

TO BETTER KNOW FÁTIMA



SANTUÁRIO DE FÁTIMA

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1. FATIMA

At the time of the Apparitions, Fatima was a parish consisting of over twenty little hamlets, such as Aljustrel, Casa Velha, Moita Redonda and Lombo d'Égua, etc.

In 1917, Cova da Iria was not a hamlet of this parish, although it belonged to it. There were no homes, nobody lived there. It was a rocky place with some trees. There was, however, a plot of land which belonged to Lucia's parents, where they were able to grow some farm produce.

Despite being distant from Aljustrel 2 kilometers, it was one of the places where the Little Shepherds would take their flocks to.

The Parish of Fatima, with all its hamlets, was raised to *Vila* (Town) on August 19, 1977 and to *Cidade* (City) on June 4, 1997. The seat of the Parish is the hamlet called Fatima, which gives the name to the whole city-parish. It has approximately 9,000 inhabitants.

2. THE APPARITIONS

2.1 APPARITIONS OF THE ANGEL IN 1916

These apparitions prepared the Little Shepherds for the encounter with Our Lady; they were also a call to prayer and sacrifice, of which the Little Shepherds gave a good example.

First apparition – at Loca do Cabeço (hilltop grotto)

The Angel told them: “Do not be afraid. I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me: My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You! I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You! Pray thus. The Hearts of



Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplications”.

Let us listen to Sister Lúcia: “The supernatural atmosphere which enveloped us was so intense, that we were for a long time scarcely aware of our own existence, remaining in the same posture in which he had left us, and continually repeating the same prayer. The presence of God made itself felt so intimately and so intensely that we did not even venture to speak to one another. Next day, we were still immersed in the spiritual atmosphere, which only gradually began to disappear. It did not occur to us to speak about this Apparition, nor did we think of recommending that it be kept secret. The very Apparition itself imposed secrecy. It was so intimate, that it was not easy to speak of it at all. The impression it made upon us was all the greater perhaps, in that it was the first such manifestation that we had experienced.” (*IV Memoir of Sister Lucia*).

Second apparition – at the well

“What are you doing?” he asked. “Pray! Pray very much! The Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High.”

“How are we to make sacrifices?” I asked.

“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 Angel Guardian, the Angel of Portugal. Above all, accept and bear with submission, the suffering which the Lord will send you.” (*IV Memoir of Sister Lucia*).



Third apparition – at Loca do Cabeço

While we were there, the Angel appeared to us for the third time, holding a chalice in his hands, with a host above it from which some drops of blood were falling into the sacred vessel. Leaving the chalice and the host suspended in the air, the Angel prostrated on the ground and

repeated this prayer three times:

“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And, through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners.”

Then, rising, he once more took the chalice and the host in his hands. He gave the host to me, and to Jacinta and Francisco he gave the contents of the chalice to drink, saying as he did so: “Take and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, horribly outraged by ungrateful men. Repair their crimes and console your God.” (*IV Memoir of Sister Lucia*).

2.2 APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY IN 1917

First Apparition – May 13

“Do not be afraid. I will do you no harm.”

“Where are you from?”

“I am from Heaven.”

“I have come to ask you to come here for six months in succession, on the 13th day, at this same hour. Later on, I will tell you who I am and what I want.”

“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?”

“Pray the Rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war.” (*IV Memoir of Sister Lucia*).



Second Apparition – June 13

“What do you want of me?” I asked.

“I wish you to come here on the 13th of next month, to pray the

Rosary every day, and to learn to read. Later, I will tell you what I want.”

“I would like to ask you to take us to Heaven.”

“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 in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart.”

As Our Lady spoke these last words, she opened her hands and for the second time, she communicated to us the rays of that same immense light. We saw ourselves in this light, as it were, immersed in God.

(IV Memoir of Sister Lucia).

Third Apparition – July 13

“I want you to come here on the 13th of next month, to continue to pray the Rosary every day in honour 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.”

“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.”

“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.”

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

“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.

I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays. If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be

granted to the world. In Portugal, the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved”

“When you pray the Rosary, say after each mystery: O my Jesus, forgive us, save us from the fire of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need.”

(IV Memoir of Sister Lucia).

Fourth Apparition – August 19 (at Valinhos)

“I want you to continue going to the Cova da Iria on the 13th, and to continue praying the Rosary every day. In the last month, I will perform a miracle so that all may believe.”

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

“Have two litters made. The money from the litters is for the “festa” of Our Lady of the Rosary, and what is left over will help

towards the construction of a chapel that is to be built here.”

“Pray, pray very much, and make sacrifices for sinners; for many souls go to hell, because there are none to sacrifice themselves and to pray for them.”

(IV Memoir of Sister Lucia).



Fifth Apparition – September 13

“Continue to pray the Rosary in order to obtain the end of the war.

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.”

(IV Memoir of Sister Lucia).

Sixth Apparition – October 13

“I want to tell you that a chapel is to be built here in my honour. I am the Lady of the Rosary. Continue always to pray the Rosary every day.”

“Do not offend the Lord our God any more, because He is already so much offended.”

Then, opening her hands, she made them reflect on the sun, and as she ascended, the reflection of her own light continued to be projected on the sun itself.

(IV Memoir of Sister Lucia).

3. CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

3.1 CONSECRATION OF PORTUGAL.

It was made in Fatima by the Bishops of Portugal on May 13, 1931, and renewed on May 13, 1938, 1956, 1957, 1981, 1983 and 1992.

3.2 CONSECRATION OF THE WORLD.

Pius XII made it first on October 31, 1942 and renewed it in Rome on December 8 of that same year.

Paul VI renewed it on November 21, 1964.



João Paulo II, renova a consagração do mundo ao Imaculado Coração de Maria, em 25 de Março de 1984.

John Paul II renewed the consecration on June 7, 1981, in Rome, at the clinic where he was hospitalized; on May 13, 1982, in Fatima; on October 16, 1983, in St. Peter's Square; on March 24, 1984, before the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, of the Little Chapel of Apparitions, in St. Peter's Square; and on May 13, 1991, in Fatima.

Russia was expressly mentioned in the consecration made by Pius XII on July 7, 1952.

3.3 CONSECRATION OF THE MILLENNIUM.

It was made at Rome, in St. Peter's Square, on October 8, 2000, by John Paul II, at the time of the Jubilee of the Bishops and before the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima of the Little Chapel of Apparitions. 1,500 Bishops were present.

4. PILGRIM STATUES

It all began in 1945, shortly after the end of World War II, when a parish priest from Berlin proposed that a statue of Our Lady of Fatima travel through Europe all the way to the border with Russia, visiting all capitals and all cities where a bishop had his seat. The idea was revived in April of 1946 by a representative of Luxembourg at the International Council of Catholic Young Women. In the following year, on the same day the Pilgrim Statue was being crowned - May 13, 1947 – the first trip took off. After more than half a century of peregrinating, in which the Statue visited 64 countries in the various continents – some of them more than once – the Shrine decided that the Statue should only go out in special circumstances.

However, the requests kept coming in, and, therefore, in order to respond favorably to all of them, it was decided to make several replicas of the first Pilgrim Statue. From all corners of the globe arrive reports of extraordinary things happening due to the presence of the Statue: the gathering of large crowds to watch it pass by; unheard of attendance in the various celebrations; the great number of penitents looking for the Sacrament of Reconciliation; the presence of people who for long time hadn't entered a church; the affluence of all kinds of people: children, youths, adults and older people, workers, fishermen, artists, sportsmen, sick

people, students, jailed people, military personnel, politicians, presidents, Catholics, Muslims, Protestants, believers from other religions; festooned streets; beautiful bunches of flowers; grandiose processions; white doves hovering over or landing on the Statue's carrier; miracles of peace and love; great pastoral fruits; abundant graces received.

5. GOLD ROSE

It was granted to the Shrine of Fatima by Paul VI during the November 21, 1964, session of Vatican Council II and blessed by the Pope on March 28, 1965. It was delivered to the Shrine by the Pope's Legate, His Eminence Fernando Cardinal cento, on May 13, 1965. It is a symbolic gift granted by the Supreme Pontiff to kings, princes, queens and other eminent personalities, as a sign of particular benevolence or in recognition or as a reward for special services provided to the Church or for the welfare of society; but also to noted shrines, churches or even cities that he (the Supreme Pontiff) would like to distinguish.

6. THE LITTLE SHEPHERDS

6.1 LUCIA DE JESUS DOS SANTOS.

She was born at Aljustrel, Fatima, on March 22, 1907 and baptized on March 30 of that year.

She left Fatima for the Hospice of Vilar, Porto, where she arrived on June 17, 1921.

Then she departed for Tuy, Spain, on October 24, 1925, where she entered, as postulant, the Institute of St. Dorothea; two days later, on October 26, she leaves for the Institute's convent in Pontevedra. On July 20, 1926, she returns to Tuy, where she takes the habit of Novice on October 2 of that year.

She pronounces the first temporary vows in Tuy, on October 3, 1928, and the perpetual vows on October 3, 1934, also in Tuy.

She comes to Portugal on May 17, 1946, and goes to reside at the college of Sardão, Vila Nova de Gaia. In that year, she visits Fatima on May 20 thru May 22.

On March 25, 1948, she enters the Carmelite Convent of St. Teresa, where she takes the name of *Maria Lúcia de Jesus e do Coração Imaculado*.

On May 13, 1967, during the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Apparitions, she returns to Fatima, at the request of Pope Paul VI. Again on May 12/13, 1982; May 12/13, 1991; and on May 12/13, 2000, during the pilgrimages of Pope John Paul II.

Our Lady appeared to her again on:

*August 26, 1923, at the Hospice of Vilar;

*December 10, 1925 and February 15, 1926, in Pontevedra, Spain (revelation of the Devotion of the Five First Saturdays).

*June 13, 1929, in Tuy (requesting the consecration of Russia and apparition of Most Holy Trinity).

On December 17, 1927, she describes the apparitions of Pontevedra of December 10, 1925, with Our Lady and the Child Jesus, and of February 15, 1926, with the Child Jesus.

As requested by the Bishop of Leiria, Most Rev. José Alves Correia da Silva, Sister Lucia writes her *Memoirs*:

I Memoir, in December 1935, about Jacinta.

II Memoir, in November 1937, about the apparitions of the Angel and those of Our Lady.

III Memoir, in August 1941, including in it the first two parts of the *Secret*: vision of Hell and Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

IV Memoir, in December 1941, about Francisco and a more detailed description of the Apparitions of the Angel and those of Our Lady.

Later on, at the request of the Rector of the Shrine, she writes:

- *V Memoir*, in February 1989, about her father.

- *VI Memoir*, in March 1993, about her mother.

In December 2000, she publishes her book "*Calls of the Message of Fatima*", a collection of essays that Sister Lucia had written throughout the years in response to questions put to her and had concluded on March 25, 1997. The book is addressed to the pilgrims of Fatima.

She died at the Convent of St. Teresa, Coimbra, Portugal, on February 13, 2005, and was buried there.

On February 19, 2006, her mortal remains are translated to the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, where she now rests at the side of Jacinta.

His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI authorized shortening the canonical deadline to open the process of beatification of Sister Lucia. The announcement was made by His Eminence José Cardinal Saraiva Martins, Prefect of the Congregation for the Cause of Saints, at the Convent of Coimbra, where he presided over the Mass of the third anniversary of her death.

6.2 FRANCISCO MARTO.

He was born in Aljustrel, Fatima, on June 11, 1908, and was baptized on June 20 of that year.

He fell sick, victim of pneumonia, in October 1918, and died in Aljustrel, on April 4, 1919.

He was buried then in the cemetery of Fatima and on February 17, 1952, his mortal remains were exhumed and on March 13 of the same year translated to the Basilica of the Shrine.

His main preoccupation was to *“console Our Lord”*. His spirit of love and reparation for the offenses to God was remarkable for such a young lad. He spent hours in prayer *“thinking about God”*. He was a contemplative soul. He was beatified in Fatima by the Holy Father on May 13, 2000.

6.3 JACINTA MARTO.

She was born in Aljustrel, Fatima, on March 11, 1910, and baptized on March 19, 1910.

She fell ill, victim of pneumonia, like her brother, in October 1918, and was taken, on July 1, 1919, to the hospital of Vila Nova de Ourém, where she stayed until August 31, 1919. Later on, from January 21 to February 2, 1920, she was placed in the Orphanage of Our Lady of Miracles, at *Rua da Estrela (Star Street)*, in Lisbon, institution founded by Mrs. Maria da Purificação Godinho, whom Jacinta called *“Godmother”*.

On February 2, 1920, she was hospitalized at the *Hospital Dona Estefânia*, in Lisbon, until her death on February 20 of that year.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Church of Our Lady of the Angels, in Lisbon, where her mortal remains stayed until the 24th, when they were translated to the cemetery of Vila Nova de Ourém, where they were placed in the tomb of the barons of Alvaiázere.

On September 12, 1935, the casket was opened, then closed again and her mortal remains translated to the cemetery of Fatima. On April 30, 1951, the remains were canonically recognized and the following day, May 1, finally translated to the Basilica of the Shrine of Fatima.

Besides the five apparitions at Cova da Iria and the one at Valinhos, Our Lady appeared to Jacinta a few more times at her home, while she was sick; also once in the parish church, Thursday, Ascension Day; and still in Lisbon, at the orphanage and at the hospital.

She had a vision of the Holy Father at the Arneiro Well (in the backyard of Lucia's home) and also another at Loca do Cabeço (Hilltop Grotto).

Jacinta's spirit of sacrifice is impressive. Impelled by the preoccupation to save sinners and do reparation for sins against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, she used to turn everything into a sacrifice to offer to God, as the Angel had recommended, always accompanied by the prayer that Our Lady had taught them:

"O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

She had a great love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Holy Father and sinners in general.

She was beatified in Fatima by the Holy Father on May 13, 2000.

6.4 BEATIFICATION.

Although Bishop José Alves Correia da Silva had taken charge of the Diocese of Leiria on August 4, 1920, only on May 3, 1922, he publishes a Provision in which he names a committee of experts to analyze, with rigor and impartiality, the events occurred in Fatima.

On April 13, 1930, the report of the Canonical Committee is concluded; the following day it is handed to the Bishop of the Diocese, who approves it. In this report we find the following conclusions:

"We find no proof that any of the children have consciously lied; much less that any of them was a victim of an illusion or hallucination. No one can doubt their sincerity".

"The terrible threats addressed to them, even by the public authorities, and the hard trials they are submitted to, although they succeed in intimidating Francisco and Jacinta to the point of crying, do not prevent them from

maintaining what they have always stated and do not succeed in getting out of them the Secret entrusted to them by the Apparition, which they keep religiously inviolable with a fidelity and firmness beyond all telling, thing impossible to explain in such young children without special assistance from Up Above”.

“Their sensible replies and naïve candor reveal a normal state of mind, a serene and calm imagination, an extraordinary common sense”.

“The correct and disinterested attitude of the parents of Lucia as well as of the parents of Francisco and Jacinta contribute to the veracity of the children”.

“The edifying death of Francisco Marto as well as the no less edifying death of his sister Jacinta Marto, truly extraordinary due to the surrounding circumstances, added to the implicit confirmation made by them of all the declarations uttered until then by them, related to the apparitions, are proof elements not to be overlooked”.

“And the ultimate, definite and irrefutable confirmation that the Most Holy Virgin appeared in Fatima for the salvation of so many souls is the long list of miraculous cures, many of which had the verdict of science”.

Therefore, Bishop José Alves Correia da Silva, through a Pastoral Letter of October 13, 1930, *“declares as worthy of belief the children’s visions at Cova da Iria, Parish of Fatima, in this Diocese, on the 13th of the month, from May thru October 1917”* and *“permits the official cult of Our Lady of Fatima”.*

Therefore, after observing the signs of veneration manifested by the faithful towards the deceased seers – although already in 1946 initial steps were taken for the Cause of Canonization – the Processes of Beatification were initiated only on April 30, 1952, with the publication of *“Positions and Articles on the fame of holiness, virtues and miracles”* of the two Little Shepherds, documents which were signed by then Canon João Pereira Venâncio, later on Bishop of the diocese of Leiria.

The Processes were only sent to the Sacred Congregation for the Cause of Saints, at the Vatican, on July 2, 1979 (that of Jacinta) and on August 3 of the same year (that of Francisco).

Both Processes ran smoothly and, on May 13, 1989, Holy Father John Paul II solemnly decreed the heroic character of the virtues of the Servants of God Francisco and Jacinta Marto and granted to them the title of Venerable.

Meanwhile, since a miracle scientifically recognized is needed for the

beatification of non-martyrs (the case of the two seers), the case of Maria Emília Santos was presented. This lady had lived paralyzed for 22 years, with no feeling from the waist down. The patient made several *Novenas* to the Little Shepherds and then, on the night of March 25, 1987, she heard a child's voice telling her: "Sit down! You Can!"

Now she could use a wheelchair, but that was not enough for her; so, she kept making her *Novenas* until February 20, 1989, anniversary of the death of Jacinta, when she was able to get up, take her first steps without pain and then walk normally.

Therefore, after tests done in Rome, the cure was unanimously scientifically confirmed as a miracle by the Medical Consultants of the Vatican and the case handed over, for their appreciation, to the Theologian Consultants, then to the Assembly of Bishops and Cardinals of the Congregation for the Cause of Saints, where it received a favorable opinion. Finally the case was presented, on June 28, 1999, to Holy Father John Paul, who ordered the promulgation of the respective decree.

Therefore, the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano* (Portuguese edition), year XXX, Nr. 27, July 3, 1999, pag. 2, publishes the news of the miracle due to the intercession of Venerables Francisco and Jacinta Marto. The whole text, in Latin, was published in *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, year and volume XCII, nr. 1, January 10, 2000, pp. 74-75.

Finally, on May 13, 2000, at the Shrine of Fatima, Pope John Paul II, at the beginning of Mass, solemnly declares: "*We grant that, from now on, the Venerable Servants of God Francisco Marto and Jacinta Marto be called Blessed and one may celebrate yearly, in the proper places and according to Canon Law, the Feast of Francisco and Jacinta Marto, on February 20*".

7. THE SECRET OF FATIMA

According to *Memoirs of Sister Lucia*, the so-called Secret of Fatima is composed of three parts:

First Part – Vision of Hell

We are told by Sister Lucia, in nr. 2 of her *Third Memoir*, regarding the apparition of July 13, 1917:

"Our Lady showed us a great sea of fire which seemed to be under the earth. 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 a huge fire, without weight or equilibrium, and amid shrieks and groans of pain and despair, which horrified us and made us tremble with fear. The demons could be distinguished by their terrifying and repellent likeness to frightful and unknown animals, all black and transparent. This vision lasted but an instant. How can we ever be grateful enough to our kind heavenly Mother, who had already prepared us by promising, in the first Apparition, to take us to Heaven. Otherwise, I think we would have died of fear and terror.”

Second Part – Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

In nr. 5 of said *Third Memoir*, Sister Lucia, mentioning the Apparition of June 13, 1917, says that Our Lady “told me on June 13th, 1917, that she would never forsake me, and that her Immaculate Heart would be my refuge and the way that would lead me to God. As she spoke these words, she opened her hands, and from them streamed a light that penetrated to our inmost hearts. I think that, on that day, the main purpose of this light was to infuse within us a special knowledge and love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary 14, just as on the other two occasions it was intended to do, as it seems to me, with regard to God and the mystery of the most Holy Trinity.

From that day onwards, our hearts were filled with a more ardent love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary”

Third Part – Vision of Bishop dressed in white

During the apparition of July 13, 1917, according to the final report in nr. 5 of the *Fourth Memoir* of Sister Lucia, Our Lady, after saying that Russia would spread her errors throughout the world, promote wars and persecute the Church, if Her requests weren’t listened to, adds: “The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world. In Portugal, the dogma of the Faith will always be preserved; etc... Do not tell this to anybody”

The three Little Shepherds, despite innumerable threats, kept

inviolable this Secret, which was later on put to writing by Sister Lucia, in obedience to an explicit order of the Bishop of the Diocese of Leiria and afterwards sent to the Holy See.

Finally, on May 13, 2000, at the conclusion of Mass presided by John Paul II in the Prayer Area of the Shrine of Fatima, His Eminence Angelo Cardinal Sodano, Secretary of State of the Vatican, announced, in summary form, the meaning of the content of the *Third* Part of the Secret of Fatima, whose entire text would afterwards be divulged by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. According to the text published in the Portuguese edition of the weekly newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano*, year XXXI, nr. 1, May 20, 2000, pag. 9, Cardinal Sodano goes on to say: "This vision of Fatima is directed mainly to the struggle of atheistic systems against the Church and Christians in general and describes the tremendous suffering of the witnesses of the faith in the last century of the second millennium. It is an unending Way of the Cross, led by the Popes of the XX Century".

Next, we reproduce the text of the Third Part of the Secret as written by Sister Lucia on January 3, 1944, as it is patent in documents published by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, edition of the year 2000 of the *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*:

"J.M.J.

The third part of the secret revealed at the Cova da Iria-Fatima, on 13 July 1917.

I write in obedience to you, my God, who command me to do so through his Excellency the Bishop of Leiria and through your Most Holy Mother and mine.

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 and 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, 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 itsprinkled the souls that were making their way to God.

Tuy, 3-1-1944”.

8. THE SHRINE

Located in Cova da Iria, consists of:

- Prayer Area
- Little Chapel of Apparitions
- Basilica
- Colonnades
- Houses of Retreat of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and of Our Lady of Sorrows
- Most Holy Trinity Church Complex

8.1 PRAYER AREA

Although not covered, the Prayer Area is like a large church which receives millions of pilgrims from the four corners of the world to praise the Lord and His Mother.

As church, it has a Cross, an Altar, Stations of the Cross and statues of Saints.

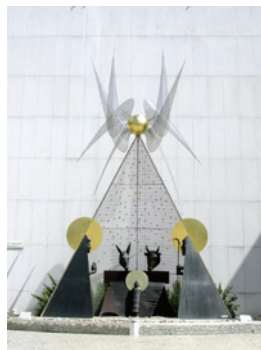
Behind the Little Chapel and next to the House of Our Lady of Sorrows, one can find the Information Booth/Greeting Station, which can be accessed to through the Prayer Area.



BERLIN WALL. On August 13, 1994, there was inaugurated, next to the Southern Entrance to the Prayer Area, the Monument to the Berlin Wall. It is a piece of the wall which began being built in that German city on the night of 12/13 of August 1961 and would be demolished in November 1989. This piece weighs 2,600 kilograms, is 3.6 meters high and 1.2 meters wide. It was donated to the Shrine by a Portuguese person residing in Germany.

MONUMENTS TO CANON FORMIGÃO AND TO FR. FISCHER. On October 13, 1998, there was inaugurated, at the Southern entrance to the Shrine, next to the Monument to the Berlin Wall, a memory-monument to Canon Manuel Nunes Formigão and Fr. Luís Fischer, two eminent priests, who were pioneers in the historiography of the Apparitions of Fatima and in the spreading of their message, one in Portugal, the other in Germany. The monument's author was Graça Costa Cabral and it is made up of seven pearl-green granite panels.

NATIVITY SCENE. On the morning of December 25, 1999, there was inaugurated, in the Prayer Area of the Shrine, a Nativity Scene by José Aurélio, of Alcobaça. It is shaped as a triangle (allusive to the Most Holy Trinity) and the figures are the traditional ones in any nativity scene. It is 5 meters high and 5 meters wide and it is made up of perforated stainless steel plate.



LARGE “AZINHEIRA” (Holm-oak). It is more than one hundred years old and already in 1917 was the largest “azinheira” in Cova da Iria. Our Lady didn't appear over it, but, due to its link to the Apparitions, it is the only one that remains at that place. It was just when they were passing near the Large “Azinheira” – as Lucia tells it – that the Little Shepherds saw the second lightning bolt, herald of the May 13 Apparition.

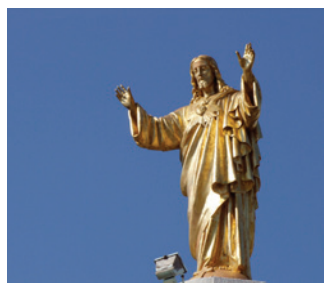
In the following months it was under the shade of the Large “Azinheira” that the three Little Shepherds would pray the Rosary with the people accompanying them, as preparation for the visit and message of the Lady.

The Department of Forest Resources of Portugal classified it, on January 2, 2007, as a tree of *public interest*.

FOUNTAINS. Immediately after the Apparitions, there arose a need to find water in Cova da Iria for the pilgrims who started coming here in large numbers.

There were no wells, only cisterns in the surrounding area. Some drilling equipment was brought in to drill for water and on November 9, 1921, water was found at about 40 meters from the Little Chapel.

The original fountain had 15 faucets, but was buried when the Prayer Area was formed, retaining today only the upper part with four faucets and the column supporting the Statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



MONUMENT TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS. The Statue is made up of gilt bronze. Its author is unknown. It was donated by a pilgrim and blessed by Msgr. Giovanni Beda Cardinale, Apostolic Nuncio in Portugal, on May 13, 1932.

Its location at the center of the Prayer Area points to the centrality of Jesus Christ in the Message of Fatima, which is clear since the apparitions of the Angel.

8.2 LITTLE CHAPEL OF APPARITIONS

The Little Chapel of Apparitions is the heart of the Shrine. That was the site chosen by God to reveal, through Our Lady, His Message to the men of our time. There it was that Our Lady spoke to the Little Shepherds.

There was the site of five apparitions of Our Lady (May 13, June 13, July 13, September 13 and October 13).



It was built at the site of the apparitions in 1919, from April 28 thru June 15, and afterwards blessed.

On October 13, 1921, Mass was celebrated there for the first time.

During the night of March 5/6, 1922, it was blown up with dynamite. It was rebuilt and

inaugurated again on January 13, 1923.

The construction of the first cover was done from December 13, 1922 thru October 13, 1924.

The panels covered with ex-votos that covered the walls of the Little Chapel were removed in 1964.

Although it suffered, from time to time, small alterations, it retains the original features. The current cover was inaugurated at the time of the visit of Pope John Paul II on May 12/13, 1982.

In 1988, the Marian Year, the ceiling was lined with pinewood from Northern Siberia, Russia. This wood was chosen for its characteristic lightness and durability.

The pedestal, on top of which sits the Statue of Our Lady, marks the site where the little “azinheira”, over which Our Lady appeared, was. It was about one meter high. The first pilgrims picked it, branch by branch, until it disappeared.

The construction of the Little Chapel was in response to the request of Our Lady: *“I want you to build Me a Chapel here”*.

Next to the Little Chapel there are places for the delivery of promises and donations by pilgrims (candles, ex-votos, flowers, etc.), as well as the *self-service* of candles and the candle burning apparatus.

STATUE OF OUR LADY

The statue which is venerated in the Little Chapel was donated in 1920 by Gilberto Fernandes dos Santos, from Torres Novas. It was blessed in the Parish Church of Fatima on May 13, 1920, by the pastor, Fr. Manuel Bento Moreira and placed in the Little Chapel on June 13 of



that year. On May 13, 1946, it was solemnly crowned by the Pontifical Legate, Cardinal Masella.

The precious crown, worn by the statue only on days of great pilgrimages, was donated by the women of Portugal on October 13, 1942. It is made of gold, weighs 1,200 grams and has 313 pearls and 2679 precious stones. It is unique and of great artistic and monetary value. It was made, without charge, by the *Joalharía* (Jewelry shop) *Leitão & Irmão*, of Lisbon, and 12 artists worked on it for three months..

In 1989, the bullet extracted from the body of Holy Father John Paul II, after the attempt on his life in Rome, on May 13, 1981, and by him donated to the Shrine, on March 25, 1984, was enchased in it. The statue is the work of Sculptor José Ferreira Thedim, a maker of statues of Saints. It is made of cedar wood from Brazil and it is 1.04 meters high. It was restored by its author in 1951 and retouched several times after that.

TRIPS MADE BY THE STATUE OF THE LITTLE CHAPEL. This statue has left the Little Chapel of Apparitions only on occasions considered very special:

First – April 7 thru 13, 1942, to attend the conclusion of the II Congress of Catholic Young Women, at the Church of Our Lady of Fatima, in Lisbon.

Second – November 22 thru December 24, 1946, when it peregrinated through Estremadura and Ribatejo, on the 300th anniversary of the proclamation of the Immaculate Conception as Patroness of Portugal.

Third – October 1947 thru January 1948, the statue peregrinated through Alentejo and Algarve and crossed the border with Spain twice, at Elvas and at Vila Real de Santo António.

Fourth – May 22 thru June 2, 1948, during the Diocesan Marian Congress of Madrid, Spain.

Fifth – June 9 thru August 13, 1951, when it visited all the parishes

of the Diocese of Leiria.

Sixth – May 13 thru 17, 1959, for the inauguration of the Monument to Christ-King, on May 17, when it also visited Lisbon and Almada.

Seventh – In 1984, at the request of John Paul II, it traveled to the Vatican, where, in St. Peter's Square, on March 24, the Pope consecrated the World (and Russia) to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was also on this day that the Holy Father donated to Our Lady of Fatima the bullet that pierced him in the attempt on his life on May 13, 1981.

Eighth – October 6 thru 9, 2000, it traveled to the Vatican for the Jubilee of the Bishops. On day 8, in union with all the Bishops, the Holy Father consecrated the new millennium to Our Lady: *“O Mother, You Who knows the sufferings and hopes of the Church and of the World, deign to assist Your children during the daily probations that life reserves for each one and ensure that, thanks to the effort of everyone, darkness may not prevail over the light. To You, Dawn of Salvation, we entrust our way during the new Millennium, so that, under Your guidance, all men may discover Christ, Light of the World and Only Savior, Who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen!”* (Consecration text, nr. 5)

Ninth – December 12, 2005, during the New Evangelization Congress, it traveled to Lisbon, when this city was consecrated to Our Lady of Fatima before a crowd of approximately 500,000 people.

Tenth – May 16/17, 2009, on the 50th anniversary of the Monument to Christ-King, it traveled to Lisbon and Almada.

ORGAN OF THE LITTLE CHAPEL. It was made by organ maker Gerhard Grenzing, of Bracelona, Spain. It has 12 registers and 2 manual keyboards and pedal gear. Used, almost exclusively, to accompany celebrations, it permits, thanks to its especially looked after tones, the interpretation of works of sacred music during liturgy. It was inaugurated during the Anniversary Pilgrimage of May 12/13, 2001.

8.3 BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Like the Little Chapel of Apparitions, the Basilica was built to satisfy the express request of Our Lady: *“I want you to build Me here a chapel in My honor, for I am the Lady of the Rosary...”* (October 13, 1917).

It was built on the site where, on May 13, 1917, the three Little Shepherds were playing, *“building a little wall”*, when, all of a sudden, they



saw lightning and got frightened to the point of gathering the flock to return home.

The **blue print** for the project was conceived by Dutch Architect Gerardus Samuel van Krieken and finished by Architect João Antunes.

On May 13, 1928, the first stone was blessed by Archbishop of Évora, Most Rev. Manuel Mendes da Conceição Santos. The dedication was celebrated on October 7, 1953

The title of *Basilica* was granted by Pius II, through the Brief "*Luce Superna*" of November 11, 1954.

The **building**, 70.5 meters long and 37 meters wide, was constructed only of local stone (from the hamlet of Moimento) and the altars are made of marble from Estremoz, Pero Pinheiro and Fatima. It has capacity to accommodate about 650 people seated.

The **bell tower**, erected at the center of the façade, is 65 meters high and topped with a 7.000kg bronze crown, made at the Foundry of Bolhão, Porto, over which was placed a luminous Cross, which is seen, at night, from far way. It was gilded in August 1999 by Waldemar Karwowski, Polish-American artist, who donated labor and material. The Cross itself was replaced that year.

The **carrillion** (set of bells) consists of 62 bells, cast and hardened in Fatima by José Gonçalves Coutinho, of Braga. The largest bell weighs 3,000kg and the clapper 90kg.

The **clock** was made by Bento Rodrigues, of Braga.

The **monogram** – NSRF (Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima) – engraved on the front side of the tower is in mosaic and made in the shops of the Vatican.

The **Angels in the façade** in marble were made by Albano França.

The **Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary**, in the niche of the tower, is 4.73 meters high and weighs 13,000kg. It was made by American

Sculptor Father Thomas McGlynn, a Dominican, who sculpted it in Italy for more than 2 years, following the model made under the guidance of Sister Lucia. It was donated by American Catholics and blessed, on May 13, 1958, by Bishop João Pereira Venâncio.

At the entrance of the Basilica, above the main door, there is a **mosaic** that represents the coronation of Our Lady by the Most Holy Trinity. It was made at the shops of the Vatican and blessed right there by then Secretary of State His Eminence Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli, who was to become Pope Pius XII.

INTERIOR OF THE BASILICA

The temple consists of a large nave with sanctuary, transept, side chapels and two sacristies, one of which has been converted into a place of worship and called Chapel of St. Joseph.

The **side altars are 14**. Each one represents a mystery of the Rosary, through bas-reliefs in bronze by Martinho de Brito and gilded by Alberto Barbosa. The 15th mystery is represented in stone, in the vault of the sanctuary, where one can see the Most Holy Trinity crowning the Most Holy Virgin; it is a high-relief by Maximiano Alves and Stella Albuquerque. It weighs 65,000kg.

The **stain-glass windows** of the side chapels, representing invocations of the Litany of Our Lady, and those of the galleries in the upper part of the nave and the transept, are by João de Sousa Araújo. They were made in the workshops of J. Alves Mendes, Lisbon, and were inaugurated in 1967. All the **paintings** in the interior of the Basilica are by the same artist.

Stain-glass windows on the right side: Mirror of Justice, Queen of Peace, Consolation of the Afflicted, Mystic Rose, Morning Star.

Stain-glass windows on the left side: Virgin Most Prudent, Gate of Heaven, Refuge of Sinners, Ark of the Covenant, Cause of Our Joy.

The **stain-glass windows in the galleries** represent: **On the right:** Nativity of Our Lady, the Visitation, the Annunciation, the Betrothal of the Virgin, the Presentation in the Temple. **On the left:** the Finding of Jesus in temple, the Wedding at Cana, Our Lady at the Foot of the Cross, Our Lady with Jesus in Her arms, the Assumption.

The **stain-glass windows on the upper part of the nave:** **On the right:** St. Gabriel, Scenes from the life of the Little Shepherds, the three

Apparitions of the Angel, the Chalice and Host. **On the left:** Our Lord blessing the World and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The **arch with cross** holds all around a mosaic made in the workshops of the Vatican, where one can read “REGINA SACRATISSIMI ROSARII FATIMAE ORA PRO NOBIS”. It was donated by Singapura Catholics and recalls the dedication of the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary, name She gave to Herself on October 13, 1917.

The door on the right side gives access to the sacristy; the one on the left, which used to give access to the Chapel of St. Joseph, is blocked by a pipe organ made by organ maker Gerhard Grenzing, of Barcelona, Spain. Next to the first door, one can see, on the side pilaster, a panel commemorative of the crowning of the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima (of the Little Chapel) on May 13, 1946; next to the second door, and also on the side pilaster, there is another panel commemorative of the closure of the Holy Year in 1951.

On April 10, 1998, **Stations of the Cross** were placed on the side walls; it is a set of 15 panels of mosaic, by Fred Pittino, donated by an Italian pilgrim. The design in the XV station is by José Teia.

SANCTUARY

In 1995 the sanctuary was remodeled by Architect Erich Corsépius. At the center there is a large stone altar, where the silver frontal piece of the primitive altar, considered a work of art, was moved to. It was designed by sculptor Martinho de Brito and made in Ourivesaria Aliança, Porto. It represents the Last Supper. The lectern, pedestal for Our Lady and the president's chair are made up of the same stone as the altar. The whole set was elevated about 30cm for better visibility by the pilgrims.

The tabernacle and the frontal piece of the altar are made of wrought silver.

On the wall on the left side there is a bronze medallion by Leopoldo de Almeida, showing the effigy of Bishop José Alves Correia da Silva, first Bishop of the restored Diocese of Leiria (1920-1957), whose mortal remains repose there. He died on December 4, 1957.

On the opposite side is the body of Bishop Alberto Cosme do Amaral, former Bishop Leiria-Fatima, who died on October 7, 2005.

The retable picture by painter João de Sousa Araújo represents the Message of Our Lady, Who descends, enveloped in light and peace, to

meet the seers, who had been prepared by the Angel by encountering Christ in the Eucharist. In this meeting the Church is present in the person of the Bishop of the Diocese, kneeling on the left side. On the upper right corner we see the Popes who received and are part of this Message: Pius XII, who sent a Legate, Cardinal Masella, to crown Our Lady of Fatima, and consecrated the World to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; John XXIII, who visited the Shrine before being Pope; and Paul VI, who, in 1965, donated the Gold Rose to the Shrine and was here in person on May 13, 1967.

On the opposite side, three angels contemplate this Message of the Mother of God to men, which consists of: prayer, penance, reparation and hope.

The stain-glass windows of the sanctuary (1950/51) represent the four Evangelists, the apparition of the Angel, a scene from the life of the Little Shepherds and facets of Cova da Iria on pilgrimage day. They were made by Sociedade Maumejean y Hijos, of Madrid.

PILGRIM STATUE. Made under the guidance of Sister Lucia, the first statue of the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima was donated by the Bishop of Leiria and solemnly crowned by the Archbishop of Évora on May 13, 1947. Since then, the statue has often traveled throughout the world. In May 2000, it was placed at the exhibition *Fátima Luz e Paz* (Fatima Light and Peace). On December 8, 2003, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, it was enthroned in the Basilica, after being placed on a pedestal close to the main altar.

LEFT SIDE CHAPEL. The mortal remains of Blessed Jacinta, who died on February 20, 1920, and those of Sister Lucia, who died on February 13, 2005, lie there. Sister Lucia's mortal remains were first buried at her convent in Coimbra, but later on, on February 19, 2006, translated to the Basilica.

One the altars of this chapel was donated by Catholics of Ireland. The panels above the altars are related to the life of Jacinta and to the Church, namely her vision of the Holy Father. They were done by João de Sousa Araújo.

The statue of Jacinta was done by sculptress Clara Menéres and blessed by Pope John Paul II on May 13, 2000.

RIGHT SIDE CHAPEL. The mortal remains of Blessed Francisco, who died on April 4, 1919, repose there since March 13, 1952.

The panels were done by João de Sousa Araújo. They represent the Bishop of Leiria, declaring worthy of belief the Apparitions of Fatima, and the three Little Shepherds with the rope which they used as an instrument of sacrifice for the conversion of sinners.

One of the altars of this chapel was donated by the City of Luanda, Angola, represented by the city's coat of arms and that of the Bishop of the Diocese.

On May 13, 2000, the Holy Father blessed the statue of Blessed Francisco Marto, which was done by sculptor José Rodrigues.

STATUES. On the right side of the sanctuary there is the statue of St. Dominic de Guzman, the great apostle of the Rosary in the XIII century, done by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva.

On the left side, the statue of St. Anthony Maria Claret, founder of the Missionaries of the Heart of Mary, done by Martinho de Brito.

At the entrance to the Basilica, on the right side, there is the statue of St. John Eudes. This French Saint of the XVII century was a great preacher. He founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (Eudists) and the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity and Refuge. The statue was done by Martinho de Brito.

On the left side, St. Stephen, first King of Hungary, crowned in the year 1000. He consecrated his nation to Our Lady. This statue, done by António do Amaral de Paiva, was donated by Hungarian Catholics and recalls the suffering of that people because of their faith when the country was invaded by the Soviet Union.

CHAPEL OF ST. JOSEPH. There is a statue of St. Joseph in this chapel, by an unknown author, which was, at first, in the former chapel of confessions, demolished in 1946. There is also there a statue of Our Lady of Fatima (1967).

The five stain-glass windows of this chapel, by Eduardi Nery (1993), suggest, by a harmony of colors and geometric figures, the symbolism of the five first digits: 1,2,3,4,5, to represent Unity, Duality, Trinity, Crucifixion and Redemption.

ORGAN. The organ in the choir loft of the Basilica was constructed and installed by the Italian firm Fratelli Ruffatti, of Padua. The construction lasted a year and a half and the installation, in 1952, four months. The separate five bodies of the organ, originally spread out, were gathered together in 1962 and placed on the upper part of the choir loft. Those five bodies – Great Organ, Positive, Recitative, Solo and Eco – are operated by a console with five keyboards and pedal gear.

It has 152 registers and approximately 2,000 pipes of metal (lead and tin) and wood. The largest pipe is made of wood and is 11.5m long; the smallest is made of metal and is 9 millimeters long.

The largest metal pipe is 9.5 meters long and weighs 1,000kg.

The organ has 20 bells and about 20 bellows.

8.4 COLONNADE

The architect was António Lino. The colonnade consists of 200 columns and half columns and has 14 altars. The panels of the Stations of the Cross, in ceramic, were made in *Fábrica* (manufacturing plant) “*Viúva Lamego*”, Lisbon, according to a design of Lino António, in partnership with ceramist Manuel Cargaleiro.

On top of the colonnade, we see 17 statues. Some belong to Saints, whose congregations are present in Fatima, others to Saints who, by their writings and preaching, were apostles of the Devotion to Our Lady.

Facing the Basilica, from left to right, the **13 smallest statues** belong to:

- St. Teresa of Avila, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1970
- St. Francis de Sales, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1968
- St. Marcelino de Chapagnat, by Vasco Pereira da Conceição – 1967
- St. John Baptist de La Salle, by Victor Manuel Maia Godinho Marques – 1964
- St. Alphonse Maria de Liguori, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1960
- St. John Bosco and St. Dominic Savio, by José Manuel Mouta Barradas – 1960
- St. Louis Marie Grignon de Monfort, by Domingos Soares Branco – 1960
- St. Vincent de Paul, by José Fernandes de Sousa Caldas – 1961
- St. Simon Stock, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1962

- St. Ignatius of Loyola, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1967
- St. Paul of the Cross, by Jaime Ferreira dos Santos – 1968
- St. John of the Cross, by Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva – 1970
- St. Beatriz da Silva, by Maria Irene Vilar – 1989

The **4 largest statues** belong to Portuguese Saints. Facing the Basilica, from left to right, they are:

- St John of God, by Álvaro Brée – 1953
- St. John de Brito, by António Duarte da Silva Santos – 1953
- St. Anthony of Lisbon, by Leopoldo Neves de Almeida – 1953
- St. Nuno de Santa Maria (Nuno Álvares Pereira), by Salvador de Eça Barata Feio – 1953

The largest statues are 3.2 meters high, the smallest 2.3 meters.

The **organ of the Prayer Area**, installed in the choir room, to the left of Altar, was constructed by Yves Koenig, Sarre-Union, France. It has 20 registers, spread over 2 manual keyboards and pedal gear. Its makeup allows it to be used in the great celebrations, specially with a choir, such as Sunday Mass, from Easter to the Solemnity of All-Saints, and the Anniversary Pilgrimages. It is also used by the organ class of the School of Music of the Shrine. This organ has wide sound possibilities relatively to the number of movements, allowing for the interpretation of an ample repertoire. It was inaugurated during the Anniversary Pilgrimage of May 12/13, 2001.

PROJECTION ROOM. It is located next to the Northern side exit of the Shrine, under the Colonnade, near the Large “*Azinheira*”. It seats 60 people and it is there that videos on the Message of Fatima are viewed.

8.5 MOST HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Origin of the project. The idea of building a new church in the Shrine first came up in 1973. Already at that time, one noticed that the Basilica had no capacity to receive all the pilgrims, specially on Sundays and other days of medium affluence.

In 1997, the Shrine organized an international contest whose final winner was Greek Architect Alexandros Tombazis, who planned the construction of the new church at the backend of the Prayer Area of the Shrine, next to Pius XII Square.

The placing of the first stone took place on June 6, 2004, Solemnity of

Most Holy Trinity.

Several reasons contributed for choosing the name of *Most Holy Trinity*: the apparitions of the Angel of Peace, with his insistent invitation to adore God, the Most Holy Trinity; the



words of Pope John Paul II uttered in the Little Chapel of Apparitions, in May 1982, when the Holy Father gave thanks to the Most Holy Trinity; and the Jubilee of the Year 2000, also dedicated to the Most Holy Trinity.

Most Holy Trinity Church was dedicated on October 12, 2007, by His Eminence Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone, Secretary of State of the Vatican and Legate of Pope Benedict XVI to the conclusion of the 90th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.

THE BUILDING. Most Holy Trinity Church is circular, with 125m in diameter and without interior supports; its only support comes from two beams of 182.5m in length, with a free span of 80m and a maximum height of 21.15m. The building is 18m high, slightly higher than the Colonnade of the prayer Area. The bell tower of the Basilica remains the dominant landmark of the entire Shrine.

The whole church building is white, both in the beams where the concrete is patent and in the rest, which is covered with local stone, know as “sea white”.

CAPACITY. The church seats 8,633 people, including 76 seats for handicapped people. The interior can be divided into two sectors by means of a moveable wall 2m high. The sanctuary can hold 100 concelebrants.

TECHNICAL FEATURES. A computerized system permits a constant illumination, as well as different levels of light depending on the celebration going on, combining the natural exterior light, the greatest or least opening of the shutters on the roof and the use of artificial light.

The interior upper part (ceiling) is covered by white transparent canvass

made in Germany (*koch* canvass) and the interior walls are acoustically treated. The sanctuary's wall presents a slight inclination; the side walls are covered with a material called *acustoplan*; the wall on the back of the church, of white concrete, has diffusing properties; the interior face of the twelve doors of the Apostles is covered with a perforated wood composite.

A system of ventilation, heating and air conditioning permits to regulate the renewal of air and the temperature. All conduits are installed underneath the floor and end up in vents placed throughout the pavement. On both sides, several rooms reserved to the media permit capitation of images and sounds, as well as the visual accompaniment of the on-going celebrations. All the wood used in the walls and in the approximately 580 interior doors is cherry wood; the assembly's benches are made of beech wood. The altar, the lectern, the president's chairs and the pavement of the sanctuary are made of sea white stone; the rest of the pavement in the interior of the church is covered with beige *ataíja* (a local stone) stone; the pavement in other spaces of the church is covered with bluish *ataíja*. On the south side, a tunnel provides access for the media, security and safety forces, as well as access to services.



EXTERIOR INCONOGRAPHY

ENTRANCE PORTICO. Of steel mesh, the sculpture suspended from both beams, was made manually. Some golden Musician Angels and the sentence *Venite adoremus Dominum* (Come let us adore the Lord) evoke the apparitions of the Angel of Peace and invite us to enter the temple and adore the Most Holy Trinity. Author: Maria Lizidou (Cyprus).

MAIN DOOR. Dedicated to Christ, is made of bronze. It is 8m high with an area of 64m² and is made up of four sheets, each one weighing 3200kg. It gets its inspiration from Gn 1, 1-2: "*In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters*". Author: Pedro Calapez (Portugal)



ROSARY PANELS. You can find them on both sides of the Main Door; they represent the twenty mysteries of the Rosary. On the left are the joyful and the luminous; on the right, the sorrowful and the glorious. Made of bronze by Pedro Calapez.

JOYFUL MYSTERIES. 1st - **The Annunciation:** Angel's head; finger raised as sign of announcement; part of the halo, on the right side, points to Our Lady. 2nd - **The Visitation:** the two figures represent Mary and Elizabeth. 3rd - **The Nativity:** St. Joseph with Mary, Who rocks the Child. The traces on the left side symbolize the grotto. 4th - **The Presentation:** Simeon addresses Our Lady, Who raises, in Her hands, the Child Jesus. 5th - **Jesus amongst the Teachers.** White hand raised, He is speaking. A colonnade at the backend recalls the Temple.

LUMINOUS MYSTERIES. 1st - **Baptism:** Hand of John the Baptist pouring water over Jesus' head. 2nd - **The Wedding at Cana:** the jars recall the transformation of water into wine. 3rd - **The Announcement of the Kingdom:** the hands symbolize preaching. 4th - **Transfiguration:** figure of Jesus suspended, with Moses and Elijah. 5th - **The Institution of the Eucharist:** chalice evokes Last Supper.

SORROWFUL MYSTERIES. 1st - **The Agony:** Jesus kneeling next to a rock and the starry sky. 2nd - **Flagellation:** the suffering Jesus and an instrument of torture by His side. 3rd - **The Crowning with Thorns:** the crown of thorns. 4th - **Way of the Cross:** Jesus carries His Cross. 5th - **Crucifixion and Death:** Jesus' feet and, on the right, one of the thieves.

GLORIOUS MYSTERIES. 1st - **The Resurrection:** Christ rises from the tomb before vanquished soldiers. 2nd - **The Ascension:** Heaven welcomes Jesus while an Apostle raises his hands. 3rd - **Pentecost:** God points His hands towards the Earth; from them comes the Holy Spirit. 4th - **The Assumption:** Our Lady turns Her eyes towards Heaven. 5th - **Coronation:** hand placing the crown on Mary's head.

GLASS PANELS. On both sides of the main door, two glass panels with four biblical quotes are a monument to the Word of God, to the universality of the pilgrims of Fatima and to the Most Holy Trinity. The passages from Scripture were engraved in twenty-six languages: German, Arabic, Korean, Slovak, Spanish, Tagalog, French, Greek, Hebraic, Hindi,

Hungarian, Indonesian, English, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Tamil, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese. Author: Kerry Joe Kelly (Canada)

Texts: *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!* (2 Cor 13, 13). *The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament proclaims His handiwork* (Ps 19, 2). *See that you never despise one of these little ones. I assure you, their angels in heaven constantly behold my heavenly Father's face* (Mt 18, 10). *What is man that you should be mindful of him, or the son of man that you should care for him?* (Ps 8, 5)

SIDE DOORS. Made of bronze, 8m high, they are dedicated to the Twelve Apostles. A biblical text engraved on the upper fanlight identifies the Apostle. The graphics belong to Francisco Providência (Portugal).

Text on doors

Peter: *You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church* (Mt 16, 18).

John: *Jesus said to his Mother: "Woman, there is Your son!" In turn He said to the disciple: "There is your Mother!"* (Jn 19, 26-27)

Philip: *Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us!* (Jn 14, 8)

Matthew: *Jesus said to Matthew: Follow me! Matthew got up and followed Him* (Mt 9, 9).

James the Lesser: *Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation* (Mk 16, 15).

Simon: *Come after Me; I will make you fishers of men* (Mk 1, 17).

Matthias: *In place of Judas, Matthias was added to the Eleven Apostles* (Act 1, 26).

Judas Thaddeus: *Anyone who loves Me will be true to My word* (Jn 14, 23).

Thomas: *You became a believer because you saw Me. Blest are they who have not seen and have believed!* (Jn 20, 29)

Bartholomew: *Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel!* (Jn 1, 49)

Andrew: *Andrew said to Simon: "We have found the Messiah!" And he brought him to Jesus* (Jn 1, 41).

James the Greater: *And immediately they abandoned boat and father to follow Jesus* (Mt 4, 21-22).

INTERIOR ICONOGRAPHY

ALTAR. Made of one piece of local sea white stone, 3.5m long, 1.9m wide and 94cm thick; it weighs 16 tons.

STONE FROM THE TOMB OF ST. PETER. Placed in front of the altar is a piece of marble from the tomb of the Apostle St. Peter, over which the Basilica of the Vatican is built. It bears the following inscription: “*Stone fragment taken from the sepulcher of the Apostle St. Peter and blessed by the Supreme Pontiff on March 9 of the Year of Lord 2004*”. This relic, according to Pope John Paul II, who donated it to the Shrine of Fatima, ought to serve as a stimulus to all those who will come to visit the new temple, a stimulus to cultivate the union with the Church’s supreme authority. It is a sign of communion with the Universal Church and evokes the devotion of the Little Shepherds of Fatima to the Holy Father.

CRUCIFIX. It is made of bronze, is suspended above the altar, is 7.5m high and is superposed on the panel’s Lamb. It represents Christ, Who offered Himself up for us, live, glorious, ready to embrace the whole world. Author: Catherine Greene (Ireland).

STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA. Sculpture of free conception which depicts a young Our Lady, with open arms and showing Her Immaculate Heart and the Rosary. It was sculpted of Carrara white marble and it is 3m high. Author: Benedetto Pietrogrande (Italy).

SANCTUARY’S WALL PANEL. It is a mosaic with an area of approximately 500m² (10m high and 50m wide, which covers the curved back wall of the sanctuary. It is made of terracotta, gilt and molded manually. The gold color symbolizes the holiness and fidelity of God. The three red lines intend to emphasize the gold color and to help in the perception of mystery and holiness. All the dynamism and tension of light and gold in the horizontal and vertical directions intend to provoke, in the heart of who is in the church, a state of soul which welcomes beauty, communion and love.

At the right and at the left of the throne and of the Lamb, is the Heavenly Jerusalem, in which we see a multitude of Angels and Saints. The Lamb is formed by the gold color and by shades of white, because He is the Light. From Him depart waves of light.



The Saints are painted with colored tones, to indicate that they are in the light, receive the light, let themselves be illuminated and penetrated by it, welcome the gift of divine life.

To our left and to the right of the Lamb we find the Mother of God joined by Blesseds Francisco and Jacinta and Sister Lucia, rosary in hand. In the first row are six Apostles and three Archangels and, behind them, a multitude of Saints, with emphasis for the Franciscan group: St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare and St. Pio of Pietrelcina. To our right we find St. John the Baptist, who points to the Son of God as being the Lamb, plus six Apostles and four Archangels. Behind them, another multitude of Angels and Saints, amongst whom are St. Isabel of Portugal and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. The first Archangel to our left is Gabriel at the Annunciation, holding the Word of God; the last one to our right is Michael, the Archangel of the Day of Judgment holding the scale. Mary and John the Baptist, flanking the Lamb, form one of the richest images of sacred iconography known as *Deisis* (Intercession).

From the lower part of the throne springs water "*as clean as crystal*" (Rv 22, 1), the water of divine life, the river of life which is the Holy Spirit, Who assumes and penetrates the entire history, all men, the whole cosmos, and who gives Himself to drink abundantly, in the Church, by means of the Liturgy and of the Sacraments. Since it is in the Liturgy that Christ's Passover comes to life, it is by the Liturgy that the river of live water penetrates us and that we are taken up by the mystery which the Liturgy makes present: the mystery of communion of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

To the right and to the left of the throne and of the group of Saints there are abundant branches of the tree that bears fruit every month and whose leaves serve to heal the nations (Rv 22, 1-2).

The central element of the Apparitions of Fatima is the familiarity with Heaven. Jacinta and Francisco desired it ardently and Lucia was sorry because she couldn't go there right away.

This is also a constant dimension of Christian faith. The Eucharist calls the Church, at all times and in all places, to the Heavenly Jerusalem, where it will sing, without ceasing, the great *Alleluia* before the throne of the Lamb, joined by the Mother of God, the apostles and All Saints.

The assembly of the faithful is convoked to this Church; here they celebrate the Liturgy. At the center is the altar, place of sacrifice and communion; as background, they catch a glimpse of the throne of the Lamb, victor of sin and death, and of the Saints. In this temple the Heavenly Church and the Earthly Church meet face to face. In a sense, this Church places us in the same situation as Francisco, Jacinta and Lucia: from the earth and history they contemplated Heaven, sure that, through the Cross, one goes to the light.

Its author is Fr. Marko Ivan Rupnik (Slovenia) and it was made by a group of artists, from eight nations and four Christian Churches, specialized in liturgical art at the Oriental Institute of Rome.

EUCCHARISTIC RESERVE CHAPEL. Since there are several tabernacles in this complex and foreseeing that this temple would be much visited, there is no tabernacle in it, but only a Eucharistic Reserve Chapel behind the zone of the altar.

“CONVÍVIO DE SANTO AGOSTINHO” (St. Augustine Social Hall). Actually an all-purpose space, located underneath the front yard of Most Holy Trinity Church, speaks the same architectonic language as the whole complex. From there we watch the bodies of water next to the zone of Reconciliation, which help the interior life.

ZONE OF RECONCILIATION. Located underground between Most Holy Trinity Church and the Prayer Area of the Shrine, the access to this zone is made through two stairways and two ramps which end up in a long corridor 150m long, called Galilee of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul.

The walls are covered with *azulejos* (glazed painted tiles) by Álvaro

Siza Vieira (Portugal), showing representations of episodes in the lives of St. Peter and St. Paul.

Description of the panels. In the **North half** of the Galilee, we see an illustration on stone showing St. Paul holding the book of the Word of God. Then the following scenes: 1. Denunciation of Christians; 2. persecuted Christians; 3. Fall; 4. Who are You, Lord? 5. Healed from blindness; 6. Baptism; 7. Paul meeting Peter; 8. Christians praying; 9. Apostolic trips; 10. Martyrdom.

In the **South Half**, we see an illustration on stone showing Peter holding the keys. The following scenes: 1. Miraculous fishing; 2. You are Peter; 3. Transfiguration; 4. Foot washing; 5. Negation and repentance; 6. Peter weeping; 7. Crucifixion.

CHAPELS. Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with 16 confessionals. Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, with 12 confessionals. Chapel of the Death of Jesus, with 600 seats. Chapel of the Resurrection, with 200 seats and 16 confessionals. Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, reserved for Perpetual Adoration, with 200 seats; the monstrance, made of silver, was designed by sculptor Zulmiro de Carvalho and dates back to 1986.

BODIES OF WATER. The first, on St. Peter's side, alludes to the first creation, the creation of life, inspired in the beginning of the Book of Genesis. An inscription invites us to praise God: *Fountains, bless the Lord!* (Dn 3, 77). The second, on St. Paul's side, alludes to the second creation, Baptism, as a participation in the new life of Christ. An inscription sets the connection with the last command of the Lord: *Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit* (Mt 28, 19).



VIA LUCIS (WAY OF LIGHT). The fourteen stations were conceived by Vanni Rinaldi, Italian artist, born in Soverato, Italy. It was inaugurated

on June 2, 2008, and it is located at the entrance hall for the Chapels of the Death of Jesus and of the Blessed Sacrament.

8.6 JOHN PAUL II SQUARE

STATUE OF POPE JOHN PAUL II. Located Northeast of Most Holy Trinity Church, it was conceived by Czeslaw Dzwigaj (Poland), made of bronze and is 3.5m high. On May 13, 1982, John Paul II, addressing God as Most Holy Trinity, gave Him thanks for His love for us. From the text of his prayer the following words were taken for the inscription on the base of the statue: *“To the Most Holy Trinity goes this adoring thought of mine, uttered in this blessed town of Fatima: Blessed be God, rich in mercy, for the great love with which He has loved us!”*.



STATUE OF POPE PAUL VI. Located Northwest of Most Holy Trinity Church, it represents the Pope kneeling and evokes his pilgrimage to Fatima in 1967. It was conceived by Joaquim Correia (Portugal) and it was inaugurated in May 1968.

8.7 PIUS XII SQUARE

STATUE OF POPE PIUS XII. Located Southwest of Most Holy Trinity Church, it is made of white marble and it was conceived by Domingos Soares Branco (Portugal). It was blessed and inaugurated on October 12, 1961. Pius XII often addressed the pilgrims of Fatima.

STATUE OF BISHOP JOSÉ ALVES CORREIA DA SILVA. He was the first Bishop of the restored Diocese of Leiria. Located Southeast of Most Holy Trinity Church, it was conceived by Joaquim Correia (Portugal) and it was inaugurated on February 2, 1973. Bishop José declared worthy of belief the Apparitions of Fatima and allowed the cult of Our Lady of Fatima on October 13, 1930.



TALL CROSS. It is 34m high and 17m wide (at the arms), is made of corten steel and was conceived by Robert Schad (Germany).

8.8 PAUL VI PASTORAL CENTER

Located across *Avenida D. José Alves Correia da Silva*, Paul VI Pastoral Center is thus called in homage to the Pope who came as pilgrim of Fatima on May 13, 1967. The inaugural stone was blessed on May 13, 1979, by His Eminence Franjo Cardinal Seper, then Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for

the Doctrine of the Faith, and the Center inaugurated by Pope John Paul II on May 13, 1982.

It has four levels and a area 14,000m²; the project was conceived by Architect José Carlos Loureiro, from Porto. It has a large amphitheater which seats 2,124 people, rooms for meetings, chapel, dormitory and self-service cafeteria.

The Center was enriched with several works of art:

In the corner of the entrance hall is the “*Little Shepherdess*”, in bronze, conceived by sculptor José Rodrigues.

In the amphitheater is a sculpture of the “*Risen Christ*”, by Lagoa Henriques. It is made of bronze and is 4m high.

In the corridor of access to Good Shepherd Hall (*Salão do Bom Pastor*), there is a statue of Our Lady “*Mother of the Good Shepherd*”, in marble of Estremoz (Portugal), by sculptress Graça Costa Cabral.

Sculptress Maria Irene Vilar is the author of the “*Crucified Christ*”, in wood, found in Good Shepherd Hall.

Painter Júlio Resende designed, for the Chapel, a stain-glass window representing the Good Shepherd.



On the lawn in front of the building was placed a statue of Our Lady, by sculptor Domingos Soares Branco.

8.9 HOUSES OF RETREAT “OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL” AND “OUR LADY OF SORROWS”

North and South of the Prayer Area are located two buildings called, respectively, House of Our Lady of Sorrows and House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, designed to lodge people in retreat or having meetings.

In the House of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, inaugurated by His Eminence António Cardinal Ribeiro on May 13, 1986, with entrance through the Shrine, are lodged the following offices or departments (known by their Portuguese acronyms): Rectory; Administration Office (SEAD); Pilgrim Service Department (SEPE); Lodging Department (SEAL); Department of Research and Information (SESDI); Department of Liturgical Pastoral Ministry (SEPALI); and the permanent exhibition of the Museum of Fatima titled *Fatima Luz e Paz* (Fatima light and Peace), where you find articles donated in thanksgiving to Our Lady for graces received. The precious Crown, in which is encrusted the bullet used in the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II, is exhibited here.

In the entrance hall, you can admire a statue of Our Lady, dating back to 1931, the work of sculptor António Teixeira Lopes, which was donated to the Shrine in 1932.

9. RELATED PLACES

Related to the Shrine are sites and places around or near the trail used by the Seers when they walked from their hamlet, Aljustrel, to Cova da Iria. Those places complement any visit to the Shrine proper.

9.1 HOME OF FRANCISCO AND JACINTA.

It was here that were born Francisco and Jacinta, the younger children of the Marto family.

In the room at the left, as you enter the home, Francisco died after a painful illness lasting more than three months. Both Francisco and Jacinta were visited here by Our Lady.

The home was purchased by the Shrine on November 9, 1996, and then rebuilt.

9.2 HOME OF LUCIA

In this house was born and lived for 14 years Lucia de Jesus, the youngest of six children, and it was in there that the first *historic* interrogatories of the seers took place.

In the backyard you still can see the fig trees under whose shade the three cousins played and where they hid when sought by pilgrims or curious people.

On November 17, 1981, Sister Lucia donated the home to the Shrine, but the Shrine only took possession of it in 1986.

The house's yard was spruced up and on part of it was built a new greeting and information post, which was inaugurated on August 13, 1994.

9.3 HOUSE-MUSEUM OF ALJUSTREL.

Next to Lucia's home is located the House-Museum of Aljustrel, once owned by Maria Rosa, godmother of Baptism of this seer. It was a center of regional ethnography when it was acquired by the Shrine, which reformed it and inaugurated it on August 19, 1992. Its purpose is to show the way of life at the time of the Apparitions.

9.4 WELL OF ARNEIRO.

It was made famous due to the second Apparition of the Angel of Portugal, in the Summer of 1916. It was there that Jacinta had the vision of the Holy Father weeping and praying on his knees in a large house.

The statue of the Angel of Portugal and those of the three seers, seen there, are the work of sculptress Maria Irene Vilar and were inaugurated, respectively, in 1986 and in 1992.

9.5 VALINHOS.

Between the VIII and the IX Stations of the Cross is located the site where, on August 19, 1917, Our Lady appeared to the Little Shepherds for the 4th time (4th apparition). The existing monument was built with donations by Hungarian Catholics and inaugurated on August 12, 1996. The statue is the work of sculptress Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva and the niche belongs to Architect António Lino.

9.6 LOCA DO CABEÇO (HILLTOP GROTTO), A.K.A. LOCA DO ANJO (ANGEL'S GROTTO).

According to Sister Lucia, the first and the third apparitions of the Angel took place here. It was here that the Angel gave them Holy Communion and taught them the following prayers:

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You. I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You.

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly and offer You the Most Precious Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the Tabernacles of the Earth, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended, and, through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners.

The statues of the Angel and of the three Little Shepherds are the work of Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva. They were inaugurated on August 12, 1958. The wrought iron rail is the work of Domingos Soares Branco.

9.7 STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND CALVARY.

Beginning at the “*Rotunda de Santa Teresa de Ourém*” (South Rotunda) and following the trail usually traveled by the seers, the Stations of the Cross end at the Chapel of St. Stephen (Hungarian Calvary).



The 14 Stations and the Chapel, donated by Hungarian Catholics exiled in the West, were conceived by Hungarian Father Elias and planned by Hungarian Architect Ladislaw Marec.

The first stone of the Stations of the Cross was blessed on June 21, 1959, and the first stone of the Chapel on August 11, 1962.

Both the Stations of the Cross and the Chapel and St. Stephen were blessed on May 12, 1964.

The XV Station, blessed and inaugurated on October 13, 1992, was donated by the Hungarian Parish of Lajosmizse, which was represented, at the inauguration, by its pastor, Fr. Asztalos József, and a group of parishioners. There were present also two Hungarian Bishops and the Ambassador of that country in Portugal. This donation was made as a gesture of gratitude for the resurrection of Hungary.

The panels of the Stations, in bas-relief, and the statue of Our Lady Patroness of Hungary, which is in the Chapel, are the work of Maria Amélia Carvalheira da Silva, and the figures in the Calvary belong to Sculptor Domingos Soares Branco.

The 11 stain-glass windows of the Chapel, by Hungarian Painter Peter Prokop, represent Hungarian Saints.

Two large mosaics on the ceiling of the Chapel (1994), represent, respectively, the apparition of Our Lady to the three Little Shepherds (surrounded by the seven colors of



the rainbow) and the delivery of the Crown of Hungary, by King St. Stephen, to Our Lady (surrounded by the seven joys).

These mosaics, also by Peter Prokop, were made in Rome with little pieces of marble from all over the world.

9.8 PARISH CHURCH.

It is located one kilometer from Aljustrel, to the East, and two kilometers from the Shrine.

After entering the church, to the left of the main entrance door, there is the Baptismal Font where the three Little Shepherds were baptized.

It was here that Lucia made her First Communion, that Francisco spent long hours in prayer and Jacinta had an apparition of Our Lady, Who taught how to meditate the mysteries of the Rosary. At the last altar, to the right, there is the statue of Our Lady of the Rosary that Lucia mentions in her Memoirs, when she talks about her First Communion.



Outside there is a statue of Our Lady, as well as the statues of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta, conceived by Jaime Santos and sculpted by Manuel Machado. These two statues (of Francisco and Jacinta) were blessed by Fr. António Lopes de Sousa, a Chaplain of the Shrine, on May 21, 2000.

9.9 PARISH RESIDENCE.

To the right of the church's yard, there is the parish house, where Fr. Manuel Marques Ferreira, pastor at the time of the Apparitions, lived and where the Little Shepherds were often interrogated.

9.10 PARISH CEMETERY.

Entering through the old gate, immediately to the right there is marked the place where Francisco and Jacinta were buried until the time their mortal remains were translated to the Basilica of the Shrine.

Next to that place are buried their parents, Olímpia de Jesus and

Manuel Pedro Marto. Lucia's Mother, Maria Rosa, is buried next to the wall on the right.

10. OTHER MONUMENTS

MONUMENT TO THE PILGRIM. It is located at the *Rotunda de Nossa Senhora da Encarnação* (North Rotunda) and was blessed by Bishop Serafim de Sousa Ferreira e Silva on October 27, 1990. It was an initiative of the Rotary Club of Fatima in “*homage to the anonymous pilgrim who came, believed and spread the name of Fatima*”.

MONUMENT TO THE LITTLE SHEPHERDS. It is located at the *Rotunda de Santa Teresa de Ourém* (South Rotunda) and it is the joint work of Fernando Marques and Francisco Marques, father and son, the former being the author of the sculpture, the latter the architect of the project.

The Little Shepherds are represented walking on a sinuous base, associated to the trail and in the direction traveled from their homes, symbolizing not only their physical trajectory to the place of pasture and, consequently, towards the site of the Apparitions, but also their spiritual journey towards immortality in perpetual ascension. The vertical element, at the top, symbolizes the trajectory between Earth and Heaven, with the eyes fixed on High.

The statues are of stone and the vertical element is made of stainless steel.

The body of water, on one of the sides, has to do with the fact that, way back, there existed the *Lagoa da Carreira* (Carreira's Lagoon).

The Monument, initiative of the Cultural Association of Fatima, was inaugurated on June 10, 1997, by Bishop Serafim de Sousa Ferreira da Silva, who also blessed it.

MONUMENT TO THE ANGEL OF PORTUGAL. It is located at the top of the *Rua do Anjo de Portugal* (Angel of Portugal Street) and gives the name to the Rotunda at the center of which is located. It is the work of Sculptor João de Sousa Araújo.

The sculpture is made of bronze, it sits on a base of local stone and the surrounding space is landscaped with stones and vegetation typical of *Serra de Aire* (local mountain range).

It was an initiative of the Cultural Association of Fatima, to commemorate the 80 years of the Apparitions of the Angel to the Little Shepherds.

It was inaugurated on September 29, 1996, day of the Liturgical Feast of Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.

11. PEOPLE LINKED TO FATIMA AND ITS MESSAGE

BISHOP JOSÉ ALVES CORREIA DA SILVA. He was the first Bishop of the restored Diocese of Leiria; he visited Cova da Iria, for the first time, on September 14, 1921.

He wrote the first document on the Apparitions, on May 3, 1922, naming a Committee for the Canonical Process; on June 26, 1927, he presided, for the first time, over an official celebration in Cova da Iria.

On October 13, 1930, he published his Pastoral Letter “*Divine Providence*”, in which he declared the visions of the children worthy of belief and officially allowed the cult of Our Lady of Fatima.

ANGELO CARDINAL RONCALLI. Soon to become Pope John XXIII, he visited Fatima, while still Cardinal of Venice, on May 13, 1956.

POPE PAUL VI. He visited Fatima as pilgrim, on May 13, 1967, during the 50th Anniversary of the Apparitions.

ALBINO CARDINAL LUCIANI. Soon to become Pope John Paul I, he visited Fatima, while still Cardinal of Venice, on July 10, 1977.

POPE JOHN PAUL II. He came to Fatima as pilgrim, on May 12/13, 1982, to thank Our Lady for having saved his life during the attempt on his life on May 13, 1981, in St. Peter’s Square. He returned to Fatima two more times: on May 13, 1991 and May 13, 2000.

MARIA CARREIRA. Better known as *Maria da Capelinha* (Maria of the Little Chapel), she was the first “*server of Our Lady*”. She died on March 21, 1949.

JOÃO CARREIRA. “*João da Capelinha*” was a son of Maria Carreira. He was the first sacristan of the Little Chapel. He lived his last years at the

Shrine, where he died on April 6, 1975. Our Lady mentioned him in one of Her Apparitions.

ANTÓNIO DOS SANTOS – LUCIA’S FATHER. He was born on January 3, 1868, and died on July 31, 1919.

MARIA ROSA – LUCIA’S MOTHER. She was born on July 6, 1869, and died on July 16, 1942.

OLÍMPIA DE JESUS – MOTHER OF JACINTA AND FRANCISCO. She was born on May 31, 1869, and died on April 13, 1956.

MANUEL PEDRO MARTO – FATHER OF JACINTA AND FRANCISCO. Known as “*Ti Marto*” (Uncle Marto), he was born on July 30, 1873, and died on February 3, 1957.

MARIA DOS ANJOS – LUCIA’S SISTER. She was born in Aljustrel on August 13, 1891, and died on August 26, 1986. She was well known because of her knowledge of the events of 1917. Pilgrims enjoyed talking to her about the little details of those events and of the lives of the Little Shepherds. She was the oldest sister of Lucia.