

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE  
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLIS

# **BOLLETTINO**

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 170512d

Friday 12.05.2017

**Pilgrimage of the Holy Father Francis to the “Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima” on the occasion of the centenary of the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Cova da Iria (12-13 May 2017) – Visit to the Chapel of the Apparitions of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima**

**Visit to the Chapel of the Apparitions of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima**

**Holy Father’s Prayer**

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**Visit to the Chapel of the Apparitions of the Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima**

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At 17.35 this afternoon, the Holy Father Francis arrived by helicopter at the Stadium of Fátima. Upon arrival he was welcomed by the bishop of Leiria-Fátima, His Excellency Msgr. António Augusto dos Santos Marto, and by the mayor of the city. He then transferred by car to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fátima where, at 18.15, he visited the Chapel of the Apparitions where around one thousand children were gathered. Upon arrival he was received by the Rector of the Shrine. After silent contemplation before the image of Our Lady, he pronounced the prayer given below.

At the end of the moment of prayer, the Holy Father Francis presented the gift of a gold rose to the Virgin of Fátima, and after the final blessing, travelled by car to the Nossa Senhora do Carmo House, his residence during his stay.

**Holy Father’s Prayer**

*The Holy Father:*

Hail Holy Queen,  
 Blessed Virgin of Fátima,  
 Lady of Immaculate Heart,  
 our refuge and our way to God!  
 As a pilgrim of the Light that comes to us from your hands,  
 I give thanks to God the Father, who in every time and place is at work in human history;  
 As a pilgrim of the Peace that, in this place, you proclaim,  
 I give praise to Christ, our peace, and I implore for the world concord among all peoples;  
 As a pilgrim of the Hope that the Spirit awakens,  
 I come as a prophet and messenger to wash the feet of all, at the same table that unites us.

*Refrain (sung by the assembly):*

Ave O Clemens, Ave O pia!  
 Salve Regina Rosarii Fatimae.  
 Ave O clemens, Ave O pia!  
 Ave O dulcis Virgo Maria!

*The Holy Father:*

Hail, Mother of Mercy,  
 Lady robed in white!  
 In this place where, a hundred years ago  
 you made known to all the purposes of God's mercy,  
 I gaze at your robe of light  
 and, as a bishop robed in white,  
 I call to mind all those who,  
 robed in the splendour of their baptism,  
 desire to live in God  
 and tell the mysteries of Christ in order to obtain peace.

*Refrain...*

*The Holy Father:*

Hail, life and sweetness,  
 Hail, our hope,  
 O Pilgrim Virgin, O Universal Queen!  
 In the depths of your being,  
 in your Immaculate Heart,  
 you keep the joys of men and women  
 as they journey to the Heavenly Homeland.  
 In the depths of your being,  
 in your Immaculate Heart,  
 you keep the sorrows of the human family,  
 as they mourn and weep in this valley of tears.  
 In the depths of your being,  
 in your Immaculate Heart,  
 adorn us with the radiance of the jewels of your crown  
 and make us pilgrims, even as you were a pilgrim.  
 With your virginal smile,  
 enliven the joy of Christ's Church.  
 With your gaze of sweetness,  
 strengthen the hope of God's children.  
 With your hands lifted in prayer to the Lord,  
 draw all people together into one human family.

*Refrain:*

*The Holy Father:*

O clement, O loving,  
 O sweet Virgin Mary,  
 Queen of the Rosary of Fátima!  
 Grant that we may follow the example of Blessed Francisco and Blessed Jacinta,  
 and of all who devote themselves to proclaiming the Gospel.  
 Thus we will follow all paths  
 and everywhere make our pilgrim way;  
 we will tear down all walls  
 and cross every frontier,  
 as we go out to every periphery,  
 to make known God's justice and peace.  
 In the joy of the Gospel, we will be the Church robed in white,  
 the whiteness washed in the blood of the Lamb,  
 blood that today too is shed in the wars tearing our world apart.  
 And so we will be, like you, an image of the column of light  
 that illumines the ways of the world,  
 making God known to all,  
 making known to all that God exists,  
 that God dwells in the midst of his people,  
 yesterday, today and for all eternity.

*Refrain...**The Holy Father, with all the faithful:*

Hail, Mother of the Lord,  
 Virgin Mary, Queen of the Rosary of Fátima!  
 Blessed among all women,  
 you are the image of the Church robed in paschal light,  
 you are the honour of our people,  
 you are the victory over every assault of evil.

Prophecy of the merciful love of the Father,  
 Teacher of the Message of Good News of the Son,  
 Sign of the burning Fire of the Holy Spirit,  
 teach us, in this valley of joys and sorrows,  
 the eternal truths that the Father reveals to the little ones.

Show us the strength of your protective mantle.  
 In your Immaculate Heart,  
 be the refuge of sinners  
 and the way that leads to God.

In union with my brothers and sisters,  
 in faith, in hope and in love,  
 I entrust myself to you.  
 In union with my brothers and sisters, through you, I consecrate myself to God,  
 O Virgin of the Rosary of Fátima.

And at last, enveloped in the Light that comes from your hands,  
 I will give glory to the Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

*Refrain...*

