

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

By

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An Angel Appears to Three Children

In the Spring of 1916, an angel appeared to three children tending sheep in a pasture in the village of Fatima, Portugal. The older girl, Lucia Santos, was nine, and her two cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto were eight and six. The angel taught them special prayers and told them that he was the Angel of Peace, the Guardian Angel of Portugal.

The angel taught them to say: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask forgiveness for those who do not believe, nor hope, nor love You."

The angel asked them to pray for sinners and for peace, and to bear the suffering the Lord would send them.

The next year Sunday, May 13, 1917, the children were with their flock of sheep in a field called the Cova. They said the rosary after lunch and then they played. They were frightened by two flashes of lightning out of the clear sky.





A Beautiful Lady Appears

THE children saw a beautiful young woman standing over a small oak tree surrounded by a bright light. Her clothing was pure white, and a mantle edged with gold covered her head and flowed around her body. A gold cord ending in a tassel hung around her neck. Her hands were joined, and from her right arm hung a white rosary of pearly beads.

With a smile of motherly tenderness, but somewhat sad, she told the children to come near, saying, "Have no fear, I will do you no harm. I come from heaven. I want you children to come here on the thirteenth of each month, until October. Then I will tell you who I am."

"Do you come from heaven? Will I go there?" asked Lucia.

"Yes," replied the Lady, "but you must say the rosary, and say it devoutly."

After the vision the children returned to their homes.