

First Saturday Devotion... Origins

On June 13, 1917 when she appeared to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal, the Most Holy Mother of God told Lucia dos Santos, "Jesus wishes to make use of you to make me known and loved. He wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. I promise salvation to those who embrace it, and these souls will be loved by God like flowers placed by me to adorn His throne."

The next month, on July 13, the Blessed Virgin Mary showed the children a terrifying vision of hell. Then she said, "You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will peace... I shall come to ask for...

the Communion of reparation on the first Saturdays...

First Saturday Devotion... Conditions

Our Lady came to Lucia again, as she promised, eight years later on December 10, 1925, with the Child Jesus in the Dorothean convent at Pontevedra, Spain. The Blessed Virgin revealed a heart encircled by thorns. The Child Jesus said: Have compassion on the heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation..."

First Saturday Devotion... The Signification

Our Lady spoke next, saying: "Look, my daughter, at my heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men piece it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

Christians have always honored the Blessed Virgin on Saturday because of her constant faith in Jesus on that first Holy Saturday before the Resurrection.

On May 29, 1930 Our Lord explained to Sister Lucia why for the five first Saturdays devotion. The five because of five kinds of offenses and blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart of Mary: (1.) Immaculate Conception, (2.) her Perpetual Virginity, (3.) her Divine and Spiritual Maternity of Mary and the refusal to accept her as the Mother of all mankind, (4.) rejection and dishonoring of her images and (5.) not implanting in the hearts of children a knowledge and love of this Immaculate Mother.

The Blessed Virgin Mother revealed a heart encircled by thorns.



Blessed Virgin Mother



Jacinta Marto, Lucia Dos Santos and Francisco Marto True picture of the three children of Fatima, Portugal. (L to R)

Fifteen Promises of the Most Holy Mother of God to Christians Who Recite the Rosary

- 1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.
- 2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who recite the rosary.
- **3.** The rosary shall be a powerful armour against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
- 4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
- 5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the rosary, shall not perish.
- 6. Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
- 7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
- 8. Those who are faithful to recite the rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plentitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
- 9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the rosary.
- 10. The faithful children of the rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
- **11.** You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the rosary.
- 12. All those who propagate the holy rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
- 13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
- 14. All who recite the rosary are my sons, and bothers of my only son Jesus Christ.
- **15.** Devotion of my rosary is a great sign of predestination.

Imprimatur: Patrick Joseph Cardinal Hayes Appointed in 1919 Archbishop of New York Appointed in 1924 Cardinal-Priest of S. Maria in Via Died on Sep 4, 1938