

# Sister Josefa Menendez

Part 1

1890 - 1923

PURGATORY

Sister Josefa Menendez was born in Madrid on February 4, 1890 to a profoundly Christian family. At the age of twenty she decided to enter among the religious of the Sacred Heart, but due to economic problems she had to remain with her family. On February 5, 1920 she entered the novitiate of the Society of the Sacred Heart in Poitiers, France. In 1922 she professed her religious vows. Sister Josefa received a message from Jesus to transmit to all people.

From her *Diary* on the dates of July 27-31, 1921 we find narrated an episode regarding the Souls of Purgatory: "Mary Most Holy says to Josefa: 'You may suffer to save one of my dear daughters... Jesus wanted her for Himself, but she did not respond to the Divine call, she will be dying tomorrow; what consolation for my maternal heart if she will not fall into Hell!'

Josefa prayed all night and the next day she was terrorized by infernal noises. Shocked and frightened, she took refuge near the statue of Our Lady.

Suddenly everything became calm, Our Lady smiling placed her hand on the head of Josefa:

- She has already accounted for her life, poor little one, what a battle she had to endure! When the devil saw that her soul was fleeing him, he tried to take away her peace and how he made her suffer! He was furious against you, because you were helping me to pull her away from him. She died much repented and her end was serene; now she is in Purgatory.

The following night Josefa was awoken by some wailing and heard a voice - 'I am the soul who Our Lady has asked you to save, for years I suffer horribly, have compassion for me!'

- 'You have been in Purgatory only one day and two nights - replied Josefa - what devotion to Our Lady did you cherish to obtain her protection?'

- 'From the time that I have abandoned myself to sin my only devotion has been to recite every Saturday one Hail Holy Queen.'

Three days later that soul ascends to Heaven thanks to the supplications of Josefa and before ascending she goes to thank her benefactress."

And also on April 10, 1922 Sister Josefa reported: "I am in Purgatory since one year and three months. Without your small acts I would still have to stay there for many years! A person of the world has less responsibility than a religious one. How many graces this one receives and what responsibility if she does not benefit from them! How many religious souls are little aware of how their faults are expiated here! The tongue horribly tormented expiates the absence of silence... the parched throat expiates the faults against charity... and the distress of this prison, the repugnance to obeying... and here it is necessary to expiate the smallest lack of mortification!... Restraining the glances to not give in to curiosity can take much effort, but here... what torment the eyes suffer prevented from seeing God!"

