

# CHILDREN OF THE EUCHARIST

## SCHOOL OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

At Fatima Portugal in 2000, at the Beatification Ceremony of Blessed Francisco and Blessed Jacinta, Pope John Paul II spoke these words to the thousands of children present:

*Dear Boys and Girls: Our Lady needs all of you to console Jesus, Who is sad because of the bad things done to Him. She needs your prayers and your sacrifices for sinners. Ask your parents and teachers to enroll you in the 'School of Our Lady' so that she can teach you to be like the Little Shepherds who tried to do whatever she asked them.*

These words of Blessed John Paul II inspired **CHILDREN OF THE EUCHARIST** to develop a program for children based on the visits of the 'Angel of Peace' to the Fatima Shepherds whereby he introduced them to this 'School of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.'

Our Lady of Fatima sent the Angel as a *Tutor of Love* to pave the way for her coming and to place the three Shepherd Children, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, into the *loving and true presence* of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Angel taught them how to adore Jesus and prayers of reparation to pray while in His Eucharistic Presence. He also guided them into the *school of adoration, prayer, penance, and sacrifice, the 'school of love'*, which is none other than the *School of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*.

Our Lady desired to present a *simple way* for the Little Shepherds, and, through their example, for all the children and young people of the world – for all humanity – to make peace with God as He pours His grace into our families and the world.

**THIS IS NOT A NEW WAY ~ it is a way initiated by the Queen of Heaven,  
approved by the Church, and lived by saints for centuries,  
notably by St. Thérèse of Lisieux, a Doctor of the Church.**

*The hearts and souls of the Little Shepherds were set aflame with love!*

In her *Memoirs*, Lucia stated:

*"We received from the experience of the Angel of Peace '...a light which made us understand who God is, how He loves us and desires to be loved, the value of sacrifice, how pleasing it is to Him and how, on account of it, He grants the grace of conversion to sinners.'"*

When this light was given to them, they immediately began to *live* heaven's requests, not because of a command, but *out of love*.

If sacrifices have their origin in love, they begin to change us one step at a time. This is the path upon which the 'Angel of Peace' sent the children and they entered totally and deeply into an intimate relationship with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Lady then continued to gently guide them on their earthly journey to her Divine Son, Jesus. They were thus transformed into saints.



**God Is Love:** Children and young people need to know that God loves them and that He wants to be loved by them. Too many in the world do not love God because they do not know Him as they should and that He desires their love. By encouraging this *school of love* to children and youth, encouraging them to make loving visits to Jesus in the Tabernacle, and praying throughout the day and showing their love through sacrifices, the children will take on the heart of Blessed Francisco. The Little Shepherd said, *"I am sad, because He is sad, and I wish to console Him."*

Children and the youth of the world need to know that God loves all people and that there are those who are in danger of going to Hell. Out of love, children can offer prayers and sacrifices to God for souls who do not pray for themselves and do not have anyone to pray for them. It is through the transcendent value of love, which is the very basis on which such an offering exists that God, Who is Love, grants the grace of conversion to sinners.

## SCHOOL OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

### FIVE EASY STEPS

**Summarized for teachers and parents helps them to enroll their students or children into the School of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, along with the Booklet**

*My Visit with the Hidden Jesus*

**explaining the visits of the Angel of Peace and Leader-led Eucharistic Holy Hour.**

**Excellent catechetical resource for the parish, religious education programs and the family.**

**MY PROMISE CARD:** The Promise Card invites the child to become part of a worldwide mission to help Our Lady of Fatima bring the world back to God. Signing the card and placing it in a place of great honor in the classroom or home is an important reminder for the child.

**THE FIVE STEP CARDS** introduce the requests Our Lady of Fatima and the Angel of Peace made to the Three Shepherd Children. Children of all ages and families can *live* the Gospel message by following these five steps – the way of the Little Shepherds – in the *School of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*.

**Step One: MORNING OFFERING CARD:** This card teaches the value of the 'Morning Offering,' explaining to children that this offering is a spiritual necessity of their day, making everything they do a sacrifice and offering to the Most High God. This is a perfect way to respond to the request of Jesus to '*pray always*' and stay in touch moment to moment with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The child's daily prayers, works, joys and sufferings offered to God in reparation for the offenses committed against Him and the Immaculate Heart of Mary help bring about the conversion of the world.

**Step Two: VISITS WITH JESUS CARD:** An invitation from Jesus to "Come Visit Me!" inspires the child to spend time with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. These visits can be with the family or alone, or as a religious education classroom activity using the *My Visit with the Hidden Jesus* booklet with its leader-led Eucharistic Prayer Format. The 'Fatima Pardon Prayer' and 'Most Holy Trinity Prayer' are included to help the child learn and offer these wonderful prayers of reparation to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Step Three: ENTRUSTMENT TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CARD:** Children are introduced to the "Entrustment Prayer" as a foundation of devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. When on May 13, 1917, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta answered "*yes*" to Our



Lady's invitation, she opened her arms and from her hands came forth a Light which struck the children and entered inside of them. Subsequently Lucia wrote: "*That Light was God*".

In a visible manner, *Mary gave them the Holy Spirit* of which she is the temple, bestowing on them her power of intercession and mediation. In gratitude for the "*yes*" pronounced by these three children, Portugal was spared from World War II and from communism.

**With the "yes" of millions of children Mary will save the world!**

**But where will they get this power?**

- From the Sacred Heart of Jesus, by receiving and adoring Him truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
- From the power of the Most Holy Rosary, recited alone or in small groups.
- From the infinite value of their Entrustment to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, giving her all the value of their prayers, works joys and sufferings.

**Step Four: SIGNS OF ENTRUSTMENT CARD – SCAPULAR OR MIRACULOUS MEDAL**

Once the children have made their Entrustment to their Heavenly Mother, Our Lady prefers all of her children wear a sign of their Entrustment. Either the

- Miraculous medal of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception
- Brown Scapular

The investiture prayers for your Priest or Deacon to enroll the children in these Sacramentals can be found on the website:

<http://childrenoftheeucharist.org/step-four-sign-entrustment/>

### Step Five: THE HOLY ROSARY CARD

Our Lady's words to Lucia, the oldest of the Three Shepherd Children at Fatima explain the great spiritual power of this prayer so dear to Mary's Immaculate Heart and help children to envision how they are praying for their own family and all the families of the world.

In the *My Visit with the Hidden Jesus* booklet are 20 beautifully illustrated Rosary meditations written especially for children. Teachers and parents can pray along with the children as part of a visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The child may also use these meditations for a private Eucharistic visit or at home.

**CHILDREN OF THE EUCHARIST** invites clergy parents, teachers to begin Little Shepherds Prayer Groups whereby children can be encouraged to live these Five Steps as they follow the way of the Little Shepherds of Fatima. These steps will fan the 'flame of faith' in their hearts and in their families. They will grow in holiness as they entrust themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, console Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and pray and offer sacrifices to God. Their innocent souls are so pleasing to Him and efficacious for the conversion of sinners and the world.

Children of the Eucharist Board of Trustees