Begin the Novena to Our Lady of Fatima today -- for sinners, ....

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For Russia, and for your own personal intentions.

Jacinta And A Fig

You must know Jacinta by this time. She was one of the three children to whom Our Blessed Lady appeared at Fatima. Jacinta was not always mortified. But once Our Lady asked her to make sacrifices for sinners she began a program of self-denial, and it was severe.

One day a basket of figs was given to the three children. Jacinta, attracted by the delicious food, made a grab for the basket and came up with first fig. She no sooner had possession of her prize when she remembered the promise she had made to the Mother of God, and made a short speech to her companions, "Today, we have not made any sacrifices for sinners. Let us make this one." She returned the fig to the basket, and the others followed her example. God only knows how many sinners were saved by that one act of mortification.

One of Jacinta's sacrifices for sinners worried Lucy, the oldest of the three children. Jacinta had devised a means of suffering all her own. She tied tightly around her waist a heavy rough rope. When Lucy asked her to remove it lest it cause an infection, Jacinta refused, claiming that sinners needed it.

How old do you think Jacinta was? Merely seven. Her companions performed acts of penance too, and they were not much older. Lucy was only ten, and Francis, Jacinta's brother, was nine.

Our Blessed Mother had some purpose in asking mere children to make sacrifices. One reason could be this: she wants older people to say, "If Our Lady needs even little children to come to the aid of sinners, then she must need me too."

This crusade for sinners requires only two things of you: to accept all the hardships of your day, and to go out of your way frequently to perform an act of self-denial or an act of charity. The biggest thing you can do is to stay out of sin yourself.

Our Lady told the children to say this prayer when making sacrifices: "Oh Jesus, It is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the offences committed against the Immaculate Heart of Many."

Prayers

(deceased) cousin of John Browne (Al), killed in plane crash, another relative seriously injured; Josenh Leubker, cousin of Al Schorsch (Dil); sister of Father James Gibbons, CSC.

(Ill) mother of Wendell Corcoran (Far); grandmother of Bob Hayden (How); Fred Miller, football coach; Ft. Fed. Fray. Walter Carroll, friend of N.D., now convalescing in Georgetown Hospital, Wash., D.C.; Al Conkright, friend of Ralph Dixon (How), polio; Ed Whedon, friend of Jim Gagnon (1C), polio; John Moterspaw, Jr., relative of Tony Sere, '37. Eight Special Intentions. One Thanksgiving.