

# Evidence of the Supernatural

A Special Report

By

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## Science Unearths the Supernatural

There is abundant evidence that the supernatural exists; that there is a spiritual world, that there are spiritual beings, that there is life after death, and there are dimensions beyond our own in which non-human intelligent beings are present.

The dictionary defines the term supernatural as “not existing in nature or not subject to explanation according to natural laws”. It is also defined as “of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible observable universe”.

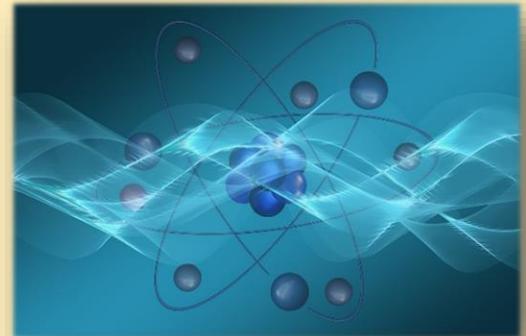
Well if that is the case, then modern science tells us that the supernatural exists. An order of existence beyond the visible observable universe immediately evokes what physicists have been talking about for decades: dark matter and dark energy. Scientists widely agree that the visible observable universe only makes up about 4 percent of all matter. The rest is matter that is invisible to us, known as dark matter, as well as dark energy. Scientists know it is there because without the gravitational effects of dark matter, galaxies would fly apart.

Many physicists believe that dark matter comes from higher dimensions, and that gravity is “leaking” from these dimensions. Apart from that, a popular theory in physics known as string theory has long predicted hidden dimensions.

Regarding supernatural being defined as “not existing in nature or not subject to explanation according to natural laws,” quantum physics immediately comes to mind. It is the branch of physics that seeks to explain how subatomic particles behave — i.e. particles smaller than the atom, such as electrons, photons and quarks. Physicists often use the adjectives “strange” or “weird” when describing quantum physics — because things happen that defy classical physics or common sense. And they admit they certainly cannot explain how it happens.

Here are some of the things subatomic particles can do:

- go through solid walls
- be invisible



- travel through time
- communicate instantaneously with other particles that are a billion light years away (and thus defying the speed of light)
- exist in many more dimensions beyond our own, and
- a single entity can be in multiple locations at the same time.

That sounds like what we associate with angels and the supernatural. So if hot-shot Ivy League scientists verify that such things happen in the quantum physics world, then it is not a stretch to infer that there is a spiritual world.

### **Compelling Accounts of Eyewitnesses**

But you don't have to look to quantum physics to realize that there have got to be other dimensions and intelligent beings that we cannot see. Just look to the thousands upon thousands of eyewitness accounts by people who have claimed to experience supernatural phenomena. Of course, we are all familiar with accounts of people seeing or hearing ghosts, or experiencing them in some other way such as inanimate objects moving without any obvious force acting upon them. There are also numerous accounts of people seeing apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jesus, saints, angels, as well as not-so-benevolent beings.

There are people who claim to hear voices from supernatural beings. And hearing voices, or interior locutions as they are often called, is a lot more widespread than one would think. A Dutch study carried out in the 1990s estimated that as much as 4 percent of the population hears voices or receives messages in some other supernatural manner. And we are not talking what psychologists call auditory hallucinations that come from the self. It is often obvious that such communications come from intelligent beings independent of the self, for example due to their ability to inform the hearer of events happening in other locations or even of future events.

There are also thousands upon thousands of personal testimonies of near-death experiences or out-of-body experiences in which people visit other worlds.

Especially if one only occasionally comes across such stories, it may be tempting to dismiss the various eyewitness accounts of supernatural encounters as coming from people who are fabricating, who are hallucinating, or who are mistaking natural phenomena with supernatural phenomena. But if one makes an effort to explore the



St. Faustina

vast literature on the subject, and read or listen to the vast number of testimonies by people who claim to have had an encounter with the supernatural, there comes a point when one has to conclude that there is truth to what they are saying.

There are numerous eyewitness accounts by highly religious people who have claimed to experience apparitions of and/or interior locutions from such figures as the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jesus, saints, and angels. The *Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*, for example, is an account of ongoing conversations between St. Faustina and Jesus during the 1930s in Poland. It is unfathomable to think she made up all of content of those nearly 700 pages — especially given that, from reading the diaries, it is obvious that she displayed the utmost integrity, morality, and upholding of Christian principles. She is not one who would continuously commit mortal sin by repeatedly breaking the Eighth Commandment — bearing false witness.

### **Exorcisms Prove the Reality of the Devil**

The same holds true for priests who are exorcists; it is hard to believe they would live a moral life (despite the bad apples involved in the sex abuse scandal, most priests are men of integrity), yet continuously break the Eighth Commandment when they speak of scientifically unexplainable phenomena that occur during exorcisms.

Widely reported phenomena during exorcisms include victims:

- being thrown around the room by no obvious force
- coughing up nails
- having knowledge of things they have no reason to know
- speaking in a language they have no competency in
- having inordinate strength
- carrying out bodily contortions in unnatural ways, as well as:
- unexplained movement of objects, and
- levitation.

Hollywood often sensationalizes such events, such as in the movie *The Exorcist*, but other movies are said to be quite realistic, such as the 2011 movie *The Rite* starring Anthony Hopkins, a true story based on the experience of Father Gary Thomas, the official exorcist for the Diocese of San Jose, California. There is a two-hour video available on YouTube in which he spoke to a large group of people at the University of Northern Colorado who had just viewed the movie, and in which he answers questions about what takes place at exorcisms. He verified that what went on in the movie, such as the bizarre phenomena listed above, goes on in real life. From watching his talk, Father Thomas appears thoroughly credible.



In the same talk, Father Thomas talks about a team of people who go with him on exorcisms, one of whom is a woman he calls a discerner, who he says actually has the ability to see the demons. Father Thomas looked out over the audience and said there likely were one or two people present in the audience who could do the same. Why don't they ever speak up? (And this holds true for those who hear voices.) Probably because they think everyone will consider them mentally ill, which is a byproduct of our highly secularized culture that is very skeptical of the supernatural.

### **The Devil Can Lead You to Holiness**

It is ironic, but making an effort to learn about exorcisms and demonic possessions can actually strengthen your faith and make you a better Christian. This is because such phenomena is:

- evidence of the supernatural
- evidence that demons and hell exist and by extension angels and heaven exist
- evidence that the Holy Trinity and the Blessed Virgin Mary exist because exorcists emphasize that invoking them are the most effective weapons to disempower the demons, and
- evidence that the Holy Catholic Church is the true Church of Christ. As Fr. Chad Ripperger of the Diocese of Denver said, "Of all the exorcisms I've done, there's hardly a doctrine of the Catholic Church to which the demons don't

object to. And that tells you that the doctrines of the Catholic Church are absolutely true, each and every one of them.”

We can call the phenomenon of demonic possession the devil’s dilemma. On the one hand, he loves to take possession of people. On the other hand, he doesn’t want to do this too much, otherwise he will make his existence obvious, prompting people to believe in him and therefore do everything they can to avoid becoming his slave and victim for all eternity.

An oft-repeated quote is: The devil’s greatest triumph is making the world think he doesn’t exist. The more he manifests himself, the more people will be convinced that there is direct evidence of a spiritual world and by extension, God, thus bring more people closer to God.

### **Yes Virginia, There Are Ghosts**

Do you believe in haunted houses? They actually exist. They are often actually demon-infested houses. There is a Catholic lay person by the name of Adam Blai who is an expert on the demonic and who assists priests in exorcisms. Look him up on YouTube or on his website [religioussdemonology.com](http://religioussdemonology.com). He comes across as quite credible.



According to him, there are two kinds of hauntings: by demons, and by ghosts. Ghosts, he says, are usually souls from Purgatory here on earth who want people to say prayers for them. Casper the Friendly Ghost is based on reality after all!

As one would expect, there are numerous videos and pictures of allegedly supernatural phenomena available on the Internet, such as pictures or footage of ghosts, demons, orbs, possessions, or of objects moving on their own. A lot of those pictures and videos could be genuine. But when trying to prove the supernatural, unfortunate we’ll have to throw them out as evidence. This is because, given the special effects movie technology of today, one cannot prove that they were not doctored or staged — unless of course you yourself took the picture or video and you personally know they were not doctored. But you may have a hard time convincing others that is the case.

## The Miracle of the Sun Proves it All

But let us look at another piece of evidence that by itself does prove the supernatural. Not only that, but it is a quick and easy way to prove:

- the existence of God
- the authenticity of the Gospels, and that
- the Catholic Church is the true Church of Jesus Christ.

The only tools you need are a computer and an Internet connection.

We are talking about the Miracle of the Sun. This is an event that occurred at Fatima, Portugal on October 13, 1917.

Prior to this event, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children several times beginning May 13, 1917. When the children asked her give a sign to the thousands of onlookers in order to prove that she was in fact appearing to them, she told the children that there would be a miracle on October 13 involving the sun.

Of course, there were a lot of skeptics, especially government officials and the secular press. Many reporters from Portuguese newspapers arrived that day along with about 70,000 other people. The newspapers were expecting to report on proving the children wrong about any sun miracle, and mock the whole notion. But as it turns out, the children were right. A supernatural phenomenon did take place.

This is something that can be proved, simply by digging up the newspaper accounts on the Internet. The accounts of course are in Portuguese, but there are plenty of English translations. Below is an article excerpt from *O Seculo*, a secular newspaper that no doubt was expecting to mock the event.



“From the road, where the carriages were crowded together and where hundreds of persons had stayed for want of sufficient courage to advance across the muddy ground, we saw the huge crowd turn towards the sun which appeared at its zenith, clear of the clouds. It resembled a flat plate of silver, and it was possible to stare at it without the least discomfort. It did not burn the eyes. It did not blind. We would say that it produced an eclipse. Then a tremendous cry rang out, and the crowd nearest us were heard to shout: ‘Miracle! Miracle!... Marvel!... Marvel!’ Before the dazzled eyes of the people, whose attitude transported us to biblical times, and who, dumb-founded, heads uncovered, contemplated the blue of the sky, the sun trembled, it made strange and abrupt movements, outside of all cosmic laws, ‘the sun danced’, according to the typical expression of the peasants.”



Now that is compelling evidence of the supernatural.

According to other witness statements, after a downfall of rain, the dark clouds broke and the sun appeared as an opaque, spinning disc in the sky. It was said to be significantly duller than normal, and to cast multicolored lights across the landscape, the shadows on the landscape, the people, and the surrounding clouds. The sun was then reported to have careened towards the earth in a zigzag pattern, frightening some of those present who thought it meant the end of the world. Witnesses reported that their previously wet clothes became "suddenly and completely dry, as well as the wet and muddy ground that had been previously soaked because of the rain that had been falling.”

The Miracle of the Sun proved that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to the three shepherd children. The many things that she told them were all consistent with the reality of God, the teachings of the Gospels, and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Again, all you need is a computer and an Internet connection to prove it.

### Conclusive Evidence at Medjugorje

There have been many, many other instances of the Blessed Virgin Mary appearing. Another well-known series of appearances, i.e. apparitions, began in 1981 in the town of Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina to a group of six people, or visionaries as they

are called. (A visionary in this instance is someone to whom a spiritual entity appears.) The apparitions have continued to the present day.

The Vatican is holding off on verifying that the apparitions are authentically of the Blessed Virgin Mary — because other spiritual entities have been known to impersonate her. Vatican policy is to wait until series of reported apparitions come to an end before making a final determination.

Whether Medjugorje is actually the Blessed Virgin Mary or not (and it most likely really is her), there is compelling evidence that the visionaries are seeing something or someone from the spirit world.



Medjugorje visionary Marjana Soldo  
(photo credit: M. Soldo book cover)

A number of scientific studies have been conducted on the visionaries during the alleged apparitions in order to better discern whether they are actually experiencing something supernatural. As reported in a 2001 paper published in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, researchers hooked up electrodes and other apparatuses to the visionaries in order to monitor their brain and other activity.

When two or more people are side by side and simultaneously witnessing something notable, their eye movements as well as many bodily movements and other reactions naturally are synchronized with each other. An observer could prove that they are all watching the same thing just by analyzing their synchronized eye movements and reactions.

In multiple studies, this was done on the visionaries at Medjugorje. Researchers reported seven areas of synchronism during the apparitional experiences. When the Blessed Virgin Mary allegedly appears before them, the visionaries all kneel down together usually simultaneously. During the apparition their voices disappear simultaneously while their lips are often still moving, and their voices return simultaneously when the visionaries say “who art in Heaven” which is apparently in response to when the Blessed Virgin Mary says “Our Father.”

Through the use of an electro-oculogram, the eyeballs of the visionaries were found to simultaneously look at precisely the same spot within one-fifth of a second of each other when the Blessed Virgin Mary allegedly appears.

Other noteworthy tests on the visionaries during the apparition include the following:

- Their eye movements at the end of the apparition correspond to looking at a real moving object. The study points out that eye movements of a person looking at a real moving object are different from those of a person looking at an imaginary moving object.
- A very bright light was placed in front of their eyes, yet they did not blink. The pupil contracted as one would expect, but there was no change in something called alpha rhythm, which the academic paper stated is scientifically inexplicable and had never been seen previously. For the pupil to respond, the brain must register the light but no brain wave change took place.
- Two of the visionaries do not blink at all during the entire time of the vision.
- Their larynx (voice box) shuts off — i.e. their voices stop — but all the muscles involved in speech continue (mouth, jaw and throat muscles). This is said to be physically impossible, because laryngeal function cannot be physically isolated from the rest of the muscles of speech, according to the study. The visionaries said they hear their own voices during the apparitions and are surprised others cannot hear them.
- An input of ninety decibels — equivalent to a loud explosion — elicited no reaction. Again, this is scientifically unexplainable.
- There is no reaction to pain. When touched with an algometer, which causes a cutaneous lesion or skin burn, the visionaries showed no sensitivity to it whatsoever.

## **The Visionaries of Garabandal**

Similar unexplainable phenomena took place during the visions of the children at Garabandal, Spain in the early 1960s. They would all walk in sync with each other during the visions, and often walked backwards in sync. They knelt on sharp rocks yet never seemed to get hurt. Their bodies were impossible to lift — as if they weighed tons. They did not react to pricks, burns or blows. Powerful beams of light did not cause their eyes to flicker or even blink, but subsequent to the apparition they immediately shielded their eyes.

## **You Can't Make This Stuff Up**

Apart from the above, there is tremendous additional evidence of supernatural phenomena. They include:

- near-death experiences
- medically unexplainable miraculous healings
- encounters with angels
- eucharistic miracles in which consecrated communion hosts turn into real flesh and blood (of Jesus)
- Virgin Mary statues shedding tears
- Indestructability of Virgin Mary paintings and images (such as the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe)
- incorrupt bodies/corpses of saints
- and many, many more.

There is an avalanche of evidence of supernatural phenomena. You most likely will not come across such evidence just from reading or watching popular media. The media tend to shy away from reporting on such evidence, due to natural skepticism of the supernatural or for fear of offending persons of various beliefs. But if you do a little digging on your own — through Internet research, books, and speaking with persons who have undergone supernatural experiences — you are bound to be impressed by the evidence.

A hardened skeptic may be accustomed to assuming that every account of the supernatural is a fabrication or hallucination. He or she likely only occasionally comes

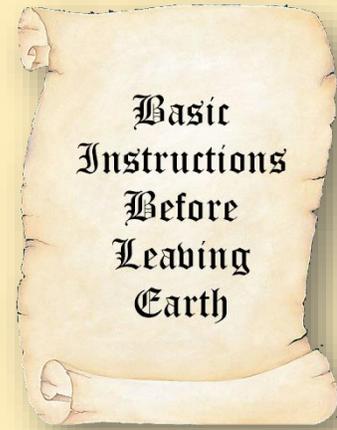
across bits and pieces of such accounts, without ever doing any in-depth investigation. But upon looking into dozens, hundreds, or thousands of reports of supernatural experiences, even that hardened skeptic eventually will get to a point where he has to admit, “these people are not making this stuff up.”

### Where to Find Out More About the Supernatural World

Once one is convinced that a supernatural world does exist, then it is incumbent upon that person to learn everything one can about it. But how can we know anything about it, and how can we know how to live our lives in this world in order to better prepare ourselves for the supernatural world, once we get there?

Fortunately, the Creator of both worlds gave us a how-to manual. It is a lengthy document titled “Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth”, better known by its acronym. (Okay, so maybe that wasn’t originally what it stood for.) It is an incredibly long and complicated document written thousands of years ago, so it does not lend itself to easy interpretation.

Fortunately, the Creator gave us a teaching authority to help us properly understand and interpret the ancient and lengthy document referred to above. That teaching authority is the 2,000 year-old Catholic Church. If you have not done so already, be sure to attend its religious education sessions, along with its praise and worship events which take place every Sunday morning.



*For more on proof of God, proof of the Gospels, proof of the Catholic Church, and discourse on other important topics, visit [www.seventimes70.com](http://www.seventimes70.com).*