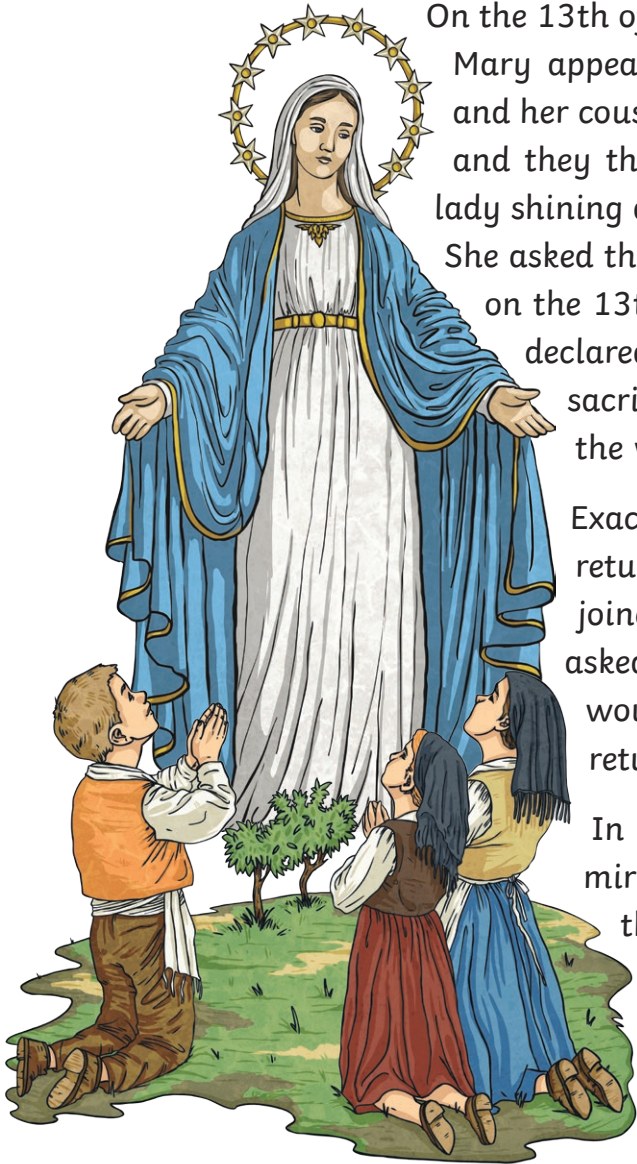


# The Children of Fatima



On the 13th of May 1917, three children reported seeing Mary appear before them in Fatima, Portugal. Lucia and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta, noticed a flash and they thought a storm was approaching. Then, a lady shining as bright as the Sun appeared before them. She asked the three children to return to the same spot on the 13th of each month for six months. The lady declared that the children would have to make sacrifices to bring peace to the world and end the war.

Exactly one month later, in June, the children returned to the same spot. A group of people joined them to see the vision. The children asked who the lady was. She replied that she would tell them in October, as long as they returned every month to the same spot.

In July, Lucia asked the lady to perform a miracle for all to believe. The lady assured her that she would do this in time.

By this time, many people from all over the country had heard about the apparitions. Some believed, and some did not. Some of the non-believers kidnapped the children on the morning of the 13th

of August. They were approached by the lady on the 19th, who told them to continue to visit on the 13th day of the months to come.

In September, an even larger crowd gathered to see the vision of the lady. She asked them to continue praying and saying the Rosary for the end of the war to come. Lucia asked for some sick people to be cured.

On the 13th of October, the largest crowd of all gathered from all over Portugal. The lady declared herself as Mary, the Lady of the Rosary. She told them that the war would end and that the soldiers would be returning home soon. Mary then rose into the air and disappeared.

# Questions

1. When did the children report seeing the lady?

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2. For how many months did the visits continue?

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3. Why did the children not make the visit on the 13th August?

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4. Why did Mary ask the children to make sacrifices?

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5. Why did Lucia ask for Mary to perform a miracle?

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6. What request did Lucia make of Mary?

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7. What special prayer did Mary ask the children to say?

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8. Where is Fatima?

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