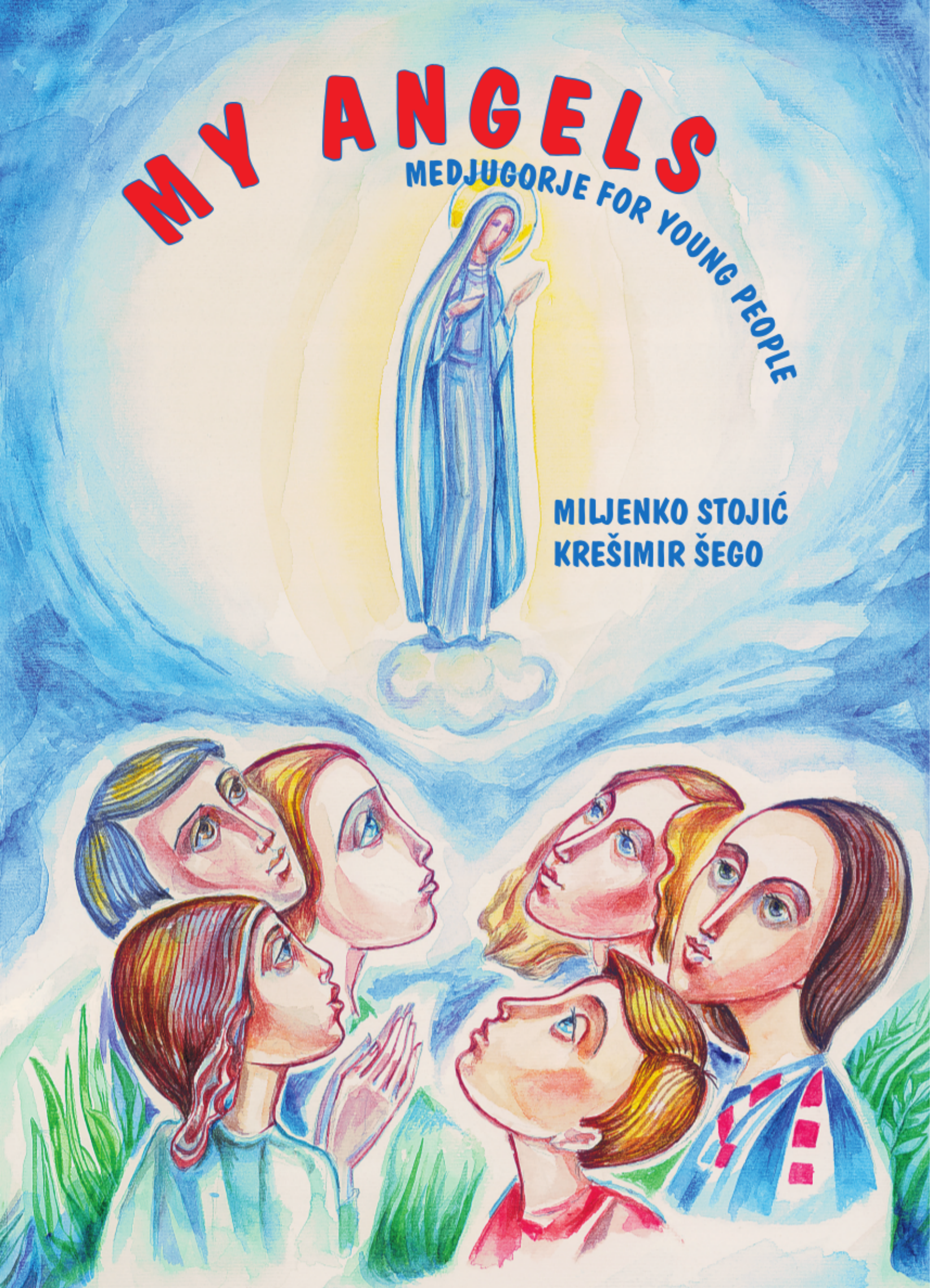


MY ANGELS

MEDJUGORJE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

MILJENKO STOJIĆ
KREŠIMIR ŠEGO



Miljenko Stojić • Krešimir Šego

MY ANGELS

Medjugorje for young people



www.medjugorje.hr

e-mail: medjugorje-mir@medjugorje.hr

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ARTIST: Aleksandar Saša Zvjagin

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MILJENKO STOJIC • KREŠIMIR ŠEGO

MY ANGELS

MEDJUGORJE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Informativni centar "MIR" Međugorje

MEDJUGORJE, 2005

WONDERFUL DAYS

THE FIRST DAY

That day the locusts were chirping like never before in the parish of Medjugorje. The sun was baking like a raging flame in the fireplace. The vineyards and tobacco fields were asleep as if in a stupor. It was Wednesday June 24, 1981, the year of Our Lord.

That afternoon when the heat had let up a little, six children from the hamlet of Podbrdo, outside the village of Bijakovici, went to the nearby mountain of Crnica to play and to look after the sheep. The school year was over and they were on holiday as had always been the way.

It was about twenty to six in the evening when suddenly an exceedingly beautiful light flashed before their eyes. The children stood dead still. A wonderful young lady with a child in her arms appeared to them floating on a little cloud. Amazed and frightened, they looked on. Ivanka said that it was Gospa.*

[* EXPRESSION FOR "OUR LADY" IN THE CROATIAN LANGUAGE]

They saw how she was smiling at them, but they were confused. She was giving them a sign with her hands to come closer to her. They didn't have the courage. They started to run down the mountain path.

They ran home all out of breath. "We saw Gospa!" they answered when asked why they were so excited. "You?! Saw Gospa?!" some said. "Don't make fun of God!" others chimed in. "You saw flying saucers!" continued still others. Hardly anyone believed them. "But we really saw Her!" the children kept saying.





THE SECOND DAY



No matter what the doubters said, the children weren't bothered. The next day they returned to the place where everything had happened. Again they waited for their Gospa. "But what if she doesn't come?" they wondered. "Then they will make fun of us and call us crazy," they said to themselves. All of a sudden they were looking at Her again. They ran towards Her through the briars and brush since there was no path there. They got all tangled up on the way, like little Jakov. But nobody cried! Their joy was too great.

Before them, they saw a smiling, happy lady in a long grey gown and a long white veil, with blue eyes, black hair... They dropped to their knees before Her and began to pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be to the Father. She prayed with them, but not the Hail Mary. Finally they found the courage to talk to Her. It was like talking to their very best friend. As that was their first real meeting, the day has since been celebrated as the anniversary of Our Lady's apparition. The children didn't think about that. For them it was beautiful. "Good-bye, my angels," Our Lady said to them at the end.

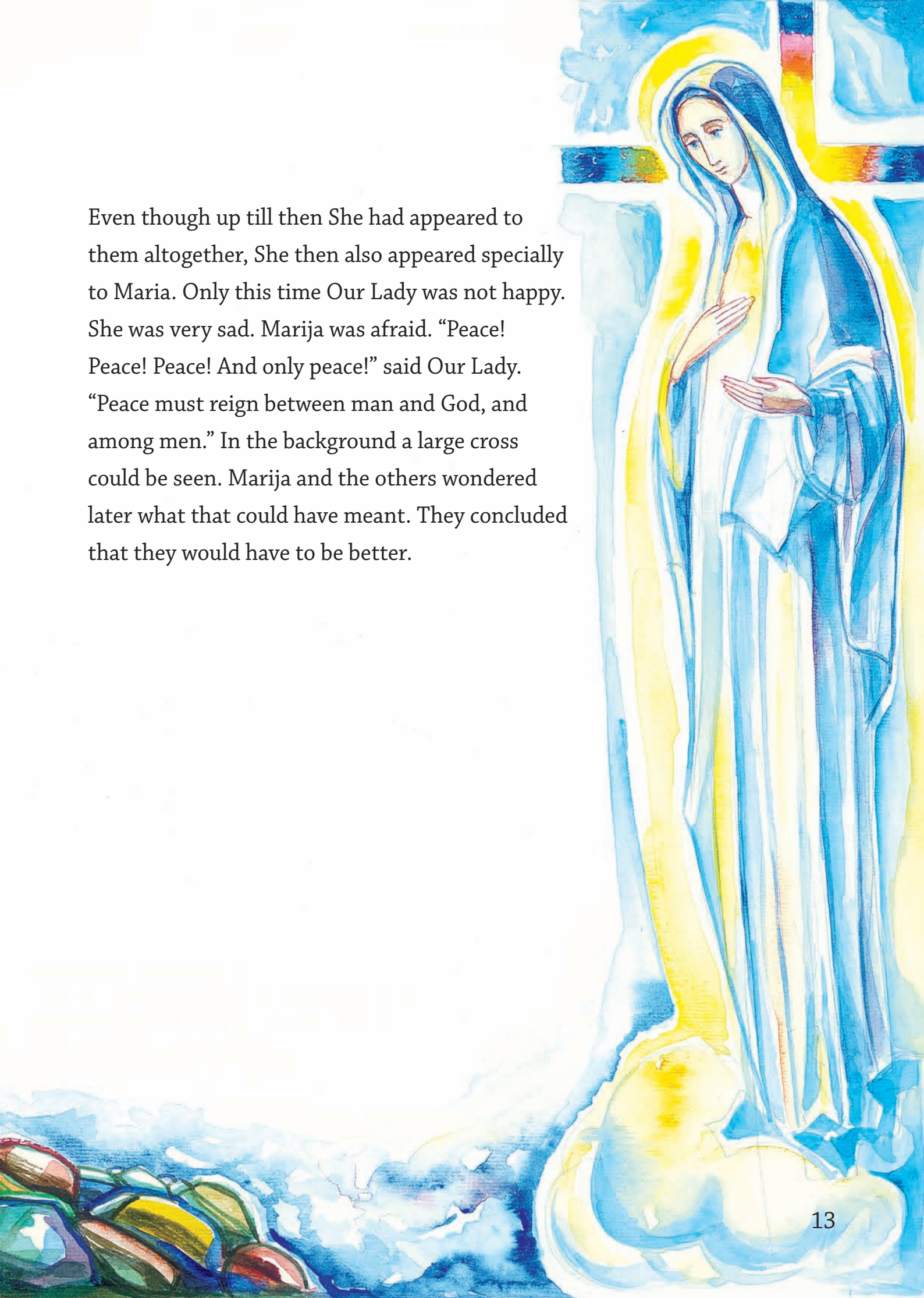


THE THIRD DAY

Very soon, the grown-ups were also beginning to get interested in what was happening. They started to advise the children what to do so everyone would be completely sure it was Our Lady. Vicka sprinkled the lady that appeared to them with holy water saying, "If you are Our Lady, stay with us. If you are not, leave us!" She just smiled and stayed with them. The children were happy. This proved that they had not been lying. Mirjana asked what Her name was. "I am the Blessed Virgin Mary," She answered.



Even though up till then She had appeared to them altogether, She then also appeared specially to Maria. Only this time Our Lady was not happy. She was very sad. Marija was afraid. "Peace! Peace! Peace! And only peace!" said Our Lady. "Peace must reign between man and God, and among men." In the background a large cross could be seen. Marija and the others wondered later what that could have meant. They concluded that they would have to be better.



THE FOURTH DAY



The children loved their priests. They taught them so many things in catechism, they played and joked with them. Our Lady also loved them. Jakov got up the courage to ask Our Lady what priests should be like. “Let them believe firmly and preserve the faith of their people,” came the answer. The priests present accepted that with satisfaction.

Only the witnesses to the miracle could hear Our Lady’s words, and they passed them on to the others. A great number of people gathered, praying, pushing, and crowding around. Sometimes they would step on Our Lady’s long veil. She did not get angry. Mirjana and Jakov begged Her to leave a sign so people would not call them liars or say they were on drugs. “Don’t be afraid of anything,” Our Lady told them.



THE FIFTH DAY



Word about Our Lady's apparitions spread far and wide. Looking from Crnica hill one could easily see how every road around was crowded with cars and people. Down in the valley the church of St. James stood out. The visionaries asked Our Lady why She wouldn't appear in the church to everybody so they could see Her and believe. Her words were, "Blessed are those who believe and do not see." Songs and prayer resounded through the valley and mountains.

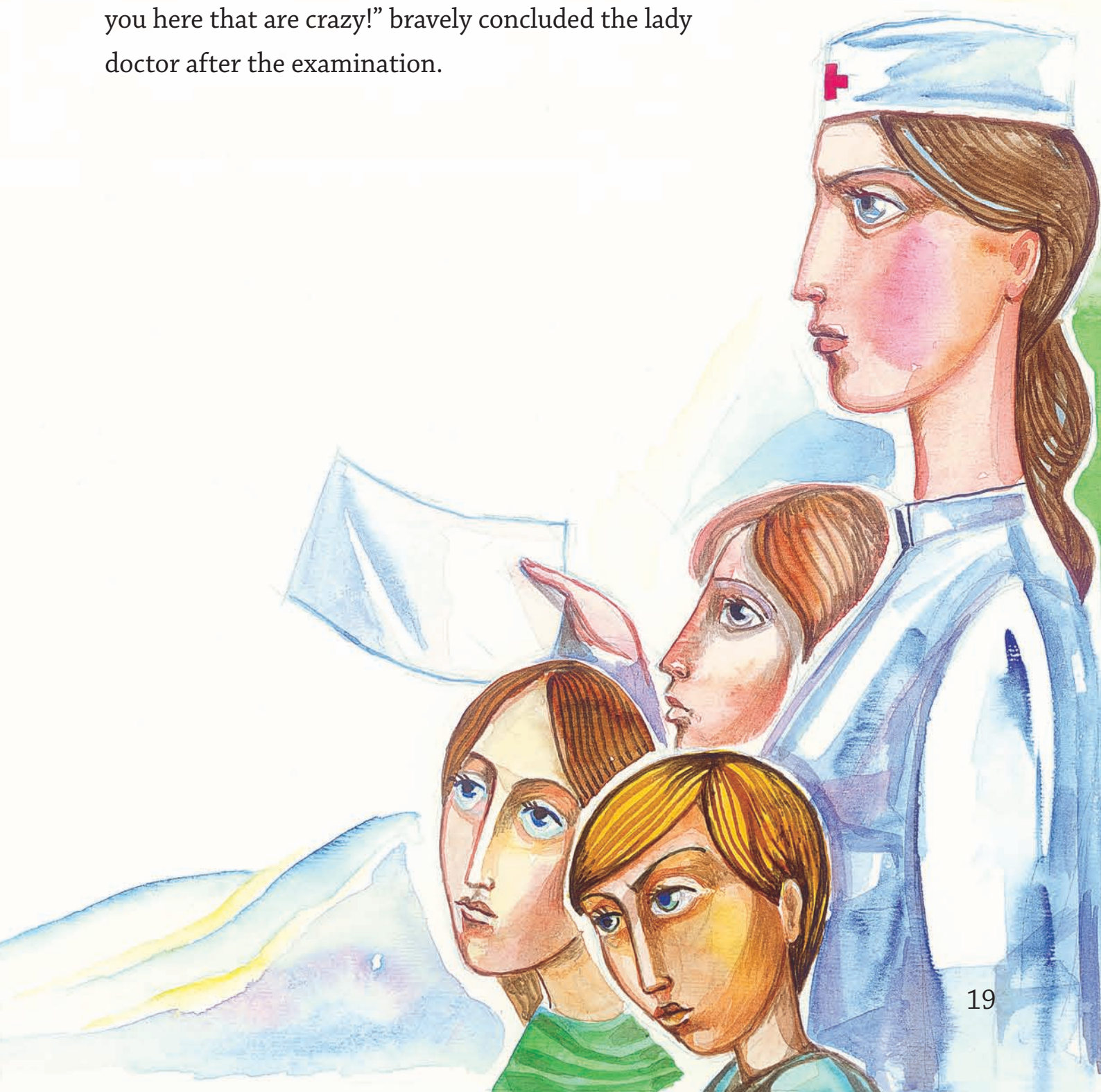
The pastor decided to talk with the children about everything that they had experienced. They were summoned to the tiny parish office. Some other priests and sisters were also present. The children said they had seen Our Lady and prayed with Her. They usually prayed the Creed, seven Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glory Bes. Sometimes they sang, and Our Lady also sang with them.



THE SIXTH DAY



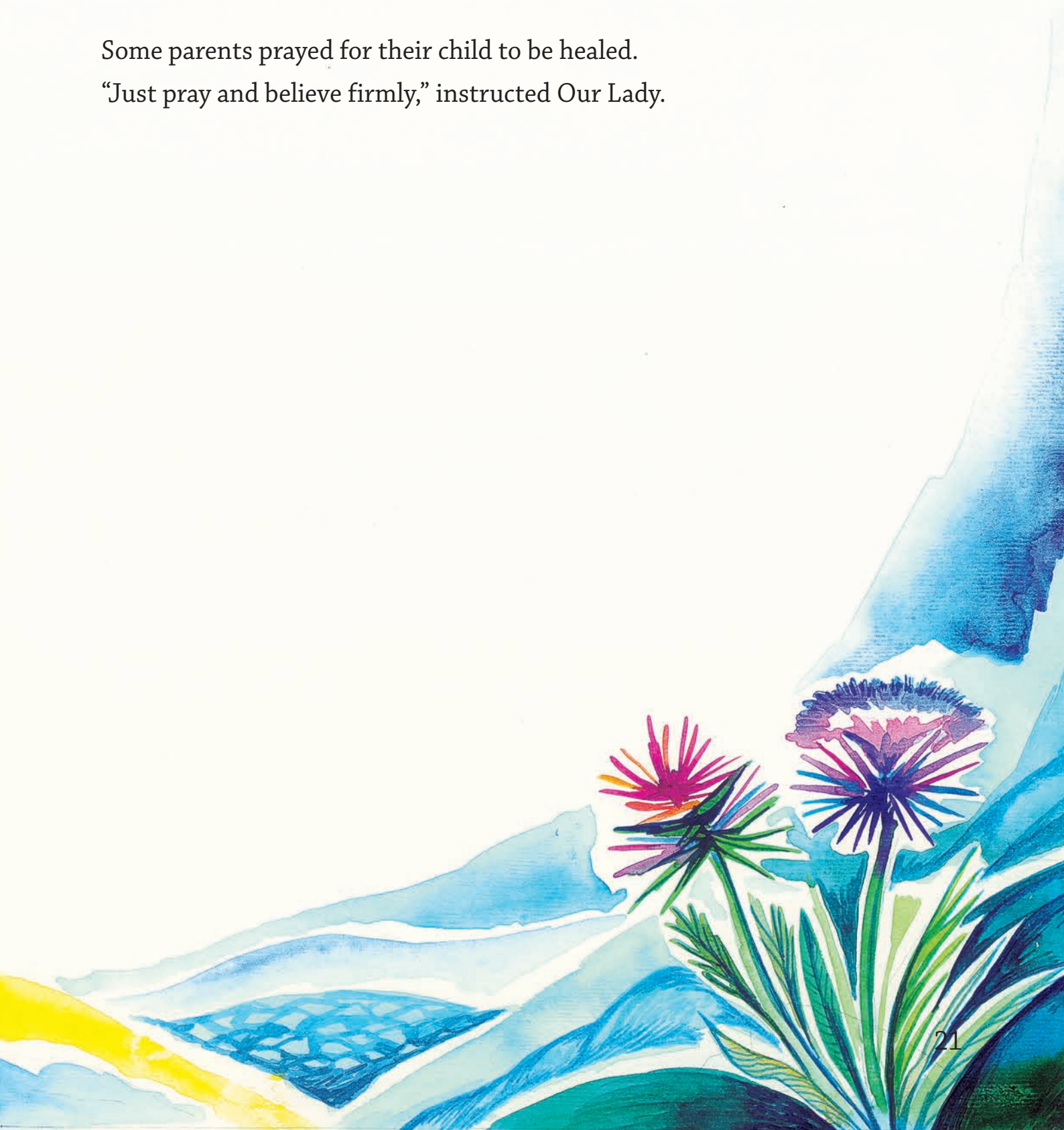
Despite now having the support of the parishioners, the state authorities still wouldn't give the children any peace. Now they were not only questioning them, but they also took them off by force to the hospital. They wanted to prove that the children were not of sound mind. They showed them the morgue. They kept on frightening them. They kept on making fun of them. "You aren't the crazy ones! It's the ones who brought you here that are crazy!" bravely concluded the lady doctor after the examination.





A lady doctor was also present on the mountain during the apparition. She was known not to believe in God. She strongly desired to touch Our Lady. A tingling sensation went through her body before touching Her. "There's something amazing here!" she said with surprise.

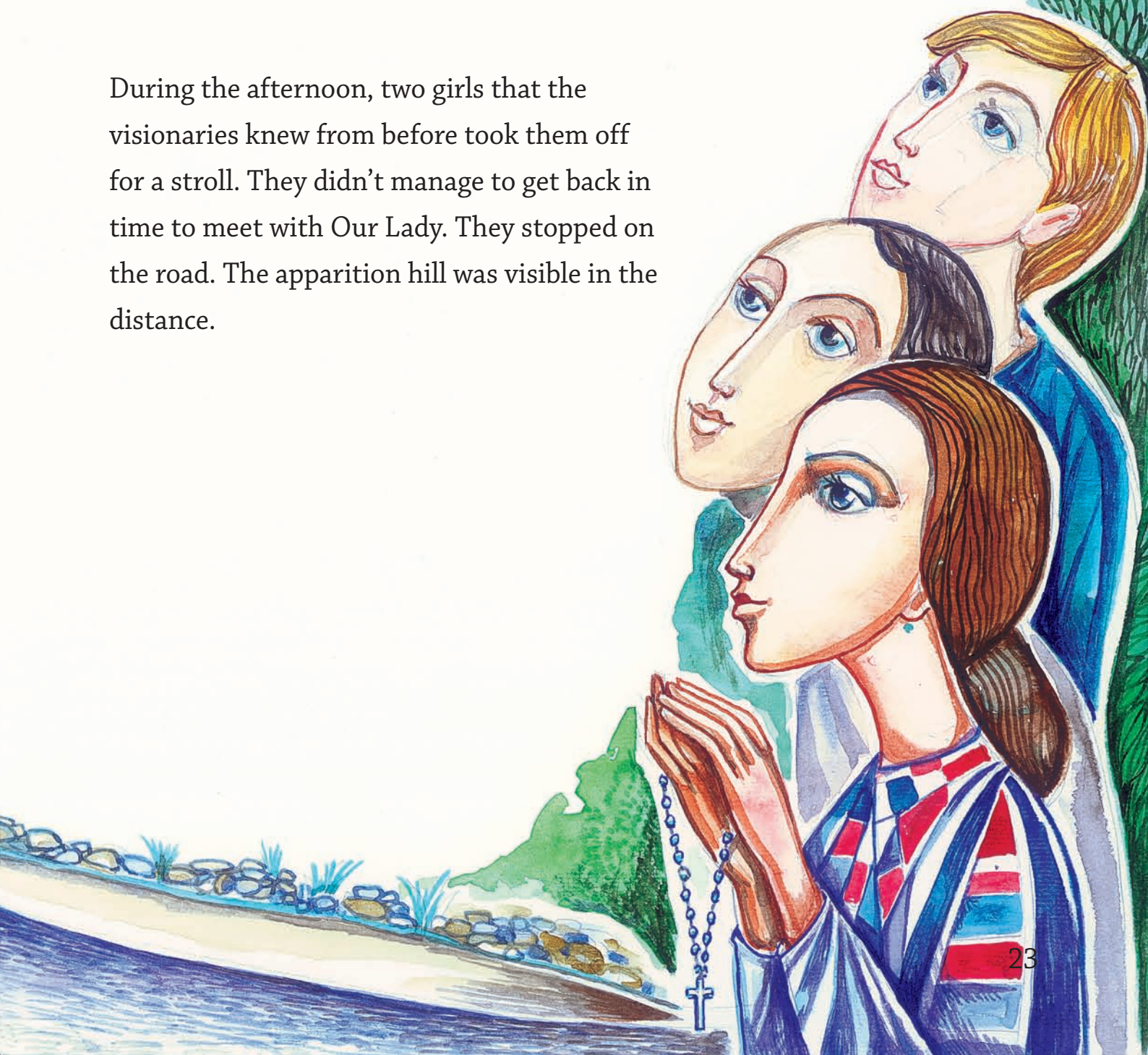
Some parents prayed for their child to be healed. "Just pray and believe firmly," instructed Our Lady.





THE SEVENTH DAY

During the afternoon, two girls that the visionaries knew from before took them off for a stroll. They didn't manage to get back in time to meet with Our Lady. They stopped on the road. The apparition hill was visible in the distance.

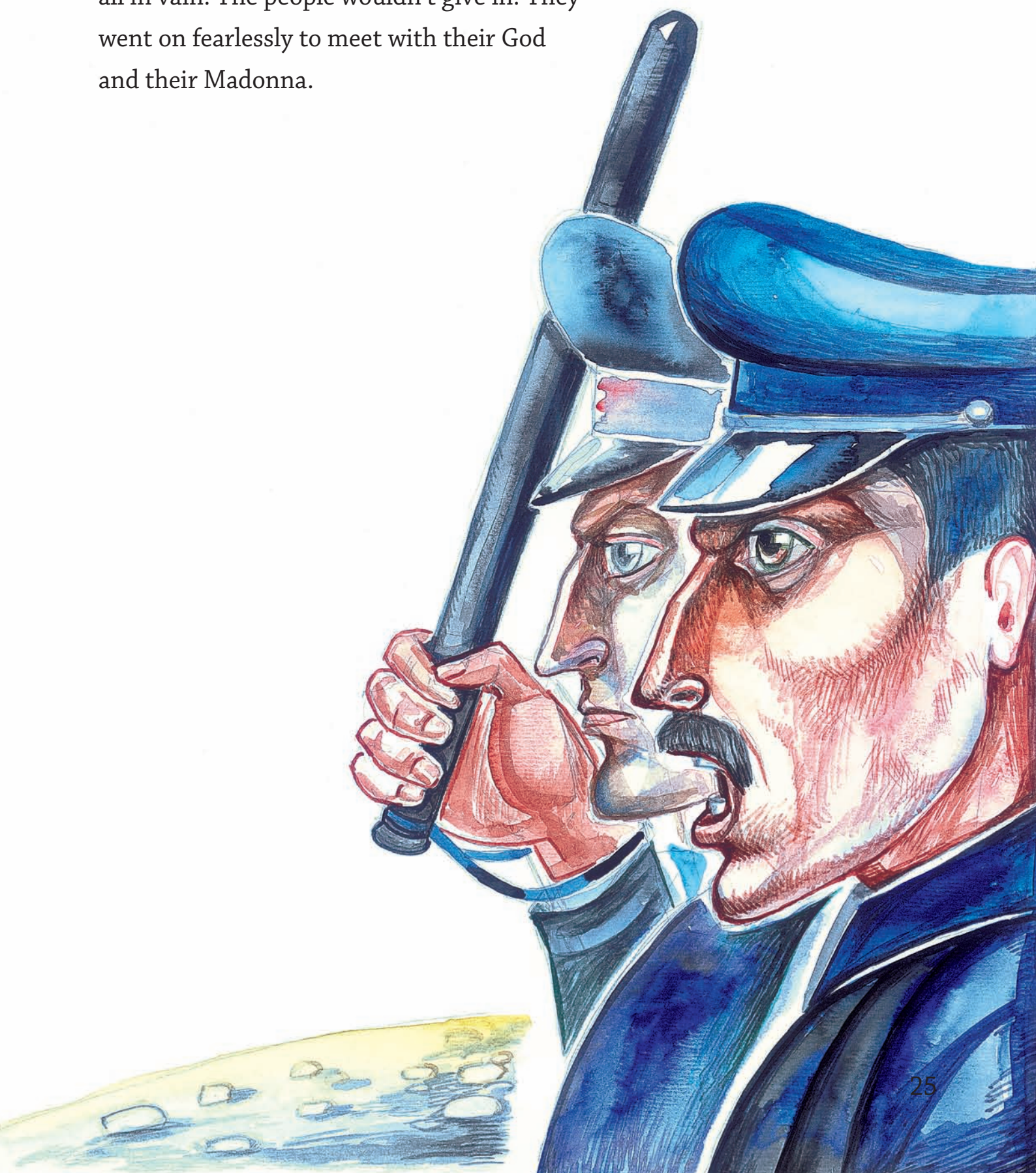


For the first time there were no people with them. They knelt down and prayed. Our Lady appeared to them. They were joyful. They had not wanted to fool Her or test Her. They were just a little bit late.

The police were already starting to detain people who testified that they had gone upon apparition hill. The godless communist authorities had ordered them to do it.

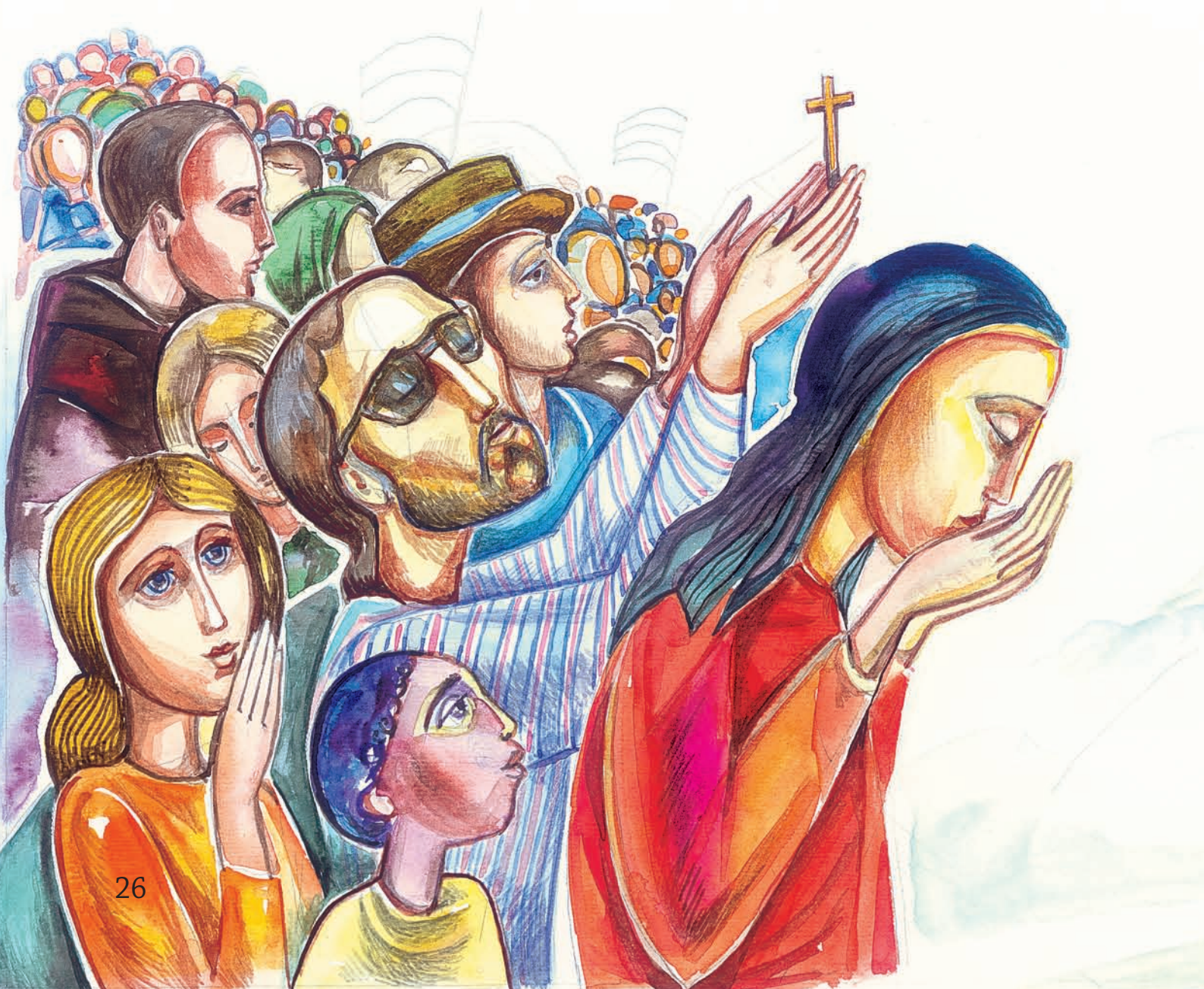


Neither then nor later did the people get upset. The police also knew how to frighten them with big blood hounds and armed soldiers and by beating them up. But it was all in vain. The people wouldn't give in. They went on fearlessly to meet with their God and their Madonna.



TODAY

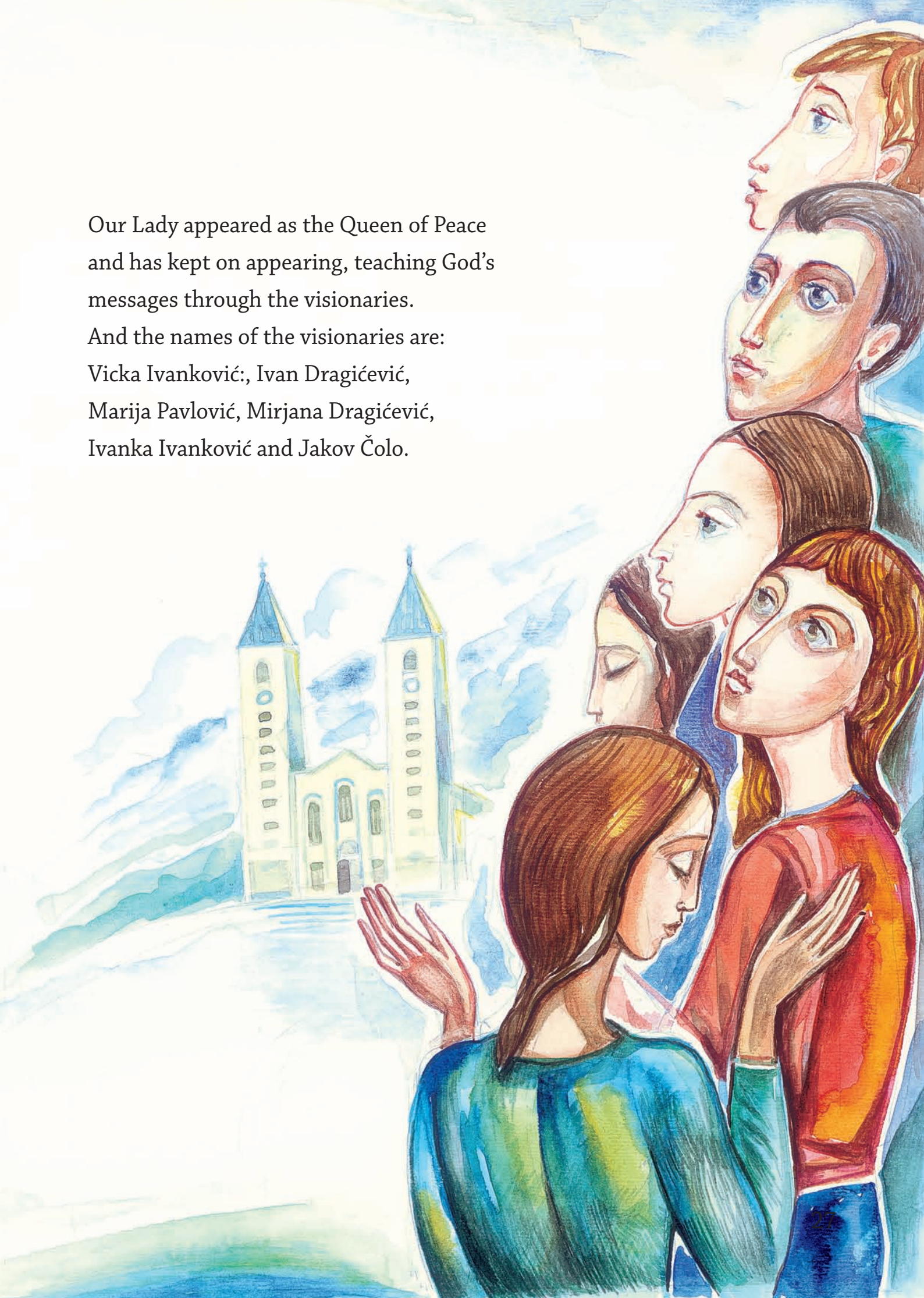
No obstacle could put an end to these wonderful days. They have continued on. The people gather around their visionaries and their priests. Together they all pray, sing, and go to confession in the parish church. People come from every corner of the world.



Our Lady appeared as the Queen of Peace
and has kept on appearing, teaching God's
messages through the visionaries.

And the names of the visionaries are:

Vicka Ivanković, Ivan Dragičević,
Marija Pavlović, Mirjana Dragičević,
Ivanka Ivanković and Jakov Čolo.



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MILJENKO STOJIĆ IS A FRANCISCAN PRIEST AND AUTHOR, BORN IN DRAGIĆINA NEAR MEDJUGORJE JUNE 1, 1960.
HE HAS A LICENTATE IN FRANCISCAN AND CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY.
HE IS A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CROATIAN AUTHORS. (www.miljenko.info)

KREŠIMIR ŠEGO WAS BORN FEBRUARY 11, 1950 IN MEDJUGORJE. HE GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO IN 1974 WITH A DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY. HE HAS PUBLISHED TEN BOOKS OF POETRY AND ESSAYS. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CROATIAN AUTHORS AND OF THE CROATIAN PEN CLUB.



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