

Apparitions of the Blessed Mother.

Throughout history the Virgin Mary has appeared to people after she was taken up to Heaven. Many times this is to warn people to turn back to God, to pray more, to love God and others. Here are some of the places the Blessed Mother has appeared.

1531 - Guadalupe, Mexico



The Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego a recent convert to the Catholic faith. She asked for a chapel to be built on the hill where she appeared. The Bishop asked Juan for proof the blessed Mother appeared to him. The Blessed Mother (in winter, December 9, arranged beautiful and colorful roses in Juan's cactus fiber poncho and sent him to the Bishop. When Juan opened his poncho, the roses fell to the floor and painted on his poncho (tilma) was a beautiful picture of the Blessed mother, the poncho which should have fallen apart centuries ago, still hangs in the Basilica in Mexico City. Many miraculous things are associated with this image that was painted by God himself.

1830 - Paris, France

Our Lady appeared to Catherine Laboure, a nun in Paris. She asked for a medal to be made called the 'Miraculous Medal'. Many miracles have been associated with wearing this medal. You can find one at any Catholic store. Catherine led a very holy life and was declared a Saint by the Catholic Church. When someone is declared a saint, they take their coffin and open it and move their remains to another place usually, like a church or somewhere special. In extremely rare cases, when they open the coffin, they find the body of the person never decomposed. That is the case with St Cathine Laboure. Her body can be seen in a glass case in the convent where she died in Paris, France. This is a picture of her body. And on the right is a miraculous medal (front and back). Get one and get it blessed by a priest.



1858 - Lourdes, France

In 1858 the Blessed Mother appeared 18 times to a young girl Bernadette Soubirous in a small village Lourdes France. She declared herself the 'Immaculate Conception' which means that Mary was not born with original sin on her soul like the rest of us. Like Juan Diego, the Bishop wanted a sign. Our Lady asked Bernadette to dig around on the ground. Water sprung up and no one really knew the significance of it, but after Bernadette left that day, a man with a mangled hand put his hand in the water and was instantly cured. Through the last 150 years, many people have been healed with the water from the grotto there. Today a statue stands in the place where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette. Like St Catherine Laboure, Bernadette led a very holy humble life as a nun and was declared a saint by the Catholic Church. When they opened her coffin, they found her incorrupt as well. You can go see her body in a glass case in Nevers, France.



1879 - Knock, Ireland

One night in 1879 in a small village of Knock Ireland, 18 people saw an apparition that never spoke but indicated the book of Revelation, the book of the Apocalypse behind the parish church. This is what they saw:



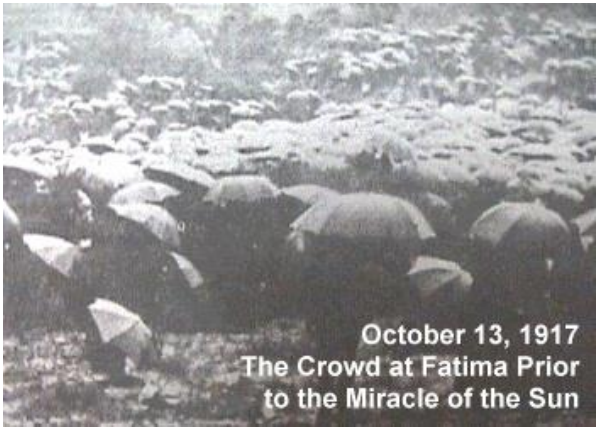
1917 - Fatima, Portugal

In 1917 the Blessed Mother appeared to 3 shepherd children in Fatima. She appeared to them on the 13th of each month from May through October. Our lady said **'Recite the rosary every day to obtain the peace for the world'**. On July 13 She showed them Hell and said **'You have seen Hell, where the souls of poor sinners go. To save future souls God**

wishes to establish in the world the devotion to My Immaculate Heart. If people do what I tell you, many souls will be saved." Then She said: " If my requests are granted, Russia will be converted and there will be peace. If not, she will scatter her errors throughout the world, provoking wars and persecution of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will have much to suffer, and various nations will be destroyed...But in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. When you recite the Rosary, say at the end of each decade: Oh My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy." Pray, pray a lot and offer sacrifices for the sinners. You know that many souls go the hell because there is none who pray for them."



The three children (Lucia - who became a nun and just died 10 years ago, and her two cousins, Francisco and his sister Jacinta, who died just a few years after the apparition.)



Our Lady promised a great miracle on October 13, her last visit. On that day, the crowd was huge, 70,000 people. It had rained so heavy and people were drenched, their clothes even muddy from walking up to Fatima from so far away. This is a photo of just before the apparition:



During the apparition, the sun began spinning and appeared to fall from the sky toward the people. It then went back up to the sky and the people were instantly clean and dry. This shows the people looking at the sky.

On December 10, 1925, Sr Lucy received an apparition by the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary in her convent cell. The Holy Virgin shown her a Heart surrounded by thorns, Our Lady said to her:

"See, My daughter, My heart surrounded by thorns which ungrateful men pierce at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude... Say to all those who:

- *for five months, on the first Saturday, confess,*
- *receive Holy Communion,*
- *recite the Rosary*
- *and keep Me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, in a spirit of reparation,*

I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls."

1973 - Akita, Japan



In 1973 a brilliant light appeared in the tabernacle in the convent where Sr Sasagawa was a nun in Akita Japan. Our Lady spoke to her several times. The statue of Our Lady in the chapel began weeping. It wept 101 times. Our Lady told the nun that people needed to change. She asked for people to pray and give themselves to God. Our Lady said: **If men do not repent and better themselves, the Father will inflict a terrible punishment on all humanity. It will be a punishment greater than the flood, such as one will never have seen before. Fire will fall from the sky and wipe out a great part of humanity. The survivors will find themselves so desolate that they will envy the dead. Each day recite the Rosary. Pray for the Pope, Bishops, and Priests. One will see cardinals opposing cardinals, bishops against bishops, churches and altars sacked...**"

1981 to 1982 - Kibeho, Rwanda, Africa

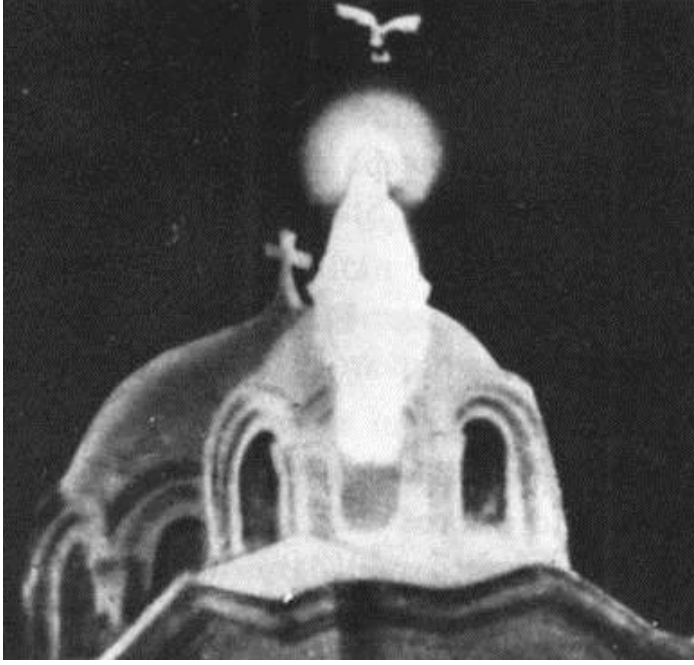
The Blessed Mother appeared to 7 people and gave them messages for the world, asking them to change and love each other. She showed the 7 people visions of the war in Rwanda before it happened. Here are some messages from Our Lady:

Our Lady said **"When I tell you this, I do not speak to you alone, but I speak also to all the others. Men of our times have emptied each thing of its true meaning: he who commits a fault does not recognize that he did wrong."** Our Lady recommends to us to say the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows, to obtain the contrition of our sins. **Today, many people do not know any more how to ask forgiveness. "The Virgin Mary said that the purpose of Her coming was to communicate a message of conversion (through a life of prayer and confession, a life renewed by the Word of God, and by works of charity and justice)**



1968 to 1971 - Zeitun, Egypt

In 1968 and lasting for 3 years, Our Lady appeared over a Catholic church almost every night, appearing to EVERYONE who was there, no matter what religion or even atheists. She never said anything, but appeared there with doves flying around her and the sweet smell of incense.



1987 to 1984 - Betania, Venezuela, South America

In Betania, a woman Maria Esperanza began having visions of Mary in 1987 although she had other visions of saints as a child. People began coming to her property to be there when she had the visions, but then other people started seeing her as well. Many many people saw the Blessed Mother there and many miraculous healings occurred.

This is Maria:



This is the grotto at Betania. There is a statue there but many many people saw the statue come to life.



1981 to present - Medjugorje, Bosnia, Yugoslavia



On June 24, 1981 Our Lady began appearing to 6 children in Medjugorje. She told them that a great battle was about to take place between Jesus and Satan and that she came to call people back to God for **THE LAST TIME**. She said these were her last apparitions to ever occur. She has appeared every day for over 36 years. Three of the children (who are now in their 50s) no longer see her except once per year, the other three see her every day. She asks for prayers and opening our heart to God.

She asked for praying the rosary every day, and little by little to add more prayers until you can pray the full joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries every day and she asks to fast on bread and water twice per week. It sounds like a lot, but take baby steps and ask God for help. Go on the computer and read Medjugorje.org or other websites to read Our Lady's messages. She gives a message for the world on each 25th and 2nd of the month. She promised to leave a visible sign in Medjugorje and is giving each of the 6 people 10 secrets about the future of the world. The secrets aren't as important and coming back to God, going to Mass every day if possible, loving God and each other.

