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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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