



# Our Lady of Fatima

## May 10 - 16



On May 13, the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima. On this day in 1917, Mary appeared to three children in the village of Fatima, Portugal.

### Learning Targets:

- ❖ Introduce students to Our Lady of Fatima and the events surrounding her appearance.
- ❖ Discover that Our Lady will come to our assistance when we are in need.
- ❖ Listen to her message of prayer and peace.

### Vocab

- ❖ Immaculate
- ❖ Miracle
- ❖ Rosary

### Preparation

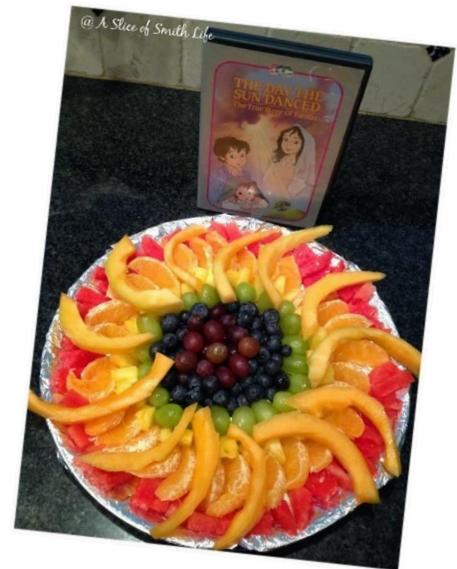
This week we are going to take a closer look at one of the apparitions of Mary – Our Lady of Fatima. What we admire about Our Lady is that she always come to us when we are in need. She doesn't usually appear to the rich and famous, but usually the meek, poor, and forgotten. In order to become better acquainted with the story of Fatima, see the included information page.

### Food Time! Sun Fruit Platter

Let children use food for art and also enjoy a healthy snack!

#### You'll need:

- Platter
- Cutting board
- Knife (parents should only use the knife)
- Watermelon OR strawberry (Cut into pieces or slices)
- Oranges (Pulled into individual pieces)
- Pineapple (Cut into pieces)
- Green grapes (Keep whole)
- Blueberries (Keep whole)
- Violet grapes (Keep whole)
- Cantaloupe (cut into thin slices)



#### Instructions:

1. Locate a platter to display your fruit sun. Set it aside for now.
2. Ask a parent to cut up the watermelon/strawberries and pineapple.
3. While they do that, you can take the peel of the oranges and pull them into individual pieces.
4. Once everything is ready, work from the outside of the platter in. Start with a circle of watermelon or strawberries.
5. Next, lay out your oranges in a ring next to the watermelon.
6. Keep adding your layers – with the next circle using pineapple, then green grapes, blueberries, and then purple grapes in the center.
7. Lay your cantaloupe slices on top of the platter like rays of the sun. Eat and enjoy!

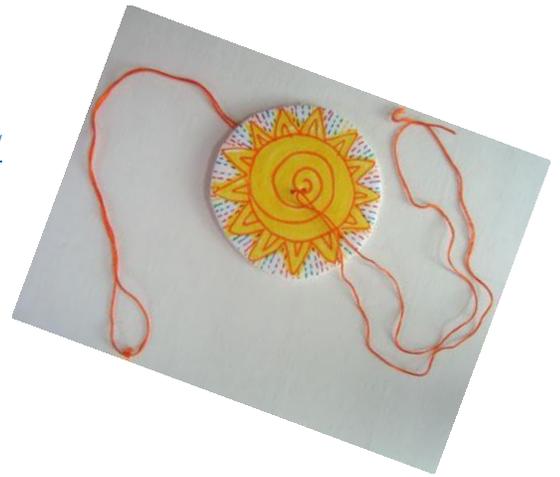
## Craft – Miracle of the Sun Spinner

On May 13, the three children saw the Sun dance in the sky. Children can make their own dancing Sun with this craft.

<https://www.catholicicing.com/fatima-craft-miracle-of-sun-spinner/>

### You'll need:

- Foam Board
- Markers
- Hole Poking Tool (I used a corn on the cob handle thingy)
- Scissors
- 2 pieces of embroidery floss – length of an arm



### Instructions:

1. First trace a circle onto your foam board using a drinking glass and cut it out with some scissors.
2. Then poke 2 holes in the middle of the circle using your corn on the cob handle thing. (Try to get these holes as close to the center of your circle as possible).
3. Now let your kids color their version of the miracle of the sun on their circles, and encourage them to use their imaginations!
4. Thread one through each hole of your spinner and knot them together on both ends. This will put your spinner on one big “loop”.
5. Now it's time to have fun!!! Hold your strings on each end, and twist your sun spinner up just a little bit. Pull the strings in opposite directions at the same time- but just for a second! Let the strings go loose and it will begin to twist itself up.
6. When it stops spinning, pull both of the strings in opposite directions again and let it spin some more. Soon, your sun will be dancing, spinning, whirling, and jumping around!

## Handouts / Resource Instructions

### ☀ Background Information

The following Resource will provide your and your child some background information into the appearance of Our Lady of Fatima to three young children - Francisco and Jacinta Marto and their cousin Lucia dos Santos. If children would rather watch a movie about Our Lady of Fatima, they can view the movie “The Day the Sun Danced” produced by the CCC of America. It is a cartoon version, made for children, that tells the true story of events following the three children. You have two ways to access the movie:

- YouTube – “Our Lady of Fatima: The Day the Sun Danced -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7cD8hJlw0Q> (28.42)

- Formed - St. Catherine's now offers a free subscription to Formed, a wonderful website and resource that has been called the “Catholic Netflix.” Formed has inspiring movies and video-based programs, audio presentations, and e-books from the Church's most compelling speakers and authors. With your free access to Formed on your television, laptop, iPad, or phone (free app can be downloaded), you can:

To take advantage of this program, go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup), then:

1. Select St. Catherine of Siena Ithaca.
2. Register with your name and email address.
3. Check that email account for a link to begin using Formed.
4. Search for “The Day the Sun Danced: The True Story of Fatima”

## ☀ CLOW - Grade 2: Prayer to Our Lady

- Review who Mary is – Jesus’ mother and our mother too. We pray to Mary when we pray the Rosary. We ask her to pray for the things we need.

- Discussion question: What are some things we can ask Mary to pray for?

- Read through what took place at Fatima using either the Resource below or have them view the cartoon video.

- Ask the children the following questions:

- Who were the 3 children?
- What did Mary tell them to do?
- When did Mary appear to the children?
- Where did Mary appear to the children?
- Why did people gather on October 13, 1917?

- Introduce Fatima – city in Portugal. See map

[www.google.com/search?q=map+of+fatima+portugal&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj5y4nVmZPWAhUDliYKHXXwBxIQsAQIKQ&biw=1600&bih=770#imgrc=Ehzboh9NRWCSkM](http://www.google.com/search?q=map+of+fatima+portugal&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj5y4nVmZPWAhUDliYKHXXwBxIQsAQIKQ&biw=1600&bih=770#imgrc=Ehzboh9NRWCSkM):

- Explain that we honor Our Lady of Fatima with a prayer that asks her to help inspire us to always look to God through prayer.

- Go to their CLOW – Grade 2 Resource and read through the prayer together. Have the children use the box on the bottom of the sheet to draw a picture of Our Lady appearing to the three children.

- Optional: The Story of Fatima: Cut and Paste

## ☀ Grades 3-5: Marian Apparition Investigation

Children in grades 3-5 will become detectives for this activity that will have them reading and watching various information to learn about Our Lady of Fatima. To complete this activity found in their Grades 3-5 Resource, children will need access to a computer that has internet.

They will visit various sites and will either have to read through some information or watch a short video in order to answer specific questions.

## ☀ Middle and High School Youth: FORMED Documentary - Fatima

In order to access the movie, youth will need to gain access to the Formed website. Above you will find directions on how to register, for free, to access Formed.

Once you are on Formed, have the youth search for the following movie: “Fatima: A Message of Hope.”

Following the documentary, youth should take time to reflect and answer the questions on their Middle and High School Youth Resource

## ☀ Older Children and Adults: Nine Day Novena to Our Lady of Fatima

At Fatima, Mother of God called for a renewed fidelity to penance and prayer, which basically is the message of the Gospel. As we celebrate the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima on Wednesday, May 13, older children and adults can use the included Older Children and Adults Resource to pray for nine days.

A novena is a nine-day period of private or public prayer to obtain special graces, to implore special favors, or make special petitions. (Novena is derived from the Latin *novem*, meaning nine.) As the definition suggests, the novena has always had more of a sense of urgency and neediness.

You can use the included Novena to pray as a family, individually, or pray with friends over Zoom.



# Our Lady of Fatima

## Background Information.



### Story of Our Lady of Fatima

The story begins in the village of Fatima, Portugal on May 13, 1917. Three peasant children, Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta (ages 10, 9, and 7), were taking their flocks of sheep out to the pasture to an area known as the Cova da Iria – a common custom for poorer families in Portugal.

After lunch, they prayed the rosary, and then a sudden flash of bright white light went through the sky, and when they looked up they saw a beautiful woman that seemed to be full of light, standing above a bush.



The Lady told the children that she was the Mother of God, and she asked them to come back to the same spot on the same day of the month for six months. Then on the seventh month she would show them all a miracle so that everyone everywhere would believe.



News of these apparitions began to spread throughout the region. While many people believed the children had actually seen Mary, many others discounted the children's story, subjecting them to much ridicule. Even the mayor of the town was mean to them and put the children in jail!

On the seventh month, many people joined the children to witness the Mother of God. Though the region had been subjected to three days of heavy rain, nearly 70,000 people journeyed through the rain and mud to the place of the previous apparitions to witness the predicted miracle. Many were scornful, unbelievers whose intent was to discredit the children's stories.

Suddenly the “clouds separated...and the sun appeared between them in the clear blue, like a disk of white fire.” The people could look at the sun without blinking and while they gazed upward, the huge ball began to “dance”. The huge fireball whirled rapidly with dizzy and sickening speed, flinging out all sorts of brilliant colors that reflected on the faces of the crowds. The fiery ball continued to move in this manner three times, then seemed to tremble and shudder, and plunge in a mighty zigzag course toward the earth. The crowd was terrified, fearing this was the end of the world.



However, the sun reversed course and, retracing its zigzagging course, returned to its normal place in the heavens. All of this transpired in approximately ten minutes. After realizing they were not doomed, the crowd began ecstatically laughing, crying, shouting and weeping. Many discovered their previously drenched clothing to be perfectly dry. This is known as the miracle of the sun, and it is a well-documented historical occurrence.

When our Lady appeared at Fatima she asked the children to tell the people to pray the Rosary, go to Reconciliation, and turn their lives back towards God, who loves them and wants them to have happy lives.



# Our Lady of Fatima

CLOW – Grade 2  
Prayer to Our Lady



## *Prayer to our lady of Fatima*

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary,  
you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima  
and reveal a glorious message.

We implore you,  
inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary.  
By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption  
that are recalled therein may we obtain the grace and virtues that we ask, through  
the merits of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Redeemer.  
Amen

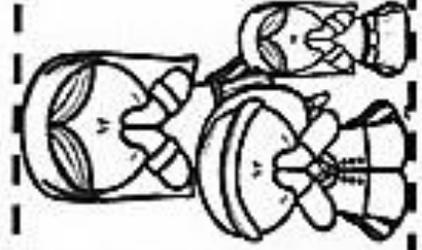
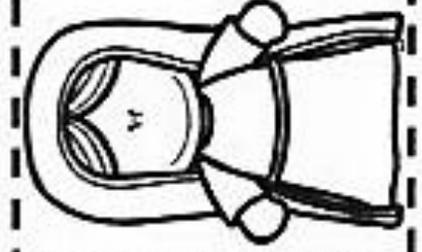
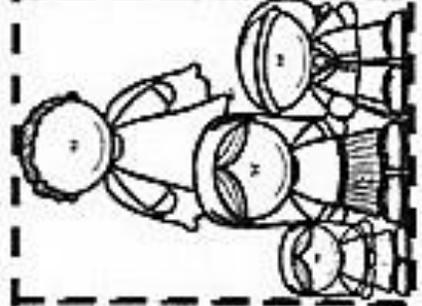
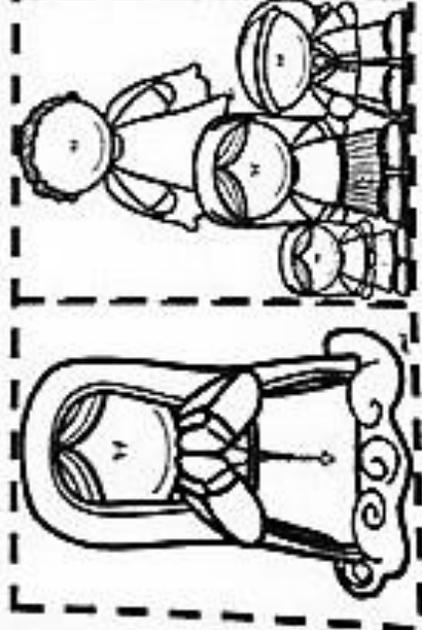
Our Lady of Fatima,  
Pray for Us!

Draw a picture of Our Lady appearing to the three children at Fatima.

Visited 3 times by an apparition of an angel.	More visions of an angel.	First apparition of the Virgin Mary	Prophecy that prayer will end the Great War	Visions telling them to pray the Rosary	The event of the Miracle of the Sun

## The Story of Fatima Cut & Paste

Cut out the images of the events in the story of Fatima. Glue them under the names of that event.





# Our Lady of Fatima

Grades 3 - 5

## Marian Apparition Investigation

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### *Taking a Closer Look at Our Lady of Fatima*

1. Go to <https://portugal.com/portugal/cities/fatima>. Look at the map. What country is Fatima located in?
2. Go to <https://www.wnycatholic.org/news/article/featured/2018/07/18/103205/the-modern-miracle-of-fatima>. What major event in history that brought destruction to the entire world was occurring in 1917?
3. Visit <https://www.ewtn.com/fatima/children.asp>. Tell me the names of the three children who saw Mary. Look through the descriptions of each child and tell me three facts about each one.
4. Go to <https://osvnews.com/2017/01/01/the-meaning-of-fatima-100-years-later/>. Why did the children not go and see Mary on this day?
5. Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQxOSLtvV6I> and watch the movie. What are the three lessons from Fatima?

6. Watch the following video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6LkUjGSH98> – what made their sainthood so unique.
  
7. Visit <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/our-lady-of-fatima-485>. Mary revealed her name to the children at the last apparition. What was her name?
  
8. Watch the video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FcUTFueHJIY>. How old was Lucia when she died?



# Our Lady of Fatima

Middle and High School  
FORMED Documentary - Fatima



## Reflection Questions

Once you are logged in on Formed, do a search for the following documentary, “Fatima: A Message of Hope” (55m)

1. Church tradition describes Mary as the New Eve. While Eve fell and led her children into sin, Mary took on the mantle of “mother of all living” (Gn 3:20) and through her example and intercession leads her children into full union with God. (Fatima for Today, 2–4)

Looking at the life of Mary in Scripture, what are some examples she gives us for living a Christian life? In what way has she assisted you, or someone you know, in growing closer to her Son?

2. During the first apparition, Our Lady asked the children, “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings he wills to send you?” In the following months and years, the children did indeed suffer. Their family, friends, and neighbors mocked, threatened, and even imprisoned them. Through it all, they remained steadfast and “bore these sufferings with supernatural grace.” (Fatima for Today, 44–45, 180–181, 186–187)

Why does God allow—and even ask—his followers to endure suffering? Is there any purpose to suffering in our life?

3. In 1 Corinthians 1:27, St. Paul tells his readers, “God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise, God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.” At Fatima, God entrusted his message to three young and simple children—a message he intended for the entire world. (Fatima for Today, 13–18)

Why would God choose such seemingly “weak” messengers—children with no authority or standing—rather than intelligent, vigorous, eloquent men and women? What are some other examples in Church history of God choosing the “weak” to do his work or spread his message in the world?

4. When Our Lady came to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco, each of them interacted with her in distinct ways. Lucia enjoyed the most interaction with Our Lady, being able to not only see and hear her but also speak with her. Jacinta saw and heard Mary but did not speak with her, while Francisco neither heard nor spoke with her but only saw our Lady. Yet, all three were transformed and dedicated themselves to the mission entrusted to them by Our Lady. In a similar way, each of us experiences prayer differently. (Fatima for Today, 13)

Is your prayer life more like Lucia’s, Jacinta’s, or Francisco’s? In what ways have you experienced transformation from your personal prayer, and how does this help you to implement God’s plan for your life?



# Our Lady of Fatima

## Older Children and Adult

### Nine Day Novena to Our Lady of Fatima



*Wednesday, May 13 – Thursday, May 21*

#### Novena Prayer

O Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, you deigned to come to Fatima to reveal to the three shepherd children the treasures of graces hidden in the recitation of the Rosary. Inspire our hearts with a sincere love of this devotion, so that by meditating on the mysteries of our redemption that are recalled in it, we may gather its fruits, obtain peace for the world, the conversion of sinners, the conversion of Russia, and the favor which I ask of you in this Novena (state your request here). I ask it for the greater glory of God, for your own honor, and for the good of all souls, especially those most in need of thy mercy. Amen.

Our Father (x3)

Hail Mary (x3)

Glory Be to the Father (x3)

#### Litany to Our Lady of Fatima:

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for our dear country.  
Our Lady of Fatima, sanctify our clergy.  
Our Lady of Fatima, make our Catholics more fervent.  
Our Lady of Fatima, guide and inspire those who govern us.  
Our Lady of Fatima, cure the sick who confide in thee.  
Our Lady of Fatima, console the sorrowful who trust in thee.  
Our Lady of Fatima, help those who invoke your aid.  
Our Lady of Fatima, deliver us from all dangers.  
Our Lady of Fatima, help us to resist temptation.  
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain for us all that we lovingly ask thee.  
Our Lady of Fatima, help those who are dear to us.  
Our Lady of Fatima, bring back to the right road our erring brothers.  
Our Lady of Fatima, give us back our ancient fervor.  
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain for us pardon of our manifold sins and offences.  
Our Lady of Fatima, bring all men to the feet of thy Divine Child.  
Our Lady of Fatima, obtain peace for the world.  
O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.  
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



Let us Pray: O God of infinite goodness and mercy, fill our hearts with a great confidence in Thy Dear Mother, whom we invoke under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary and our Lady of Fatima, and grant us by her powerful intercession all the graces, spiritual and temporal, which we need. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.