



Blessed Virgin Mary, Immaculate Queen of Peace Sodality Saint Augustine Catholic Church



The APPARITIONS OF OUR LADY OF KIBEHO (Rwanda, 1981-1989)

Rwanda is a small African country of seven million where fifty percent of the population are Catholic. Between 1981 and 1989 the Blessed Mother appeared to seven young people in the town of Kibeho, Rwanda. Our Lady of Kibeho is the only Vatican-approved Marian apparition that took place on the African continent.

On November 28, 1981, the Blessed Mother appeared to a pious 16-year-old, named **Alphonsine**. She described Our Lady "as not really white like you see in pictures". Although she "could not determine the color of her skin, she was an incomparable beauty and was dressed in white holding a rosary." Our Lady asked Alphonsine to join the Legion of Mary to "better realize her vocation". Our Lady stated that it was expedient that mankind suffers with Jesus, be apostles and prepare for his return. Many skeptics did not believe Alphonsine, and she was quarantined.

The apparitions of Our Lady between January 12, 1982 and December 3, 1983 were to **Anathalie** before thousands of people. Our Lady's message to the crowds was, "Wash yourself (go to confession), pray, fast and say the Rosary. Accept Mary as a guide on the road to Jesus, dedicate yourselves, and develop within yourselves the virtue of chastity, availability, and humility."

Between March 2, 1982 and September 15, 1983 Our Lady appeared numerous times to **Marie-Claire**. Although she was Catholic, she was not religious and discounted the previous apparitions. Eventually she sees herself as an apostle and she begins to encourage people to repent and meditate on the Passion of Jesus and Our Lady's deep sorrow. Our Lady told her "In order to obtain the graces of repentance people should say The Beads (Rosary) of the 7 Sorrows of Our Lady. Our Lady charged Marie-Claire to spread this Rosary to the whole world.

Our Lady appeared to **Stephanie**, the youngest visionary, over 15 times in 1982, between May 25th and December 15th. Our Lady's message was similar, "You must be converted, pray more, and mortify yourself. Satan wants to ruin you. Pray from the heart and with truth."

Vestine and her parents were Muslims who converted to Catholicism. Her public apparitions occurred from December 15, 1982 through December 14, 1983. Mary told Vestine to "not be attached to worldly goods, be humble, available to Jesus, forgiving and prayerful. We should accept our daily crosses and go to confession often." She continued by saying that "heaven is reachable through a narrow road, but Satan's road was wide with no obstacles." Vestine claims that Our Lady chose her to be the "Shepherd of the World". She walks with a walking stick symbolizing a shepherd's staff. Great numbers of people came to witness and were converted.

Emmanuel, an uneducated non-Christian, converted after Jesus appeared to him as a Rwandan, July 2, 1982. Jesus' profound message was to the laity, priests/religious. He stated that we are to receive penance and prepare for the coming of Jesus and the "Cast Judgment". Jesus said, "When I return to earth the soul will find the body it had before. Man will bring his own dossier. Those people who did well will go to Heaven. If they did evil, they would condemn themselves with no hope or appeal." Emmanuel said time is short before Jesus comes.

On August 4, 1982 and May 2, 1983, Our Lady and Jesus appeared to **Agnes** in her home. Jesus told her, "Tell the people to stop taking so many different roads. Choose the only way i.e., penance and detachment from the world and its things. Whoever thirsts for me, I will satisfy his thirst. Who trusts in me, he will never need of anything." On August 18th she received a message for the youth that stated that "they are using all means to love and be loved. They forget that true love comes from God. Stop being in the service to money. Follow the one way. You will be called to give yourself to God or form a family. No matter what, your vocation belongs to God."

The universal message of the apparitions of Our Lady of Kibeho is to pray the Rosary, repent, and offer your vocation to Jesus to receive eternal life.