

THE MESSAGES OF FATIMA

A complete but simple account of the messages given to Lucy.

Many Catholics know about the Fatima Secret and the dance of the sun. Very few Catholics, however, know what was said.

These messages have three parts:

1. Apparitions of the Angel of Peace (1916)
2. The six apparitions of Our Lady (Mary 13, 1917 to October 13, 1917)
3. Later apparitions to Sister Lucy

The Three Visionaries

Before beginning, let us meet the three visionaries.

Lucia dos Santos was the youngest of six children, born on March 22, 1907. Our Lady told her that she would remain on earth for many years. She was to learn to read so she could spread the messages of Fatima. She died on February 13, 2005. She was a cousin to Jacinta and Francisco.

Francisco Marto was the sixth of seven children, born on June 11, 1908. His mother and Lucia's mother were sisters. Our Lady told him that she would take him to heaven quickly. He died on April 4, 1919.

Jacinta Marto was the seventh and final child, born on March 11, 1910. Like her brother, Mary also told her that she would die quickly and be taken to heaven. She died on February 20, 1920.

PART ONE - VISIONS OF THE ANGEL OF PORTUGAL (1915 – 1916)

Before Our Lady appeared on May 13, 1917, there were appearances by the Angel of Portugal.

1915

Lucy is 8. Together with three companions (not Jacinta and Francisco), she saw a figure above a tree "like a statue, made of snow, transparent by the sun's rays."

This apparition happened two more times, with no words being spoken. Later, Lucy wrote, "This apparition made an impression but, little by little, it disappeared and I would have completely forgotten it."

1916

By this time, Lucy is joined with Francisco and Jacinta, going each day to care for the sheep. Francisco and Jacinta. She saw the figure again. The other two knew nothing of the previous appearances. However, they, too, saw the angel. Lucy writes: "It was a young man, about 14 or 15 years old, whiter than snow, transparent as crystal when the sun shines through it, and of great beauty. " The Angel knelt and bent his head until it touched the ground. The children, led by a supernatural impulse, did the same.

He said, "Do not be afraid. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me." The angel prayed and the three children repeated his words. "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 hope and do not love you." Then he said, "Pray in this way. The hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplication." Then the angel disappeared.

Afterwards, the children found themselves in an intense spiritual atmosphere. The vision had such a profound impression that it imposed a silence, and it was impossible for them to speak about it. Because Francesco saw the angel but did not hear his words, the other two repeated them for him. This was true of all the apparitions.

Summer 1916

Due to the intense heat, the children returned home with the sheep at noon and led them out again in the evening. While spending these siesta hours in the shade of trees, they suddenly saw the Angel beside them. He said, “What are you doing? Pray. Pray very much! The Holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High”.

Lucy asked, “How are we to make sacrifices? The angel replied: “Make of everything you can a sacrifice, and offer it to God as an act of reparation for the sins by which he is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of sinners. You will thus draw down peace upon your country. I am its guardian Angel, the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept and bear with submission the suffering which the Lord will send to you.” At this time, Lucy was 9, Francisco was 8 and Jacinta was 6.

October, 1916

The children went to the hollow of a rock to pray, kneeling down with foreheads touching the ground and saying the prayer taught by the Angel. When they looked up, they saw the Angel holding a chalice in his left hand. The host was suspended above it, and drops of blood fell from the host into the Chalice.

The angel left the chalice and host suspended in midair and knelt beside the children and taught them this prayer. “Most Holy trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, 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 sacrileges, outrages and indifference by 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”. (Ed note – Many elements of this prayer are similar to the prayer that Jesus taught St. Faustina two decades later).

The Angel then gave Lucy the Sacred Host and gave the chalice to Jacinta and Francesco saying, “Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men. Make reparation for their crimes and console your God.” Then the angel prostrated, said the prayer to the Trinity three times and disappeared.

The children imitated the angel and continued praying in the prostrate position for a long time. The effects of this mystical experience remained for days and left the children in a weakened condition. Later, Francisco asked what he had received. When Jacinta told him that it was Holy Communion, he replied, “I felt that God was within me, but I did not know how.”

PART TWO – THE SIX VISIONS (Mary 13, 1917 to October 13, 1917)

May 13, 1917 (Sunday before the Ascension)

After mass, the three children chose to take their sheep to the now famous Cova da Iria. After lunch, they recited the rosary and then moved the sheep higher so they could play. Suddenly, they saw a flash of light. Thinking that it was lightening, they quickly took the sheep back down the hill. They saw another flash of lightning and then saw a Lady all dressed in white, more brilliant than the sun.

Since she stood just a few feet away from them, they too, were bathed in her light. The Lady spoke “Do not be afraid. I will do you no harm”.

Lucy : Where does Your Grace come from?

Lady: I am of heaven.

Lucy: What does Your Grace want of me?

Lady: I have come to ask you to come here for six months in succession, on the 13th day, at the same hour.

Later on, I will tell you who I am and what I want. Afterwards, I will return here yet a seventh time.”

Lucy : Shall I go to heaven, too?

Lady: Yes, you will.

Lucy : And Jacinta?

Lady: She will go also.

Lucy : And Francisco?

Lady: He will go there, too, but he must say many rosaries.

(Lucy then asked about two girls, friends of her oldest sister, who had died recently)

Lucy: Is Maria das Neves in heaven?

Lady: Yes, she is.

Lucy: And Amelia

Lady: She will be in purgatory until the end of the world.

Lady: “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you, as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended and of supplication for the conversion of sinners?”

Lucy: Yes, we are willing.

Lady: “Then you are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort”.

After these final words, Our Lady opened her hands for the first time. From them, came a light so intense that its rays penetrated their hearts and their innermost souls, making the children see themselves in God more clearly than in a mirror. By an inner impulse, the children fell to their knees and prayed, “O Most Holy Trinity, I adore you! My Go, my God, I love you in the most Blessed sacrament”.

After a few moments, Our Lady spoke again: “Pray the rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war.”

Lucy: Can you tell me if the war will go on a long time, or will it end soon?

Lady: “I cannot tell you yet, because I have not said what I want”.

Then Our Lady began to softly rise, going up towards the east, until she disappeared in space. This light that surrounded her seemed to open up a path before her in the heavens. For this reason, the children sometimes say that they saw heaven opening.

Francisco saw everything but did not hear Our Lady speak. He did hear Lucy's questions. All the children rejoiced that they were going to heaven. Francisco said, "Oh, my dear Lady. I will say as many rosaries as you want".

Second Vision: June 13, 1917 (Feast of St. Anthony)

After saying the rosary at the Cova Da Iria, the three children and a number of people saw a flash of light. The next moment, Mary was on the helm oak, just as she was on May 13.

Lucy: What does Your Grace want of me?

Lady: I wish you to come here on the 13th of next month, to pray the rosary each day and to learn how to read. Later, I will tell you what I want.

Lucy : asked for the cure of a person.

Lady: If he is converted, he will be healed during the year.

Lucy : I would like to ask you to take us to heaven.

Lady: Yes, I will take Jacinta and Francisco soon. But you are to stay here some time longer. Jesus wishes to make use of you to make me known and loved. He wants to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. To whomever embraces this devotion, I promise salvation. These souls shall be clean to God, as flowers placed by me to adorn his throne.

Lucy (sadly): Am I to stay here alone?

Lady: No, my daughter. Do you suffer a great deal? Do not lose heart. I will never forsake you. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.

Lucy: As Our Lady spoke these words, she opened her hands for the second time and communicated to us the rays of that immense light. We saw ourselves in this light, as it were, immersed in God. Jacinta and Francisco seemed to be in that part of the light which ascended to heaven. I was in that part which was poured out upon the earth.

In front of the palm of Our Lady's right hand was a heart, encircled by thorns which pierced it. We understand that this was the Immaculate Heart of Mary, outraged by the sins of humanity and seeking reparation. This was the "little secret" which we felt we should not reveal.

Third Vision - July 13, 1917

[Editor's Note – This third vision contains one secret with three parts. The first two parts were revealed in 1941 with approval of her bishop. I will try to note these two parts. The third part became known as The Third Secret. At this point, we will just give the message with the two parts. What the Vatican revealed about the Third part on June 26, 2000 will be described at the end of this section.]

In the beginning of the apparition, Lucy did not speak until Jacinta said, "Come on, Lucy, speak. Do you not see that She is there and wants to speak to you?"

Lucy : What does Your Grace ask of me?

Lady: I want you to come here on the 13th of next month and to continue praying 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.

Lucy : I would like to ask you to tell us who you are, and to work a miracle, so that everybody will believe that you are appearing to us.

Lady: Continue to come here every month. 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.

Lucy : I made some requests but I cannot recall them. I do remember Our Lady saying that such people must pray the rosary to gain these graces during the year.

Lady: Sacrifice yourselves for sinners, and say many times, especially when you make some sacrifice, "O Jesus, it is for love for You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

Vision of Hell (First Part of the Secret)

Lucy: As Our Lady spoke these last words, she opened her hands once more, as she had done during the previous two months. The rays of light seemed to penetrate the earth, and we saw, as it were a sea of fire.

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 huge fires, without weight or equilibrium, amid shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us and made us tremble with fear. (It must have been this sight that caused me to cry out).

The demons could be distinguished by their terrifying and repellent likeness to frightful and unknown animals. They were black and transparent like burning coals. This vision only lasted a moment, thanks to our good Mother in heaven who, in the first apparition promised to take us to heaven. Were it not for that, I believe that we would have died out of fright and fear.

Our Lady Speaks (Second part of the Secret)

We looked up at Our Lady who said:

"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 reign of Pius XI. When you see a night illumined by an unknown light, know that this is the sign given by God that He is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war, famine and persecution of the Church and of the Holy Father.

(Editor's Note – This prophecy was fulfilled the night of January 25-26, 1938.

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 certain period of peace will be given to the world. In Portugal, the dogma of Faith will always be preserved. Do not tell this to anyone. Francisco, yes you can tell him. (Ed Note – What was “Not Said” was the third part of the secret).

THIRD PART OF SECRET

On June 26, 2000, the Vatican revealed Lucy’s explanation of this Third Secret:

“...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. He was 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, while 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.”

Lucy wrote this at her convent in Tuy, Spain, January 1, 1944. She did this in obedience to her bishop. When you say 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.”

Lucy : Is there anything more you want of me?

Lady: No, I do not want anything more of you today.

Then, as before, Our Lady began to ascend to the East, until she finally disappeared in the immense distance of the firmament.

Fourth Vision - August 19, 1917 – Sunday, (Feast of St. John Eudes)

On August 13, 1917, the communist government imprisoned and threatened the three children, so no apparition took place on that scheduled day. Instead, Our Lady appeared on Sunday, August 19. After mass on that day, the three children and a few people went to the Cova Da Iria to say the rosary. In the afternoon, Lucy and Francisco set out for Valinhos, (where grass was abundant), to pasture their sheep.

The two children felt the supernatural approaching and suspected that Our Lady was going to appear. They asked John, (Francisco's older brother), to get Jacinta. The two children saw the lightening. Jacinta arrived and all saw Our Lady on a helm oak tree.

Lucy : What do you want of me?

Lady: 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 work a miracle so that all may believe. If you had not been taken to the city, the miracle would have been even greater. Saint Joseph will come with the Child Jesus, to give peace to the world. Our Lord will come to bless the people. Our Lady of the Rosary and Our Lady of Sorrows will also come.

Lucy : What do you want done with the money that the people leave in the Cova da Iria?

Lady: Have two litters made. One is to be carried by you, Jacinta and two other girls dressed in white. The other one is to be carried by Francisco and three other boys. The money from the litters is for the Feast of Our Lady of Rosary and what is left over will help towards the construction of a chapel that is to be built here.

Lucy : I would like to ask you to cure some sick people.

Lady: Yes, I will cure some of them during the year.

Our Lady looked sad and said, "Pray. Pray very much and make sacrifices for sinners; for many souls go to hell because there are none to sacrifice themselves and pray for them." She then began to ascend as usual towards the east.

Fifth Vision - September 13, 1917 (Thursday)

By noontime about 30,000 people waited for the apparition. Lucy led the rosary at the helm oak tree at the Cova da Iria. Many in the crowd saw a luminous globe move from east to west, gliding slowly and majestically through space. The atmosphere became golden yellow, like at the other times.

Lucy: What do you want of me?

Lady: Continue to say the rosary to obtain the end of the war. In October, Our Lord will come, as well as Our Lady of Sorrows and Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Saint Joseph will appear with the Child Jesus to bless the world.

God is pleased with your sacrifices. He does not want you to sleep with the rope on but only to wear it during the daytime.

Lucy : I was told to ask you many things, the cure of some sick people, and of a deaf-mute.

Lady: Yes, I will cure some, but not others, because Our Lord does not trust them.

Lucy : The people would like to have a chapel here.

Lady: With half the money make litters to be carried in procession on the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). The other half is for the chapel

Lucy offered two litters and a little bottle of perfumed water.

Lucy : I have been given these things. Do you want them?

Lady: Those are not needed in heaven. In October, I will perform a miracle for all to see.

After the apparition, Lucy, pointing to the east, shouted, “If you want to see Her, look over there”. The people saw an oval, luminous globe going up toward the east.

Sixth Vision - Saturday, October 13

Over 70,000 people came to the Cova da Iria. The whole night and morning a persistent rain fell, muddying the ground. It was 1:30pm. The government had moved all clocks ahead an hour and a half to coincide with the belligerents. So, Mary came at 1:30 PM. However, it was really 12:00 noon, solar time (as always).

Lucy saw the lightning first and said, “Jacinta, get on your knees. Our Lady is coming!” Lucy fell into an ecstasy. Again, Jacinta had to say, “Speak, Lucy. Our Lady is already here.”

Lucy : What does your Grace want of me?

Lady: I want a chapel to be built here in my honor. I am Our Lady of the Rosary. Continue to say the rosary every day. The war will end soon and the soldiers will return to their homes.

Lucy : I have many things to ask of you – to heal some sick people and to convert some sinners.

Lady: Some, yes. Others, no. People must amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins. (Growing sadder) They must not offend Our Lord anymore, for He is already too much offended.

Lucy: Do you want anything more?

Lady: Nothing more.

Lucy : Then neither will I ask anything more of you.

Lucy: Our Lady opened her hands, and made them reflect on the sun. As she ascended, the reflection of her own light continued to be projected on the sun itself. Therefore, I cried out to the people to look at the sun. I did this under the guidance of an inner impulse because I was not even aware of their presence.

The Cosmic Miracle

For the next ten minutes, the crowd witnessed the cosmic miracle of the sun dancing. Meanwhile, the three children enjoyed three pictures that appeared in the sky for them to see.

Lucy writes, “After Our Lady had disappeared into the immense distance of the firmament, we saw 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.

A little later, this vision 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 second apparition vanished, and I saw Our Lady once more, this time resembling our Lady of Mount Carmel.

PART THREE – LATER VISIONS AND LOCUTIONS TO LUCY

History

After these visions, Our Lady quickly took Francisco to heaven on April 4, 1919 and Jacinta, his sister, on February 20, 1920.

The new bishop of Fatima was very solicitous for Lucy and asked her to enter a boarding school. On June 17, 1921, she entered the convent school at Vilar de Porto. Her identity was known only by the Superior. When she finished her studies she entered the Sisters of St Dorothy (who staffed the school). The apparitions and locutions of this period took place at different convents where she was assigned. Later, for greater solitude, she entered the Order of Carmel, where she died on February 13, 2005 at 97 years of age.

PONTE VEDRA, PORTUGAL December 10, 1925

On Thursday, December 10, after supper, Lucy returned to her room and was visited by Our Lady and the Child Jesus. The Most Holy Virgin rested her hand on Lucy's shoulder and showed her a heart encircled by thorns, which she was holding in her other hand. The Child spoke: "Have compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation to remove them."

Then the Most Holy Virgin spoke: "Look, My daughter, at My heart, surrounded with thorns which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console Me and announce in My name that I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all 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."

Following Events

Following this vision, Lucy told everything to her superior (Mother Magalhaes), who was ready to fulfill heaven's request. Lucy also told the chaplain, (Father Lino Garcia), who ordered her to write everything down. However, he continued to wait. She also wrote to her confessor (Msgr. Pereira Lopes). Finally, she received a response telling her to wait. This caused great sadness that she could not fulfill the Blessed Virgin's desires. She intended to speak again to her Mother Superior, but put it off. This occasioned two other visitations from Our Lord.

The first took place when she was emptying a garbage can. She met a child and asked him if he knew the Hail Mary. He said it with her three times, but would not say it by himself. She directed him to the Church of St. Mary and told him to pray, "O my heavenly Mother, give me your Child Jesus". Then, Lucy left him. The second vision happened on February 15, 1926.

Pontevedra, Portugal - February 15, 1926

While emptying the garbage, she again met this child and asked him, "Did you ask our Heavenly Mother for the Child Jesus". The child turned and said, "And you, have you revealed to the world what your heavenly Mother asked you?" Then, he turned into a resplendent child.

Recognizing Jesus, she said, "My Jesus, you know what my confessor said to me in the letter. He said that this vision had to be repeated. There had to be facts permitting us to believe it, and that the Mother Superior alone could not spread the devotion."

Jesus replied, "It is true that the Mother Superior alone can do nothing, but with My grace, she can do anything. It is enough that your confessor gives you permission, and that your superior announce this for it to be believed by the people, even if they do not know who this was revealed to."

Lucy : But my confessor said in his letter that this devotion already exists in the world, because many souls receive You every first Saturday of the month in honor of Our Lady and the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary.

Jesus: It is true, my daughter, that many souls begin, but few persevere to the very end, and those who persevere to the very end, do it to receive the graces promised. The souls who make the five First Saturdays with fervor and to make reparation to the Heart of your Heavenly Mother, please me more than those who make fifteen, but are lukewarm and indifferent.

Lucy: My Jesus! Many souls find it difficult to confess on Saturday. Will you allow a confession within eight days to be valid?

Jesus: Yes, it can even be made later on, provided that the souls are in the state of grace when they receive Me on the First Saturday, and that they had the intention of making reparation to the Sacred Heart of Mary.

Lucy : My Jesus! And those who forget to form the intention?

Jesus: They can form it at the next confession, taking advantage of their first opportunity to go to confession.

Jesus then disappeared, not revealing any more of heaven's desires.

After this vision, Lucy has always been clear about the promises and conditions of the five First Saturdays.

Visions at Tuy, Spain

Lucy finished her postulancy at Pontevedra, and on July 16, 1926 she entered the novitiate at Tuy, Spain, near the Spanish-Portuguese border. She received the habit on October 1, 1926 and pronounced first vows on October 3, 1928. The following visions occur there.

June 13, 1929

(Ed. Note – This is considered a very important vision)

Our Lord informs her that it was time to reveal to the whole Church the secret of His desire for the consecration of Russia and of His promise to convert Russia. This communication takes place during her holy hour (11:00pm to midnight) on Thursday evening, June 13, 1929.

Lucy describes what happened.

“A supernatural light illumined the whole chapel and on the altar appeared a cross of light which reached to the ceiling.

In a brighter part could be seen, on the upper part of the cross, the face of a man and his body to the waist. (Ed Note: a symbol of the Father). On His breast was an equally luminous dove (the Spirit), and nailed to the cross, the body of another man. (Jesus).

A little below the waist, suspended in midair, was to be seen a Chalice and a large Host onto which fell some drops of Blood from the face of the Crucified and from a wound in His breast. These drops ran down over the Host and fell into the chalice.

Under the right arm of the cross was Our Lady with Her Immaculate Heart in Her hand. (It was Our Lady of Fatima with her Immaculate Heart in Her left hand without a sword or the roses, but with a crown of thorns and flames).

Under the left arm (of the Cross), some big letters, as it were of crystal clear water running down over the Altar, formed these words, “Grace and Mercy.”

“I understood that it was the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity that was shown to me, and I received lights about this mystery which I am not permitted to reveal”.

Our Lady said to me, “The moment has come when God asks the Holy Father to make, in union with all the bishops of the world, the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means.

So numerous are the souls which the justice of God condemns for sins committed against Me, that I come to ask for reparation. Sacrifice yourself for this intention and pray.

Lucy told her confessor who ordered her to write what the Lord wanted done.

Convent at Tuy (Spain) – May 29, 1930

Her confessor, Father Goncalves, had given Lucy a number of questions to answer. On May 29, 1930, she asked Jesus to inspire her answers. He appeared to her to answer specifically the question of why five First Saturdays.

Jesus: My daughter, the reason is simple. There are five types of offenses and blasphemies committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

1. Blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception.
2. Blasphemies against her Virginity.
3. Blasphemies against her Divine Maternity, in refusing at the same time to recognize Her as the Mother of men.
4. The blasphemies of those who publicly seek to sow in the hearts of children, indifference or scorn, or even hatred of this Immaculate Mother.
5. The offenses of those who outrage her directly in her holy images.

Here, my daughter is the reason why the Immaculate Heart of Mary inspired Me to ask for this little act of reparation.

Summer, 1931

Lucy: Later on, by means of an interior communication, Our Lord said to me, complaining, “They did not want to heed my request! Like the King of France, they will repent and do it, but it will be late. Russia will have already spread its errors throughout the world, provoking wars and persecutions against the Church. The Holy Father will have much to suffer.

Sister Lucy wrote to Father Goncalves:

The good Lord promises to end the persecution of Russia, if the Holy Father will himself make a solemn act of reparation and consecration of Russia to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, as well as ordering all the bishops of the Catholic world to do the same. The Holy Father must then promise that upon the ending of this persecution, he will approve and recommend the practice of the reparatory devotion already described.”

January 25 – 26, 1938

On July 13, 1917, Our Lady had prophesied that a greater war would break out if people did not cease from offending God. She said that a sign of this would be “when you see a night illumined by an unknown light, know that this is the sign given by God – that He would punish the world for its crimes, by means of wars, etc.”

This “night illumined by an unknown light” was January 25 – 26, 1938. (Tuesday – Wednesday). There is voluminous testimony to what scientists called an “aurora borealis”. This aurora was witnessed in North Africa, Europe, Canada and the United States.

The scientists at Lyon, France wrote, “The spectacle that we have just witnessed is very curious. It is an aurora borealis at high altitude, a very rare phenomenon for our latitudes, distinguished this time by rays of oxygen and nitrogen emission of a peculiar spectral composition.

Usually a shadow passes over the sun and 48 hours later, the aurora borealis occurs. However, no shadow passed over the sun. Therefore, the causes of an aurora borealis do not exist.”

January 2, 1944 – Tuy, Spain

Lucy had been commanded by her bishop to write down the third part of the secret. This caused her great problems of conscience. She was told to keep it a secret, yet now she was commanded by Church authority to write it down. Whom was she to obey? Finally, Our Lady appeared to her and told her to obey. Lucy tried three times to write down the secret but was unable. After this vision, she easily wrote it down. Beginning on January 2, 1944, she recorded the secret and gave it to the bishop on January 9, 1944.

May 13, 1948 – Lucy received the habit of Carmel and the name Sister Mary Lucy of the Immaculate Heart. She remained a Carmelite until her death.

There are many other divine visits. However, from all of the above, the reader can learn the central message of Fatima.