

LITURGICAL LIVING

Series 38: May 12-18

Our Lady of Fatima (13)



In 1917 Our Lady of Fatima appeared to three peasant children in Portugal: Lucia dos Santos and Francisco and Jacinta. The children described Our Blessed Mother as brighter than the sun, wearing a white mantle with gold trim, and holding a rosary. One hundred years later, Pope Francis canonized Francisco and Jacinta who died due to the Spanish flu epidemic. Lucia, became a Carmelite nun and is currently a Servant of God.

The three children were first visited by an angel who taught them to pray. Beginning on May 13, Our Lady appeared to the children 6 times through October. Our Lady's messages encouraged the world to return to prayer, especially through the Rosary. She also emphasized making sacrifices for sinners and a greater devotion to the Immaculate Heart. During her July 13 visit, she asked the children to add this prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary, "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy." Our Lady also prophesied about the end of World War 1 and the beginning of World War 2. She issued warnings that if humanity did not turn back to God, there would be much world suffering.



The children received great attention and news coverage in regards to these visits, and it was seen as a nuisance by local authorities. They were arrested and threatened if they did not recant their stories about the Lady. However, none of them recanted their story.



On the final visit to the children in October, with tens thousands of onlookers (reported 70,000), Our Lady visited and gave a miraculous sign. Witnesses reported a period of rain, the sun broke through the clouds and began to dance across the sky, zigzagging towards earth, before returning to its position in the heavens.

Today there is a shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. This is one of the most visited Catholic pilgrimage sites.

Celebrate

- Pray your daily [Rosary](#)
- Miracle of the Sun Crafts
 - [Miracle of the Sun Spinner Craft](#)
 - Simple Spin Art
 - Make your own dancing sun! Blot paint of all colors on the back of a paper plate. Stick the plate paint-side-down on a sheet of white paper. Place your hand on top and twist. Peel the paper plate back to reveal the swirly spin art print. Add rays of all colors to your sun.
- [Brew Sun Tea](#) as a nod to the sun dancing for Our Lady's final appearance.



Pray the Litany of Our Lady of Fatima:

*Our Lady of Fatima, pray for our dear country.
Our Lady of Fatima, sanctify our clergy.
Our Lady of Fatima, make our Catholics more fervent.
Our Lady of Fatima, guide and inspire those who govern us.
Our Lady of Fatima, cure the sick who confide in thee.
Our Lady of Fatima, console the sorrowful who trust in thee.
Our Lady of Fatima, help those who invoke your aid.
Our Lady of Fatima, deliver us from all dangers.
Our Lady of Fatima, help us to resist temptation.
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain for us all that we lovingly ask of thee.
Our Lady of Fatima, help those who are dear to us.
Our Lady of Fatima, bring back to the right road our erring brothers.
Our Lady of Fatima, give us back our ancient fervor.
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain for us pardon of our manifold sins and offenses.
Our Lady of Fatima, bring all men to the feet of thy Divine Child.
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain peace for the world.*

O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Let Us Pray: O God of infinite goodness and mercy, fill our hearts with a great confidence in Thy dear Mother, whom we invoke under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary and our Lady of Fatima, and grant us by her powerful intercession all the graces, spiritual and temporal, which we need. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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