

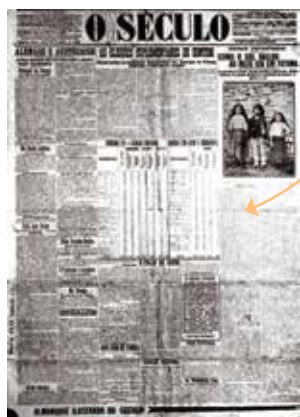


The Miracle of the Sun

DURING THE OCTOBER APPARITION

The greatest miracle to occur since the resurrection is also the only miracle ever precisely predicted as to date, time of day and location. It is popularly known as “The Miracle of the Sun” and Oct. 13, 1917, has come to be known as “The Day the Sun Danced.” The miracle was viewed by 70,000 or more people at the Cova that day, and is reported to have been seen from as far as 25 miles away. Doubters and skeptics had become believers. Even the secular newspaper *O Seculo*’s chief reporter, Avelino de Almeida, who had written satirically before, now reported affirmatively, and stood by his story later on in spite of harsh criticism.

For an eyewitness account of the miracle by Dr. José Maria de Almeida Garrett, professor at the Faculty of Sciences of Coimbra, Portugal, visit <http://www.fatima.org/essentials/facts/miracle.asp>. On Oct. 13, 1951, the papal legate, Cardinal Tedeschini, told the million people gathered at Fátima that on Oct. 30, Oct. 31, Nov. 1 and Nov. 8, 1950, Pope Pius XII himself witnessed the miracle of the sun from the Vatican gardens.



THREE-PART SECRET REVEALED TO THE CHILDREN

12TH CENTURY

The village of Fatima is named after a beloved Muslim princess who converted to the Catholic faith and married the Christian knight Goncalo Hermingues

1915

9-year-old Lucia sees a figure in white suspended in midair

SPRING 1916

The angel of peace appears to Lucia and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco

SUMMER 1916

The angel of peace appears a second time, announcing himself as the angel of Portugal

FALL 1916

The angel of peace appears a third time

MAY 13, 1917

First apparition of Our Lady of Fatima at the *Cova da Iria*

JUNE 13, 1917

Second apparition of Our Lady of Fatima

JULY 13, 1917

Third apparition of Our Lady of Fatima — three-part secret revealed to the children

AUG. 13, 1917

The Fatima shepherds are kidnapped by Administrator Arturo de Santos, a leading Freemason

AUG. 19, 1917

Fourth apparition of Our Lady occurs in Valinhos near the village of Aljustrel

SEPT. 13, 1917

Fifth apparition of Our Lady of Fatima

OCT. 13, 1917

Sixth apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, **Miracle of the Sun** occurs before 70,000 witnesses in the *Cova da Iria*

FALL 1918

Francisco and Jacinta Marto contract the deadly influenza

APRIL 4, 1919

Francisco dies from influenza

APRIL 29, 1919

First Capelinha, “Chapel of Apparitions,” is built at the site of the apparitions

FEB. 20, 1920

Jacinta dies from tuberculosis and bronchial pneumonia

JUNE 13, 1920

The first statue of Our Lady of Fatima, sculpted by José Thedim according to Lucia’s description, is placed at the Capelinha

JUNE 15, 1921

Our Lady appears to Lucia a seventh time and tells her to follow the path the bishop wants her to take; she departs to a school in Porto led by the Dorothean Sisters, taking the name Maria das Dores

MAY 3, 1922

Bishop Jose Alves Correia da Silva opens an official inquiry into the events at Fatima

OCT. 24, 1925

Lucia joins the Dorothean Sisters in Spain

DEC. 10, 1925

Our Lady and the Child Jesus appear to Sister Lucia in the convent chapel and request the propagation of the First Saturday Communions of Reparation

Fatima: A timeline

SPECIAL REPORT

FEB. 15, 1926

The Child Jesus appears to Sister Lucia, asking what is being done to spread the First Saturday devotion

JUNE 13, 1929

Sister Lucia receives a vision of the Holy Trinity in the chapel; Our Lady appears and requests the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart by the Holy Father and all the bishops

OCT. 13, 1930

Bishop da Silva issues pastoral letter approving the apparitions at Fatima

OCT. 3, 1934

Sister Lucia professes final vows with the Sisters of St. Dorothy, becoming Sister Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart

SEPT. 13, 1939

The bishop of Leiria makes public the request for the First Saturday devotion

DEC. 2, 1940

Sister Lucia writes to Pope Pius XII requesting the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart

OCT. 13, 1942

Coronation of Our Lady of Fatima statue with a crown of jewels donated by Portuguese people, in thanksgiving for being spared during World War II

SEPT. 1943

Bishop of Leiria orders Sister Lucia to write the third part of the secret, fearing she was dying

JAN. 3, 1944

Our Lady appears to Sister

Lucia giving permission to write the third part of the secret; the contents are delivered to the bishop of Leiria for safekeeping

1947

Msgr. Harold V. Colgan co-founds The Blue Army with John Haffert and pledges it will oppose the Red Army of Communism

MARCH 25, 1948

Sister Lucia enters the Carmel of Coimbra, Portugal

JAN. 1950

The first issue of *Soul* magazine is published to spread the message of Fatima; 1 million signed pledges are buried at the Fatima Shrine

JULY 7, 1952

In a special apostolic letter, Pope Pius XII consecrates the Russian people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

AUG. 17, 1959

Pope St. John XXIII reads the contents of the third part of the secret, but discerns it is not the right time to release it

MARCH 27, 1965

Pope Paul VI reads the contents of the third part of the secret and decides not to publish the text

MARCH 25, 1984

Pope St. John Paul II consecrates the world (and implicitly Russia) to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in union with the Catholic bishops of the world and some Orthodox bishops; Sister Lucia confirms this consecration “was accepted by heaven” and fulfills Our Lady’s request

MAY 13, 1989

Pope St. John Paul II declares Jacinta and Francisco “venerable”

MARCH 15, 1990

The Vatican establishes diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, following a meeting between Pope St. John Paul II and President Mikhail Gorbachev

MAY 13, 1991

At Fatima, Pope St. John Paul II thanks Our Lady for the fruits of the 1984 collegial **consecration** and renews the consecration of the world to her Immaculate Heart

1990s

New Roman Catholic dioceses erected in Russia

MAY 13, 2000

Pope St. John Paul II beatifies Francisco and Jacinta, declaring them “Blessed”

JUNE 26, 2000

The Vatican publishes the third part of the secret of Fatima

FEB. 12, 2005

Sister Lucia dies

FEB. 19, 2006

Sister Lucia’s body is transferred from the Carmel to the Basilica of the Shrine of Fatima and laid to rest by the tombs of Francisco and Jacinta

OCT. 13, 2013

Pope Francis consecrates the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary before the statue of Our Lady of Fatima that is flown to Rome for this occasion

2016-2017

The World Apostolate of Fatima celebrates the centenary of the apparitions at Fatima †



Pope St. John Paul II and Sister Lucia