



# DAILY STEPS

#pilgrimbytheheart



SANTUÁRIO DE FÁTIMA  
SHRINE OF FATIMA



**5.**

Broaden out heaven,  
with Jacinta

This May, Fatima challenges you to go on a more essential pilgrimage: an inner path that may take you far away within yourself, towards the shrine in your innermost where God is present for you. Making yourself a pilgrim by the heart is trying to live inwardly what the pilgrimage experience causes and fulfils. Fatima is calling you. Despite not being able to come to the Shrine this May, come with us on this inner pilgrimage, day by day. And place a lit candle by your window every night.

Recalling Lucia's account of the May apparition, we shall find out how much God respects the freedom of man and which is the way He chooses to reveal Himself. Today, broaden out your heart to the longing for heaven for all, with Jacinta.

This May, Fatima invites you to be a Pilgrim by the heart. Today, broaden out your heart to the longing for heaven for all, with Jacinta.

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You.

Fatima is still challenging you to go on an inner pilgrimage this May, inviting you to make yourself a pilgrim by the heart. As you were told yesterday, only if you walk the path of your own heart with the spirit of a pilgrim, that is, if you silently start listening, you may listen in it to the most human of longings: eternity. And with this, the longing to meet again all those that you have been losing throughout life. Retreat to your heart.

In silence, listen once more to yesterday's question: do you nurture in your heart the longing for another life beyond this life?

And are you longing to meet again all those you love that have died before you?

The possibility of this reunion is in your hands, you can help others to save themselves. You can join God in his passionate will that not even one of His children gets lost.

Go deep into your heart and search your inner silence. The One who inhabits you shall tell you His will of salvation, from which no one is excluded. And you can find out your responsibility in that divine plan.

Remember once more the beginning of the dialogue between the Lady more brilliant than the Sun and the little shepherds, just like Lucia tells in her Memoirs:

- « Our Lady spoke to us:
- Do not be afraid. I will do you no harm.
  - Where are you from?
  - I am from Heaven.
  - Shall I go to Heaven too? – Lucia asked.
  - Yes, you will.
  - And Jacinta?
  - She will go also.
  - And Francisco?
  - He will go there too, but he must say many Rosaries.
- Then I remembered to ask about two girls who had died recently. They were friends of mine and used to come to my home to learn weaving with my eldest sister.
- Is Maria das Neves in Heaven?
  - Yes, she is.
- I think she was about 16 years old.
- And Amélia?
  - She will be in purgatory until the end of the world.»

Jacinta was passionate about heaven. Yet her view of heaven is shaped largely by the vision of hell, in July's apparition, which vividly impressed her. The vision was not meant to cause fear to the little shepherds, but to foster in them a strong commitment with the salvation of others. Listen to what Lucia tells:

- « The vision of hell filled her with horror to such a degree, that every penance and mortification was as nothing in her eyes, if it could only prevent souls from going there. Jacinta often sat thoughtfully on the ground or on a rock, and exclaimed:
- Oh, Hell! Hell! How sorry I am for the souls who go to hell!

Then, shuddering, she knelt down with her hands joined, and re-cited the prayer that Our Lady had taught us:  
– O my Jesus! Forgive us, save us from the fire of hell.  
Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are most in need.

To quieten her, I said:

– Don't be afraid! You're going to Heaven.

– Yes, I am," she said serenely, "but I want all those people to go there too.»

Hell, the possibility, the risk that our freedom implies, even demands, to whom is living radically and eternally separated from God. Jacinta did everything she could so that no one got lost, she passionately wanted that everyone went to heaven. She was the one that more intensely associated with God in the intention of extending salvation to everyone. She intensely lived Christ's compassion for sinners and just like Him she wanted to give her life to save them. She discovered by making sacrifices the way to do it. Lucia recounts that when Jacinta was ill:



At times, she kissed and embraced a crucifix, exclaiming:  
– O my Jesus! I love You, and I want to suffer very much for love of You.

How often did she say:

– O Jesus! Now You can convert many sinners, because this is really a big sacrifice!»

This passion of Jacinta for the salvation of others was certainly influenced also by the references to purgatory, to those who are waiting, maturing in the love, between the merciful hands of God, the final resurrection.

Jacinta gave herself entirely to the relation between our life in time and the life we are summoned to beyond death, a long-standing, responsible and consequent relation. And in heaven she is still carrying out the same mission of mercy which she fulfilled on earth, now fully satiated by the vision of the One in whose passion she took part so intimately.

The gospel of John shows us Jesus explaining the mystery of Jacinta, by telling what we can say about Jacinta | Jo 6, 39:



<sup>39</sup>And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it [on] the last day.»

And Matthew, in the scenic parable of the final judgement, establishes this bond between time and eternity | Mt 25, 34.40:



<sup>34</sup>Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>40</sup>Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.»

If you are willing to really accept yourself as pilgrim by the heart this May, listen in the innermost of yourself to the awareness of this responsibility to broaden heaven, just like Jacinta. Become a participant of the compassion of Christ, the Good Shepherd who gives His life for His sheep and is filled with compassion when seeing the tired and weary multitudes. He wants everyone to be saved.



My God, You inhabit the innermost of my heart  
and You call me to open this closed May, to become a pilgrim by  
the heart  
and to meet You there.  
I silently contemplate the life and death of little Jacinta  
who crossed the earth longing for heaven and to broaden it out  
for all, so that no one gets lost.  
How fair and immense is this compassion by which she made  
the passion of Your Son her own!  
And how fair is this intimacy in which she lived with Him, united  
in the intention to save all!  
And how fair is the peace, the confidence, the uttermost  
humanity in which she died!  
Listen to my amazed and penitent voice, secretly longing for  
eternity.

Forgive me for doubting about heaven or thinking it is only for  
those I hold dear, or wanting it only for myself  
for easily being tempted to think that I can save myself alone,  
that it is every man for himself taking responsibility only for  
himself  
and ignoring that I am responsible for the salvation of others,  
just as the present crisis exposes.  
Light in my heart, just like in the heart of Saint Jacinta Marto,  
the longing to broaden out heaven for all  
and the will to care for others and their salvation, just like the  
blessed in the last judgement.  
I am a pilgrim by the heart, like Jacinta, I'm longing to broaden  
out heaven for all.  
I want to go on a pilgrimage by the heart  
into Your mother's heart, mother of mine, Our Lady of the  
Rosary of Fatima.  
In Her heart, You will be waiting for my heart  
and this May, away from the Little Chapel,  
I make myself a pilgrim by the heart: I shall follow my heart  
and in Mother's immaculate heart I shall listen to the merciful  
beating of Your heart. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you  
among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at  
the hour of our death. Amen.

Mother of Heaven, be attentive to the supplications of a world  
facing tribulation. Answer the cry of the poor and the sick,  
give comfort and hope to all those who suffer, give strength  
and compassion to all those who care for and work. Bring  
peace to the world. In your immaculate heart, be for all your  
children a refuge and a way to God.

Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, pray for us.  
Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto, pray for us.

Place a lit candle in your window tonight, let it be a sign that in your home  
lives a pilgrim of Fatima by the heart. Our Lady watches over you along

the way. She will come to you. Broaden out your heart to the longing for heaven for all. See you tomorrow.