

World Apostolate of Fatima, USA

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION



Booklet needed for the program:

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# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #1

## *Our Encounter with God*

Spring of 1916 — First Apparition of the Angel

Read in “Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program” page 1-2.

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

With the first encounter of God’s presence, we may find He is powerful and overwhelming to our nature. Just like the three shepherd children, we are small, helpless and unworthy, but God does not take back His call. We need only to respond to His call with a generous heart, filled with His love. The Angel of Peace taught the children that prayer is the means of our union with God and ultimately bringing about peace in the world. He taught them how to pray effectively.

*“My God I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee!”*

This first prayer, the Angel Prayer, is an act of faith, hope and love, the essence of our Faith. When we pray this prayer we are practicing the two Great Commandments that Our Lord taught us: Love of God, as witnessed in the act of adoration found in thought, heard in word, and seen in action by the humility of the Angel and the children bowing and touching their heads to the ground. This form of profound bowing to the ground is practiced in the Eastern Catholic Churches. Our love of neighbor is expressed in the reparation for those who do not believe, adore, hope and love God. The prayer is repeated three times, the Trinitarian number. Through this prayer, the Angel teaches us how to adore God who is attentive to our prayers. God manifests His listening “Heart” in the persons of Jesus and Mary: “The Word was made Flesh” and “The Hearts of Jesus and Mary.”

**Reflection & Resolution:** The first vision of the angel to the children was a prayer in action to move their hearts to the awareness of God’s presence, and to unite their hearts to His. We must also be aware of God’s presence and allow the Holy Spirit to move our hearts by taking steps to place ourselves in His presence. By taking these first steps, God is given greater access to our hearts so as to do great things in us and around us in His plan to bring peace to the world. Practice the “Presence of God” by saying this thrice repeated Angel prayer each day, and often throughout your day. Concentrate on the heavenly words of the Angel, until you, like the three shepherd children, can lose yourself in presence of God.

### **Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Say the Angel prayer everyday attentively and devoutly.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #2

## *The Call to Prayer*

Summer of 1916 — Second Apparition of the Angel

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” page 2-4

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Pray! Pray very much! The hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you.”*

The Angel told the children to pray! We need to ask ourselves the following question, “Are we making good use of our time or wasting it?” “We all need to form a habit of prayer. In order to accomplish this, we need to realize that prayer is necessary to prepare and dispose us to receive the inspirations God wishes to give us. Prayer opens our hearts to God, preparing us to make the necessary sacrifices and acts of self-denial to dispose us to say “yes” to God. We must be faithful and vigilant so that we will be ready when God calls us.

*“How are we to make sacrifices?”*

The question asked by the three children is asked today by all of us. Are we expected to do severe mortifications and penances or offer difficult fasts? Are we expected to spend hours in prayer? Jesus told Sr. Lucia, “The sacrifice required of every person is the fulfillment of his duties in life and the observance of My law. This is the penance that I now seek and require.”

*“Above all, accept and bear with submission the suffering which the Lord will send you.”*

This admonition from the Angel is fulfilled with the acceptance of our daily duty. Now everything we do is a sacrifice. By persevering and perfecting our daily work despite its drudgery, putting another’s preferences before our own, forgiving or overlooking something done to us that was unkind, controlling our anger, even something as simple as driving in traffic without losing your temper can save souls. Remember our sacrifices are to be united with the two hearts of Jesus and Mary. In offering a sacrifice, it obtains mercy from God for poor sinners who have no one to pray for them. This is truly living the Second Great Commandment.

**Reflection & Resolution:** Sacrifice and self-denial are indeed the most difficult, the most ignored or refused part of the message of Fatima because of the natural repugnance we have for them. Even if we choose to give up something, there are other things that we can refuse to sacrifice. Our complete conversion to Christ requires a total gift of self in imitation of Christ Who gave Himself completely to us. We cannot do it by ourselves. We need His help to even have the desire to do it!

Let us slow down our thoughts making us aware that we live in His Presence. Let us reflect before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and ask for His help. At each moment we have a choice: either to please God by offering the sacrifice of the present moment, or to please ourselves by avoiding what is difficult or inconvenient. It is at that moment, our feelings can get in the way of making a choice difficult. We want to please God, but we recoil from the sacrifice it entails. What can we do to overcome our natural aversion to suffering when we find our will power to love God is not strong enough? We must turn to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and ask her to help us! Her Immaculate Heart will help you overcome these difficulties, whether they are physical, mental, or emotional. Simply surrender your thoughts and feelings of anger, stress, hurt, or anxiety, and place them in Our Lady’s heart telling her, “it is yours now, Mary, not mine.” In this surrender, make a gift of yourself to God through her.

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflammé us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Consciously surrender all your personal difficulties to Our Lady by renouncing your will and offer everything as a sacrifice to save poor sinners who have no one to pray for them.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #3

## *The Call to Eucharistic Adoration and Reparation*

Fall of 1916 — Third Apparition of the Angel

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” page 4-6

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee 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 by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of sinners.”*

This prayer, which the Angel taught to the three children, is a profound act of Eucharistic adoration and reparation. To enter deep into the spirit of this prayer, in imitation of the children, it sometimes helps to kneel on ground, prostrating yourself while praying this prayer. This very act of prostration engages the movement of our hearts to offer the Trinity the worship due to God. When we go to Eucharistic adoration, we are making the necessary reparation for the conversion of sinners who commit these sacrileges and blasphemies. It is in the Eucharist that Our Lord’s love for us is manifested, yet it is here that Jesus endures patiently and quietly the outrages, indifferences, desecrations and blasphemies directed against this sacrament of His love.

*“Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men. Repair their crimes and console your God.”*

We may not be guilty of these outrageous sins, but reparation is needed especially by those who wish to love and console Jesus for these horrible crimes. Let us begin by changing ourselves and by making amends for these sins.

**Reflection & Resolution:** Let us reflect on how Jesus is treated in the Blessed Sacrament by asking ourselves, “What are our priorities?” Do we try to make an effort to make holy hours of reparation? How often do we spend time quietly with Our Lord? Our Lord first asked for this consolation and hour of prayer of his Apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane before His passion and death. Two thousand years later He is still asking for our love.

### **Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflammé us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Say the reparation prayer after every Holy Communion and consider your relationship with Jesus and those in your life. Be the consoling presence of Mary for Jesus and others.



# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #4

## *The Call to Suffer*

May 13, 1917 — First Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” page 9-11

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

There are several points to meditate in this first apparition. Upon seeing Our Lady for the first time, Lucia’s tender and loving heart embraces the call to serve and suffer. We need to examine our own motive for doing things, are they self-serving or united to the Will of God and offered with pure love? Lucia then makes known her deepest desire to Our Lady, but she does not ask useless or curiosity-seeking questions. She does not think only of herself. Again ask yourself where do my thoughts and desires of my heart gravitate?

*“He will go there too, but first he must say many rosaries.”*

Our Lady’s request that Francisco pray many rosaries is a call to all of us to pray as St. Francisco did. He did not consider the request burdensome; instead he cried out that yes, he would pray many rosaries. If asked this question by Our Lady, what would be our response?

*“She will be in purgatory until the end of the world (she was 18 years old).”*

With fraternal charity Lucia asks about her two friends who had recently died. Here we see her concern for the salvation of souls, especially those she knows personally. The age of Amelia and the severity of her punishment should give us pause to ponder about our own life and what we have accumulated throughout the years. This is another reminder of the need to pray and sacrifice for the souls in purgatory, as well as gaining indulgences to avoid hell and purgatory ourselves. Our Lady came and offered us the solution along with the call to suffer to save souls who have no one to pray for them.

*“Then you will have much to suffer but the grace of God will be your comfort.”*

All of us will travel the road of suffering, but not all will accept it. Temporary pleasures and avoiding our crosses will only bring greater sufferings in this life and in the next. We are invited to accept them in the present moment and rise above the temporary discomfort or hardship with the comfort of knowing that God’s Will is being done. We are not facing it alone. With the words “the grace of God will be your comfort,” Our Lady filled the children with the light that came from her, the light of God which penetrated the souls of the children. It was love of the Holy Trinity, the source of eternal life. When we pray the rosary daily uniting it to our suffering and sacrifices, this hidden mystery of God’s love will begin to reveal itself to us.

**Reflection & Resolution:** It is in this call to suffer, that we can not only help save souls, but we can also console and make reparation for the blasphemies committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Like the three shepherd children, Our Lady today is asking all us the same question, “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all that sufferings He wills to send you as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended and in supplication for the conversion of sinners?” What is your response?

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully.

We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

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**Resolution in brief:** Continue to pray the Angel prayers and the Rosary daily. Embrace the call to suffer to help save poor sinners who have no one to pray for them.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #5

## *The First Call for Devotion to the IHM*

Jun 13, 1917 — Second Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” page 11-13

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“What do you want of me?”*

Like Lucia, do we also desire to know what Our Lady wants of us? When we give ourselves to Our Lady by consecrating ourselves to her Immaculate Heart, we are opening our hearts to her for all she wants to accomplish in us. Unfortunately in this impatient and self-absorbed society, people seek instant gratification. The secular, self-seeking society in the world today is falling headlong into the depths of hell. It is through our devotion and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary that we can help save these poor, blinded souls. In this apparition Our Lady reveals how this is to be accomplished, *“Jesus wishes to make use of you to make me known and loved. He wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart.”* Carefully reread these words again and let them penetrate deep within your heart. Now ask yourself, “How do her words affect you? Do you feel pierced in some way?” Listen to Her promise: *“I promise salvation to those who embrace it, and those souls will be loved by God like flowers placed by me to adorn His throne.”* Do you not wish to console your outraged God, deeply hurt by the numerous, grievous sins of humanity, by making Mary known and loved? God wishes your salvation, and Mary promises her intercession on your behalf. Your little acts of love will be like those of St. Therese, the Little Flower.

*“Am I to stay here alone?”*

Lucia, though, is pierced in two ways, she does not receive her request to go to heaven soon and she is informed she will lose the companionship of her very dear cousins. This was a great and bitter cross for the 10-year-old child to accept. How do we accept our crosses and sufferings? Our Lady balanced the pain of the cross with her words of comfort for Lucia, *“My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God.”* What beautiful example for us to extend mercy and compassion to those in sorrow and pain. Our Lady did not hide from Lucia the painful truth, nor deny her sorrowful realization of being ‘left all alone;’ instead she promises Lucia her presence and her help. Our compassion, too, must be balanced with truth and sacrificial commitment.

*“Our Lady opened her hands and for the second time, she communicated to us the rays of that same immense light.”*

Once again the light of God comes from Our Lady permeating the children as they find themselves immersed in God. It is the love of her participation of the Divine Presence, which they share in. She reveals, and lets them experience the glory of that joy which accompanies the acceptance of the Will of God in their life. We see the participation of their partnership together, acting both in heaven and on earth by the light, and how it was directed in their regard. This is the communion of saints. Lucia receives strength from this communication and her great suffering becomes bearable. In seeing Our Lady’s own Heart, pierced by thorns, they recognize and understand that she, too, participates in suffering that is made manifest to them on a human level. It is this participation of love and suffering which makes them understand the need for suffering because of the thorns of ingratitude and blasphemies leveled against her Immaculate heart, which cries out for acts of reparation.

**Reflection & Resolution:** God has a plan for you. To discern it, go before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, or to a quiet place and pray, like Our Lady, that His Will be accomplished in you. This will enable Our Lady to use you. Consider the following, how often do we see things from our own perspective but fail to see things from God’s point of view? Our Lord wants all of us to come to Him through devotion and consecration to His mother’s Immaculate Heart.



**Group Discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflammé us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

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**Resolution in brief:** Ponder deeply on the relationship between Jesus and Mary, especially when you pray the Rosary. Consider how the hearts of Jesus and Mary are one heart beating with love for you. How will you help to make Mary known and loved in order to please Jesus?

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #6

## *The Call to Save Souls*

July 13, 1917 — Third Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 14-17

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Continue to pray the rosary everyday...”*

Our Lady asks us for perseverance in our daily duty and whatever it is that is expected of us and to pray daily the rosary out of love for her. We must make the rosary a priority and pray it for the spiritual good for all, for peace both interior and exterior, and for an end to evil in the world. We cannot obtain these things without Our Lady’s help.

*“Sacrifice yourselves for sinners...”*

God alone knows who sinners are, that is, those who love sin. All we can do is judge actions and appearances, but we are commanded not to judge persons. God knows the intentions of the hearts of every one. Yet even these souls can be reached by our sacrifices, penances and acts of self-denial. God takes our intentions, which are offered for the love of Jesus and Mary, and directs this toward these souls. He applies the act of love as a healing balm to warm their cold and hardened hearts.

*“You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go.”*

During this apparition the children were shown a vision of hell – an eternal state of unending bitter pain and suffering where there is no hope of escape. Those who love sin, run away from God and their inner struggles. Unfortunately these poor souls live in denial. At the moment of death, this condition is locked in place permanently as their choice, unless they make a last-minute conversion obtained through a special grace from God. How many people live a life on earth where for them there is no God? All the secular joys and comforts of this world cannot free anyone from a sense of hopelessness, loneliness and misery. Until we find God, there is no hope of relief from inner suffering. By choosing to suffer for the love of God and the good of souls, we face our inner battle head on. We find God’s love when we empty ourselves of self-love.

After seeing the vision of hell, little Jacinta later asked her cousin, Lucia, “How long will those poor souls suffer in that awful place of torment?” Lucia answered her, “Forever and ever with end.” Jacinta then replied, “We must pray for poor souls so that no one will go to hell.” This is the main call of the third apparition, the call to save souls, especially for sinners who have no one to pray for them. Our Lady warned of a future and greater war if her requests were not obeyed. We have seen the results of this past sinful century. Russia has spread her errors throughout the world, the good have suffered, nations have been annihilated, and the Holy Father has suffered along with the persecution of the Church. Concerning sin and its consequences, the Bishop of Fatima stated at Pontevedra on December 10, 1975:

“In the light of the Fatima message, sin is not a phenomenon of the sociological order, but is, in the true theological concept, an offense against God with necessary social consequences. Perhaps no other century as the century we live in has had a life so sinful. But there is something new added in the sins of this century; the man of today, more sinful than those who came before him, has lost the sense of sin. He sins, but laughs and even boasts of his sin. Man of today has arrived at this stage because he has placed a division between himself and God believing that when God is ignored, everything is possible. The man of this century wishes to realize himself as stronger than God and against God, and comes finally to the point of being man debased, anti-man, because man can only perfectly realize himself in God.”

*“To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart.”*

The call to save sinners has never been greater than today. Russia has spread her errors throughout the world. Yet the religion of the people, Russian Orthodox, has a love and understanding of the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is profound with its spiritual insights. Mary is the destroyer of heresies and the one who will put an end to the widespread atheism by the joining of the east and west. The war of atheism is essentially a war against God,

and therefore is directed primarily against the Church and all people in general. Yet the lifestyle of atheism is not exclusive to communism. Today many people live a hedonistic life style of eat, drink and be merry.

*“In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph...”*

Good will always win in the end, but at what the cost if we are slow or deficient in our response? The world today is on a collision course of cataclysmic proportions. The promise of true peace will take place but we ultimately will choose whether it will be with or without the final threat of a calamity of world-wide proportion. The answer is so simple – prayer, penance and reparation.

**Reflection & Resolution:** This apparition is the most informative of Our Lady. She simply told us where the world is heading and what we must do to bring about the era of peace and the triumph of her Immaculate Heart. Unfortunately not enough people are responding to her call and doing what she has asked of us. It is important that each of us do our part. We can and should go forward in faith, full of joy, knowing the victory is already ours as promised, but we need to accept the sufferings and crosses God sends us on a daily basis. After 100 years, there are still many people who have not heard about the Fatima apparitions and Our Lady’s peace plan. What can you do to spread this message of peace and hope?

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** In imitation of the three children, especially St. Jacinta, offer everything for the salvation of poor sinners who have no one to pray for them. Continue to make every effort to study and spread the message of Fatima.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #7

## *The Call to Continue & Remain Faithful to Our Lady's Requests*

August 19, 1917 — Fourth Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 18-20

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Pray, pray very much and make sacrifices for sinners; for many souls go to hell, because there is no one to sacrifice themselves and to pray for them.”*

The main focus of this apparition was in the words of Our Lady. It was with great sadness that she spoke these words to the children. We must continue every day to offer prayers and sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. This is the only apparition of Our Lady that did not take place at the Cova on August 13, 1917. Due to actions of Arturo dos Santos, the mayor of Fatima, the children were kidnapped and taken to jail and threatened to be boiled alive in oil if they did not deny seeing the beautiful lady. The children were later released and Our Lady appeared to them on August 19, 1917 in a place called Valinhos. Our Lady here reminds us to persevere in our daily duty and to continue to pray the rosary daily.

She also told the children that because of the treatment they received, the miracle promised on October 13 would not be as great. It is interesting to ponder on how great the October miracle would have been if the children had not been kidnapped. Would it have been of a longer duration? Would it have been seen all over Portugal, perhaps Spain or even all of Europe? We shall never know. All we do know is that the actions of one evil man, Arturo Santos, has endangered the lives of everyone living today. And this underlines a deep truth, frequently ignored today. Each sin committed in the world adversely affects everyone else, just as each merit gained favorably affects all other. (*Fatima, The Great Sign*, pg. 45)

**Reflection & Resolution:** We need to examine our motives for the things we do, and only occupy ourselves with those things that have to do with our state in life. It is possible to become too busy with ‘extras’, whether it is parish work, visitations, apostolic endeavors; as well as wasted time taken up with unnecessary activities. These activities can make seemingly good excuses for avoiding those things at home which we really need to do, that is our daily duty. We need to often ask ourselves, “Whose will am I doing?” It is by doing God’s Will in our daily duty that we will become saints!

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** When you examine your motives and lifestyle, then you will be able to prioritize and live your vocation by putting your household in order. Prayer and sacrifice allow you to fulfill God's Will in your life.



# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #8

## *The Call to Persevere*

September 13, 1917 — Fifth Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 21-23

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Continue to pray the rosary in order to obtain the end of the war.”*

All things can be obtained by the power of Our Lady’s intercession through the praying of the rosary. Ask yourself the following questions. What is it that calls you to pray? What is most important to you? What drives you forward to hope? What are your deepest longings? The answer to these questions will tell you where you are on your spiritual journey to heaven. The most important point to remember is to always turn to our heavenly Mother for her help, especially when praying the rosary.

*“God is pleased with your sacrifices.”*

The children persevered in their daily sacrifices. How consoling must have been Our Lady when she spoke to them these words. How hard are you working and striving to please God? Are all your sacrifices done with a pure heart and the intention of pleasing God? To persevere in your day-to-day duties, you need to realize that God only desires the sacrifice of your will in the performance of your daily duty. It is easy to say, “I will do this sacrifice or penance today.” When it becomes too hard or tiresome, you can stop what you are doing. But we cannot run away from the sacrifices of your daily duty. It is a cross that is there for you whether you want to do it or not. You have a choice to embrace the sacrifice with joy and love obtaining graces to save souls or to complain and do it grudgingly losing all merit and graces. The choice to persevere is yours.

*“Yes, I will cure some, but not others.”*

Finally, Lucia asked Our Lady to cure the many people asking for help. We can ask the question, “Why would she do this, cure some and not others?” We know the greater good, the salvation of their soul, is at stake here. The questions to ask are, “Will the cure bring about good for the individual? Or will it free them from an impediment which was keeping them from a life of sin? Remember, suffering is not an end in itself. There is a definite purpose for it. Once it has achieved its purpose, the suffering is removed. If the removal of the suffering would cause greater harm, Our Lady will protect us from ourselves and leave us to carry that cross. How good she is! She knows what is good for us, better than we know ourselves.

**Reflection & Resolution:** Resolve to persevere in the promises you made in living out Our Lady’s requests. How simple they are. Pray a five-decade rosary every day; wear her brown scapular as a sign of consecration to her Immaculate Heart, offer up your daily duty as the penance required of you and do the five First Saturdays of Reparation.

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine

Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** What is the deepest longing and desire of your heart that you would be willing to pray and offer sacrifice for, in order to obtain and achieve it? Entrust it to Our Lady. Fulfill her requests daily. Persevere and let Our Lady prove her commitment to you.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #9

## *The Call to Holiness and Sanctity*

October 13, 1917 — Sixth Apparition of Our Lady

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 24-26

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“I want to tell you that chapel is to be built here in my honor.”*

It is during this last apparition that Our Lady makes a simple request – build a chapel in her honor. She used the Portuguese word, ‘capelinha’ which means ‘little chapel.’ At the Annunciation, Our Lady became a living tabernacle, a little ‘chapel’ of God. She requested a chapel so that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be offered in this place where our humble Mother appeared. This is the role of Our Lady, to take us to her Son, Jesus.

*“I am the Lady of the Rosary.”*

When asked by Lucia who she was, Our Lady could have chosen her most exalted title, “I am the Mother of God,” or her most grace-filled title, “I am the Immaculate Conception,” and on through over 1300 titles. Instead she chose the humble title, “I am the Lady of the Rosary.” This was to stress the importance of praying the rosary every day.

*“Do not offend the Lord Our God anymore, because He is already too much offended.”*

She ends the apparition with this heartfelt cry from her Immaculate Heart. With that, she opens her hands so that the light from them reflect on the sun which is a symbol and figure of the Son of God, revealing a mystery. As Christ reflects and projects His eternal light in the life of Our Lady, so also Our Lady, as she ascends, reflects and projects this very light on His symbol found in nature, displaying the various manifestations of its beauty and power to change the course of history.

*“Look at the sun!”*

Lucia, moved by an interior impulse for the second time, directs the people to look at the sun, though she is unaware of their presence. If we allow her, Our Lady makes us docile instruments of the Holy Spirit once we are dead to the attachments of this world.

During the miracle of the sun, the three children see the Holy Family, which is a reflection of the joyful mysteries of the rosary and the need for the sanctification of the family. The Holy Family is a model of the life of the Blessed Trinity and a pattern of living set before us. In the blessing of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus on the world, we see in that act God’s blessing upon us, granting us the graces needed to live a life of prayer, self-denial and self-giving by service to God and each other amidst our daily family duties.

The second vision of Our Lord and Our Lady of Dolours directs us to the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary and the sorrows of Our Lady. In life, it is usually the women of the world who carry the suffering of the sorrowful mysteries in their heart due to the sins and injustice in the world. Our Lord then blesses the world again. Theologians have speculated that this was in anticipation of the luminous mysteries of the rosary given to us by St. John Paul II. The last apparition of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel directs our attention to the glorious mysteries of the rosary. She is holding the brown scapular in her hand, silently, beckoning us to take it and use it. By our wearing it, we are telling the world that we belong to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

**Reflection & Resolution:** When you pray the rosary, you may notice how your mind wanders through events that have happened throughout your day. When you find this happening to you, gently draw its connection to the mysteries you are mediating on. Reflect on the example of living that Jesus and Mary showed you in their lives. Your distractions then become a means to your desired end. The rosary is the means of working out your salvation through amendment of life, asking forgiveness for sins and avoiding evil.

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflamm us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Pray and live the rosary by using it as a means to amend your life, asking forgiveness for your sins, and to avoid offending God.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #10

## *The Call to Reparation*

December 10, 1925 — The Five First Saturday Devotion of Reparation

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 30-33

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

In the preceding messages, we see that the Heart of our Mother is preoccupied with and deeply pained by the sins of humanity against God. In these next visions, it is the Child Jesus pleading and calling us to make reparation to console the heart of His Mother. This is the heart and the core of the Fatima message, devotion, reparation and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

*“The Most Holy Virgin rested her hand on her shoulder...”*

In this scene of Mary resting her hand on Lucia’s shoulder, we see the motherly love of Our Lady for all of us. She is first and foremost our spiritual Mother, consoling us in all our sorrows and pains. If we allow her, she will draw us close to her Immaculate Heart, holding and protecting us.

*“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.”*

The Child Jesus and Our Lady both use the word ‘ungrateful’ to describe the assaults by men hurled against her Immaculate Heart. Consider the many sacrifices our heavenly Mother suffers for us, her children, at every moment, to get you to heaven. Now consider the thorns, piercing her heart; how she is forgotten, ignored, blasphemed and even hated. This is why the call to reparation is not only needed but necessary. Our Lord told Sr. Lucia that there are five blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Blasphemies are offenses against God Himself and since Our Lady’s privileges are the works of God wrought in her; these attacks are not only against her, but God too. The five blasphemies are:

1. Blasphemies against her Immaculate Conception.
2. Blasphemies against her Perpetual Virginity.
3. Blasphemies against her Divine Maternity and as the Mother of mankind.
4. Blasphemies made to implant in children indifference, contempt & even hatred towards Our Lady.
5. Blasphemies against her sacred icons and images.

These blasphemies all have their origins in heresies that were condemned in the councils of the early Church, for example, the Nestorian and the Iconoclastic heresies.

Concerning these five blasphemies Our Lord told Sr. Lucia, “There, My daughter, is the reason why the Immaculate Heart of Mary asked Me to request this small act of reparation, and in consideration of it, to move My mercy to forgive souls who have had the misfortune to offend Her. As for you, seek unceasingly, through your prayers and sacrifices, to move My mercy with regard to these poor souls.”

*“Do 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, for all those who, on the first Saturdays 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 mysteries of the rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me.”*

Our Lady used the word reparation, but what does this word mean? In general, reparation consists of making amends in atonement to God for our sins and those of others by prayer and penance (sacrifice and suffering). When we make reparation for the sins of others, this is called “vicarious satisfaction.” It is atonement made for an offense, not by the person who committed the offense, but by someone else on their behalf.

Our Lady was very specific on the type of reparation needed to console her Immaculate Heart; confession, Communion, recitation of the rosary and 15 additional minutes, keeping her company, while meditating on one or more of the mysteries of the rosary with the intention of making reparation to her Immaculate Heart. This last request is very personal. Our Heavenly Mother is asking us to sit with her, as you would with a dear friend in pain,



and console her; to sit with her, feeling her pain and her sorrow.

This request of Our Lady is not a new innovation. In 1892, Pope Leo XXIII granted to all the faithful a plenary indulgence to those who devoted 15 consecutive Saturdays in honor of Our of the Rosary. Pope St. Pius 10th granted a plenary indulgent to all who would perform the 12 first Saturdays in honor of Our Lady. In 1905, he granted a plenary indulgence to those who “spend some time in devout prayers or meditations in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary Immaculate on the first Saturday or Sunday of each month with the intention of persevering in the same practice for the space of 12 months, on the condition of confession, Holy Communion and prayers for the pope.” But it was on June 13, 1912, that Pope St. Pius 10th granted a new indulgence to the faithful who performed the devotion of reparation to Our Lady on the first Saturdays of the month. The Pope wrote, “To the faithful who on the First Saturday of each month perform some special exercise of devotion in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary Immaculate, in order to make atonement for the blasphemies whereby the name and prerogatives of the same Blessed Virgin are reviled may gain a plenary indulgence on the condition of Confession, Holy Communion, and prayers for the Pope.” Interestingly this is what Our Lord would come and ask for. Some time prior to the publication of the Fatima revelations, Pope Benedict XV added to Pope St. Pius 10th’s granting, “a plenary indulgence at the hour of death, if after confession and Communion, or at least being duly contrite, they invoke with their lips if possible, otherwise in their hearts, the most holy Name of Jesus, and accept death with resignation from the hand of God as the due punishment for their sins on the condition of making the devotion on eight successive first Saturdays.” One can certainly see the similarity of these grants of indulgences to the promises attributed to Our Lady to Sr. Lucia on December 10, 1925. Of course no one should be surprised to learn of Our Lady ratifying the acts of the holy Pope St. Pius 10th. When Our Lady requested the Five First Saturdays Communions of Reparation, she took a traditional devotion, simplified it and gave it a greater efficacy.

Our Lord appeared again to Sr. Lucia on February 15, 1926, asking her why this devotion was not being promulgated as requested. He is persistent in asking Lucia to carry out her mission, speaking to her on a human level of partnership in communication. Jesus deals with all us in the same way. There are no obstacles except the ones we put in our mind. It is through prayer and perseverance that we move forward in what we are called to do.

*“I want My whole Church to acknowledge that consecration as a triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so that it may extend its cult later on, and put the devotion to this Immaculate Heart beside the devotion to My Sacred Heart.”*

Finally on May 29-30, 1930, Our Lord revealed to Sr. Lucia His purpose and desire in this request. He wants His Church to put the devotion to the Immaculate Heart beside devotion to His Sacred Heart. In 1939, Our Lord again told Sr. Lucia, “Ask, ask again insistently for the promulgation of the Communion of Reparation in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the First Saturdays. The time is coming when the rigor of My Justice will punish the crimes of diverse nations. Some of them will be annihilated. At last the severity of My Justice will fall severely on those who want to destroy My reign in souls.”

**Reflection & Resolution:** Before she died, Sr. Lucia said not enough people were doing the Five First Saturdays of Reparation, and until this request has been done by a “sufficient number of people,” the triumph of her Immaculate Heart will not occur. Have you done the Five First Saturdays of Reparation yet? At Fatima on May 13, 1962, Cardinal Larrona, the papal legate for Pope St. John XXIII, said: “It is urgent for us to establish devotion in the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. God wishes it! Our Lady told us! Our efforts must therefore multiply – we must be assiduous in practicing the first five Saturdays of reparation, not once, but continually, for those who do not or will not heed Our Lady’s plea!”

Finally, St. Jacinta told Lucia before her death the importance of this request and devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: “I am going to heaven soon, but you must stay here to make known God’s wish to establish in the world devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Do not be afraid to tell it. Tell everyone that God give us graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and we must her for them. Make it known that the Sacred Heart of Jesus wishes that the Immaculate Heart of Mary be honored with Him. People must ask for peace through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for God has confided the peace of the world to her.”

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflammé us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Make an effort to fulfill the request of Jesus and His Mother for the Five First Saturdays of reparation for the sins which wound their Hearts. If you have already done the Five First Saturdays once, do them again and again.

# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #11

## *The Mystery of the Trinity*

June 13, 1929 — The Last Vision

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 35-36

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

*“Suddenly the whole chapel was illumined by a supernatural Light...”*

This last vision tells us that in the light of faith is the sight of understanding; we can see the image of God in the humanity of Jesus Christ. The depth of God’s love for us is revealed in Jesus. He is the way, the truth and life, and that leads us to the intimate union with the Trinity.

*“I could see a chalice and a large Host suspended in the air, on to which drops of Blood were falling from the face of Jesus crucified and from the wound in His side. These drops ran down on to the Host and fell into the chalice.”*

The Host and chalice, with His drops of Blood, reveal this mystery: Jesus Christ’s humanity and divinity reveals the sacrificial love of the Father in terms we can understand. Here, in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the sacramental species of bread and wine are changed into Christ’s living Body and Blood, in which He gives Himself up for us under new form, as He did on the Cross. This same mystery is revealed in Our Lady standing to right of her Son. Just as bread puts up no resistance to God possesses it, Our Lady, too, of her own free will, puts up no resistance in God possessing her and changing her entirely into Himself, without her ceasing to be the individual that she is. As St. Paul says, “It is now no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” How much more can this be said of Mary, who never knew sin! When we see Mary, we see God’s love expressed in her.

*“Beneath the right arm of the Cross was Our Lady...”*

She is below the right arm of the cross (where His sheep are gathered, Matt. 25:32-33) because she is the example of what we must do and become in order to participate in the self-same transformation. Under the left arm (where the goats are gathered), we see that grace and mercy are available to sinners, as well as to us when we sin; to obtain remission and pardon and to assist them to conversion.

*“Under the left arm of the Cross, large letters, as if of crystal clear water which ran down upon the altar, formed these words: ‘Grace and Mercy.’”*

The image of the Holy Trinity, known as the Last Vision, shown to Sr. Lucia at Tuy, Spain, is a forerunner to the image of Divine Mercy given to St. Faustina. Both depict the source of our redemption in the Blood and Water that gushes from the Heart of Jesus brought forth by His crucifixion. GRACES, MERCY – this is mankind’s only hope of salvation. At Fatima, Our Lady shows us how to live Divine Mercy, for each of the prayers taught to the shepherd children by her and the Angel of Peace are directed for the conversion of sinners, the prayer that pleases Jesus most.

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

Finally the time has arrived in salvation history in which God wishes to reveal these mysteries. The spirituality in Russia, with its eastern mysticism, enfolds, embodies and deeply expounds these mysteries, as only mystic sight can do. Once Russia is ‘converted’ and turns back to its Faith, the contribution to the Church will be so profound and rich, it will unite the east and the west once again. It will bring about the unity of Christians and set precedence for the proclamation of the final Marian dogma. This will usher in the triumph of Mary’s Immaculate Heart and the promised era of peace.

Concerning Our Lady’s request for the consecration of Russia by the Holy Father, this request was done by several popes initially without the bishops of the world.

1. Ven. Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on October 31, 1942, in union

with the Portuguese bishops. He repeated the consecration in Rome on December 8, 1942, and renewed it on July 7, 1952.

2. On November 21, 1964, Pope St. Pius VI personally renewed Pope Pius XII's consecration of 1942.
3. Pope St. John Paul II consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at Fatima on May 13, 1982. It was not in union with the bishops of the world.
4. The Collegial Consecration requested by Our Lady was finally done on March 25, 1984 by St. John Paul II in union with all the bishops of the world. Sr. Lucia was asked if this consecration fulfilled Our Lady's request and she answered in a letter dated August 29, 1989, *"They have asked me if it (the consecration) was made as Our Lady requested and I said, 'Yes.' Now it was made."* (Pope Francis made a consecration of Russia and Ukraine on March 25, 2022, in union with the bishops and laity across the world, in response to the war.)

What are the effects of the 1984 consecration?

- May 13, 1984 - An explosion destroys 80 percent of the Soviet Union's main munitions storage depot for its largest fleet; two-thirds of its missiles are destroyed.
- December 13, 1984, an explosion in Siberia destroys the Soviet Union's largest ammunition base.
- March 10, 1985 – Soviet Leader Konstantin Chernenko dies, following the deaths of Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov in quick succession.
- March 11, 1985 – The final Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev is elected and begins to enact new freedoms.
- April 26, 1986 – Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident potentially staves off a nuclear strike.
- May 12, 1988 – An explosion wrecks the only factory that made the rocket motors for the Soviets' deadly SS 24 long-range missiles, which carried 10 nuclear bombs on each.
- November 9, 1989 – The fall of the Berlin Wall in East Germany.
- November & December 1989 – Peaceful revolutions in Czechoslovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.
- October 3, 1990 – East and West Germany are unified.
- April 13, 1991 – The Pope appoints an apostolic administrator for the Latin Catholics of European Russia located in Moscow.
- December 25, 1991 – Dissolution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The nation of Russia is reborn.

**Reflection & Resolution:** Ponder each of these mysteries in silent prayer and reflection. This will allow you to see how very personal God's love is for you. He has shown us, through Jesus Christ, the path to follow. There is no reason to hold back in fear, for you only need to surrender yourself like Mary and say, "Yes" to God's Will for you. Mary is with you every step of the way. You can do this by practicing self-denial through humility and obedience, doing everything with her, in her and for her. Her Immaculate Heart is your refuge and the sure way that will lead you to God.

**Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. Inflamm us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Take to heart the words of Sr. Lucia from her book, “Calls from the Message of Fatima” “The (Fatima) Message asks us to undertake an apostolate on behalf of our brothers and sisters. It is a continuation of the mission of Christ on earth; we must be co-workers with Christ in his work of redemption, in the salvation of souls.”



# FATIMA PRAYER CELL FORMATION #12

## *The Third Secret*

Released to the Public on May 13, 2000 — A Simple Interpretation in Mystical Language

Read in “*Lucia Speaks/Fatima Prayer Cell Program*” pages 43-45

### **Commentary for study with prayer group members:**

In offering this personal interpretation of the Third Secret, we do not wish to go before the Church in presuming this as an exact explanation. It is but a humble submission of a possible interpretation offered in the light of the Fatima message, which has gone before it with the same symbolic meditations found in the preceding lessons. Read the Third Secret in its entirety first on pages 43-44 and then return to this page for its accompanying commentary.

*“After the two parts which I have already explained, at the left of Our Lady and a little above...”*

Our left is usually seen as the side ‘against us,’ even as the right is ‘for us.’ The Angel is at Our Lady’s left because she does not wish us to suffer the chastisement, but is a little above because God’s justice demands it.

*“we saw an Angel with a flaming sword in his left hand;”*

This Angel, a minister of God’s justice, symbolically stands over us, just as he stands before the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:24), a mystical garden, which contained the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil and the Tree of Life. The Tree of Knowledge stands for what God is (i.e. His attributes of knowledge of good and evil), while the Tree of Life stands for who God is (i.e. the Holy Eucharist). Let us look at each ‘tree’ in the light of today’s events. The Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil symbolizes knowledge that is not only known to us, but also knowledge that is forbidden to us; knowledge of future events (good or evil), or of peering into areas that are dealing with the world of spirits. This information is often sought after through vain curiosity, such as “apparition hopping” or through forbidden means, such as disobedience to the voice of the local Church, or interest in the occult. We fall away from our daily duty when we have “itching ears” to seek after another gospel. This Tree also represents what God is not, such as self-seeking and sin of all kinds. The Tree of Life also symbolizes Mary, who brings forth the Fruit that gives everlasting Life. It can also be said to be the Cross. This tree bears within it the mystery of Christ’s love. Through self-denial, Jesus gives the self-sacrificial gift of Himself, His Body and His Blood. Jesus shows us the body is for crucifixion, i.e. penance, self-denial, and the blood (our life) is to be poured out in acts of self-giving mercy in the service of others. From this we see that the Tree of Life is Christ and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil is the antichrist. (From “The Secret of Mary” by St. Louis de Montfort. “The Tree of Life: It’s Culture & Growth”)

*“lashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire;”*

This mystical garden has been crossed, or rather the Tree of Life has been violated, not so much by the world (for it will always partake of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil), but by the members of the Church that partake of the Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life. It is the Church that has the mission to save the world by partaking of the Tree of Life and of living Christ’s life - a life of penance and of self-giving through service to God and our fellow men. How is the world to be saved when its ‘savior’ has become anti-christ; slayers of Christ and of society?

*“but they died out in contact with the splendor that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand:”* Our Lady has obtained mercy for us (this, of course, was obtained together with the merits of Christ, for all those who have been obedient to her message, and those who have suffered patiently)...but it is only a temporary grace. We have reached the “fullness of times,” in other words, the cup has been filled by the sufferings and obedience of those who have said, “Yes.” The world has been temporarily saved by Our Lady through the merits of Jesus Christ, together with the few faithful souls. Those who have partaken of the Tree of Knowledge have been deceived; they have chosen an apparent good. Our Lady manifests the prayer of Christ, “Father, forgive them. They know not what they do.” Now there comes the second stage.

*“pointing to the earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: ‘Penance, Penance, Penance!’”*

Now is the time for all of us to respond, and it is urgent. Everyone needs to receive the message and all of us must respond because the time of grace and mercy is temporary.

*“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...”*

This calls to mind when the three shepherd children saw themselves in this light and exclaimed, “O Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament!” This is a soul’s revelation or unveiling of its likeness to God. Just as Jesus is veiled under the appearance of bread, so He is in everyone hidden in our own human form.

*“a Bishop dressed in white; we had the impression that it was the Holy Father.”*

They see the hidden Christ on earth crucified in the Pope, and how his life compares with Our Lord’s life.

*“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.”*

This symbolizes the mystical climb of their spiritual life. The rough-hewn trunks of a cork tree call to mind the basic raw, sometimes harsh, difficult performance of one’s daily duty. This is the call of the Gospel expressed at Fatima where cork trees are common. Our Lord told Sr. Lucia, “The sacrifice required of every person is the fulfillment of his duties in life and the observance of My law. This is the penance that I now seek and require.”

*“Before reaching there the Holy Father passed through a big city half in ruins...”*

This is the Church. The First Greatest Commandment has fallen into ruins, while the Second Greatest Commandment stands as though for its own sake.

*“and half trembling with halting step...”*

The Holy Father seems to stop, as though to look again at the situation in the Church and the world. He cannot reach them by the means which has been traditionally traveled. No one is listening. He begins new steps with his focus on addressing that which is basic to everyone: respect for the common dignity of every human person. In this way the whole person can be addressed, and an attitude of understanding must be formed to know the reasons why people think as they do. Through listening and dialogue, and by focusing on that which we have in common as a brotherhood in Christ, we are called to make our pilgrimage as Catholics who know our Faith and then share it in true concern for our fellowman instead of focusing on our differences and accusing one another. We must forgive to be forgiven. We must go forward in faith.

*“afflicted with pain and sorrow, he prayed for the souls of the corpses he met on his way;”*

The Holy Father prays for those dead through mortal sin. He wants to reach them too.

*“having reached the top of the mountain...”*

Spiritual maturity; the fullness of Christ in suffering...

*“on his knees at the foot of the big Cross...”*

Here he makes the offering of his life...

*“he was killed by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows at him...”*

It is finished. He can give no more. Spending himself completely for the life of the Church, his enemies had totally succeeded in crushing his life to the ground. He died a mystical death... a complete death to self. His enemies had desired to kill any knowledge or remembrance of Christ from the face of the earth by directing it at his person. Bullets are the intent to kill the life of Christ and arrows are words of hatred and criticism. The physical attempt on the pope’s life was merely the open manifestation of what lay hidden.

*“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.”*

These, too, suffer mystical death (white martyrdom). These deaths and the death of the pope (i.e. death to self), all together fill up the measure that the splendor of Our Lady’s right hand used to cause the fire to die out, which was to strike the world principally due to the fault of sins and disobedience within the Church.

*“Beneath the two arms of the Cross there were two Angels each with a crystal aspersion 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 two arms of the Cross can be said to be love of God and neighbor. The blood of those who have physically died as martyrs is mystically sprinkled on those who made this mystic journey and were responding to the call of prayer and penance. Red and white martyrdom call to mind the Blood and Water gushing from the side of Christ, who offers us His Mercy.

### **Two last thoughts on the Third Secret:**

Speaking in September 1976, St. John Paul II, then Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, said:

“We are now standing in the face of the greatest historical confrontation humanity has gone through. I do not think the wide circles of the American society, or wide circles of the Christian community, realize this fully. We are now facing the final confrontation between the Church and the anti-church, of the Gospel versus the anti-gospel, between Christ and anti-christ. This confrontation lies within the plans of Divine Providence; it is a trial which the whole Church must take up.”

Sr. Lucia wrote the Holy Father in 1982, referring to the prophecy - “Various nations will be annihilated,” added: “If we have not yet seen the complete fulfillment of the final part of this prophecy, we are going towards it little by little with great strides.” (*Deadline – The Third Secret of Fatima* by John Haffert)

**Reflection& Resolution:** It can be seen in the Third Secret of Fatima, the action of the Holy Spirit in the Mystical Body of Christ redeeming souls and the role of the Blessed Mother in gathering us all to her, so as to obtain mercy and forgiveness for all humankind from Christ. This work is not yet done. We are still in danger unless enough people today respond to the message of Fatima. Otherwise we shall bring upon ourselves our own destruction.

The Gospel is the timeless message of prayer and penance. The message of Fatima is tailor made for us to see its practical application in our lives and for the times in which we live. Its urgency and importance bids us no longer to be distracted or preoccupied with the cares of this world, but to be generous in our response for the sake of saving both body and soul of ourselves and of others. If you have not yet done so, please make the commitment to do what Our Lady asks of each of us: for love of God, for your own good, and for the good of others.

Pray the rosary every day while meditating on the lives of Jesus and Mary. Wear the brown scapular, which is the sign of your consecration to Mary by living in her presence and under her protection. Do your daily duty by accepting and living your responsibilities in accordance with your state of life. Make the Five First Saturdays of Reparation to repair for those who are bringing the world to its destruction by their sins so that they too may be saved. This is the hope of the world. Say “Yes.” Sign the World Apostolate of Fatima Pledge, which is the outward sign of your commitment to be a part of the Church Militant in bringing God’s Kingdom to this world so there will be peace. Remember the words of Our Lady: “In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph and there will be peace.” Will you join her ranks?

### **Group discussion can take place at this time.**

**Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Most Holy Virgin Mary, tender Mother of men, to fulfill the desires of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the request of the Vicar of your Son on earth, we consecrate ourselves and our families to your Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart, O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and we recommend to you all the people of our country and all the world. Please accept our consecration, dearest Mother, and use us as you wish to accomplish your designs in the world. O Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and Queen of the World, rule over us, together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ, Our King. Save us from the spreading flood of modern paganism; kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of a virtuous life, an ardent zeal for souls, and a desire to pray the Rosary more faithfully. We come with confidence to you, O Throne of Grace and Mother of Fair Love. In flame us with the same Divine Fire which has inflamed your own Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart. Make our hearts and homes your shrine, and through us, make the Heart of Jesus, together with your rule, triumph in every heart and home. Amen. — Venerable Pope Pius XII

**Short daily renewal of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, I renew my consecration to you and to your Immaculate Heart. Please accept me, my dear Mother, and use me as you wish to accomplish your designs upon the world. I am all yours, my Mother, my Queen, and all that I have is yours.

**Resolution in brief:** Sign the World Apostolate of Fatima Pledge and live it. If you have already done so, renew your commitment and get others to join.