



The First Five Saturday Devotion is based on Our Lady's Fatima Messages to the three small children, Lucia dos Santos, Francisco Marto and Jacinta Marto. In the apparitions which occurred in Fatima, Portugal and commenced on 13th May 1917 and continued on the 13th day of each consecutive month for the next five months. Part of the Fátima message is that God is asking us to make reparation for the sins of the world. The Angel in 1916 taught the children prayers of reparation and asked them to do penance. The Blessed Virgin also called for prayers and acts of reparation, and, on July 13, 1917, she promised that she would return to request a special kind of reparation. She did this in 1925, appearing to Lucia, now a novice in a Spanish community. "Look,

my daughter, at my Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce me 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 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 the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me." This is a request that is ongoing, and one as needed today, if not more so, than in 1925. It is also one within the reach of every Catholic. And in fulfilling it, we please Our Lord, who like any son is pleased by others coming to the defense of his mother's honour.