



# Be Like Francisco!

Keep "The Hidden Jesus" company in the Tabernacle

Thursday 4 April 2019 - 100th Anniversary of the death of St. Francisco Marto

**T**o commemorate this day, we ask catholics all over Ireland to pay a visit to The Blessed Sacrament and, especially, for adults to bring children to a church and point out to them where "The Hidden Jesus" lives in the tabernacle. Let us please encourage our children to be like St. Francisco and to understand the importance of keeping ever near "The Hidden Jesus".

Let us also:

- Pray for The Holy Father, Pope Francis.
- Pray for peace in our hearts, our families and the whole world and peace for every child, born and unborn.
- Offer our sufferings and sacrifices to bring people back to God.
- Console Jesus and Mary heartbroken by the sins of the world.



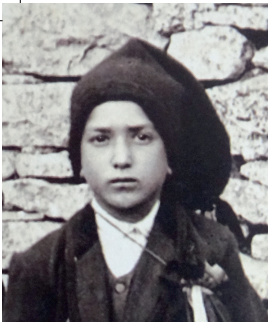
Pope Francis embraces 10 yr old Lucas from Brazil; his miraculous healing through the intercession of St. Francisco and St. Jacinta, led to their canonisation on 13 May 2017.



St. Francisco Marto  
11 Jun 1908 - 4 Apr 1919

**"I love God so much! But He is very sad because of so many sins!  
We must never commit any sins again". (St. Francisco)**

**Most Holy Trinity I adore You, my God, my God,  
I love You in the most Blessed Sacrament (13 May 1917)**



# St. Francisco

(11 June 1908 – 4 April 1919)

**F**rancisco was born in the village of Aljustrel outside Fatima, the eighth child of Manuel and Olympia Marto. He was a quiet and gentle boy who loved his family and enjoyed the outdoors, animals and birds and liked to sing and play the flute.

On 13 May 1917, when Francisco was 8 years old, and grazing sheep with his younger sister Jacinta and their cousin Lucia, Our Lady appeared to them with a message from God for the salvation of all mankind. Our Lady continued to appear to the three little shepherds on the 13th day of each month until 13 October 1917, when she also came with St. Joseph holding the Baby Jesus in his arms.

Our Lady asked the children to pray the Rosary every day for peace in the world, to make sacrifices, do penance and offer their suffering for the conversion of sinners and to save souls and taught them 3 prayers to pray. Our Lady also showed the children a vision of hell where poor sinners go because they have no one to pray and make sacrifices for them. The Angel of Portugal visited the children to prepare them to meet Our Lady and to teach them how to adore God, giving them 2 prayers. The three little shepherds prayed the 5 prayers, brought to them from heaven, fervently.

Everything changed for Francisco and soon his favourite pastime was to visit the church to keep "The Hidden Jesus" company in the Tabernacle, to pray the Rosary, and to make sacrifices to save souls. Our Lady told Francisco that she would take him and Jacinta to heaven soon but that "first, he must pray many rosaries". Lucia was to stay in the world for many years because God wanted her to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Lady showed the children her heart encircled with thorns. They understood this was the Immaculate Heart of Mary, pierced by the sins of humanity, seeking reparation.

In October 1918, St. Francisco became very ill with influenza. He suffered a lot but never complained, offering everything to console Jesus and to save souls. The night before he died he went to confession and made his first Holy Communion. He was very thorough in his preparation for confession so as to make sure he had no sin on his soul before receiving Holy Communion. The next morning his room filled with light and Our Lady came to bring him to heaven.

Many people reported receiving special graces for healing of families and for the sick, after his death. Francisco and his sister Jacinta were beatified by Pope St. John Paul on 13 May 2000. On 13 May 2017, Pope Francis proclaimed St. Francisco and his sister St. Jacinta saints.

**"We can take as our example, St. Francisco and St. Jacinta, whom the Virgin Mary introduced into the immense ocean of God's light and taught to adore Him. This was the source of their strength in overcoming opposition and suffering. God's presence became constant in their lives, as evident from their insistent prayers for sinners and their desire to remain ever near 'The Hidden Jesus' in the tabernacle". (Pope Francis 13 May 2017, Fatima)**



"The Hidden Jesus" -  
Fatima parish church



"I am The Lady of the Rosary"  
(13 Oct 1917)



An Teaghlach Naofa (The Holy Family)  
[www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie](http://www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie)

**"Continue always to pray the Rosary every day". (Our Lady, 13 Oct 1917)**