



## Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth Statement Regarding Alleged Apparitions

The last words that can be attributed to the Blessed Virgin Mary with divine and Catholic faith are recorded in the Gospel of John as having been spoken by her at Cana, “Do whatever He tells you” (*John 2:5*). These must be believed because they are part of authentic revelation. There is nothing further to be revealed by God that has not already been fully revealed in Jesus Christ.

It is in light of this truth of the Catholic faith that one should assess claims of apparitions or of messages and miracles with prudence, always presuming the good will of anyone making such a claim, but with due regard for the integrity of the Catholic faith.

While from time to time apparitions do occur (Lourdes, Fatima, Tepeyac), the age of revelation ended with the death of the last apostle and all true apparitions are simply an appeal to obey the command of Christ: Repent and believe in the Gospel.

Recent claims made on websites and in social media have indicated that alleged apparitions and messages of the Blessed Virgin Mary, under a title of “Mystical Rose—Our Lady of Argyle,” have been authenticated by Bishop Michael Olson and the Diocese of Fort Worth. This is not true.

These claims of apparitions and messages are not verified or endorsed by the Church, and in no way are claims true that the Mystical Rose is a ministry of the Diocese of Fort Worth or of St. Mark Parish.

Bishop Olson does not encourage anyone to offer credence or support for these claimed apparitions.