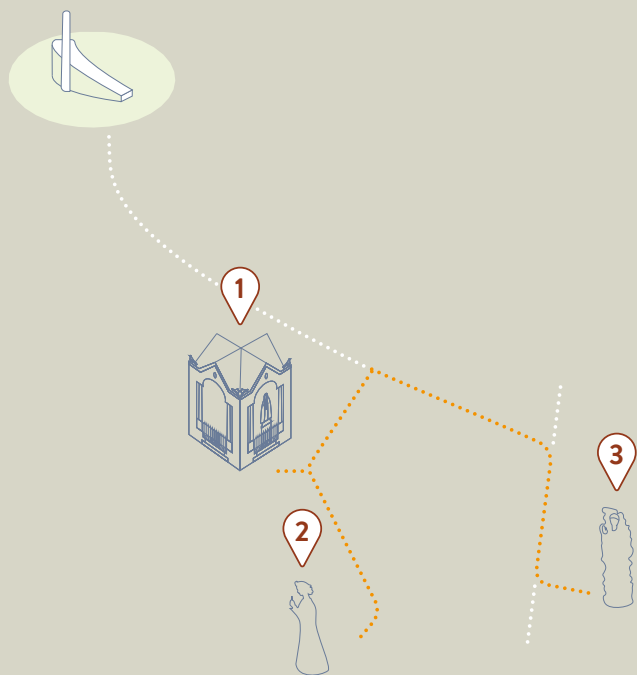


ITINERARY OF THE PILGRIM

2017-2020

Route stations

- 1 VALINHOS
- 2 LOCA DO CABEÇO
- 3 POÇO DO ARNEIRO



SANTUÁRIO DE FÁTIMA

TIME OF GRACE AND MERCY

2017-2020

ITINERARY OF THE PILGRIM

Valinhos
Aljustrel

EN

1

Beginning of my itinerary in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

«JACINTA ARRIVED, AND A MOMENT LATER, WE SAW OUR LADY».

Sister Lucia, on the 19th August 1917 apparition

VALINHOS

Getting closer to this place, I remember the words of Lucia, after saying goodbye to Jacinta who was leaving to Lisbon where she would end up by dying: «Coming back down the slope, everything reminded of my dear companions: the stones where we had so often sat; the flowers I no longer picked, not having anyone to take them to; Valinhos where the three of us had enjoyed the delights of Paradise!».

The apparition in August took place in that spot where «they enjoyed the delights of Paradise». Here, the Lady met them again, after they failed the meeting on the 13th (because they were arrested and taken to Ourém). Here, they experienced once more, the Light with a taste of Paradise, in which the Virgin Mary always involved them. Here they found that God does not fail in His promises although sometimes we may fail our commitments. God awaits us in everyday life paths; He does cease to come to meet us, because for Him each is unique and special.

The father of Saints Francisco and Jacinta described this apparition: «... I found the father of our neighbour Augusto who said this: [...] “Well, I am telling you, ti Marto, that your Jacinta has some kind of virtue. As we saw, Our Lady did not appear, without her getting there. She was waiting for her!”».

[Luciano Coelho Cristino, *As Aparições de Fátima. Reconstituição a partir dos documentos (The Apparitions of Fátima, Reconstitution based on the documents)*, Santuário de Fátima 2017, p. 69].).

I become aware of the love of God and how for Him I am unique and special and already enjoy ‘the delights of paradise’.

From the certainty of this love results the commotion that makes me want to have a compassionate heart surrendered like the Immaculate Heart of Mary, capable of being moved by Her request:

«– Pray, pray very much and make sacrifices for sinners; for many should go to hell because there are none to sacrifice themselves and to pray for them ».

2

«DO NOT BE AFRAID! I AM THE ANGEL OF PEACE. PRAY WITH ME».

First apparition of the Angel, in 1916

LOCA DO CABEÇO

In the Spring and Autumn of 1916, the three little shepherds were surprised by the presence of the Angel of Peace, in this spot. With him they learned that their lives only gain full sense before God; only before God they found Peace, experienced the light that never dies away.

On reaching them, he said:

«– Do not be afraid! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me.

And kneeling on the ground, he bowed down until his forehead touched the ground and made us repeat these words three times:

– My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You. I ask pardon of you for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You».

The Angel and the little shepherds kneeling down, with their forehead resting on the floor, teach me to recognize that my life is not done by my hands but only in God’s hands I find myself exactly as I am.

In a worshipping attitude, I pray three times with and like the little shepherds and the Angel:

«My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You. I ask pardon of you for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You».

I start on my way, from Poço do Arneiro and gaze at the same valleys that the little shepherds gazed at and I pray the first and second joyful mysteries. The little shepherds were also visited by the Angel, like Mary; I also want to bring the Lord to others, like Mary.

3

«IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES GIVE THANKS».

1Thes 5, 18

POÇO DO ARNEIRO

The little shepherds sat many times on this well talking, playing and praying. The second apparition of the Angel took place here in a summer day.

When meeting them, he asked: «What are you doing? Pray, pray very much. The most holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary have designs of mercy on you. Offer prayers and sacrifices constantly to the Most High».

The Angel invites to a life of prayer like Paul urged to the first communities – «Be unceasing and persistent in prayer» (1Th 5, 17).

I am invited to ask to myself: how do I deliver the hours of each day to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary? Do I save some time of my day to the profound meeting that arises from prayer?

The well is often a meeting point; that was the case with the Samaritan that found in the Messiah the water that satisfies forever. In this well, shelter of so many confidences, I thank God for all His benefits and render myself available to love Him under any circumstance. I address here, as the end of my itinerary, my own prayer of thanksgiving.

