

MAY PRAYER

My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead You to God

Environment for the prayer space: - Some work tools, the globe and the rosary. Songs will be left to the criteria of the person in charge of the orientation of the prayer. The links are commemorative songs of the Centenary of the Apparitions (stanzas 8 and 9), and the Pope's visit – the lyrics are at the bottom of this document.



INTRODUCTION: In May we have the celebration of St Joseph the Worker as Patron of the Workers and the Celebration of the Centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fátima.

These relevant events are associated with human suffering. The celebration of Labour Day has its historical roots at the end of the 19th century, when the massive demonstrations of workers in the struggle for better working conditions began. The celebration of the Centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fátima on May 13th, 1917, preceded by the apparition of the Angel in 1916, goes back to a context of world war.

REFLECTION: Given the scope of our mission as a Congregation, we can reflect and share the problems mostly affecting people...

In a more global perspective, Pope Francis points out several wounds that affect our world: 'war, hunger, misery, afflicting thousands of people, environmental crisis, violence, corruption, moral degradation, family crisis, the economy and especially hopelessness. The world today suffers and needs our help.'¹

The presence of Mary: Icon of Tenderness and Mercy

The mercy of God, the pounding of His heart before sinners and the ill-fated, finds an icon in Mary's heart. Isn't it stated in the Gospel that Mary kept everything in Her heart? Isn't it Mary who at the wedding at Cana warns Jesus of the lack of wine and then leaves the message to the servants: "Do whatever He tells you to do"?²

The Fátima event is an invitation to collaborate with the designs of mercy, following the example of the three shepherds. The question that was asked of them on May 13th, 1917 and is asked of us: "Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wants to send to you, as an act to repair the sins He is offended with, and in an act of prayer for the conversion of sinners?"³ The little shepherds answered straightaway with prayer, and due to their deep union with God, they became aware that

¹ Message sent by Pope Francisco on the occasion of the Inter-Religious Symposium in September 2016

² Cf Jo2,1-10

³ Memoirs of Sister Lúcia, Vol.I p.173

everyone else is so important that that made them sacrifice for them... As Sister Lucia later says, they could not be happy without the others. The shepherds bear witness to the triumph of love that embraces the whole creation and that transpires in the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

"Finally, my Immaculate Heart will triumph, "ultimately, the triumph of the love of God is revealed in humanity. Thus the message becomes a hymn to hope. "The message of Fátima, condensed in the Lady's promise, is like a window of hope that God opens when man closes the door to Her."⁴

A church with a Marian face

The message of Fátima inspires the Church to find and deepen the features of her Marian face. Accepting this interpellation, the Church, universal sacrament of salvation, is led to receive similarly with Mary the mission that proceeds from God, which is to follow Jesus as a faithful and trustful disciple, to be sensitive to the needs of our neighbors and to the cries of those excluded, to be willing to stand by the cross, to take on the burden of being misunderstood and persecuted, to radiate glory and the first fruits of the resurrection, to be a "field hospital" that is there to receive the wounded and not a place that closes its doors.

Mary, as a new Eve, is for each Christian a model of the human being, inviting him/her to personal conversion: even if dictatorships disappear, economic conditions improve and war and conflicts are eliminated, the temptation to dominate which rests in the human heart must be eradicated. Mary, immaculate and assumed, and therefore a model for humanity, helps us understand grace as a gift that transforms us, fidelity as a disposition that humanizes us, generosity and service as an expression of respect towards others, universal love as dignification of all the children of God.

Faithful to the charism of Fátima, we are called to welcome the invitation to the promotion and defense of peace among all the peoples, denouncing and opposing perverse mechanisms which races and nations face: individualistic arrogance, indifferent and subjectivist selfishness, an economy without morals and politics without compassion. Fátima stands as a prophetic word of condemnation of evil and commitment to good, in the promotion of justice and peace, in the appreciation and respect for the dignity of every human being.

The mission of Christians manifests itself in the effort to try to do everything so that the power of evil might be stopped and the forces of good might continue to grow. In the strength of the Mother the strength of God is revealed; and in this conviction the strength of believers is intensified and revitalized.

On the journey, the immense multitude of pilgrims who wish to drink from the Gospel in the fountains of Fátima entrust themselves to the maternal care of the Lady of the Rosary. The Church rejoices with the gift of this centenary. Her Sanctuary continues as a place of revitalization of faith and ecclesial experience. Her message challenges us

⁴ Benedict XVI, during the greeting of the arrival to Portugal, on May 11, 2010

and urges us to follow the path of interior renewal, based on the statement made by Jesus, the Son of Mary: "Take courage: I have conquered the world" (John 16:33). In so far as the community of believers let themselves be inhabited by Her, they can offer the world the Light of God which fills the heart with the grace and mercy of the Virgin Mother, safeguarding the unshakable hope in the triumph of love over the dramas of history.⁵

[Centennial Hymn of Our Lady of Fatima](#) (Translation below)

FINAL PRAYER: DELIVERY ACT TO MARIA

Blessed Virgin of Fátima,
With renewed gratitude for your maternal presence
We join our voice with that of all generations
Who proclaim You blessed.
In You we celebrate the great works of God,
Who never gets tired of bowing with Mercy
Over humanity, grieved for evil and wounded by sin,
to heal and save it.
Welcome Mother with benevolence
The act of delivery that we make today with confidence,
In front of Your image that is so dear to us.
We are sure that each of us is precious to Your eyes
And that nothing that dwells in our hearts is foreign to You.
We allow ourselves to be reached by your sweetest look
And we receive the comforting caress of your smile.
Keep our lives in Your arms:
Bless and strengthen all desire for good;
Vitalize and nourish faith;
Shelter and illuminate hope;
Arouse and animate charity;
Guide us all on the path of holiness.
Teach us Your own love of predilection
For the small and the poor, the excluded and the suffering,
For the sinners and those with a broken heart;
Bring everyone together under your protection
And deliver us all to your beloved Son,
Jesus, our Lord.
Amen!
(*Pope Francis*)



[Fátima 2017: Hymn for the visit of Pope Francis](#) (Translation below)

Prayer Prepared by Helena Moderno, Province of Portugal

⁵ Cf Fátima, Sign of Hope for Our Time, Pastoral Letter of the Portuguese Episcopal Conference, on the Centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, December 8, 2016

Translations of Hymns:

Hymn of the Centenary of the Apparitions:

<p>Refrão:</p> <p><i>Ave o clemens, Ave o pia!</i></p> <p><i>Salve Regina Rosarii Fatimae</i></p> <p><i>Ave o clemens, Ave o pia!</i></p> <p><i>Ave o dulcis Virgo Maria.</i></p> <p>1. Ouvindo o arauto da mensagem Ó Terra eleita que o Espírito lava, Também dizemos: ó cheia de graça, Sois serva e mensageira da Palavra Saudada pro todas as gerações Feliz entre as mulheres sois, Maria! Bendito o Anjo que Vos precedeu, Custódia, como vós, da Eucaristia.</p> <p>2. Os pastores e os magos acorreram, Louvando tão alta maternidade. Com eles, procuramos Jesus Cristo Que do Céu trazeis à humanidade. A palavra de Jesus, Verbo Eterno, Guardáveis toda em Vosso Coração, Refúgio triunfante para os homens Que fazem penitência e oração.</p> <p>3. No templo apresentastes Vosso Filho E o anúncio da espada ecoou: Dor que jorra da Cruz do Homem-Deus, Dor que sobre a azinheira ressoou. Ensinando a excelsa Sabedoria, Encontrastes Jesus entre os doutores;</p>	<p>REFRAIN:</p> <p><i>Ave o clemens, Ave o pia!</i></p> <p><i>Salve Regina Rosarii Fatimae</i></p> <p><i>Ave o clemens, Ave o pia!</i></p> <p><i>Ave o dulcis Virgo Maria.</i></p> <p>Listening to the herald of the message Oh chosen Land that the Spirit ploughs, We also say: Oh full of grace You are the servant and messenger of the Word Welcomed by all the generations Happy among the women - that's You, Maria! Blessed be the angel that came before You Custody, like You, of the Eucharist.</p> <p>The shepherds and the Magi came, Praising such great maternity. With them, we look for Jesus Christ That from Heaven brings to mankind The word of Jesus, Eternal Word, All kept in Your Heart, Triumphant refuge for those Who do penance and pray.</p> <p>In the temple Your Son was presented to us And the message echoed from the sword: Pain that flows from the Cross of God, Pain that the holm oak resounded. Teaching the sublime Knowledge, You found Jesus among the doctors;</p>
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<p>Mensagem que ensinai à multidão, Pedindo a conversão dos pecadores.</p> <p>4. Felizes seios, benditas entranhas, Que geraram Jesus, o Salvador! Alimentam a Igreja e o mundo, Pregando o Evangelho do Amor. Solícita nas núpcias dos esposos: “Fazei tudo o que Ele Vos disser”; Pregão que sai do alto da azinheira Por Vossos lábios, ó Nova Mulher.</p> <p>5. Dolorosa, de pé, junto ao Madeiro, Gerastes, no Calvário, a humanidade; As dores desse parto Vos trouxeram Ao mundo que tem ânsia da verdade. A alegria da gloriosa Páscoa Sentistes, Virgem pura, ó Mãe Santa! Vitória sobre o mal Vós nos pedis – Eis a mensagem que Fátima canta.</p> <p>6. No meio da Igreja que nasce Recebestes o Espírito dos céus; Viestes missionária à nossa terra, Proclamando as maravilhas de Deus. Junto com os discípulos de Cristo, Oráveis na assembleia dos cristãos E continuais orando pelo mundo, A Deus levantai, ternas, Vossas mãos.</p> <p>7. Gozando das primícias do Reino, Habitaís a Jerusalém do Céu</p>	<p>Message that You teach the crowds Asking for the conversion of the sinners.</p> <p>Happy breasts, blessed womb That created Jesus, the Savior! They feed the Church and the world, Preaching the Gospel of Love. In the nuptials of spouses it is said: “Do everything He tells you”, Cry that comes out of the top of the holm oak From Your lips, oh New Woman.</p> <p>Standing in pain near the Cross You generated mankind, in Golgotha; The pains of childbirth brought You To a world that longs for truth. You, Pure Virgin, Blessed Mother, Felt the happiness of the glorious Easter Victory over evil that’s what You ask of us Here’s the message that Fátima sings.</p> <p>Right in the middle of the Church that was emerging You received the Spirit from heaven; You came as a missionary to our land, Proclaiming the wonders of God. Together with Christ’s disciples You prayed in the Christians’ assembly And You carry on praying throughout the world, And to God You raise Your loving hands.</p> <p>Enjoying the first fruits of the Kingdom, You live in the Heaven’s Jerusalem</p>
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<p>Donde viestes para nos falar, 'stendendo sobre nós benigno véu. À direita de Cristo, sois rainha Ornada de ouro fino de esplendor; P'ra lá nos qu'reis levar, ó Mãe bendita! Àquela luz que é Deus, o Deus do Amor.</p> <p>8. Vós sois, Senhora, a Mãe do Rosário, Sois a Mãe da Alegria e da Luz, A Mãe das Dores e a Mãe da Glória, Mãe do Messias-Cristo que é Jesus. Todos os dias seguimos, Senhora, Vossa admirável recomendação: Contemplar Jesus Cristo no Rosário Para alcançar a eterna Salvação.</p> <p>9. A Deus queremos nós oferecer-nos E os sofrimentos todos suportar; Orando pelo vigário de Cristo, A vida plena ansiamos alcançar. Reparando as vidas do pecado, Suplicando, chorando nossas dores, Dizemos: "Jesus, é por Vosso amor E pela conversão dos pecadores".</p> <p>10. Visitastes o Povo que nasceu Das águas do batismo redentor, Pedindo penitência e oração, Pedindo conversão ao Deus-Amor. Meditando de Cristo os mistérios, Proclamando a mensagem que Deus faz – É o mandato que trazeis, Senhora,</p>	<p>From where You came to talk to us, Throwing upon us a merciful veil. On Christ's right you are queen Attired in fine gold of splendor That's where You want to take us, Blessed Mother! To that light that is God, the God of Love.</p> <p>You are, our Lady, Mother of the Rosary, You are the Mother of Joy and Light, The Mother of Pain and the Mother of Glory, The Mother of the Messiah, Jesus. Every day we follow, our Lady, Your admirable recommendation: To contemplate Jesus Christ in the Rosary To reach eternal Salvation.</p> <p>We want to offer ourselves to God And all our suffering stand; Praying for the vicar of Christ, We aim to reach full life. Repairing the lives of sin, Pleading, crying for our pains, We say: "Jesus, it is for Your love And for the conversion of sinners".</p> <p>You visited the people that were born From the water of baptism redeemer, Asking for penance and prayer, Asking God love for conversion. Meditating the mysteries of Christ, Proclaiming the message that God makes That's the mandate you bring, our Lady;</p>
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<p>Para que o mundo inteiro alcance a paz.</p> <p>11. Senhora do Rosário, ao Vosso nome, Erguemos a capela, em oração; Unidos à Igreja Universal, Nela louvamos Cristo, Novo Adão. Nela louvamos Cristo, nossa luz, Com a chama da fé em nossa mão. E as mãos alvas que alevantamos São símbolo da paz e do perdão.</p> <p>12. Rezamos pela paz no mundo inteiro Em Fátima, no Vosso Santuário, Que é terra da paz, Cova da Iria, Ó Virgem Mãe, Senhora do Rosário! O Vosso Coração Imaculado Doce refúgio é do pecador: Triunfo para glória da Trindade, Cantando a Civilização do Amor.</p> <p>13. Visitando os pequenos, as crianças, Mostrais desígnios de misericórdia. Erguendo a Vossa cátedra, Senhora, Chamais o ser humano à concórdia. Ensinando as verdades eternas e a arte de orar, crer e amar, Em Fátima, sois mestra, sois doutora, Sois de Deus profecia, em Vosso altar.</p>	<p>So that the entire world may reach peace.</p> <p>Lady of the Rosary, to your name We erect the chapel in prayer; United to the Universal Church, In it we praise Christ, New Adam. In it we praise Christ, our light, With the flame of faith in our hand. And the white hands we raise Are symbol of peace and forgiveness.</p> <p>We pray for peace in the entire world In Fátima, in Your Sanctuary, That is land of peace, Cova da Iria, Oh Virgin Mother, Lady of the Rosary! Your Immaculate Heart is Sweet shelter for the sinner: Triumph for the glory of the Holy Trinity, Singing the Civilization of Love.</p> <p>Visiting the babies, the children, You show designs of mercy. Raising Your chair, our Lady, You call Man to concord. Teaching eternal truths And the art of praying, believing and loving, In Fátima, You are the teacher, the doctor, You are God's prophesy, in Your Altar.</p>
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Hymn of Pope Francis' Visit to Fatima, 2017:

Letra do Hino da Visita do Papa Francisco a Fátima 2017	Lyrics of the hymn of Pope Francis' visit to Fátima 2017
Deus em mim	God in me
Somos apenas um traço cinzento Estes passos levados /pelo vento Ou haverá quem sabe / uma razão Mais além deste muro / um clarão	We are just a grey trace These steps taken by the wind Or who knows there is a reason Beyond this wall a flash
Deus em mim Deus em mim	God in me God in me
Com Maria, onde quer que vás Sê peregrino da esperança e da paz Com Maria, tu sabes que estás No caminho da esperança e da paz	With Mary, wherever you go Be a pilgrim of hope and peace With Mary, you know you are On the way of hope and peace.
Sei que Maria nos abre caminhos a certeza de / não estarmos sozinhos Quando pesava a noite sem fim seu olhar / acendeu Deus em mim	I know Mary opens paths to us The certitude we are not alone When the endless night pondered Her look lit God in me.
Deus em mim Deus em mim	God in me God in me
Com Maria, onde quer que vás Sê peregrino da esperança e da paz Com Maria, tu sabes que estás No caminho da esperança e da paz	With Mary, wherever you go Be a pilgrim of hope and peace With Mary, you know you are On the way of hope and peace.
Deus em mim Deus em mim	God in me God in me
Haverá nos céus / um segredo Um amor que nos cure do medo? A Sua luz te acompanha e sustém Mesmo se não vês o seu brilho vem	Will there be a secret in Heaven A love that will heal us from fear? Her light accompanies and sustains you Even if you do not see Her brightness comes.