

# The "Miracle of All Miracles" in CALANDA

SPAIN, 1640

Young Miguel-Juan Pellicer had his leg amputated due to an accident. Thanks to his great devotion, the young man nurtured himself through the most Holy Sacrament and the Virgin of Pilar. A great miracle came upon him, which was immediately recognized and approved by the Archbishop of Zaragoza who presided over the canonical process. In his clear judgment he wrote that "Miguel-Juan Pellicer of Calanda was miraculously given back his right leg, which was amputated years prior and it was not a natural occurrence but a miraculous one".



Sanctuary of the Virgin of Pilar, Zaragoza



Ancient painting depicting the miracle in the Sanctuary of Pilar



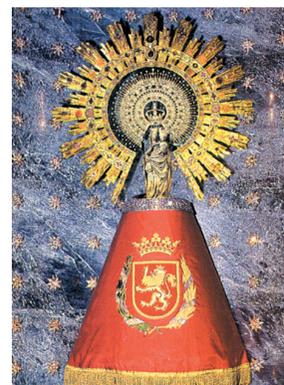
John Paul II pausing in front of the statue of the Virgin of Pilar, Zaragoza



Original document notarized by Miguel Andreu on April 2, 1640 certifying the miracle of Calanda



Pope Pio XII praying before the statue of the Virgin of Pilar who received as a gift



According to the legend, the first chapel of the sanctuary was to have been built by St. James the Great around the year 40, in memory of the miraculous "coming" of the Virgin from Jerusalem to Zaragoza in order to confront the apostle who was completely disillusioned by the negative results of his preaching. The "Pilar" is in fact the Virgin who would have replaced his lower leg and foot.



Miguel-Juan Pellicer was born in 1617 to a poor family of farmers in Calanda, a village about 100 kilometers from Zaragoza. At 19 years of age, he decided to go to work for an uncle near Castellon de la Plata. One day, while working in the fields, he fell under a wagon full of grain and the wheels fractured his right leg. Miguel-Juan was immediately taken to the local hospital in Valencia. Realizing that it would be impossible for the doctors to cure him, he decided to discharge himself and begin a 13-kilometer trip towards Zaragoza to ask the Madonna of Pilar for help. He walked with crutches, leaning the knee of the fractured and now infected leg on a piece of wood. He reached Zaragoza in October 1637, waning and feverish. He dragged himself to the Sanctuary of Pilar where he made his confession and received the Holy Eucharist. He

was immediately sent to recover at Royal Hospital of Grace. Given the status of his gangrene, the doctors established that the only way to save his life was to amputate his leg, so the limb was cut off with a saw and scalpel slightly below the knee and cauterized with red hot metal.

*A young practitioner,* Juan Lorenzo Garcia, took the amputated limb and buried it in the cemetery next to the hospital. From that moment, Miguel-Juan was forced to beg for his livelihood near the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Pilar. Every morning he went to Mass and prayed with fervor before the Holy Sacrament. It was customary for him to rub his mutilated leg with oil from the tabernacle lamp. After three years away from home, he decided to return to his family, who lovingly welcomed

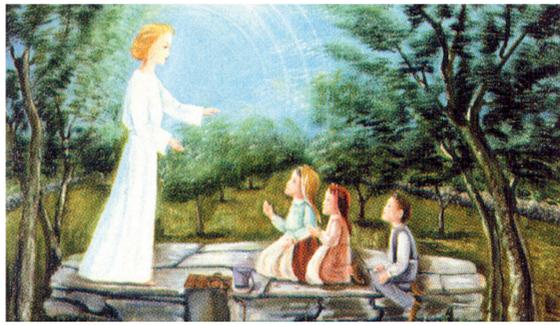
him back. In March of 1640, after a vigil in honor of the Virgin, Miguel-Juan, feeling very tired, went to rest in his customary spot and as usual rubbed his leg with oil from the tabernacle lamp in the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Pilar. When his mother went to check to see if her son was okay, she saw him sleeping, and discovered that from beneath the blanket stuck out not one, but two feet. Miguel-Juan had miraculously recovered his lost limb, which was buried three years prior by the practitioner Mr. Garcia. According to the eyewitnesses present and the canonic process, "the leg was pale, smaller in size and muscular mass, but perfectly vital and allowed him to walk."

*Appears to the Shepherds of Fatima Three Times and Gives Them Communion*

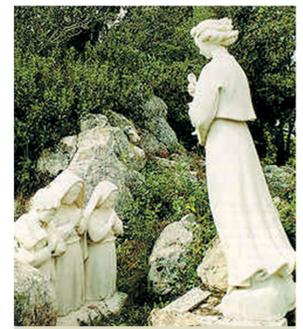
# THE ANGEL OF PEACE

PORTUGAL, 1916

The angel appeared three times to the shepherds of Fatima in order to prepare them for future apparitions of Our Lady and elevate them to a supernatural state with Holy Communion. During the third apparition the angel gave Lucy Holy Communion with a Host from which drops of Blood fell into the chalice. Francesco and Jacinta, not having yet made their First Holy Communion, were given the contents of the chalice. In this apparition the angel told them: “Eat and drink the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, terribly outraged by the ingratitude of men. Offer reparation for their sakes and console your God”.



When Lucy asked Our Lady if she would take them to Heaven the Virgin replied, “Yes, I will soon take Jacinta and Francesco, but you will stay here for quite a while. Jesus wants you to serve Him by making me known and loved. He wants to establish in the world a devotion to my Immaculate Heart. I promise salvation to all the devotees. These souls will be dearest to God, and like flowers they will be placed by me before His throne”.



The angel that appeared to the three shepherds in Fatima in 1916 held in his left hand a chalice, and over it in the air, was a Host from which drops of Blood fell into the chalice.



Blessed Jacinta Marto related what Our Lady said during one of the apparitions: “Pray, pray constantly and make sacrifices for sinners. Take note, many souls will go to Hell because you did not pray and make sacrifices for them...” In addition, “The sins that take most souls to Hell are the sins of the flesh. Certain fashions will come that will offend Jesus very much. The people that serve God need not follow the trends. The Church has no trends; Jesus is always the same. The sins of the world are very great. If men only knew what eternity is, they would do everything in their power to change their lives. Man loses his way because he does not think of Jesus’ death and does not repent” (cf. CCC 1035).

Francesco, who did not hear the angel speak, nor did he hear Mary speak later, asked Lucy: “The angel gave you Holy Communion, but to Jacinta and me what did he give?” “It was indeed Holy Communion,” replied Jacinta with unspeakable happiness. “Did you not see the Blood falling from the Host?” “I felt God in me, but I did not know what it was!” replied Francesco. And kneeling on the ground, he stayed a long time with his sister, repeating the prayer of the angel: “*Holy Trinity* etc.”. Among all of the apparitions kindly sent from Heaven, this was certainly the one that most influenced the good soul of Francesco. The words of the angel asking for solace for God, saddened by abuses and sins, deeply touched his sensitive heart. From that point, his ideal was to console Our Lord. While Jacinta became the *apostle for sinners*, Francesco wanted to be the *consoler of Christ*.

## First Apparition of the Angel

“We began to see, in the distance, a light whiter than snow in the form of a young man, quite transparent, and as brilliant as crystal in the rays of the sun. As he came near we were able to see his features: a young man about 14 or 15 years old and very beautiful. We were surprised and quite taken aback. We did not say a word. He reached us and said: ‘Do not be afraid. I am the angel of peace. Pray with me.’ He knelt, bending his forehead to the ground. With a supernatural impulse we did the same, repeating the words we heard him say: ‘My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and

do not love You. Pray in this way. The hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to your prayers.’ And he disappeared. The supernatural atmosphere that he left us in was so intense we were for a long time unaware of our own existence...”

## Second Apparition of the Angel

“The angel said to us: ‘What are you doing? You must pray! Pray a lot! The hearts of Jesus and Mary have merciful designs for you. You must constantly offer your prayers and sacrifices to God, the Most High.’ ‘How are we to sacrifice?’ I asked. ‘In every possible way offer sacrifice to God in reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and in supplication for the conversion

of sinners. In this way you will bring peace to your country. I am the Guardian Angel of Portugal. Above all, bear and accept with submission the sufferings God will send you.’ And he disappeared... These words of the angel cut into our spirits like a light, making us understand who God is, how He loves us, and how He wants us to love Him; the value of sacrifice and how it pleases Him; how He receives it for the conversion of sinners.”



Appears to the Shepherds of Fatima Three Times and Gives Them Communion

# THE ANGEL OF PEACE

PORTUGAL, 1916

*“We saw the angel holding in his left hand a chalice, and suspended in the air above it was a Host from which drops of Blood fell into the chalice...”*

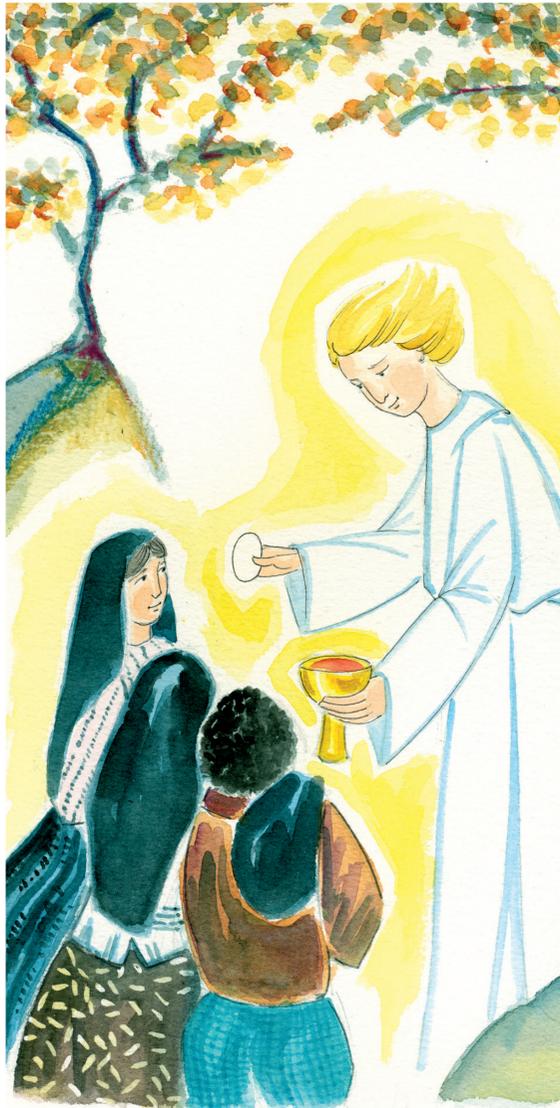


Photo of the crowd circled around the last apparition of 1917, before the sun began to “dance”



Photograph of the last apparition of October 13, 1917, when the sun began to “dance”

**UNA AURORA BOREAL**  
 Barcelona 26, 2 madrugada. A las siete de la tarde, Cataluña se ha visto sorprendida con una aurora boreal, fenómeno meteorológico muy poco frecuente en España. El fenómeno excitó la curiosidad de la población, y dio lugar a los más diversos comentarios y discusiones. Al cabo de algún tiempo se supo que se trataba del singular fenómeno.

Nos pusimos al habla con el Observatorio Fabra, donde nos confirmaron que era una aurora boreal, fenómeno rarísimo en nuestra latitud.

En el Observatorio meteorológico de la Universidad nos confirmaron la misma noticia. Tan pronto como se dieron cuenta del inusitado fenómeno se habían puesto en comunicación con el Observatorio del Ebro, de donde dijeron que era estudiado con gran atención. Habían comprobado ya que la temperatura había sufrido un aumento de siete grados, aumento que, en cambio, no se ha notado en Barcelona.

Después también al habla con el doctor Eduardo Fariña, católicista de la Universidad, quien nos dijo que el fenómeno no está relacionado con las bajas temperaturas últimamente registradas. Probablemente está relacionado con las grandes manchas que fueron observadas estos días en el sol, ya que el fenómeno magnético solar tiene influencia sobre el magnetismo terrestre.—Fébus.

En las primeras horas de la noche de ayer, el fenómeno, aunque con menor intensidad que en Barcelona, pudo observarse también en Madrid. Durante algunos momentos se creyó se veía legajo incoherente, pronto se desdobló por la gran extensión del rubio, y su altura, que obedecía a un fenómeno meteorológico, que desde de hace años observada sólo en los registros en Madrid.

Newspaper article from January 26, 1938 which describes the strange phenomenon of the Northern Lights foretold by Our Lady of Fatima as a sign of the beginning of the war



October 13, 1917 the pilgrims increased (70,000). They saw the rain stop suddenly, the clouds tear apart, the solar disc face outwards like a silver moon that spun dizzily, similar to a wheel of fire, projecting beams of multi-colored light in every direction, that fantastically lit up the clouds in the sky, the trees, the rocks, the land and reverberated through the immense crowd, paused for a few moments and then again the dance of lights, like a rich and glowing wind-mill. Again a pause and then for the third time fireworks, more varied and colored and blazing than ever. The crowd had the impression that the sun was falling from the sky and let out a collective scream “Miracle! Miracle!”. When everything ended, even the people’s clothes, drenched from a short time before, were perfectly dry.

**O MILAGRE DE FATIMA**

Varios aspectos do povo ajoelhado e orando no momento de descobrir o sol a dar o fenómeno que tanto impressionou a multidão.

no vagalhão colossal d'aquella povo que ali se juntou a 13 de outubro. O teu racionalismo sofreu um formidável embate e queres estabelecer uma opinião segura recorrendo-lhe ás depoimentos insuspeitos como o meu, pois que desparcialmente para um grande diário, *O Seculo*, os factos que diante de mim se desenrolassem e tudo quanto de curioso e de elucidativo a eles se prendesse. Não ficará por satisfazer o teu desejo, mas de certo que os nossos olhos e os nossos ouvidos não viram nem ouviram coisas d'outras, e que raras foram as que ficaram insensíveis á grandeza de semelhante espectáculo, unico entre nós e de todo o ponto digno de meditação e de estudo...

Carta a alguém que pede um testemunho insuspeito.

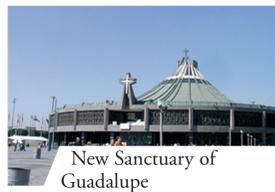
Quadrando um silencio de mais de vinte annos e com a invocação dos longinquos e saudosos tempos em que convivemos n'uma fraterna camaradagem, illuminada então pela fé comum e fortalecida por identicos propósitos, escrevo-me para que te diga, sincera e sinceramente, o que vi e ouvi na charneira de Fátima, quando a fama de celestes aparições congregou n'aquelle desolado termo dezenas de milhares de pessoas mais sedentas, segundo creio, de sobrenatural do que impelidas por mera curiosidade ou recessos de um logro... Estão os catholicos em desacordo sobre a importancia e a significação do que presenciaram. Uns convenceram-se de que se tinham cumprido promettimentos do Alto, outros acham-se ainda longe de acreditar na incontestada realidade de um milagre. Foste um crente na tua juventude e deixaste de sel-o. Pessoas de familia arrastaram-te a Fátima, redondez; ;'voou, de terra em terra, até os cantos de Portugal, e a roma...

The Vision of the Madonna in Guadalupe, Mexico and the Eucharist

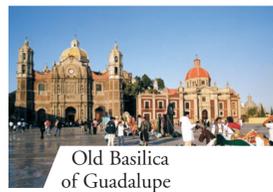
# GUADALUPE

MEXICO, 1531

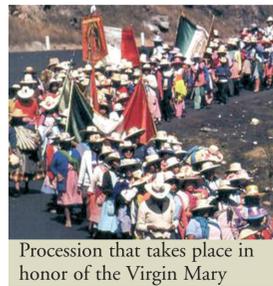
The indisputable history of the Eucharist and the Incarnation of the Son of God, “Flesh of Christ, flesh of Mary”, says Saint Augustine. The Church “contemplates Mary with joy in the purest image - that which she desires and hopes to be in her entirety” (SC, 103): tabernacle, womb, pyx. The Madonna appeared in Guadalupe dressed in a gown fastened at the waist with a black belt, identical to that worn by the local women during pregnancy.



New Sanctuary of Guadalupe



Old Basilica of Guadalupe



Procession that takes place in honor of the Virgin Mary



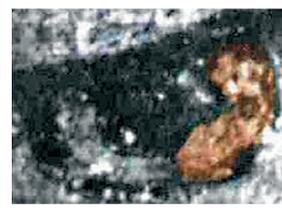
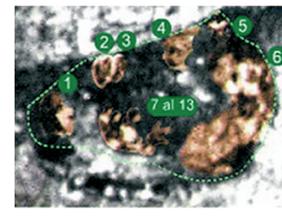
Image of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Like the Shroud of Turin, it is an image created not by the human hand, as scientists J.B. Smith and P.S. Callahan have demonstrated through the analysis of the infrared x-rays. Their conclusion is as follows: “The results of the image of Guadalupe are inexplicable”.



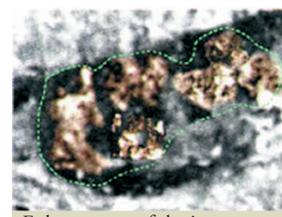
On May 6, 1999 Pope John Paul II before the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe during a pilgrimage



Image of the Virgin appeared on Juan Diego's cloak



Carlos Saslina and the scientist Tönsmann analyzed and discovered imprints of the people present during the apparition of Juan Diego in the irises of the eyes of the Virgin of Guadalupe



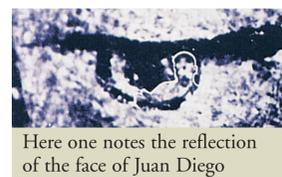
Enlargements of the images present in the eyes of the Virgin



The belt signifies the pregnancy of the Virgin. It is found above the navel. The shape of the belt, in the náhuatl world, represents the end of a cycle and the birth of a new era. In the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe it symbolizes that with Jesus Christ a new era will begin both for the old and new world.



Ancient paintings that depict Juan Diego and the Virgin



Here one notes the reflection of the face of Juan Diego

**A**t dawn on December 9, 1531, the young Indian, Juan Diego, went up the hills of Tepeyac, in the northern outskirts of the City of Mexico, heading towards Tlatelolco, for his usual catechism lesson. Suddenly he heard a soft song and turned towards the source of this sound. He came upon a young woman wearing a shiny dress, who revealed herself to be the Virgin Mary. The Madonna begged Juan Diego to ask the bishop of the capital city to build a temple in the place where she appeared so that all can come to honor her son Jesus. Juan Diego obeyed, but the Bishop Juan de Zumárraga did not believe him and asked him to ask Mary for a sign. When the Virgin appeared the third time to Juan Diego, she promised to give him a sign the following day. On Monday however he did not go to his appointment because his uncle fell gravely ill, so

much so that he needed to receive the Last Rites. The next day, Juan Diego went out very early directly to Tlatelolco, where he wanted to look for a priest for his uncle. He decided to avoid the hills of Tepeyac, so he would not encounter Our Lady, but she met him during his walk. He then confided in her about his pain and she asked him to have faith in her and announced the cure of his uncle. Then she asked him to go to the top of the hill and collect and bring her any flowers that he could find.

*Juan Diego went* to the place she told him and found it covered with marvelous roses and other flowers, unusual for the winter season and the arid nature of the land. He picked them and put them in his tilma, a typical apron worn by the Aztec farmers, and he took them to

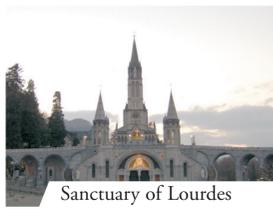
the Virgin who told him to take the flowers to the bishop as proof of the apparition. The man did as he was asked and went to Mexico City where, after a long wait, he was seen by the prelate. He showed him the tilma and when he spread it out the roses and other flowers fell and on it appeared a blazing image of the Madonna. The Bishop fell to his knees before this miracle. He marveled, and repenting he asked the Virgin to forgive him for his defiance. Then he took the tilma and put it in a chapel. The next day Juan Diego returned home anxious to see his uncle, who he had left in grave condition. Juan Diego found his uncle completely recovered and he told him about the Madonna and how she appeared to him the day before presenting herself as the Holy Mary of Guadalupe, announcing he would be cured.

# The Miraculous Healings Realized During The Procession Of The Blessed Sacrament

# LOURDES

FRANCE, 1888

In 1888, a French priest of the National Pilgrimage proposed the creation of a procession with the Blessed Sacrament in Lourdes; a miraculous healing was then realized. Since then the sick make pilgrimages to Lourdes, are blessed by the Holy Sacrament and countless have been cured of illnesses during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The Sanctuary of Lourdes is a clear example of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.



Sanctuary of Lourdes



Bernadette's house



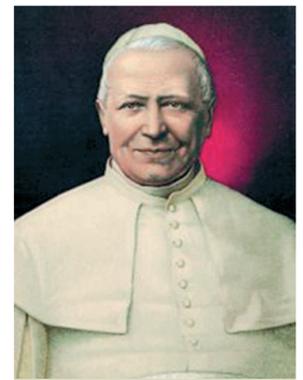
One of the oldest photos of Bernadette by the grotto in 1864



Saint Bernadette



Statue of Our Lady in the grotto where she appeared to Bernadette



Pius IX proclaimed the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception "Infallible God" in 1854



Brother Léo Shwager, cured of a grave case of multiple sclerosis during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament



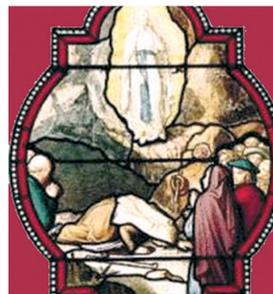
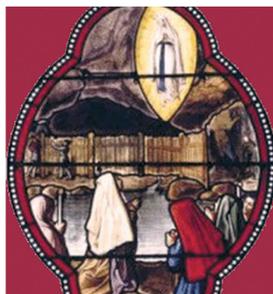
Marie Fabre, was cured during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, of a strong dyspepsia (indigestion) which impeded normal nutrition, causing serious problems with anemia



Saint Bernadette decided to embrace religious life and entered into the convent of the Sisters of Charity in Nevers



The incorruptible body of Saint Bernadette in the mother house of the Sisters of Charity in Nevers



Marie-Thérèse Canin, during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament, was cured of a grave case of tuberculosis



Marie Bigot, semi-blind and deaf, recovers her hearing and eye-sight during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament

**O**n August 22, 1888, at 4:00pm, the first procession with the final blessing of the sick with the Blessed Sacrament took place in Lourdes. It was a priest who first proposed this pious initiative and since then it has never ceased. On this date, when the sick were blessed with the Blessed Sacrament before the grotto of the apparitions, Pietro Delanoy, who suffered from ataxia (an inability to coordinate voluntary muscular movements that is symptomatic of some nervous disorders which inevitably leads to death) for many years, was instantly cured when the tabernacle passed by during the procession. That was the first Eucharistic miracle that took place in Lourdes. From that very date, the Eucharistic procession for the sick has taken place without interruption.



Sister Maria Margherite, cured of an incurable kidney disease during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament



Alice Couteaul, is cured of multiple sclerosis during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament



Louise Jamain, is cured of pulmonary and intestinal tuberculosis during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament

# The Eucharist and SAINTE CATHERINE LABOURÉ

FRANCE, 1830

Catherine Labouré was born on May 2, 1806 to a family of farmers. On April 21, 1830, she entered as a novitiate into the religious order, *Daughters of Charity*, in the motherhouse of Paris near Rue du Bac. Here in 1830, Catherine had the famous apparition of the Immaculate Mary, who told her, “Have a medal of this style coined; those who wear it around their neck will receive great graces.” During her entire stay at Rue du Bac, Catherine also had the grace of seeing Jesus in the consecrated Host, at both the moment of Holy Communion and during the Exposition of the Holy Sacrament.



Image of the Miraculous Medal



Urn containing the body of Saint Catherine



Fresco in the Church of Rue du Bac showing Catherine with the Virgin Mary



Statue of Mary as she appeared to Saint Catherine with the globe, rays, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Pope John Paul II on a visit to the chapel in the church of Rue du Bac in Paris on May 31, 1980



Saint Catherine Labouré

Catherine herself described the moment of the apparition: “While making Eucharistic Adoration in deep silence, I seemed to hear a sound coming from the side of the tribune, like the rustle of a silk dress. I got up and looked and saw the Holy Virgin. She was of medium build and indescribably beautiful. A white veil fell from her head to her feet and rested upon a half-globe. Her hands, raised to waist level in a natural position, held another small golden globe with a gold Cross on top. Her eyes looked beseechingly towards Heaven. While I was intent on contemplating her, the Holy Virgin lowered her eyes towards me and said these words: ‘This globe that you see represents the entire world, in particular France, and every single person.’ And the Virgin added, ‘The rays symbolize the graces shed on those who petition me’, making me understand how sweet it

is to pray to the Holy Virgin and how generous she is to those who invoke her. And then an oval frame formed around the figure of the Holy Virgin, with a semi-circular border of writing in gold above the right hand of Mary spelling out: ‘OH MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE’.

“*At this point* in the vision, the globe that Mary had offered to God disappeared; her hands, full of graces, faced the globe that she rested her feet upon, stepping on a green serpent with yellow spots. Suddenly the frame flipped and I saw the back of the medal showing the letter ‘M’ for Mary, and the Cross, and below the monogram there were two hearts; that of Jesus with the crown of thorns and

that of Mary pierced by a sword. Around it, like a frame, there was a regal crown of twelve little stars.

“Then I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Coin a medal in this style. All those who carry this will receive graces, especially if they wear the blessed medal around their neck and recite this short prayer. They will receive special protection from the Mother of God and will receive great graces. The graces will be abundant for those who wear it with great faith.’”