A Message from Father David

Dear friends in Christ:

In conclusion to my series on the Most Holy Rosary and upon further personal reflection, I feel called to begin saying morning mass on the First Saturdays of the Month, beginning in December (for the new Church year). This devotion is a very impactful/powerful one that has been around since Sr. Lucia Dos Santos (the oldest of the three Fatima seers) received an additional apparition from the Blessed Virgin Mary.

It happened on December 10th, 1925, 8 years after the original apparitions in Fatima, Portugal, at the convent where Sister Lucia was now in residence in Pontevedra, Spain, as a Carmelite Religious Nun. In this apparition The Blessed Virgin Mary talked to Sr. Lucia about the Five First Saturdays. Mary said:

*See, my daughter, my heart, encircled by thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Do you, at least, strive to console me? Tell them that I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for the salvation of all those who, (in order to make reparation to me), on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to Confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary.* (Blessed Virgin Mary to Sr. Lucia)

Why the number 5? Five Saturdays instead of 7 or 10 relates to 5 kinds of blasphemies and offenses perpetrated against the Mother of God. Her Son, Jesus, revealed these five sins against His Mother to Sr. Lucia on May 29-30th, 1930:

1. Blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception
2. Blasphemies against Her Perpetual Virginity
3. Against Her Motherhood and Mankind’s refusal to receive Her as the Mother of All
4. Those who scandalize children to disrespect Our Immaculate Mother
5. Those who revile/disrespect her Sacred Image

And so what is necessary to make reparation and to gain the promise of Mary’s protection and grace upon our death?

* Attend Mass and receive communion on the First Saturday of Five consecutive months
* Go to confession (I believe it has to be within 8 days of the first Saturday mass)
* Pray five decades of the rosary on first Saturday
* Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the rosary (this is addition to praying the five decades of the rosary

**December 7th St. James Church 9am Rosary, Mass after Rosary and confessions from 10-10:45.**

I pledge to keep First Saturday’s free from scheduled funerals, and vacation time. If I must be away I will call another priest to cover the mass and confessions.

God bless us through Mary His Mother.

More to come…

God bless and have a good week everyone!

Fr. David