

The Death of Jacinta

Jacinta was the second of the Fatima children to die. Like her brother Francis she succumbed to Spanish influenza. One day she confided to Lucy, "The Blessed Virgin has told me that I shall go to a hospital in Lisbon, that I shall not see my parents again, that after suffering much I shall die all alone, but that I must not be afraid for she will come and take me to Heaven."

It happened just as Our Lady foretold. In 1920 Jacinta was taken to the hospital with pleurisy. She suffered greatly, and to encourage her Our Blessed Mother appeared to her many times. One day when one of the hospital Sisters dropped into Jacinta's room for a visit, she said, "Could you come back later? I am expecting the Blessed Virgin any minute."

These visits of the Mother of God gave Jacinta supernatural foresight. On February 20, 1920 she asked for the Last Sacraments, saying she was going to die. The pastor came and heard her confession, but because there was no sign of the approach of death, he judged it wise to delay giving the little girl Holy Viaticum until morning. But Jacinta's warning was true. She died suddenly the following morning, alone with her nurse. She was hardly ten years old.

The devotion of the people was so great that Jacinta's body had to be left exposed for veneration for three days. Her body was placed in a lead coffin and covered with quicklime and placed in a vault near Fatima.

Fifteen years after the sealing of the casket, the remains were transferred to the cemetery in Fatima to rest beside little Francis her brother. At this time the Bishop opened the coffin and discovered Jacinta's body intact. This was a prodigy, since the girl had died of purulent pleurisy and her body had been covered with quicklime.

The Rosary was the great devotion in Jacinta's life. Desiring that her little missionary know how to say the Rosary well, Our Blessed Mother appeared to her on Ascension Thursday, 1918 and taught her the meaning of the Glorious, Joyful and Sorrowful mysteries.

After the apparitions, Francis spent his life in saying the Rosary and doing penance as consolation for Christ, while Jacinta gave her life for the conversion of sinners.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Dan Egan, uncle of Father Howard Kenna, CSC. Four Special Intentions. (Ill) mother of Howard Wurth (Sor).

Help! Help!

Did you find a pair of glasses on the campus shortly after Ascension Thursday? The owner is very much in need of them. So, in your charity, hurry them over to the Prefect of Religion's Office in Dillon Hall.

Late Mass daily: 7:20 A.M. Dillon and Cavanaugh chapels.

don't forget novena for exams

