



# Relationship with GOD

## More than Just SUNDAY

### The June Apparition of Our Lady at Fatima: Message of Hope

As requested by Our Lady at Fatima, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinto returned on the thirteenth of June for her second apparition. When they arrived they found a small crowd awaiting them. After having prayed the Rosary with all the people who were present, they saw again the reflection of light nearing them, which they referred to as “lightning,” following Our Lady.

Lucia asked “Please tell me, Madam, what it is that you want of me?” Our Lady said, **“I want you to come here on the thirteenth of next month. I want you to continue saying the Rosary every day. And after each one of the mysteries, my children, I want you to pray in this way: ‘O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fire of hell. Take all souls to heaven, especially those who are most in need.’ I want you to learn to read and write, and later I will tell you what else I want of you.”**

Lucia replied, “Will you take us to Heaven?” Mary responded, **“Yes, I shall take Jacinta and Francisco soon, but you will remain a little longer, since Jesus wishes you to make me known and loved on earth. He wishes also for you to establish devotion in the world to my Immaculate Heart.”**

Lucia asked, “Must I remain in the world alone?” Mary answered, **“Not alone, my child, and you must not be sad. I will be with you always, and my Immaculate Heart will be your comfort and the way which will lead you to God.”**

Lucia described what happened next: “The moment Mary said the last words, opening her hands, she transmitted to us, for the second time, the reflection of that intense light. In it we felt we were submerged in God. Jacinta and Francisco seemed to be in that part of the light which was rising to Heaven, and I in the part spreading over the earth. In front of the palm of Our Lady’s right hand was a heart encircled with thorns which appeared to pierce it. We understood it was the Immaculate Heart of Mary offended by the sins of mankind, craving reparation.”

The apparition then concluded as on the first occasion, with the Lady going off toward the east and disappearing in the “immensity of Heaven.”

Though the three children would continue to suffer in the coming weeks, they were comforted that day by the obvious belief of the many people at the Cova during Mary’s

apparition. The people knew that something unusual had occurred - they saw the “lightning,” some perceived a certain dimming of the sun, others a little gray cloud that came and went as the apparition did, and they believed.

Our Lady’s message is one of hope. She asked for the praying of the Rosary every day as a means to obtain peace in our own hearts, even when struggles seem overwhelming. Peace evades us oftentimes because of sin. Jesus’ desire is that every one of His children be united with Him in love and spend eternity with Him in Heaven. As any mother, Mary wants to protect us and make sure that we are on the right path. As such, she gives us the tools to safely navigate our time on earth. She asks for the praying of the Rosary, a most important and powerful tool that is right within the grasp of our hands, and by which violence and warfare can be stopped.

Lucia said: “I believe that, after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the praying of the Rosary is the most pleasing prayer that we can offer to God, and one which is most advantageous to our own souls. If such were not the case, Our Lady would not have asked for it so insistently. **There is no problem, whether in nations, families and institutions that cannot be resolved through the praying of the Rosary.**”

Let us ask God to strengthen us in being committed to answer Mary’s call – to pray the Rosary each day.

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