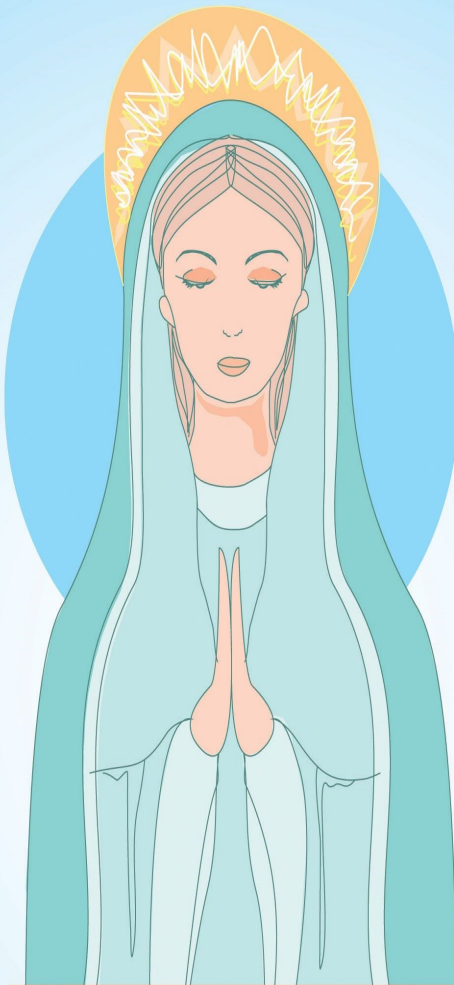


# Best-known Marian Apparitions

The Blessed Virgin Mary has appeared around the world many times, often to children, and she has often communicated the need for penance among the people of the world. This graphic shows some of the best-known apparitions, and these seven have been approved as authentic by the Vatican. The faithful are not required to believe a particular apparition actually occurred, but the Vatican has approved these as worthy of belief. The building of shrines, prayers of devotion and pilgrimages to the sites often follow the authentication of an apparition.



## Banneux, near Liège, Belgium

**8** times Mary appeared between Jan. 15 and March 2, 1933. **1949** Devotion approval was given.

Mary called herself the **Virgin of the Poor** and has since been venerated as **Our Lady of the Poor, the Sick and the Indifferent**.

## La Salette, France

**2** peasant children see Mary as a sorrowing and weeping figure Sept. 19, 1846. **1942** A Mass and Office with this title were authorized.

The message she confided to them regarded the **necessity of penance**.

## Beauraing, Belgium

**33** times Mary appeared between Nov. 29, 1932, and Jan. 3, 1933, **to five children** in the garden of a convent school in Beauraing. **1949** Final approbation was given.

## Lourdes, France

**18** times Mary, identifying herself as the **Immaculate Conception**, appeared between Feb. 11 and July 16, 1858. **1907** A feast commemorating the apparitions was extended throughout the Church.

## Fátima, Portugal

**6** times Mary appeared between May 13 and Oct. 13, 1917. **1930** Apparitions were declared worthy of belief. Devotion to **Our Lady of Fátima** was authorized under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary.

## Guadalupe, Mexico

**4** times Mary appeared in 1531 to an Indian, Juan Diego (beatified in 1990 and canonized in 2002), on Tepeyac hill outside of Mexico City, and instructed him to tell Bishop Zumarraga of her wish that a church be built there. **1910** Designated patroness of Latin America. **1942** Designated patroness of the Americas.

## Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, France

**3** times Mary appeared in 1830 to Catherine Labouré (canonized in 1947). **1832** Miraculous Medal made for the first time. Mary commissioned Catherine to have a medal made of the **Immaculate Conception**.

(Source: 2014 Our Sunday Visitor's Catholic Almanac.)

For a full story on Our Lady of Laus, not listed on this graphic, visit [www.osv.com/Magazines/TheCatholicAnswer](http://www.osv.com/Magazines/TheCatholicAnswer)

THE CATHOLIC ANSWER