

CHILDREN OF THE EUCHARIST

WHY A SPIRITUAL BOUQUET TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA' S IMMACULATE HEART?



What is a Spiritual Bouquet?

The Spiritual Bouquet is basically a gift of prayer from a group of people. It is comprised of gathering together whatever form of prayers or offerings each person wishes to make for the recipient. For example, someone might offer 2 Rosaries and a Holy Communion. Another person might offer two acts of charity and a Morning Offering Prayer. Or one might enroll the person at a Shrine or with a Religious order for Masses to be offered daily for them over a certain period of time. It all varies, as it depends on whatever spiritual offerings the gift-givers wish to make. These

would then be compiled in some way, such as in a card, and then presented as a Spiritual Bouquet to the person.

Why a Spiritual Bouquet for Our Lady of Fatima?

In 1917 our Blessed Mother visited three Little Shepherd Children to ask them to help her save souls. **“Are you willing to offer yourselves to God for the conversion of sinners?”** She came to bring a message of adoration, prayer, penance and sacrifice to a non-believing world. **“I have come to warn the faithful: do not offend Our Lord any longer because He is already too much offended.”** She came to children as she always does. Why? Because children and young people are idealistic and open to receive such missions of hope and love.

The prayers that our children will be presenting to Our Lady do not have their final end in her. Mary's Immaculate Heart is the dwelling place of the Most Holy Trinity. Mary gathers all the prayers and sacrifices offered to her Immaculate Heart, purifies them and offers them to God so that the graces and mercy of the

infinite Love of His Heart flow down upon the world, bringing about a 'New Springtime' of love and holiness in families and in the world.

Spread the Invitation and Message!

Unfortunately, many children and young people do not know the Fatima story and message. They must be helped to understand *why* Our Lady appeared to the three Shepherd Children to ask for their prayers, and the significance this has for their own special 'Mission of Prayer. At Fatima, Our Lady entrusted this mission not to adults, but to children. And in calling the Little Shepherds, she calls every child on the face of the earth to the same mission. Mary is the most holy and tender of all Mothers: their Spiritual Mother. She knows each child intimately and loves, trusts and depends on them in the same way she asked the Little Shepherds. She needs them today in this world of technology to use the various means of communication with which they are so familiar and adept, to spread her message and stir their friends, classmates, families to behold...to listen to... her Immaculate Heart and her message of prayer, penance and reparation offered to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. If they respond, our poor world will turn around spiritually in a short period of time.

Blessed John Paul II told thousands of children gathered at Fatima: "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."

(Pope John Paul II - Beatification of the Little Shepherds)

How?

The youth of the world are heavily involved in so many of the 'social media' tools. We are encouraging them to use these methods of communication to become active evangelizers with their friends, in their parishes, schools and families. We are asking them to TELL EVERYBODY, that our Immaculate Mother loves them intimately and needs their help. They can login to the database at www.childrenoftheeucharist.org and encourage others to do so as well, to submit their prayers on a daily, weekly or monthly basis and contribute to the Spiritual Bouquet offering the content of their lives to our Immaculate Mother and her Son Jesus.

Clergy, Teachers and Parents, please do what you can to lead our children and youth to Our Lady and her mission to change the world.

