



Ever New, Why the Message of Fatima is the Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Message that the World needs Now

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St. Leo's Lunch, Clunan Center,

St. Louis Church, Memphis, TN

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., Tues., Oct. 10, 2017

- I. The Short Distance from Fatima to Memphis, from 1917 to 2017
- II. The Message of Fatima / The Gospel of Jesus Christ

The Message of Fatima 1915 - 1917	Gospel of St. Mark
<p>April - Oct., 1915 - 3 visits from a figure in a "sheet"</p> <p>April - Oct., 1916 - 3 Visits from the Angel of Peace while tending sheep.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) We prayed our rosary, saying the words "Hail Mary" and "Our Father" on each bead so that we could play. b) "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love you. I ask pardon of you for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love you." c) I don't know how many times we had repeated this prayer, when an extraordinary light shone upon us. We sprang up to see what was happening, and beheld the Angel. He was holding a Chalice in his left hand, with the Host suspended above it, from which some drops of Blood fell into the Chalice. Leaving the Chalice suspended in the air, the Angel knelt down beside us and made us repeat three times: "Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners." Then rising, he took the Chalice and the Host in his hands. He gave the Sacred Host to me, and shared the Blood from the Chalice between Jacinta and Francisco, saying as he did so: "Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men! Make reparation for their crimes and console your God." 	<p>1:1 - 8: St. John is the messenger to prepare the way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) in the desert b) a baptism of repentance - > forgiveness of sins c) One more powerful than I will come after me. d) He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.

<p>May 13 – Our Lady promises heaven.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) “Do not be afraid. I will do you no harm...I am from heaven...come here for 6 months, on the 13th day, at the same hour. Later, I will tell you who I am and what I want...Yes, you and Jacinta will go to heaven, but Francisco must say many rosaries first.” b) “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God to bear all the sufferings He will send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and of supplication for the conversion of sinners?” Yes, we are willing. “Then, you are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort.” c) “Pray the Rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war.” 	<p>1:9 – 11: Jesus is baptized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) From Nazareth in Galilee (farmers/shepherds) b) Baptized in Jordan c) Sky opens up d) Spirit descends like dove e) Voice from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son on whom my favor rests.”
<p>June 13 – Our Lady encourages Lucia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) “I wish you to come here on the 13th of next month, to pray the Rosary every day, and to learn to read. Later I will tell you what I want.” b) “Are you suffering a great deal? Don’t lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.” c) As She spoke these words, She opened Her hands, and from them streamed a light that penetrated to our inmost hearts...[T]he main purpose of this light was to infuse within us a special knowledge and love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary...just as...with regard to God and the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. d) ...I had a dream which only increased the darkness of my spirit. I saw the devil laughing at having deceived me, as he tried to drag me down to hell. 	<p>1:12 – 13: Jesus is tempted in the desert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Spirit sends Jesus into the desert. b) He stayed for 40 days. c) Tested by Satan. d) Amidst wild beasts; angels waited on him.
<p>July 13 – Our Lady reveals the secret.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Crowds of people were waiting for us along the road, and only with difficulty did we finally get there. b) “I want you to come here on the 13th of next month, to continue to pray the Rosary every day in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, in order to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war, because only She can help you.” c) “In October, I will tell you who I am and what I want, and I will perform a miracle for all to see and believe.” d) “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. The war is going to end, but if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the 	<p>1:14 – 15: Jesus proclaims the Gospel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Reign of God is at hand. b) Repent and believe the Gospel.

<p>pontificate of Pius XI. When you see a night illuminated by an unknown light, know that this is the great sign given to you by God that He is about to punish the world for its crimes by means of war, famine and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father.</p> <p>e) “To prevent this I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of reparation on the First Saturdays. If My requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated, in the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me and she will be converted and a period of peace will be granted to the world.”</p> <p>f) “When you pray the Rosary, say after each mystery, ‘O my Jesus! Forgive us, save us from the fire of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need.’”</p>	
<p>Aug. 13/15 – Our Lady asks for prayer and sacrifices.</p> <p>a) “I want you to continue going to the Cova da Iria on the 13th, and to continue praying the Rosary every day. In the last month, I will perform a miracle so that all may believe.”</p> <p>b) “Pray, pray very much, and make sacrifices for sinners; for many souls go to hell, because there are none to sacrifice themselves and to pray for them.”</p>	<p>1:16 – 28: Jesus calls his first disciples.</p> <p>a) “I will make you fishers of men.”</p> <p>b) He teaches with authority.</p> <p>c) He expels demons.</p>
<p>Sept. 13 – Our Lady asks for preparations.</p> <p>a) Now when I read the New Testament about those enchanting scenes of Our Lord’s passing through Palestine, I think of those which Our Lord allowed me to witness, while yet a child, on the poor roads...I give thanks to God, offering Him the faith of our good Portuguese people, and I think: ‘If these people so humbled themselves before three poor children, just because they were mercifully granted the grace to speak to the Mother of God, what would they not do if they saw Our Lord Himself in person before them?’</p> <p>b) “Continue to pray the Rosary in order to obtain the end of the war.”</p>	<p>1:29 – 31: Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law.</p>

<p>Oct. 13 – Our Lady reveals the Holy Family.</p> <p>a) “[...] [A] chapel is to be built here in my honor. I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue as always to pray the Rosary every day. The war is going to end, and the soldiers will soon return to their homes.”</p> <p>b) “Do not offend Our Lord and God anymore because He is already so much offended.”</p> <p>c) After Our Lady had disappeared into the immense distance of the firmament, we beheld St. Joseph with the Child Jesus and Our Lady robed in white with a blue mantle, beside the sun. St. Joseph and the Child Jesus appeared to bless the world, for they traced the Sign of the Cross with their hands. When, a little later, the apparition disappeared, I saw Our Lord and Our Lady; it seemed to me that it was Our Lady of Sorrows. Our Lord appeared to bless the world in the same manner as St. Joseph had done. This apparition also vanished, and I saw Our Lady once more, this time resembling Our Lady of Carmel.</p> <p>d) We were like some curious creature that the multitudes wanted to see and observe. By night time, I was really exhausted after so many questions and interrogations. These did not even end with nightfall. Several people, who had been unable to question me, remained over till the following day, awaiting their turn. Some of them even tried to talk to me that night, but, overcome by the weariness, I just dropped down and fell asleep on the floor...</p>	<p>1:32 – 39: In the midst of healings and exorcisms and evangelizing and discipling, Jesus is absorbed in prayer.</p>
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III. What the World Needs Now

- A. **Conversion, prayer, penance** – “God willed only to make use of me to remind the world that it is necessary to avoid sin, and to make reparation to an offended God, by means of prayer and penance.” *Fatima in the Lucia’s own words*, edited by Fr. Louis Kondor, (Ravengate Press, 1989), p. 47.
- B. **First Saturday Devotion** – On Dec. 10, 1925, the holy Virgin and Child appeared to her in the convent at Pontevedra, Spain. The holy Virgin said: “Look, my daughter, at my Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries

of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me.” *Fatima in the Lucia’s own words*, p. 119.

On Feb. 15, 1926, the Child appeared to her. Sr. Lucia said, “But my confessor said in the letter that this devotion is not lacking in the world, because there are many souls who receive You on the First Saturdays, in honor of Our Lady and of the Fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary.” “It is true, my daughter, that many souls begin the First Saturdays, but few finish them, and who do complete them do so in order to receive the graces that are promised thereby. It would please me more if they did Five with favor and with the intention of making reparation to the Heart of your heavenly Mother, then if they did Fifteen, in a tepid and indifferent manner...” *Fatima in the Lucia’s own words*, p. 120.

- C. **The Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary** – Sister Lucia affirms that the Consecration made by John Paul II, in union with the Bishops, on 25th March 1984, corresponded to the request of Our Lady and was accepted by Heaven. She confirmed that a numerical union of all the Bishops was not required, that a moral union was sufficient. *Fatima in the Lucia’s own words*, p. 49.

- D. **The assistance of the Holy Spirit** – I never speak or write anything at all that comes from myself alone. I have to thank God for the assistance of the Divine Holy Spirit, whom I feel within me, suggesting to me what I am to write or say. If, at times, my own imagination or understanding suggests something to me, I at once feel the lack of the Divine Unction, and I stop what I am doing, until I know in my inmost heart what it is that God wants me to say instead. *Fatima in the Lucia’s own words*, p. 50

IV. Highlights in the History of the Most Holy Rosary

- A. 3rd-4th c. - monks begin cycle of praying 150 psalms. Illiterate laity begin to imitate the monks in praying 150 paternosters (“Our Fathers”) – “Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thes. 5:17.
- B. 7th c. - prayers to Ever Virgin Mary are widespread. Ave Maria (“Hail Mary”) develops.
- C. 13th c. - guilds in London (Paternoster Row) craft ropes of beads for prayers.
- D. 1206 - St. Dominic de Guzman (Order of Preachers) received the Rosary from the Blessed Virgin Mary to combat Albigensian heresy (Battle of Muret, 1213), according to tradition.
- E. 1460-75 - Bl. Alan de la Roche, O.P., establishes Rosary Confraternities (women & men) throughout Europe. Relates vision of St. Dominic and St. Catherine receiving the Rosary.
- F. Oct. 7, 1571 - Pope St. Pius V, O.P., requests all of Rome to pray the Marian Rosary for victory of Holy League over Ottoman Navy in Battle of Lepanto (Greece). Pope establishes Feast of Our Lady of Victory. In 1573, Pope Gregory XIII changes it to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.
- G. 1646 - Combined Spanish and Filipino forces rebuff naval forces of Protestant Dutch Republic in Battles of La Naval de Manila, thanks to Our Lady of the Rosary.
- H. Aug. 5, 1715 - Pope Clement XI extends Feast of the Holy Rosary to universal church after defeat of Ottoman army in Battle of Petrovaradin (Serbia).
- I. Feb. 11 - July 16, 1858 - The Immaculate Conception appears to St. Bernadette Soubirous, peasant girl near Lourdes, France. She appears with a golden rosary on her arm.
- J. 1875 - Bl. Bartolo Longo converts from Satanism to Catholicism and obtains image of Our Lady of the Rosary. “Apostle of the Rosary” begins shrine in Pompeii, Italy.
- K. May - Oct., 1917 - Our Lady of the Rosary appears to three shepherd children near Fatima, Portugal, Sts. Jacinta and Francisco Marto, and Servant of God Lucia dos Santos.
- L. Sept. 25, 1983 - Feb. 11, 1990 - Our Lady of the Rosary of San Nicholas appears to middle-age housewife, Gladys Quiroga de Motta, in Argentina (approved May 22, 2016).
- M. Oct. 16, 2002 (25th ann.) - Pope St. John Paul II adds Luminous Mysteries to the Rosary.

V. Discussion Questions:

- A. **Conversion** - How is my walk with Christ? How do I help other men become disciples of Jesus Christ? How do I tell other men about Jesus and his teaching?
- B. **Prayer** - How often do I pray? Especially, how often do I pray the Marian Rosary? Do I invite others into this “school of Mary” to learn about her son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, our brother, our Redeemer?
- C. **Penance** - Do I fear God? Do I fear hell? How do I resist temptation? How often do I make an examination of conscience, pray an act of contrition, and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation?
- D. **Honoring your heavenly Mother** - Do I love the Mother of my brother, Jesus Christ, as much as he loves her?
- E. **The Holy Spirit** - How do I invite the Holy Spirit regularly into my life?