

Servant of God Sister Josefa Menedez

1890 - 1923

PARADISE

The Servant of God Sister Josefa Menedez was born in Madrid on February 4, 1890. In 1920 she joined the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus as a humble auxiliary Sister. She died in the convent at Les Feuillants in Poitiers in 1923, only thirty-three years of age.

The Servant of God had many mystical visions, among which the one of Tuesday in Holy Week, March 22, after Holy Communion, when Jesus appeared to her with outstretched arms, “I wish to ask you so many things, Lord!” and He replied: “Are you not familiar, Josefa, with what is written in my holy gospel? Ask and you shall receive!” “I implored His mercy for the entire world, setting it ablaze with the fire of His Sacred Heart...” “Ah, if only it would know my Heart!... Men simply ignore its mercy and goodness: this is my greatest sorrow!” “Then I beseeched Him to inspire souls with zeal for His glory, to increase vocations to the priesthood and to raise up many to the religious life. Then I grew silent, but still spoke to Him. How numerous were the things He told me just with His look. And, above all, what great faith He showed me! In the end He

showed me His hands and made me kiss the wounds. At this, He vanished...”

The morning of Holy Saturday, March 26, 1921, witnessed the final manifestation of this occurrence with one of those celestial blessings which leave Josefa with an unforgettable impression. “Do you know why I have to grant you such an abundance of my grace?” our Lord asked her as He appeared during her meditation with His wounds resplendent with light. He repeated with similar words what He had said to St. Margaret Mary: “I desire to make of your heart an altar upon which the fire of my Love will burn forever. And I wish it to be so pure that nothing will touch or tarnish it.” “He left me – writes Josefa – and she proceeded to the Chapel to attend Mass. After Holy Communion, I experienced the delights of heaven!... I saw within myself three persons in shining robes and seated upon a throne. They were identical and quite beautiful! My soul was inflamed with such a consuming fire that it filled me with great joy. Then, all vanished.” This moment of grace was completely hidden and it appeared again on April 5. Before the three persons,



Josefa experienced an indescribable peace. And then she attempts to describe something of what had occurred and the value of such a singular manifestation. “Usually – she writes – I am completely immersed in the Divine Presence and even when I approach the Sacred Heart of Jesus, I am totally absorbed with Him. These final two occasions at the time of Holy Communion were a celebration of a great feast in my soul. Jesus entered my soul as He would a palace. I simply am unable to describe it at all...and since I had firmly decided to abandon myself completely in Him to conform myself wholly to His will, it truly was a feast from heaven.”

