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Prayer in Chapel of Apparitions

Upon arriving at Fatima on May 12, Benedict XVI placed a golden rose before our Lady's image and addressed Mary with this prayer.

05/13/2010

Our Lady,

Mother of all men and women,

I come before you as a son

visiting his Mother,

and I do so accompanied by
a multitude of brothers and sisters.
As the Successor of Peter,
to whom was entrusted the mission
of presiding in the service
of charity in Christ's Church
and of confirming everyone in faith
and in hope,
I wish to present to your
Immaculate Heart
the joys and hopes
as well as the problems and
sufferings
of each one of these sons and
daughters of yours
who are gathered in the Cova di Iria

or who are praying with us from
afar.

Mother most gentle,

you know each one by name,

you know each one's face and
personal history,

and you love them all

with maternal benevolence

that wells up from the very heart of
Divine Love.

I entrust and consecrate them all to
you,

Mary Most Holy,

Mother of God and our Mother.

The Venerable Pope John Paul II,

who visited you three times here in
Fatima

and thanked the "unseen hand"
that rescued him from death
in the assassination attempt on 13
May
in Saint Peter's Square almost thirty
years ago,
wanted to offer to the Shrine of
Fatima
a bullet that gravely wounded him
and that was placed in the crown of
the Queen of Peace.

It is a profound consolation
to know that you are crowned
not only with the silver
and gold of our joys and hopes,
but also with the "bullet"
of our anxieties and sufferings.

I thank you, beloved Mother,
for the prayers and sacrifices
that the shepherd-children
of Fatima offered for the Pope,
led by the sentiments
that you inspired in them in the
apparitions.

I also thank all those who,
every day,
pray for the Successor of Peter
and for his intentions,
that the Pope may be strong in faith,
bold in hope and zealous in love.

Beloved Mother of us all,
here in your Shrine at Fatima I place

the Golden Rose

that I have brought from Rome

as a homage of gratitude from the
Pope

for the marvels that the Almighty

has worked through you

in the hearts of so many who come as
pilgrims

to this your maternal home.

I am sure that the shepherd-children
of Fatima,

Blessed Francisco and Jacinta

and the Servant of God Lucia of
Jesus,

are united with us at this hour of
prayer and jubilation.

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