

Chapter 6
Wedding at Cana
Jacob Tintoretto
Marian Apparitions

Building off of Mary's instructions at the Wedding at Cana to the servers to "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5), in this assignment, students will further reflect on the role of Mary in the life of the Church. What other messages does Mary have for the Church? Students will turn their attention to places in the modern world where she has appeared and prompted a change in people's lives. They will be introduced to the meaning of a Marian apparition and explore three particular apparitions of the Blessed Mother, filling in pertinent details.

Chapter 6
Wedding at Cana
Jacob Tintoretto
Marian Apparitions

The Wedding at Cana, depicted by artist Jacob Tintoretto, is the first miracle of Jesus recorded in Scripture (Jn 2:1-11). Jesus is there as a guest like any other, until Mary approaches him with an urgent need. She informs him that the wedding couple has run out of wine—an embarrassing thing at any wedding! This couple was in need of some help, but what could be done?

Mary sees the need of this couple and immediately goes to her Son. Jesus doesn't have to do anything, but at the request of his Mother, he performs his first public miracle. This pattern, of Mary requesting favors of Jesus on the behalf of others, has persisted throughout history. Mary appears to people on earth, and at his Mother's request, Jesus fills their needs. We call these appearances of Mary *Marian apparitions*. Throughout history, there have been many of these apparitions around the world. Each time Mary is there to inspire others to have faith in her son, Jesus.

Read and record some basic information of three famous Marian apparitions under these titles: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes, or Our Lady of Fatima. As you complete your research, you write down the following details

Our Lady of Guadalupe

- Location
- Year
- Who did Mary appear to?
- What is the main message of the apparition?

Our Lady of Lourdes

- Location
- Year

- Who did Mary appear to?
- What is the main message of the apparition?

Our Lady of Fatima

- Location
- Year
- Who did Mary appear to?
- What is the main message of the apparition?

In this space, draw an image depicting one of these three apparitions.