

Why First Saturday?

Because Our Lady of Fatima, Our Heavenly Mother, requested it
and because Jesus loves his mother

The initial request was made by our Lady of Fatima in 1917 to the three shepherd children. Later details were given to Sister Lucia (the eldest of the children) at her convent Pontevedra. Appearing with the Queen of Heaven was the infant Jesus, who said to Lucia, “Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother. It is covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce at every moment and there is no one to remove them with an act of reparation.”

To complete this devotion to our Most Holy Mother on the First Saturday of five consecutive months:

- Go to Confession
- Receive Holy Communion
- Say five decades of the Rosary
- Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary
- Recite the Act of Reparation prayer – See back

All this is offered in reparation for the sins of blasphemy and ingratitude committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Why Five Saturdays? Five Saturdays correspond to the five kinds of offenses and blasphemies Jesus said are committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

1. Blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception
2. Blasphemies against Her virginity
3. Blasphemies against Her divine maternity, at the same time the refusal to accept Her as the Mother of all men.
4. Instilling indifference, scorn and even hatred towards this Immaculate Mother in the heart of children
5. Direct insults against Her sacred images.

For those who faithfully fulfill Her Five First Saturdays request Mary made a promise – “I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation.”

• Interesting: During the Fatima apparitions, Mary warned of the “errors of Russia” – The Miracle of the Sun took place on Oct. 13, 1917, the final apparition. The Bolshevik Revolution, led by Vladimir Lenin, occurred on Oct. 25, 1917.

• **A special Mass is offered every 1st Saturday at St. Peters at 8:30 a.m. with rosary and confession at 8 a.m. Act of Reparation Prayer following Mass.**

Act of Reparation Prayer – reverse side

ACT OF REPARATION PRAYER

O Most Holy Virgin and our Mother,

We listen with grief to the complaints of your Immaculate Heart surrounded with the thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude.

Moved by the ardent desire of loving you as our Mother and of promoting a true devotion to your Immaculate Heart, we prostrate ourselves at your feet to prove the sorrow we feel for the grievances that men cause you, and to atone, by means of our prayers and sacrifices, for the offenses with which men return your tender love.

Obtain for them and for us the pardon of so many sins. A word from you will obtain grace and amendment for us all.

Hasten, O Lady, the conversion of sinners, that they may love Jesus and cease to offend the Lord, already so much offended, and will not fall into hell.

Turn your eyes of mercy toward us, that henceforth we may love God with all our heart while on earth and enjoy Him forever in heaven. Amen.

Note: Confession during the week, preceding the First Friday will suffice for the first Saturday. The rosary may be recited at any convenient time of the day, and the 15 minute meditation on the 15 mysteries of the Rosary.