

University of Notre Dame
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Tomorrow: Devotion Of The First Five Saturdays

Tonight, in Portugal, there is a little Carmelite nun who, in 1917, saw the Blessed Virgin at Fatima. She is Sister Lucy of the Seven Dolours -- the remaining one of the trio of children who witnessed the miraculous events in the obscure mountain village that is now famous throughout the Christian world.

On December 10, 1925, Our Lady made known to Sister Lucy her special mission in these words: "My child, behold my Heart surrounded with the thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment, by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console me, and tell them that --

I promise to help at the hour of death, with the graces needed for salvation. whoever, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess and receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation."

What a striking similarity between these words of our Blessed Mother and those of Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary:

Apparently the practice of the First Saturdays is to run parallel to the first Friday devotions. And just as every Friday is a day of reparation to the Sacred Heart, but with a special promise regarding the nine First Fridays, so, too, every Saturday is to be a day of reparation to the Heart of Mary, with a special promise regarding the Five First Saturdays.

Remember what is required -- a) Communion of reparation
b) Five decades of the Rosary
c) A 15-minute meditation on one or all mysteries.

Our Blessed Mother told Lucy that her Divine Son "wishes the faithful to receive Holy Communion on the first Saturday, as on the first Friday of each month, for the triumph of truth and the conversion of Russia."

And little Jacinta, before she died, said: "Tell everybody that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary... Ask them to plead for peace from the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the Lord has confided the peace of the world to her."

And in 1946 Lucy repeated: "When a sufficient number of persons are offering sacrifices and fulfilling Our Lady's requests, Russia will be converted and there will be peace."

This Sunday In Sacred Heart Church

Father Hesburgh, C.S.C., President of the University, will preach at all the Masses. He will preach to the Freshmen at the 7, 8, and 9 o'clock Masses; to the Upperclassmen at the 10:15 and 11:15 Masses. There will be no Senior Masses in the Senior halls on this particular Sunday, nor any Club Masses in the other halls.

Today at 5 p.m. -- Benediction in Sacred Heart Church.

Tonight at 6:45 -- Novena to the Sorrowful Mother in Sacred Heart Church.

PRAYERS -- Deceased: aunt of John Mack of Farley. Ill: father of Jim Mutschler; cousin of John Mack of Farley. Two special Intentions.