

Mary gives us an appointment

The month of October is dedicated to the Rosary. It is then that major pilgrimages take place. Among many others, in Lourdes, we can cite the Rosary Pilgrimage, organized by the Dominican family which brings together more than 15,000 sick and healthy pilgrims every year. It's an encounter that many cannot and do not want to miss.

Fatima is not left out since on October 13 hundreds of thousands of faithful gather to commemorate the last apparition of Mary at the Cova da Iria. On October 13, 1917, in fact, Mary gave her name –*I am Our Lady of the Rosary*– to the three little shepherds. Then the sun danced.



In these two places and in many others, whether she appeared there or not, Mary meets those she loves... and who return her love through their songs, their prayer or simply their presence. And she explicitly asks those she graces with an apparition to come and meet her

according to a schedule that she herself has established.

This is true for Bernadette, in Lourdes. This is also true for Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco in Fatima.

Are these appointments just pious memories of the past, reserved for a few chosen souls? Not at all! Even today, Mary gives us an appointment. She gives us an appointment in the Shrines where she shows us her Son. She gives us an appointment every month in our homes for our monthly prayer of the Rosary Teams since she is the one who receives in my home.

***Fr. Louis-Marie Ariño-Durand, OP
International Chaplain of the Rosary Teams***

