The Exhortation of A Dying Girl.

She was only ten when she lay dying. Her name was Jacinta Marto. Her age should not deter us from taking her words to heart. She knows whereof she speaks because Our Blessed Mother appeared to her and to her brother and cousin. These three were the witnesses of the apparitions at Fatima in Portugal in 1917. Our Lady chose Jacinta and her companions to be apostles in spreading devotion to her Immaculate Heart.

This is what Jacinta said just before her death:

"Tell everybody that God gives graces through the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Tell them to ask these graces from her, and that the Heart of Jesus wishes to be venerated together with the Immaculate Heart of His Mother. Ask them to plead for peace from the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for the Lord has confided the peace of the world to Her."

The First Friday Promise.

It is interesting to observe that when Our Blessed Lady appeared to the three children at Fatima her wish was the same as that expressed by her Son when he appeared to Margaret Mary. Our Blessed Lord wanted consolation in reparation for the insults offered to His Sacred Heart by sin, and Communion of Reparation once a month on Friday was suggested as one form of consolation. To this Communion of Reparation Christ attached a promise:

"I promise thee in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who communicate on the First Friday in nine consecutive months the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment."

The First Saturday Promise.

Our Blessed Lady grieves over sin. She wants us to console her and to make reparation to her Immaculate Heart. She too specifies the form our reparation is to take: Holy Communion, along with meditation of the Rosary. Her reward will be same as that offered by her Son, namely, the grace of a happy death. The Communion and Rosary of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart were recorded by Lucy, the cousin of Jacinta Marto.

"My child, behold my Heart surrounded with the thorns which ungrateful men place therein at every moment, by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least, try to console me and tell them I promise to help at the hour of death with the graces needed for salvation, whoever, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess and 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."

Love for the Hearts of Jesus and Mary will draw you to keep the First Fridays and Saturdays. Have you ever made them? Don't miss Mass, Holy Communion andADORATION this First Friday. ADORATION IN CHURCH FROM 12:30 to 6:00 P.M. SIGN UP FOR HALF-HOUR.

PRAYERS: (deceased) John Hyland (formerly of ND V-7); father of Lieut. Walter J. Harris, Jr. '38; father of Frank Cosgrove, '38; aunt of Elmer Carvalho (Cav); Sarah M. Conlon; father of John E, '39 and Robert D, ex. '43, McAuliffe. 2 Spec. Int.