassination attempt on St. John Paul II.

**August 13:** The Lady again said she would perform a miracle in October, and asked that money donated by pilgrims be used to build a chapel.

**September 13:** The Lady asked them to continue to pray the rosary "to obtain the end of the war," and she said that Jesus, St. Joseph, Our Lady of Sorrows and Our Lady of Carmel would appear during the miracle in October.

**October 13:** Despite pouring rain, tens of thousands went to the Cova da Iria. The Lady identified herself as "Our Lady of the Rosary," and said the war would end. After asking that people cease to offend God, she opened her hands, which reflected a light toward the sun.

Sr. Lucia recalled crying out, "Look at the sun!" As the crowds looked on, the sun appeared to "dance," spinning and changing colours. The children also saw the promised figures of Jesus, St Joseph and Mary.

Amazement at the "dancing sun" turned to panic when the sun seemed to hurl toward Earth, but then it returned to its place. Thirteen years later, the Bishop of Leiria declared the visions of the children "worthy of belief" and allowed the veneration of Our Lady of Fatima.

### THE CHILDREN OF FATIMA

Pope Francis canonized two of the Fatima children at Fatima on 13 May 2017: Francisco and Jacinta Marto. They were two of 35 people who became Saints during the year. Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saint's Causes, noted that five among that group were children or young teenagers. He said, "In our time, where young people often become objects of exploitation and commerce, these young people excel as witnesses of truth and freedom, messengers of peace and of a new humanity reconciled in Love."

Francisco and Jacinta died in childhood as a result of the great flu epidemic that swept through Europe in 1918. On May 13, 2000, they were beatified by Pope John Paul II during his pastoral visit to Portugal.

Lucia became a nun and died in 2005 at the age of 98. The case for her beatification concluded its first phase in Portugal early in 2017, and was then transferred for examination to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.



## Parish Week

[ Photo: The shepherd children of Fatima: Lucia, Francisco, Jacinta ]

**Sunday, 16 July 2017**

**Saturday, 15 July / St. Bonaventure, bishop & doctor**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Norah Texeira (family)  
9.30 am Website Team  
5.00 pm Mass: Int. Alwina Fernando (friends)

**Sunday, 16 July 15- A**

■ *Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Charles D'Silva (Lydia & family)  
10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Priscilla Dualan (Cornie)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

**Monday, 17 July**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Eduardo Factor (Dalmacio Cueto & family)  
7.00 pm Mass: † Desmond Conroy (The Dedombal family)

**Tuesday, 18 July**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Robert Zamora (Melvin)

**Wednesday, 19 July**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Aurelia Ayerson (family)

**Thursday, 20 July / St. Apollinaris, bishop & martyr**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Elena Almeda (family)

**Friday, 21 July / St. Lawrence of Brindisi, priest & doctor**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Maria May Boco Peralta (family)  
11.00 am ► Ina Grafton Nursing Home Mass

**Saturday, 22 July / St. Mary Magdalene**

- 8.00 am Mass: † Melecia Victorino (family)  
9.00 am New Altar Servers  
5.00 pm Mass: † Marie & Anthony Rego (family)

**Sunday, 23 July / 16- A**

■ *Homilist: Most Rev. Alfred Agyenta, Diocese of Navrongo*  
■ *Annual Mission Co-op Appeal*

- 9.00 am Mass: † Joseph Farkas (Emma Allair)  
10.30 am Mass: Int. Tessie Mendonca (friends)  
12.00 pm Mass: † Billy & Ludy Ombac (family)  
7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

**Parish Website 9.30 am, Saturday, 15 July**

Many thanks the Team working on the upgrade of our parish website. Next meeting: 9.30 am, 15 July.

**Parish Album 7.40 pm, Monday, 17 July**

Many thanks to the Team working on the final compilation of our Parish Photo Album. Next meeting: 7.40 pm, 17 July.

**Altar Servers 9.00 am, Saturday, 22 July**

The next training for new Altar Servers will be at 9 am, Saturday, 22 July. For more info, contact: **Judel** - [judel.isaac@live.ca](mailto:judel.isaac@live.ca)

## Focus on the Word

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**Isaiah 55.10-11; Romans 8.18-23; Matthew 13.1-13**

*O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of the Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. Amen.*

**ShareLife**



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH !**

Thanks to all for your support of our parish 2017 *ShareLife* Appeal. As of 9 July, we have reached a total of \$39,610.00 for this year's Campaign ! This is a real blessing, a tribute to the generosity of every donor, at a time of great need.

If you have not yet had a chance to participate in our parish Appeal, there is still time to help us reach our goal!

Our Parish goal for 2017 is: \$50,000.00.

There are still late donations coming in; this year's Campaign officially closes at the end of July. We will publish the Grand Total for our 2017 Campaign in the first bulletin in August.

**RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

4 August (Mass at 7.00 pm; meeting at 7.30 pm)

Thinking of becoming Catholic? Leave a message for the Pastor at: 416-261-0076, and come to the next meeting for Inquirers.

**El Shaddai 16 July**

The El Shaddai Prayer Group will be visiting at all our Masses on 15/16 July. See the information table in the Vestibule.

**Mass Intentions: Requests for 2018**

The Mass Intention book for 2018 is now open. The parish office will accept requests for intentions after any Sunday Mass and during weekday office hours. See the *Mass* table in the Vestibule.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - 23 July: Mission Co-op**

On Sunday, 23 July, the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will be for our annual parish Mission Co-op Appeal. This year, we are honoured to host **Most Rev. Alfred Agyenta**, of the Diocese of Navrongo-Bolgatanga, GHANA, right near the Northern border with Burkina Faso. We are forming a Hospitality Committee to welcome Bishop Agyenta; if you wish to help, please call: **Worrick Russell**, 416-265-8603.

**COMING UP**

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|------------|---|
| 28-30 July | Youth Ministry: <i>Steubenville</i> Toronto (UOIT, Oshawa)                                      |
| 29 July    | Wedding: Walch-Rodas (12:30 pm)<br>Wedding: Diaz-Flancia (2:00 pm)                              |
| 30 July    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection: <i>Maintenance</i>  |
| 7 Aug.     | Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)   |
| 12 Aug.    | Wedding: Davidson-Olivacce (1:00 pm)  |
| 13 Aug.    | - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection: <i>Scarborough Foreign Missions</i> ;<br>Infant Baptism (1:30 pm) |