

## THE MIRACLE OF THE SUN

Next Wednesday is the thirty-first anniversary of a great miracle. It happened at Fatima in Portugal, and 70,000 people were present to witness the prodigy. This miracle was unique in that Our Blessed Mother foretold the date, place and hour.

About noon on October 13, Our Blessed Lady appeared. Of course only the three little children saw her. The day was wet, gloomy and cold. The place of the apparition was a vast bit of mud. All the pilgrims were drenched. The sun suddenly appeared in a patch of blue sky. It was very bright, but not dazzling, and one could look straight into it.

Then the sun began to tremble. It turned giddily on itself like a wheel of fire, casting great beams of light in all directions. The beams changed in color from green, red, blue, violet to other tints, and all the colors were reflected in a most fantastic manner on the clouds, trees, rocks, and on the clothes and faces of the crowd.

After four minutes of this strange dancing about, the sun came to a stop. Then it began its fireworks all over again. There was a second stop followed by another fantastic display of motion and color. This drama was seen distinctly within a radius of twenty-five miles.

### The Sun Falls

The climax of the miracle was so terrifying that it brought people to their knees in prayer. The spinning sun left its place in the sky and began falling in a zigzag fashion upon the crowd below, sending out intense heat. The crowd was horror-stricken. Many prepared for death by making acts of sorrow for sin. The sun stopped suddenly in its fall, and zigzagged its way back to its place in the sky. When the people were convinced that the danger was over, they shouted: "Miracle! Miracle! Praised by the Blessed Virgin."

Up to this moment the crowd has been drenched by the rain. After the miracle everyone felt comfortable, and when they found their garments dry, the wonder became a subject of widespread discussion. The crowd left the place of the miracle happy and with renewed confidence in Our Blessed Lady.

### Why? Why?

Before the miracle of the sun, Our Blessed Lady had appeared many times to the three children, and had given them definite messages for the world. The miracle served to convince men that Our Lady was truly appearing to the three children and giving them messages which were to be taken seriously by everyone.

Here are the messages of Our Lady: stop sinning, embrace her Immaculate Heart, Say the Rosary, pray and make sacrifices for sinners and for Russia. What are you doing to please Our Lady of Fatima?

PREYERS: (ILL) brother of Father Delaunay, S.S.

LATE MASSES WEDNESDAY: 8:30 (In church); 9:00 Dillon and Cavanaugh.

