



FATIMA!

Through the Eyes of a Child



Our Lady of Fatima appeared to Lucy, Jacinta, and Francisco in 1917.

Dedication

Dear children, this book is especially for you: it tells one of the most beautiful stories of our time; that of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima to three little shepherd children: Lucy dos Santos, Francisco Marto, and Jacinta Marto. In speaking to them, Our Lady was also speaking to each one of you. Asking you, as She asked of them, to love prayer and little sacrifices, and all that is pleasing to Her Immaculate Heart. In being faithful to Her requests, they were taken to Heaven. Pray to be always faithful to the Blessed Virgin Mary so that one day She will take you to Heaven too.

Jesus said,

“Unless you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.”
(Matt. 18:3)

Lucy, speaking to Our Lady of Fatima, said:

“I would like to ask You to take us to Heaven.”

“Yes, I will take Jacinta and Francisco soon, but you, Lucy, are to stay here some time longer. Jesus wishes to make use of you in order to make Me known and loved. He wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart. To whomever embraces this devotion, I promise salvation. Those souls will be cherished by God, as flowers placed by Me to adorn His Throne.”
— Our Lady of Fatima, June 13, 1917

Blessed Francisco Marto

Born on June 11, 1908 ~ Went home to Heaven on April 4, 1919

Blessed Jacinta Marto

Born on March 11, 1910 ~ Went home to Heaven on February 20, 1920

Lucy dos Santos

Born on March 28, 1907 ~ Went home to Heaven on February 13, 2005

Preface

This book was written and published not only as a story book about Fatima for children, but a book of inquisitive learning. There may be words and descriptions in the book which children may not fully understand. Encourage them to ask questions, for seldom do children ever hear about Our Lady under the circumstances of an apparition. This is a beautiful story of three innocent little children seeing the Mother of God.

It is a story that should inspire children of all ages to pray the Rosary daily and become more fervent in their prayers. It should also be encouragement for adults to read and learn more about the Consecration of Russia and the Third Secret, as revealed to Sister Lucy.

Never in our history has a message from Heaven given through an apparition been more relevant or more important. Only by learning about the Fatima Message will we know what to do to bring peace to all mankind in our time and to save many souls.

We hope children enjoy reading this book as much as we enjoyed writing it.

For more information on the Message of Fatima, the Five First Saturdays, and to receive your free Brown Scapular and Rosary visit our web site www.fatima.org or phone us at 1-800-263-8160.



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1913

As a little girl, Lucia dos Santos, later known as Lucy, lived a very happy life with her four sisters and one brother.

Lucy was 6 years old when she made her First Communion and she knew and understood her prayers and catechism well. She was filled with joy, knowing that her First Communion Day was going to be a very special day for her.

After her first Confession, the priest said to Lucy, “My child, your soul is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Keep it always pure, so that He will be able to carry on His divine work within it.”

Upon hearing these words, Lucy was filled with respect and joy. She asked the priest what she should do next. The priest answered, “Kneel down there before Our Lady and ask Her, with great confidence, to take care of your heart, to prepare it to receive Her beloved Son worthily tomorrow, and to keep it for Him alone.”

Lucy tells us then she went before the Statue of Our Lady of the Rosary, to ask Her,

“With all the ardor of my soul, to keep my poor heart for God alone. As I repeated this humble prayer over and over again, with my eyes fixed on the Statue, it seemed to me that She smiled, and with a loving look and kindly gesture, assured me that She would. My heart

was overflowing with joy, and I could scarcely utter a single word.”

The next morning, after Lucy put on her white Communion dress, she was taken by Maria, her sister, into the kitchen. There Lucy kissed her parents’ hands and asked for their pardon for any offenses, and then asked them to bless her.

Lucy’s mother told her to be sure to ask Jesus, when she received Him in Holy Communion to, “Above all, ask Him to make you a saint.” These words made an indelible impression on Lucy’s heart.

When she received her First Holy Communion later that day, the first thing she said to Jesus was, ***“O Lord, make me a saint. Keep my heart always pure, for You alone.”***

Jesus distinctly replied, ***“The grace granted to you this day will remain living in your soul, producing fruits of eternal life.”***

Lucy “felt as though transformed in God.” After this Lucy lost the taste and attraction for the things of the world and only felt at home in some solitary place where, all alone, she could recall the delights of her First Holy Communion.

1916 The Angel of Peace

Lucy’s duty as a little girl was to tend her father’s sheep. Her little cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto, would tend sheep with her.

In the year 1916, these three little shepherds from the Village of Fatima, in the country of Portugal, led their sheep to graze on a hill called Cabeço. Lucy was nine years old, Francisco was eight, and his sister Jacinta was six.

While watching the sheep graze, they loved to play games. Jacinta's favorite game was "pebbles and buttons", which they played as they sat in the shade of large, beautiful trees. This game often upset poor Lucy, for when her mother called her at mealtime, she would find herself missing some buttons. More often than not, Jacinta won them all, and this was enough to make Lucy's mother scold her.

When at home, the three children also liked to go outside on moonlit nights to look at the stars. They pointed to the sky to see who could count the most stars. They called the stars "Angel's lamps", the moon "Our Lady's lamp", and the sun "Our Lord's lamp".

One day, as the sheep were grazing and the children were playing, a strong wind blew over the hill. Above the trees they saw a figure approaching them. The figure looked like a fifteen-year-old boy. His clothes were whiter than snow and as clear as crystal when the sun shines through it. He had great beauty and spoke to them, saying, "**Do not be afraid! I**



Actual site where the Angel of Peace appeared in 1916 to the three children in Fatima, Portugal.

am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me.” The Angel then knelt down and bent his head forward to the ground. The children imitated the Angel and repeated the prayer that he said, **“My God, I believe in Thee, I adore Thee, I hope in Thee and I love Thee. I ask pardon for all those who do not believe in Thee, do not adore Thee, do not hope in Thee and do not love Thee.”**

The Angel said the prayer three times and told the children to continue praying in this way. He said that the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary were listening to their prayers. Then he disappeared. Francisco could not hear the Angel, but he did see him.

Later that summer, when the children were playing around their favorite well, the Angel appeared to them again.

“What are you doing?” he asked. **“Pray, pray very much,”** he said, and told them that they should always be offering prayers and sacrifices to God.

Lucy asked the Angel how God wanted them to make sacrifices. The Angel told them that they could make a sacrifice of everything and should do this, in order to help console God for the sins that offended Him and to help convert sinners. He said the best way to make a sacrifice is to accept willingly without complaining and, to bear with love all the

crosses sent to us each day by God.

Then the Angel told the three children that he was the Guardian Angel of their country, Portugal.

This message of the Angel is very important to us, because it helps us understand that God loves us and wants us to love Him, and that we can show our love for Him through even our smallest sacrifices.

The last appearance of the Angel happened during the autumn of that year. He appeared this time near an olive grove on the hill called the Cabeço. He had in his left hand a Chalice, made of gold, just like you see your priest use at Mass. Over the Chalice was a Host. Drops of blood fell from the Host into the Chalice. The Angel left the Host and Chalice suspended in the air and prostrated himself on the ground before the Blessed Sacrament, telling the children to do the same. He then repeated with the three children this prayer three times,

“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, I adore You profoundly and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifferences by which He, Himself is offended. And I draw upon the infinite



merits of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that You might convert poor sinners.”

Rising from the ground, the Angel gave the Most Sacred Host to Lucy, and while giving the Most Holy Blood in the Chalice to Francisco and Jacinta he said,

“Eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men. Make reparation for their crimes and console your God.”

He repeated the same prayer **Most Holy**

Trinity ... with the children three times more, then disappeared.

This last apparition of the Angel is very important, since the children were graced to receive Holy Communion from him. Also, they were shown again how their prayers, Holy Communions, and sacrifices can help console God and convert sinners.

The three apparitions of the Angel of Peace to Lucy, Francisco, and Jacinta helped to prepare them for the very special grace they would soon receive; the grace of being visited by the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

1917 **Our Lady Appears**

It was May of the year 1917, and about six months had passed since Lucy, Francisco, and Jacinta had seen the Angel of Peace. They continued to pray as the Angel had taught them, still taking care of their sheep, and playing games at times.

On May 13, after Sunday morning Mass, they decided to take their sheep to graze on a property of Lucy's parents called Cova da Iria. There they ate their lunch, prayed the Rosary and then began to play. Suddenly, they saw what seemed to be lightning, and because they thought that a storm was coming, they began to run down the hill.

When they were half way down the hill, they saw another flash of light, and a Lady

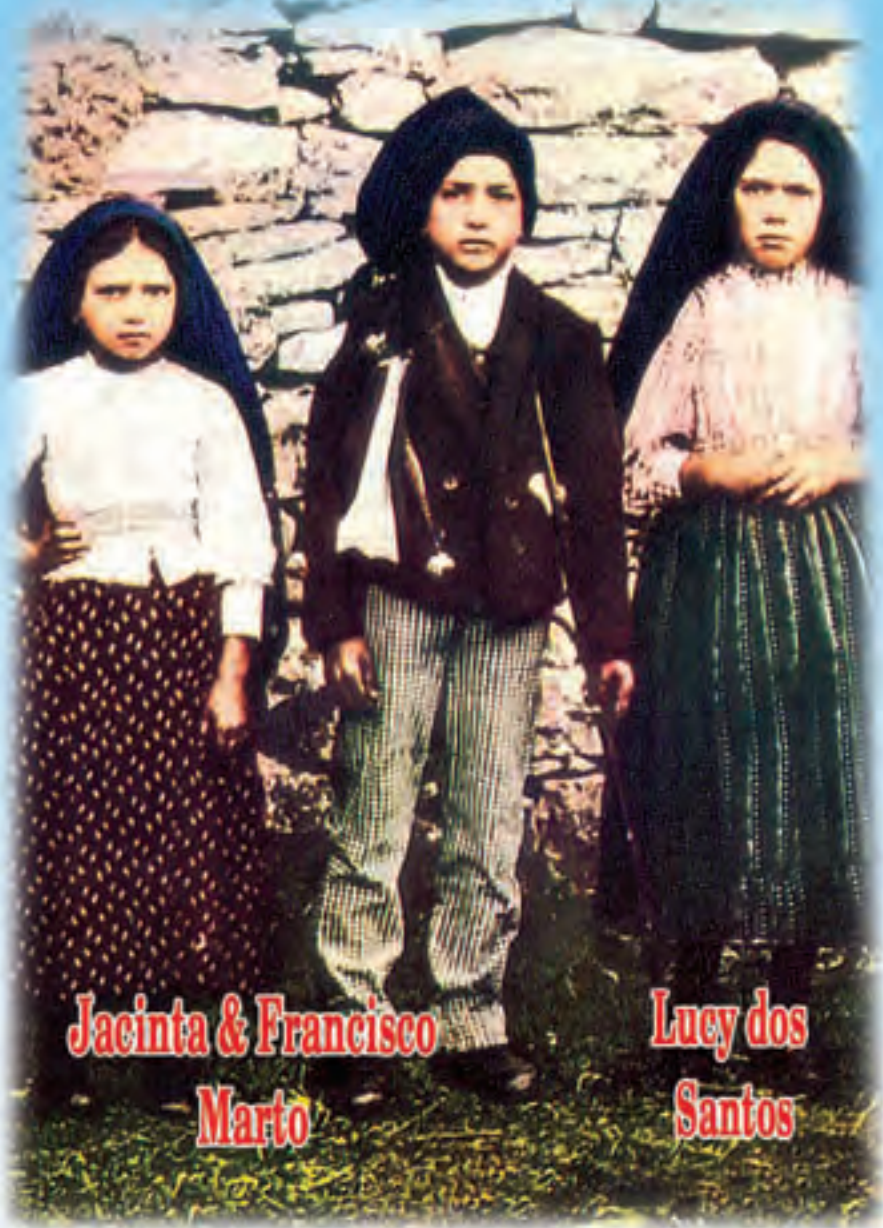
appeared above a small holm oak tree. Lucy says the Lady was “all dressed in white, more brilliant than the sun,” and that a bright, clear light shone from Her. The children stopped and stood in the light that came from Her.

The Lady told them not to be afraid. Lucy responded, “Who are You and where do You come from?” The Lady answered, “I am of Heaven and I’ll tell you who I am in October.” She then asked the children to come to the same spot for six months, on the 13th day of each month.

Lucy asked the Lady if she and Francisco and Jacinta would go to Heaven. The Lady told them that they would, but that Francisco would first have to pray many Rosaries. Francisco could not hear what Our Lady said, although he could see Her.

After the Blessed Virgin spoke a few words to the three children, She “opened Her hands for the first time, communicating to us (Lucy writes), a light so intense that as it streamed from Her hands, its rays penetrated our hearts and the innermost depths of our souls, making us see ourselves in God.” Through this light they understood that God is sad because He is so offended by the sins of all men, women, and children on earth. Our Lady reminded the children to pray the Rosary every day for peace in the world and the end of the great World War (World War I), which was

The Fatima Seers



Jacinta & Francisco

Marto

Lucy dos

Santos

being fought at this time. When She left, Our Lady rose toward the east until She disappeared into the blue sky.

On June 13, the children returned to the Cova da Iria as they had promised. About 50 people were waiting when the children came, since the news of Our Lady's appearance had spread quickly. When Our Lady came, the group of people could not see Her, but they did notice that the branches of the tree bent a little, as if there was someone standing on them. They also saw the little cloud resting on top of the tree. Furthermore, some heard the sound of a very light voice, while all the people noticed that the bright noon-time sun became less intense.

During this apparition, Our Lady said that She wanted the children to continue praying the Rosary every day. She also said that She would soon take Francisco and Jacinta to Heaven, but that Lucy would stay on earth longer, so that she could make Our Lady better known and loved. Our Lady said that God wanted everybody to be devoted to Her Immaculate Heart. She again opened Her hands which reflected the light of God. This time, in the palm of Her hand, She held Her Immaculate Heart, surrounded by piercing thorns. The children understood that these thorns represented sins that so very much hurt

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. When She left, Our Lady again rose toward the east and disappeared in the distance, as She rose upward into Heaven.

For the July 13 apparition of Our Lady, a large crowd of about 5,000 people came to the Cova da Iria. Our Lady again told the children to continue to pray the Rosary every day for peace in the world. Many people, including Lucy's mother and father, did not believe she was actually seeing Our Lady. So Lucy asked Her to work a miracle so that everyone would believe that She was appearing. Our Lady told the children to continue coming every month. In October, She said, She would perform a miracle so everyone might believe She really was appearing to the children.

Then, Our Lady again opened Her hands as before, but this time the light that came from them fell on the ground, and the three children, in this light, could see below the surface of the earth a sea of fire. In it, there were demons and souls that appeared in human form, all of them burning and being tossed about amidst the fire. They were shrieking and groaning with pain, and the demons looked like strange and frightful animals. The children were horrified at this, and trembled in fear. The vision only lasted a moment, but Lucy said that if Our Lady hadn't already promised them and given them the

grace that they would go to Heaven, the children would have died of terror.

Our Lady said to them sadly,

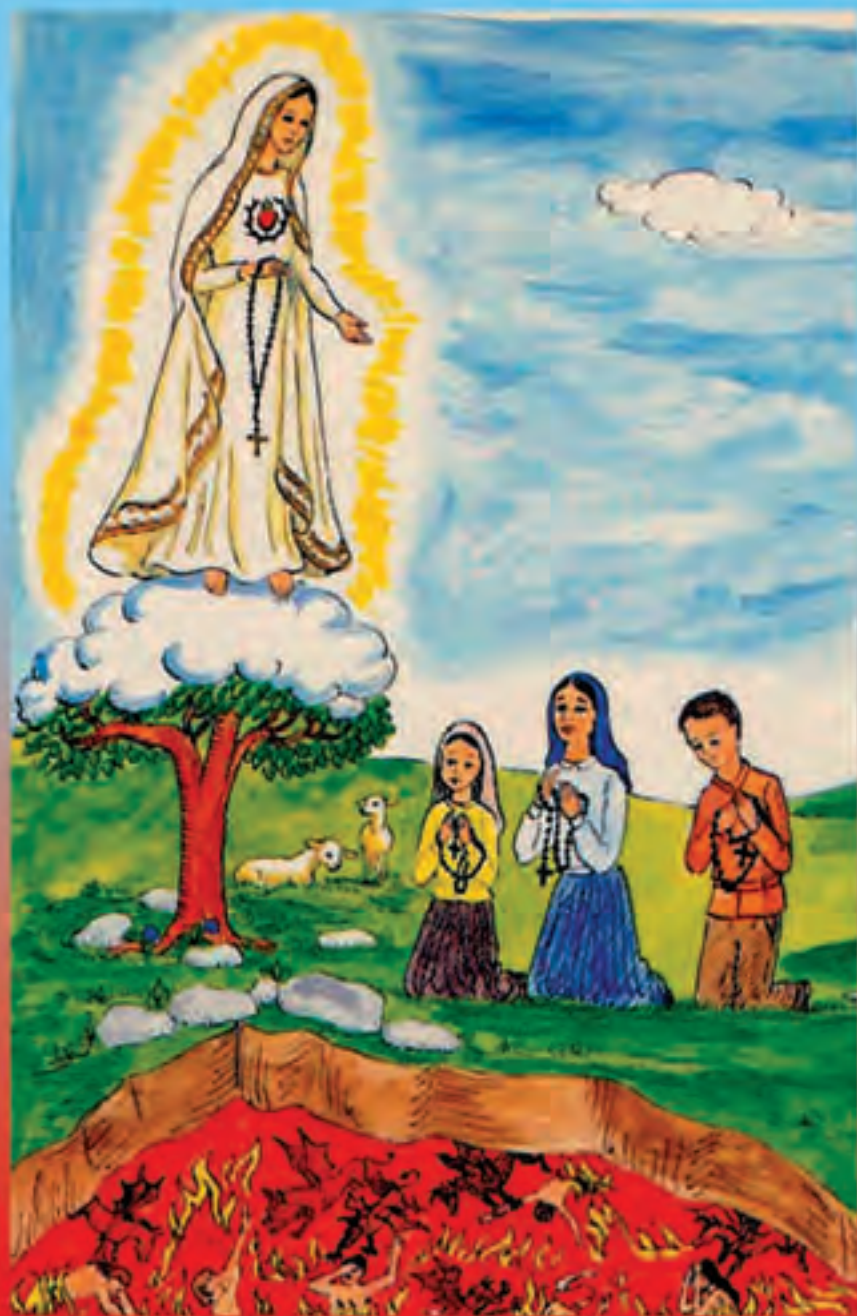
“You have seen Hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to My Immaculate Heart.”

She said that if people did not stop offending God, a worse war (than World War I) would break out and that the world would be punished by war, famine, and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father.

She said that to prevent these punishments, She would come back and ask for the Consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays.

If what She asked for was heeded, Russia would be converted and there would be peace, and many more souls would be saved. But if Her requests were not granted, Our Lady said Russia would spread her errors throughout the world, raising up wars and persecutions against the Church. The good would be martyred, the Holy Father would have much to suffer, and various nations would be annihilated.

In the end, She said, Her Immaculate Heart would triumph. The Holy Father would consecrate Russia to Her, and Russia would be



“You have seen Hell ...”
*Our Lady of Fatima showed
the children this vision.*

converted. Because of this, a period of peace would be granted to the world. Our Lady told the three children to keep secret for now the Vision of Hell and the predicted punishments of war, famine, and persecutions. Later on, She would say when it could be revealed. Our Lady also asked that, when the Rosary is prayed, after each decade we pray,

“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need.”

Our Lady then rose and disappeared into the eastern sky.

On August 13, there were 15,000 people awaiting the arrival of Our Lady at the Cova da Iria. However, Lucy, Francisco, and Jacinta were not there! They had been kidnaped by the Mayor of Ourém, who hated God and wanted the children to say that they were lying about seeing Our Lady. No matter what the Mayor did, he could not make the children give away the Secret or say that they were lying. First he offered them candy and some money. Then he threatened them, to increase the fear he finally told them if they did not reveal the Secret he would boil them in oil until they died in the horrible frying pot. He kept them in prison with common criminals. But the children loved the Blessed Virgin so much, and were willing to die



Our Lady of Fatima asked that we pray the Rosary every day.

as martyrs; so, they would not tell Our Lady's Secret to anyone. At last, after two days, the mayor let the children go, unharmed.

Since they had missed Our Lady on the 13th, because they had been kidnaped, the children received a special visit from Her on

August 19. She told them to continue coming on the 13th of September and again on the 13th of October, and to pray the Rosary every day. She told them again that in the last month, October, She would perform a miracle, as She had promised. She said that St. Joseph would come together with the Child Jesus. Also, Our Lord Jesus would come with Our Lady to bless the people.

Our Lady very sadly told the children,
“Pray, pray very much, and make sacrifices for sinners; for many souls go to Hell because they have no one to pray and make sacrifices for them.”

The children found many different ways to obey this request of Our Lady. They made sacrifices every day for sinners and to console God and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sometimes they did things they really did not want to do, such as not eating a treat they especially liked, giving their lunch to children poorer than themselves, and not taking any water to drink all day long. And there were many other sacrifices they made to help save poor souls from the fires of Hell.

On September 13, there were 30,000 people who came to the Cova da Iria for the apparition of Our Lady. When She came, many persons saw thousands of rose petals that fell from Heaven and disappeared when about to



St. Joseph appeared with the Child Jesus on October 13, 1917 as Our Lady promised.

touch the ground.

As on July 13, the light of the sun became so dim that even the stars could be seen in the middle of the day. This happened even though there were no clouds and no eclipse.

Our Lady told the children to continue praying the Rosary for the end of the great war (World War I) that was being fought. She again promised that on October 13, Our Lord Jesus would appear, and St. Joseph with the Child Jesus would come to bless the world, and that She would appear as Our Lady of Sorrows and as Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She promised, again, that She would perform a miracle in October.

The Miracle of the Sun

As many as 70,000 people came to the Cova da Iria on October 13. A cold rain had been falling throughout the previous night and into that day. Everyone there was soaking wet and the ground was very muddy. Some people were standing in mud up to their ankles.

This is what Our Lady said to the children, **“I want you to have them build a chapel here in My honor. I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue always to pray the Rosary every day.”** She said sadly, **“I have come to warn the faithful to amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins. They must not offend the Lord our God any**



Thousands watch the Miracle of the Sun.

more, for He is already too much offended.”

As Our Lady was leaving, Lucy shouted to the crowd, “Look at the sun!” Then the miracle Our Lady had promised happened. The sky cleared and the people could look at the sun without it hurting their eyes at all.

They all gazed upon the sun. Then it began to spin in place. It gave off different colors, first red, then green, then blue. As the sun spun around in its place, the colors would

fall on the people. If a person had a white coat on, it would turn red and green and blue as the sun spun around. After about four minutes, the sun stopped spinning. Then, shortly after that, it started again, this time spinning more rapidly and with more beautiful colors. After four more minutes, it stopped again. Then, it began a third time to spin with still more beautiful colors. Then, it started to zigzag in the sky. It went up and down like a yo-yo. Then it started to fall, plunging towards the earth. The sun became very large in the sky and very hot. It looked as if it was going to fall on top of the people and kill them all. It looked as if it was the end of the world. So, the people fell on their knees in the mud and cried to God for mercy, begging Our Lady for Her help, Her intercession, and Her prayers.

Suddenly, the sun finally stopped falling and went back up into the sky to its regular place. Then the people got up from their knees and they all began to notice that their clothes were dry and clean. And the ground was not muddy either, but dry. Not only that, but many sick persons were cured that day — the blind were able to see and the lame could walk. Many sinners were converted too. They stopped sinning and went to Confession, and then lived according to God's Commandments.

While the sun “danced”, Lucy, Francisco,



Jesus and Mary visit Sister Lucy in Pontevedra on December 10, 1925.

and Jacinta saw, in the sky, St. Joseph with the Child Jesus, blessing the world; for They traced the sign of the Cross with Their hands. This apparition disappeared, then they saw Our Lady of Sorrows with Our Lord. Our Lord again blessed the world. This vision also then

vanished and finally they saw Our Lady of Mount Carmel, all just as She had promised them.

This was the last apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, but God was not yet finished revealing the Message of Fatima. God had decided that Lucy would tell the world of His plan for peace.

As promised by Our Lady, God soon took Francisco and Jacinta to Heaven. Francisco died on April 4, 1919 and Jacinta died on February 20, 1920. Lucy was left here on earth to tell everyone about Fatima. She was to make Our Lady known and loved, and to spread devotion to Her Immaculate Heart. In 1925, when she was 18 years old, she became a Dorothean nun.

That same year, God sent Our Lady and the Child Jesus to Sister Lucy in her convent in the Spanish city of Pontevedra to ask her to tell to the world about the Communions of Reparation on the First Saturdays of the month.

One day when Lucy was in her little room, Our Lady and the Child Jesus appeared to her. Our Blessed Mother showed Lucy Her Heart, which She was holding in Her Hand. The Child Jesus said,

“Have compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce It at every moment,



The Most Holy Trinity and the Blessed Virgin Mary appear to Sister Lucy at Tuy on June 13, 1929.

and there is no one to make an act of Reparation to remove them.”

Then the Most Holy Virgin told Lucy to look at Her Heart “surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude.”



Our Lady told Lucy that She wanted her and others to console Her Heart.

Mary then said, “Announce in My Name that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those souls who, on the first Saturday of 5 consecutive months shall go to Confession, receive Holy Communion, pray 5 decades of the Rosary and keep Me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, doing all this with the intention of making reparation to My Immaculate Heart.”

Then in 1929, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost appeared with Our Lady of Fatima in Sister Lucy’s convent in the Spanish city of Tuy to ask her to tell the world of

Their command for the Pope and bishops to consecrate Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This was a very important part of the Secret Our Lady had told the children on July 13, 1917.

The Message of Fatima is still very important for all of us. We must continue to pray the Rosary every day as Our Lady asked us to do, and we must not offend God by our sins. Our Blessed Mother Mary wants us to wear the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, as She held it out to each one of us on October 13 during the Miracle of the Sun.

Remember to be like Sister Lucy, Jacinta, and Francisco, and make many sacrifices to console God and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and to save poor sinners from Hell. Pray often to Our Lady for the Consecration of Russia, because, only by this act of obedience, will there be given a period of true peace for all mankind.



Sister Lucy as a young nun.



Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Our Lady of Fatima,
Queen of Heaven and earth, I
consecrate myself to Thy
Immaculate Heart. To Thee I
consecrate my heart, my soul, my
family, and all that I have.

I renew today the promises of my
Baptism; and promise to live as a good Christian — faithful
to God, by always believing and living the Catholic faith. I
resolve to pray the Rosary every day, to receive in a worthy
manner the Holy Eucharist, to participate in the First
Saturdays of the month, and offer sacrifices for the
conversion of sinners.

O Most Holy Virgin, I pray that devotion may spread
to Thy Immaculate Heart so that all souls may be truly
consecrated to Thee, and that through Thy own
intercession, the coming of the Kingdom of Our Lord Jesus
Christ in this world may be hastened. Accept this dear
Mother and bless me and my family. Amen.

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