



Our Lady of Fatima “Family” Rosary Calendar Newsletter

Vol. 26, No. 3

Jul-Sep 2017

July	August	September
Holy Father’s Intentions		
That [those] who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the [mercy] of the Lord and the beauty of Christian life.	That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.	That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen.
For the Holy Father’s prayer requests related to current events or urgent prayer needs, please go to the Apostleship of Prayer (www.apostleshipofprayer.org/reflectionsmonthly/).		

Jacinta and Francisco Marto Youngest To Be Canonized

At Mass on the solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fatima for the centenary of the apparitions at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima [May 13, 1917], Pope Francis proclaimed Blessed Jacinta and Francisco Marto saints. They are now the youngest to be declared saints. Francisco was 10 and Jacinta was 9 years old when they died. Prior to their canonization, Maria Goretti was the youngest saint canonized by the Roman Catholic Church in modern times. She died in 1902 at age eleven and was canonized in 1950 as "virgin and martyr."

Francisco and Jacinta were born in Aljustrel, Portugal. They were responsible for tending their families’ sheep with their cousin Lucia Santo in the fields of Fatima. While the three children were in the field, the Angel of Portugal appeared

to them three times in 1916 and the Blessed Mother appeared to them six times in 1917. In her message to the children, Mary made requests for prayers (particularly the recitation of the



rosary), and sacrifices on behalf of sinners. Also, she revealed to them a three-part secret regarding the fate of the world. The children followed Mary’s requests by living lives of prayer and penance after the apparitions, offering themselves for the conversion of sinners. Francisco was known for his devotion to the Eucharist and his strict physical mortifications,

while Jacinta was especially known for her love of the poor and the suffering.

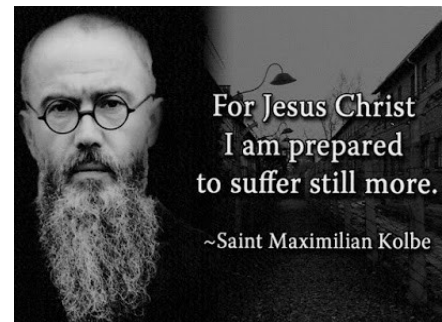
After Francisco and Jacinta fell victim to influenza in 1918, Mary appeared to the sick siblings and promised to take them to heaven soon. Francisco died on April 4, 1919 and Jacinta died on the night of February 19, 1920.

Sister Lucia, the third visionary, lived much longer, dying in 2005 at the age of 97. The Church is currently examining documents and collecting testimonies for her beatification cause.

Pope Francis said during the canonization that “we can take the shepherd children ‘as our examples’ whom the Virgin Mary ‘introduced into the immense ocean of God’s light and taught to adore Him’”.

Fatima Apparitions and Founding of Militia of the Immaculata

The Fatima apparitions of Our Lady took place in 1917. On October 16, 1917, Friar Maximilian Kolbe and six seminary confreres founded the Militia of the Immaculata (MI). The name “Militia” underscores that spiritual battle that we are undergoing in the world today. There are many souls in the world who do not recognize the Son of Mary as the Savior. These people are helping Satan in his cause to remove Christ from civilization and replacing Him with secular cultural ideologies. This course paves the road to hell. The answer (prayer and sacrifice) to



avoiding hell was given by Our Lady at Fatima. Likewise, the MI is working to unite everyone to the Immaculate Heart of Mary so as to deprive Satan of “soldiers” in his battle to destroy souls, civilization

and the Church.

There are numerous coincidences and parallels between the appearances of Our Lady at Fatima and founding of the MI such as the beginning of the 1st World War, a year crucial between the forces of faith and those of disbelief, and the establishment of violently atheistic communism.

Our Lady is the key to the victory in the spiritual battle with Satan. The goals of the MI and Fatima are aimed at saving souls, enhancing the faith within the church, and attaining peace. Pray to Our Lady to triumph over evil.

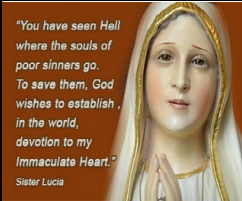
Our Lady of Fatima’s Plea for Mortification at August 19, 1917 Apparition

Our Lady recommended anew the practice of mortification, saying “Pray, pray much, and sacrifice for sinners, for many souls go to hell because there is no one to sacrifice and pray for them.” “Continue to pray the Rosary every day”. *The request to pray the rosary was repeated at every apparition.*

Plenary Indulgence During the Centenary Year of Fatima Apparitions

A special plenary indulgence, granted by Pope Francis, can be obtained on the 13th of each month from May to October 2017. The indulgence can be gained by visiting an image of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly displayed for public veneration in any church, oratory or other proper places. During the visit, pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima. Further, the person must be truly penitent and animated with charity and must also fulfill the ordinary conditions: go to confession, receive Holy Communion and to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. For a more complete list of three ways to gain this plenary indulgence, visit : <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/three-ways-to-obtain-an-indulgence-for-the-100-year-fatima-anniversary-78258/>

The Vision of Hell



The Pope stated at the canonization of Francisco and Jacinta “that godlessness ‘risks leading to hell’ but that the Blessed Mother came to remind us that ‘God’s light dwells within us and protects us.’” During the third apparition at Fatima on July 13, 1917, Lucia, the older of the three

seers, wrote, “Our Lady showed us a great sea of fire...” in which there were “...shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us [Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco] and made us tremble with fear.” Lucia expressed her gratitude that “our kind heavenly Mother...prepared us by promising, in the first apparition, to take us to heaven. Otherwise, I think we would have died of fear and terror.”

Our Lady continued on the second part of her message: “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. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace...” To achieve this promise, we are guided to do reparation and practice First Saturday devotions.

State of Self-Exclusion from Communion with God- “Hell”

Our Lady of Fatima referred to hell in her July 13, 1917 apparition and how to avoid it. The teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church-1035) affirms the existence of hell and its eternity. Immediately after death the souls of those who die in a state of mortal sin descend into hell, where they suffer the punishments of hell's "eternal fire." The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in Whom alone man can possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs.

Sharing the Prophetic Message of Our Lady of Fatima

The shepherd children – Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco – received visions of the Blessed Mother and consequently all three lived extraordinarily holy lives. Francisco spent time comforting Jesus in the tabernacle because of all the blasphemies against Him. Jacinta had a deep love for Our Lord vowing never to sin or to offend Jesus. She often made sacrifices in

order to rescue poor sinners from hell. Lucia became a Discalced Carmelite nun carrying on the mission of Fatima, writing books from her monastery cell.

The central message given by the Blessed Virgin Mary during those apparitions, and then for years afterward to Lucia, was the urgent need of the faithful to do penance and make reparation for sins

committed by humanity against Mary's Immaculate Heart. We need to intensify our prayers and acts of reparation. The Blessed Mother at Fatima has provided the means by which we can please God and help save souls from eternal loss: Pray the Rosary daily and do acts of reparation.

MEMBERS CORNER

- ◆ Our website for *Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Calendar* is now on line. Visit **OLOFRC.org** for the Fatima story, Fatima prayers, information about the Rosary Calendar and the Newsletter, as well as back issues of the OLOFRC Newsletter.
- ◆ Please pray for the soul of Gertrude Elbert (NC) (96 years old), one of the original members of OLOFRC, who died June 29, 2017. Pray also for Ed Gromek (PA) and for the souls of all other Rosary Calendar members who died recently.
- ◆ Congratulations to Fr. Andrew Gowa, TANZANIA, who is celebrating 25 Years of Priesthood.
- ◆ **Rosaries are needed for the missions. Please contact Mary Ann Schmitt** at the contact information below.

Our Rosary Calendar Spiritual Directors and Advisors

Spiritual Directors:

Fr. Thomas Choo (HI)
Fr. Matthew Kibuka (NY)
Fr. Javan Saxon (NC)
Fr. Pat Labassano
(Philippines)

Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. Andrew Ing (CA)
Msgr. John Williams(NC/VA)
Fr. A. M. Benzinger (India)

The Dominican Nuns of the
Perpetual Rosary, Fatima,
Portugal

Deceased Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. James Keenan (NC)*
Rt. Rev. George Lynch (NY)
Fr. John Cain (TN)
Fr. John DeMarchi (Fatima)
Fr. Gerard Leicht (HI)
Fr. Joseph Robeck (HI)
Msgr. Benedict Vierra (HI)

Msgr. Roy Peters (HI)
Fr. Lawrence Speichinger (MO)
Fr. George Svoboda (Canada)
Fr. Edwin Duffy (HI)
Fr. Charles Schmidt (NY)

*Founder of the Rosary Calendar

OLOFRC’s Mission

To spread Our Lady of Fatima’s message by praying for the following intentions: the Rosary daily, for our Holy Father, for the end of abortion, for Our Holy Church, and for family members. You are encouraged to: *to go to confession, receive Holy Communion, recite the Rosary, and meditate for 15 minutes on the mysterious of the Rosary for five consecutive first Saturday’s.*

Contact Information

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