



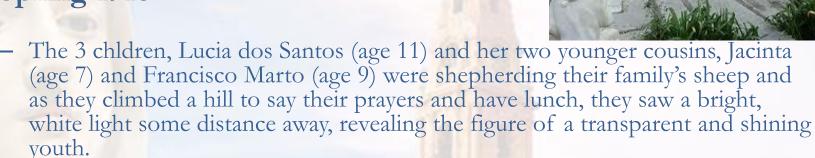
## Historical Context of the Apparitions at Fatima

- 1917 Portugal
- The midst of World War I the Great War
- Anti-religious sentiments were spreading in Portugal, where Our Lady appeared
- Growing presence of Freemasonry in the country



## Apparitions of the Angel

#### 1st Apparition Spring 1916



- The children drew closer and could make out the features of the apparition who told them: "Do not be afraid. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me!"
- The angel knelt on the ground, inclined his head to the ground and the children repeated the prayer the angel said:
  - "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, adore, hope and love you."
- After repeating this three times he stood and said, "Pray like this. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplications." Then he disappeared . . .
- The children remained in a spirit of recollection, feeling the presence of God so tangibly, even after the angel disappeared, and told no one about what they had seen.

### Apparitions of the Angel

#### 2nd Apparition

#### Mid-Summer 1916

 While tending the sheep, they saw the same angel they had seen before. He said to them:

"What are you doing? Pray! Pray very much! The Hearts of Jesus and Mary have

designs of Mercy for you. Offer constant prayers and sacrifices to the Almighty!"

- The children didn't know what it meant to make sacrifices, so they asked the angel, "How are we to sacrifice? He responded:

You can offer sacrifices as acts of reparation for sinners, by whom He is so much

offended, and you can beg for the conversion of sinners. This will bring your country peace.

I am your guardian angel, the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept with submission the sufferings the Lord sends you."

- These words helped the children understand who God is and how much He loves mankind and desires to be loved, the value of sarifice.
- From that moment, they began to offer sacrifices in response to the request of the angel.

## Apparitions of the Angel

## 3rd Apparition September or October 1916

• The angel appeared to the children for the third time as they were praying the rosary and the prayer that the angel had taught them in the first apparition. This time, the angel held a Chalice, holding a Host above it. Leaving the Chalice and the Host suspended in the air, he postrated himself on the ground and said this prayer three times:

"Blessed Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly and I offer the Precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, present in all the Tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the offenses, sacrileges, and indifferences by which He is so offended. And by the infinite merits of your Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I ask for the conversion of poor sinners."

• After getting up, the angel gave Lucia the host to consume and Jacitna and Francisco the Precious Blood from the Chalice to drink, saying:

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

- Afterwards, he prostrated again and prayed the same prayer he had prayed when he appeared three times. Then he disappeared.
- The next days, the children described that they were physically exhausted, but were immersed in the presence of God. Later they would reflect on how the apparitions of Our Lady left them feeling differently than the apparitons of the angel: the same joy and peace, but Our Lady left them with an agility, and instead of silence, an enthusiasm to communicate.





• 1st Apparition - May 13, 1917



- The children were playing at the Cova de Iria, and they saw a light like lightening. They thought it better to go home in case it was a storm.
- On their way home, they saw another flash of light and a Lady dressed in white, more brilliant than the sun, scattering clear and intense light, more than the strongest ray of sunlight through a glass of water.
- Our Lady then entered into dialogue with the children, Lucia, being the oldest, speaking for all the children.
- Our Lady asked the children to come to that place on the 13th day of the month for 6 consecutive months (May-October). She promised to reveal her identity and her desires at a later time. Then I asked: "Will I go to Heaven?" "Yes, you will go." "and Jacinta?" "She will go too." "And Francisco?" "He will also go, but he has to pray many rosaries first.".



- 1st Apparition May 13, 1917
- Lucia asked about a couple of friends who had passed away, before Our Lady told the children: -"Do you want to offer yourselves to God and accept all the sufferings that He desires to send you in reparation for the sins by which He is offended and to implore for the conversion of sinners?" -"Yes, we want to." "You will have to suffer much, but God's grace will strengthen you."
- Upon saying this the Virgin opened her arms for the first time, communicating a very intense light coming from her hands penetrating deep into the children's chest and our hearts, allowing them to see themselves in God more clearly than seeing ourselves in a mirror. Then, by an interior impulse also communicated to them, they fell to their knees, repeating humbly: "Holy Trinity, I adore you. My God, my God, I love you in the Blessed Sacrament."
- A few moments later Our Lady added: "Pray the rosary every day to acquire world peace and the end of the war." Immediately she started to elevate serenely as the light surrounding her seemed to open the way for her.



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Apparition Wednedsay, June 13
- After praying the rosary with people present (about 50) the children saw again the reflection of light approaching, and immediately Our Lady appeared on the oak tree, just like in the month of May.
- Lucia asked Our Lady's desire, and she replied: "I desire for you to come here on the 13th of next month, to pray the rosary every day and to learn how to read. Later, I will let you know what else I desire."
- Lucia requested the healing of a sick person.
  - Our Lady responded: "If she converts, she will be healed during the year." -
- Lucia also asked Our Lady to take them to heaven:
  - "Yes, Jacinta and Francisco I will take soon, but you will stay some time longer. Jesus wants to use you to let others know and love me. He wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. To whoever embraces it I promise salvation and that their souls will be dear to God like flowers placed by me to adorn his Throne."

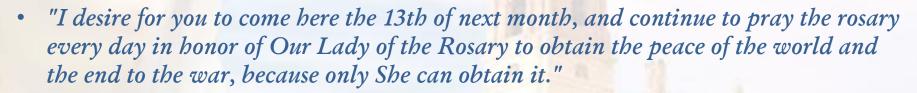


- 2<sup>nd</sup> Apparition Wednedsay, June 13
- "Will I stay here alone?" I asked with sorrow.
  - "No, my daughter. Do you suffer much because of this? Don't be discouraged! I will never leave you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the path to lead you to God."
- Our Lady again shone the rays upon the children that she had done at the first apparition. Jacinta and Francisco seemed to be in the area of the light elevating to heaven and Lucia was in the area covering the earth. In front of the palm of Our Lady's right hand was a heart surrounded by thorns seeming to pierce her heart. This was the Immaculate Heart of Mary, offended for the sins of humanity and desirous of reparation.

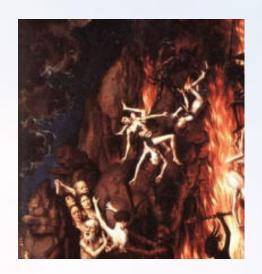




- 3rd Apparition Friday July 13, 1917
- By this apparition, many people were coming to witness the events that were being reported.
- When Our Lady appeared moments after the children arrived, Lucia asked what Our Lady desired and she responded:



• - Lucia asked who she was and for a miracle so that the crowds -"Continue to come here every month. In October I will say who I am and what I desire, and I will perform a miracle all will see so that they may believe." "Sacrifice for sinners and repeat many times, especially when you make a sacrifice: O my Jesus, this is out of love for you, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary!"





• Mary also showed the children hell during this apparition, and the many souls who were perishing there. Lucia describes:

we saw something like an ocean of fire, and submerged in this fire were demons and souls like transparent flames, black or bronze in color, of human form, fluctuating in the fire and taken by the flames that came out from within themselves along with clouds of smoke falling on all sides, similar to the fall of ashes from vast fires, but weightless and unbalanced, amidst screams and lamentations of sorrow and desperation that horrified us and made us tremble with fear. The demons were distinguished by their horrible and repulsive forms, like horrendous animals, but transparent as red-hot charcoal.

• The children were frightened and looked to Our Lady who said: "You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If you do what I tell you many souls will be saved and you will have peace. The war will end, but if you don't cease offending God, a worse one will start in the papacy of Pope Pius XI."

#### Our Lady continued:

"When you see a luminous night lit by an unknown light, know this is the great sign God will give as punishment to the world for its crimes by means of war, hunger, persecution of



the Church and the Holy Father. To prevent this, I will ask the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and communion of the first Saturdays of the month in reparation. If my desires are obeyed, Russia will be converted and there will be peace; if not, its errors will spread all over the world, promoting wars, persecutions of the Church: the good will be martyred, the Holy Father will suffer much, several nations will be annihilated. At the end, MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH.

The Holy Father will consecrate Russia, and it will be converted, the world will be granted a period of peace. In Portugal the dogma of Faith will be preserved always. . . . (the third part of the secret starts here, written by Lucia between Dec. 22, 1943 and January 9th, 1944, and revealed in 2000). Don't say this to anyone. You can tell Francisco." "When you pray the rosary, say after each decade: "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 your mercy."



- 4<sup>th</sup> Apparition Sunday, August 19, 1917
- Context for the apparition:
  - This apparition did not occur on August 13th in Cova de Iria because the Council Administrator captured and took the shepherd children to Vila Nova with the intention of forcing them to reveal the secret. They were imprisoned in the administration and in the municipal jail. They were offered the most valued gifts if they would reveal the secret. The young visionaries responded: "We will not say it even if the whole world was given to us." They were taken to jail. The prisoners advised: "Reveal the secret to the Administrator. Who cares if that Lady doesn't want it told?" "O no," Jacinta responded with liveliness, "I would rather die first!" The three children prayed the rosary with the prisoners before a medal Jacinta hung on the wall. To intimidate them, the Administrator commanded that a pot of boiling oil be prepared, threatening the children that they would be fried in it if they did not obey him. Even though the children believed what was told to them, they were not revealing anything.



- On August 15th, Feast of the Assumption, they were taken out of jail and returned to Fatima...
- Lucia and Francisco were tending their sheep in the fields, when they perceived Our Lady approaching. They sent Francisco's brother John, who was with them to go get Jacinta. and at the moment Jacinta arrived they saw our Lady on the oak tree.
- - "What is it that you desire?" "I desire for you to continue to go to Cova de Iria on the 13th, to continue praying the rosary every day. On the last month I will perform a miracle for all to believe."
- - "What should we do with the money the people leave at Cova de Iria?" "Make two bags, one for you and Jacinta to carry along with two other girls dressed in white; Francisco will take another bag with three other boys. The money collected in the bags is for the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary, what is left over will help for the construction of a chapel." "I would like to ask for the healing of some of the sick." "Yes, some I will cure during the year."
- Becoming very sorrowful, the Virgin added: "Pray, pray very much and make a sacrifice for sinners, because many souls are going to hell because no one offers sacrifices for them."

- 5th Apparition Thursday, September 13
- About 30,000 people were present at this apparition, and many asking the children to present their needs to Our Lady.
- Upon reaching the oak tree the children started to pray the rosary with the people. Soon afterwards they saw a reflection of light and immediately over the tree, Our Lady said:
  - "Continue to pray the rosary to achieve the end of the war. In October Our Lord will also come, with Our Lady of Sorrows and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Joseph and the Child Jesus to bless the world. God is pleased with your sacrifices, but He does not want you to sleep with the rope on, only wear it during the day."
  - (The rope was worn around the waist. It was one of the most painful mortifications the children offered for the conversion of sinners. Also, they did not eat snacks and abstained from drinking water. But the greatest sacrifices were the sacrifices the mission of Our Lady demanded: the humiliations, curiosity, annoyance of the people, unending visits, questions, persecutions, ridicule, prison)
  - "I will cure some of the sick, but not all. In October I will perform a miracle for all to believe."



- 6th Apparition October 13, 1917
- There was a multitude of people (70,000) under the torrential rain.
- Like the pevious apparitions, they began to pray the rosary and soon the children saw a reflection of light, and immediately Our Lady was on the *oak tree*.
- Lucia asked her, "What is it that you want?" She replied, "I want to tell you to build a chapel here in my honor. I am Our Lady of the Rosary. Continue to pray the rosary every day. The war is ending and the soldiers will return home soon."
- Lucia then asked, "Will the sick be healed?" "Some yes, others no; it is necessary for them to amend their lives, to ask forgiveness for their sins," she replied. With a sorrowful look, Our Lady said: "May our God be offended no longer. He is already offended very offended."



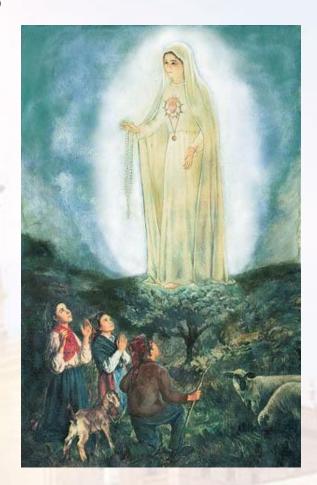


- Miracle of the Sun October 13, 1917
- · Opening her hands, they reflected the light of the sun. As she rose into the
- sky, her own brilliance continued to be seen in the midst of the sun's light. I cried out for all to look up towards the sun.
- The miracle of the sun was happening, as promised three months ago, as proof of the authenticity of the Fatima apparitions. The rain ceased and the sun rotated three times, launching variously colored rays of light all around. It seemed as if the sun was coming down from the sky toward the crowd. Everyone was amazed.
- After 10 minutes of the miracle, the sun returned to its normal state. The three children were favored with other visions as well. Next to the sun, they saw St. Joseph, the Child Jesus and Our Lady of Sorrows. The Child Jesus and St. Joseph were blessing the world. After this vision ceased, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel appeared.
- "Sacrifice for sinners and repeat many times, especially when you make a sacrifice: O my Jesus, this is out of love for you, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary!"



## Summary of the Main Messages

- "I want you to offer yourselves to God and accept all the sufferings that He desires to send you in reparation for the sins by which He is offended and to implore for the conversion of sinners." (May 13, 1917)
- "Jesus wants to use you to let others know and love me. He wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world." (June 13, 1917)
- "Don't be discouraged! I will never leave you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the path to lead you to God." (June 13, 1917)
- "Sacrifice for sinners and repeat many times, especially when you make a sacrifice: O my Jesus, this is out of love for you, for the conversion of sinners and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary!" (July 13, 1917)





## Summary of the Main Messages

- "You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If you do what I tell you many souls will be saved and you will have peace. The war will end, but if you don't cease offending God, one worse will start in the papacy of Pope Pius XI." (July 13, 1917)
- "Pray, pray very much and make a sacrifice for sinners, because many souls are going to hell because no one offers sacrifices for them." (August 19, 1917)
- "Continue to pray the rosary to achieve the end of the war. In October Our Lord will also come, with Our Lady of Sorrows and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, St. Joseph and the Child Jesus to bless the world." (September 13, 1917)
- "I want to tell you to build a chapel here in my honor. I am Our Lady of the Rosary. Continue to pray the rosary every day. May our God be offended no longer. He is already offended too much." (October 13, 1917)
- In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph!



## Later Apparitions to Sr. Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart

- Five First Saturdays in Reparation
- The Blessed Virgin said on July 13, 1917: "To prevent the war, I will come to ask for the consecration to Russia to my Immaculate Heart and communion in reparation on the first Saturdays of the month." She fulfilled her promise to come again on December 10th, 1925.
- Lucia was a postulant in the Convent of St. Dorothy in Pontevedra, Spain when she had the apparition of our Blessed Mother. She was standing over a cloud of light with the Child Jesus at her side. The Blessed Virgin put one hand on Lucia's shoulder, while her other hand sustained her Immaculate Heart that was surrounded with thorns. The Child Jesus said: "Have compassion on the Heart of your Blessed Mother. It is surrounded with thorns that ungrateful men pierce each moment, and there is no one that is willing to offer an act of reparation to take the thorns away."
- Our Lady immediately said to Lucia: "Look, my daughter. My Heart is surrounded with thorns that ungrateful men pierce unceasingly with their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console me and announce that for all those, who for five consecutive first Saturdays, confess, receive Holy Communion, pray the Holy Rosary and accompany me for 15 minutes by meditating the mysteries of the Holy Rosary with the intention to do reparation, I promise to assist them at the hour of death with the graces needed for salvation."



# Later Apparitions to Sr. Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart

#### Spirit of Reparation

- All should be done with the intention of repairing the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- This reparation emphasizes our personal responsibility towards sinners who do not pray and do not do reparation for their sins, and in doing so we try to save their souls. If we worry about offering the intention of reparation each First Saturday, we can make the resolution to offer the reparation at the beginning of the first First Saturday.
- During her prayer time, our Lord revealed to Lucia the reason for the Five Saturdays of Reparation: "My daughter, the reason is simple; it concerns the 5 forms of offenses and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary":
- 1-Against her Immaculate Conception.
- 2- Against her virginity
- 3- Against her Divine Maternity, refusing at the same time to receive Mary as Mother of all humanity.
- 4- Against those that publicly instill and induce indifference, hate and scorn towards our Immaculate Mother in the hearts of children.
- 5- Against those that insult or directly offend her sacred images.
- "This is why, my daughter, that before the offended and insulted Immaculate Heart, my mercy was moved to request this small reparation in recognition to Her, in order to grant forgiveness to souls who go through this disgrace of offending My Mother. But you, at least, try unceasingly, with your prayers and sacrifices, to move my mercy for these souls."



## Later Apparitions to Sr. Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart

- Vision of the Trinity and the petition for the consecration of Russia
- In June 1929, Lucia, already a religious of St. Dorothy, describes the following apparition:
- "... suddenly the entire convent Chapel was illuminated in a supernatural light, and a Cross of light appeared over the altar and reached the ceiling. On the superior part the face of man was seen and his body down to the waist. A dove of light was over his chest and nailed to the Cross was another man. Suspended in air over his waist I was able to see a chalice with a large Host. Drops of Blood from the face of Jesus Crucified and His pierced side fell into the the chalice, dripping from the Host. Beneath the right arm on the Cross was Our Lady. It was Our Lady of Fatima, with her Immaculate Heart in her left hand, without thorns or roses, but with a crown of thorns and flames. Underneath the left arm on the Cross, big letters, similar to crystal water came down to the altar forming these words: Grace and Mercy.'
- Lucia said: "I understood it was the mystery of the Blessed Trinity that was revealed to me, and I perceived inner light about this mystery which I'm unable to reveal. The Blessed Virgin told me: The time has come in which God asks the Holy Father that in union with all the bishops of the world the consecration of Russia to my Heart be made, I promise salvation through this means.' Preventing diffusion of error and advance its conversion."



### The 3 Secrets of Fatima

- FIRST AND SECOND PARTS OF THE SECRET
- The first part is the vision of hell.
  - Our Lady showed us a great sea of fire which seemed to be under the earth. Plunged in this fire were demons and souls in human form, like transparent burning embers, all blackened or burnished bronze, floating about in the conflagration, now raised into the air by the flames that issued from within themselves together with great clouds of smoke, now falling back on every side like sparks in a huge fire, without weight or equilibrium, and amid shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us and made us tremble with fear. The demons could be distinguished by their terrifying and repulsive likeness to frightful and unknown animals, all black and transparent. This vision lasted but an instant. How can we ever be grateful enough to our kind heavenly Mother, who had already prepared us by promising, in the first Apparition, to take us to heaven. Otherwise, I think we would have died of fear and terror.
- The end of World War I, and the prevention of World War II through the Consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart
- THIRD PART OF THE SECRET
- The revelation of the persecution of the Church and the assassination of the "man in white"
  - "After the two parts which I have already explained, at the left of Our Lady and a little above, we saw an Angel with a flaming sword in his left hand; flashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire; but they died out in contact with the splendour that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand: pointing to the earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: 'Penance, Penance, Penance!'. And we saw in an immense light that is God: 'something similar to how people appear in a mirror when they pass in front of it' a Bishop dressed in White 'we had the impression that it was the Holy Father'. Other Bishops, Priests, men and women Religious going up a steep mountain, at the top of which there was a big Cross of rough-hewn trunks as of a cork-tree with the bark; before reaching there the Holy Father passed through a big city half in ruins and half trembling with halting step, afflicted with pain and sorrow, he prayed for the souls of the corpses he met on his way; having reached the top of the mountain, on his knees at the foot of the big Cross he was killed by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows at him, and in the same way there died one after another the other Bishops, Priests, men and women Religious, and various lay people of different ranks and positions. Beneath the two arms of the Cross there were two Angels each with a crystal aspersorium in his hand, in which they gathered up the blood of the Martyrs and with it sprinkled the souls that were making their way to God."



#### The Visionaries

#### Blessed Jacinta Marto

- Jacinta was of clear intelligence, joyful, and agile. She was always running, jumping and dancing. She lived passionately for the conversion of sinners.

  The vision of hell had impressed her very much, and she did all she could to prevent sinners from going there.
- One time she exclaimed: "I grieve for sinners! . . . If I could show them hell!"
- She died a holy death on February 20th, 1920. Her body is buried next to Francisco in the Basilica of Fatima.
- Jacinta was fervent in her love of God and her desire for souls. She was consumed with an unsatiable thirst to save the poor souls in danger of hell. The glory of God, salvation of souls, the importance of the Holy Father and priests, the necessity and love for the sacraments all this took first priority in her life.
- She had a profound devotion that took her very near to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This love always led her in a profound way to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Jacinta attended daily Mass with a great desire of receiving Jesus in Holy Communion in reparation for poor sinners. Nothing was more attractive to her than to be in the Real Presence of the Eucharistic Jesus. She said frequently: "I love to be here so much. I have so much to say to Jesus."
- On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1918, Jacinta became seriously ill with a terrible epidemic of bronco-pneumonia.



#### The Visionaries

#### Blessed Francisco Marto

- Francisco's character was docile and compliant. He liked to spend time helping the needy. He was known by all to be a sincere, just, obedient and diligent person.
- The Angel's words in the third apparition, "Console your God," made a profound impression in the soul of the small shepherd boy.
- He desired only to think of ways to console Our Lord and the Virgin Mary who he had seen so sad.
- In his illness, Francisco confided to his cousin: "Our Lord, is He still sad? I'm so heartbroken that He is this way. I offer Him all the sacrifices I'm able to."
- On the eve of his death, he confessed and received Holy Communion with the most pious sentiments. After five months of continuous suffering, on a First Friday at 10:00 am, the consoler of Jesus died a holy death.
- Francisco, aware he was not to live long on this earth, said to Lucia, "You go to school, I will stay with Jesus who is hidden. What good is it for me to learn to read if soon I will go to heaven?" After saying this Francisco would go to the Church to be as close as possible to the Tabernacle.
- Francisco wanted to offer his life to console the Lord whom he saw so sad and offended. His desire to go to heaven was motivated only by the desire to better console God. With firm intention to do what pleased God, he avoided all sin and at 7 years old started to receive frequently the Sacrament of Penance.
- Lucia asked Francisco: "Francisco, what do you prefer the most, to console the Lord or convert sinners?" He responded: "I prefer to console the Lord.





#### The Visionaries

- Servant of God Lucia dos Santos
- Lucia Dos Santos was born on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1907, also in Ajustrel.
- At the age of nine, she was sent with her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Matos to shepherd the sheep as usual. It was then that they received the visit of the Virgin in Cova de Iria.
- Lucia entered the Sisters of St. Dorothy in 1921. She was with them in Tui and Pontevedra, Spain. In both cities she had important visits from Jesus and Mary. She received the Promises of the First Saturdays, the Vision of the Blessed Trinity and the petition to consecrate Russia in 1929.
- In 1946 she returned to Portugal, and two years later entered the Carmel of St. Teresa in Coimbra, where she professed her vows as a Carmelite in 1949.
- She passed away on February 13, 2005.





#### The World's Response

#### Consecration of Russia by the Holy Fathers

- Dec. 1940-----Lucia receives permission to write the Holy Father Pio XII, asking for this consecration.
- Oct. 1942-----Pope Pío XII consecrates the world mentioning specially Russia.
- July 1952-----Special Consecration only of Russia.
- 1965-----Pope Paul VI also consecrates Russia.
- 1984-----Pope John Paul II consecrates the world to the Immaculate Heart.
- 2000-----Pope John Paul II consecrates the III Millennium to the Immaculate Heart.
- As a note, Pope Pius XII had actually seen the miracle of the sun on October 13, 1917 according to his handwritten notes

#### Victim Souls

• Victims souls of the Fatima message: The victims souls embraces with heroic love grate sacrifices in favor of Mary's intention. The most known victims souls of Fatima are Blessed Alejandrina de Costa and Aminda de Jesus. She lived 50 years in total paralysis, praying from her bed in a small room in Fatima so that the message of Our Lady might be received, especially by the youth. We had the great gift of knowing her personally, and the one she considered "my little friend". Arminda, after great sufferings and being detached from her greatest desire to die in Fatima, left for the House of the Father in January 2001.



#### The World's Response

- Pope St. John Paul II
  - The assassination attempt on May 13, 1981
  - Mehmet Ali Agca knew he had shot a fatal bullet and when he had the opportunity asked "So why aren't you dead?"
- John Paul II's response: "It was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path."
- The bullet now resides in the crown of Our Lady in Fatima
- As soon as St. John Paul II woke up after surgery, he asked for his breviary, but the next thing he asked for was the text of the 3<sup>rd</sup> secret of Fatima, which foretold of the "man in white" being killed
- John Paul II attributed the saving of his life to the hand of Our Lady, and the sacrifices of Jacinta for the pope
- John Paul revealed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Secret in 2000 and beatified Jacinta and Francisco the same year



