Members of the Third Order of St. Francis will canvass the halls for First Friday Adoration. Sign up.

A Story For October.

On October 13, 1917, a prodigy took place at Fatima in Portugal. There were 70,000 people who witnessed this wonder -- a much larger group than could crowd into our stadium at Notre Dame. Why the crowd? Because the date, hour, and place of the miracle had been predicted.

The miracle centered around Our Blessed Mother and three little children of Fatima. The morning of October 13 was wet, gloomy, and cold. The spot foretold had become a sea of mud. The pilgrims were thoroughly drenched. Yet, in spite of the dullness of the day, the sun suddenly appeared in a patch of blue sky. It was very bright, but not dazzling. One could look straight at it.

Then the wonder started. The sun began to dance. It trembled and finally turned giddily on itself, like a wheel of fire, casting in all directions enormous beams of light. The beams changed in color from green, red, blue, and violet, to other tints. All the colors were reflected in a most fantastic manner on the clouds, trees, rocks, the earth, and on the clothing and faces of the crowd. This went on for four minutes; and then the whirling stopped. Then all the fireworks began again. It was visible within a radius of twenty-five miles.

Then The Sun Fell . . .

The climax of this wonder was the fall of the sun from its place in the heavens. This was the phenomenon that brought the crowd to make Acts of Sorrow, and love of God. The spinning sun left its place in the sky and began falling in a zigzag manner upon the crowd below, sending out intense heat. The crowd was terrified, and prepared for death. Thousands fell on their knees in the mud, and made Acts of Sorrow for their sins. Then the sun zigzagged its way back to its normal place in the sky. When the people were convinced that the danger was over, they shouted: "Miracle, miracle! Praised be the Blessed Virgin!"

Of course there were scoffers in the crowd. Thanks to Our Blessed Lady, they were the hardest hit by their experience; and they left the place of the miracle happy, and with renewed confidence in, and genuine love for God and His Mother.

There was a divine purpose behind this miracle. Before this event, Our Lady had appeared many times to the three children, and had given them definite messages for the world. The miracle served to convince one of the reality of the apparitions at Fatima and the truth of her messages.

And Her Message Was . . .

"Lay! The faithfuul...must say H. Regaty. If they requests are heard, heaven will be convieted. Very, very much...for sinners."

On Wednesday afternoon, at 4:30 p.m., in the Holy Church of Sacred Heart Church, we shall repeat the Sorrow Devotions. This will be mixed with the famous Act of Contrition before the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar. At five "Lay public recitation of the Rosary, followed by Benediction. Be there! If not at 4:30, then at 5:30."