

I have opened a center in Portugal

Izilda Lima [Withers]

May 2, 1973

Coimbra, Portugal



I am very happy to inform you that the country of Portugal now has a representative of our Family in this land, working to bring the good news to the Portuguese people. After having been with the movement for three years in America, one of which I spent with the First Mobile Unit of the One World Crusade in 1972, and the last three months directing the center in Tempe, Arizona, Master gave me a new mission in April of this year, to go to Portugal and start teaching the Principle there.

And here I am. Having arrived here four days ago, I had enough time to see where this country is spiritually. Like most of Europe it is dying. The religion practiced here is Catholicism, but it lacks the power to give the people vitality or hope for a better life. When I look at the poverty of the people, their pale empty faces, I want to cry. I pray to our Heavenly Father that through me he may give life and hope to the people, for my deepest desire is to establish a foundation here where Father can work.

I am Portuguese, born in the Azores Islands, and of Catholic background. And I am well aware of the fact that in 1917, Mary (Mother of Jesus) appeared to three children at Fatima, Portugal, and she gave a secret message to one of the children, Lucy, who is now a Carmelite nun at Coimbra, Portugal, (where I am establishing the center), and Pope John XXIII was to have revealed this message to the world in 1960. However, to our disappointment, 1960 came and went, and nothing was revealed.

The other day I met and spoke to a relative of Lucy, and I hope to teach her the Principle soon.

I join hands with my brothers and sisters throughout the world to fight bravely now at the cost of our lives to quickly win many children for Father, and with blood, sweat, and tears, destroy the evil power in the world, and restore it to our heavenly Father, and its rightful ruler. Mansei! Mansei! Mansei!