# What is said about Her

## From Saint Pope John Paul II:

"The Reign of Christ can begin in the heart of a child. Sister Eugénie understood this, and that's why she took so much care to prepare the youngest of children for their first confession and first holy communion. From an early age, everyone is called to bear witness to the truth. The Church

will always echo the Lord's words: "Let the little children come to me!""

> Excerpt of the homily at her beatification, 20-11-1994

Monsignor Brincard: bishop of Le-Puy-en-Velay

## Catechist of fire.

poor children from de-Christianised backgrounds ...



She excelled in this mission, and quickly touched the hearts of these children who were left to their own devices, barely schooled and rowdy. They, the "untouchables", let themselves be tamed by the one they called their "little sister": they knew she loved them. They saw in her the embodiment of the faith she passed on to them."

### A saint for our times

"Eugénie grew up in a divided household in which the parents were already separated; the 7 children experienced the tensions of many young people nowadays... In this respect, she was very close to the young or less young people who suffer from the consequences of an emotional void... Blessed Eugénie experienced their struggles. She relied on God's grace and mercy, and she overcame those struggles. This is a great sign of hope for every wounded heart."

> Excerpts from the preface to the book « Eugénie Joubert, une force d'âme »

Gentleness towards little children. When one of them, more turbulent than others, provokes impatience in me, make me think of the gentleness and patience that Jesus shows in spite of my unfaithfulness."

Her method was

# KINDNESS

Caring for everyone with tireless devotion. especially the most fragile, the poorest and the most ignorant.

# PATIENT

She fought against the vivacity of her character. She often had

recourse to ANGELS

especially those of the children she catechised.

Catechist of FIRE

Far from

relying only on

she prepared her

PRAYER.

SACRIFICE

and VIRTUE.

# SHE PREACHED BY EXAMPLE

The

little sister

with her

and her

forced respect

GENTLENESS

INTENSE

INNER LIFE.

The children could see that the young Sister believed in what she was teaching as she was herself living the truth of faith.

# A MARIAN CATECHESIS

She shared her tender devotion to the Virgin Mary her human qualities, with the children. To help them. catechism through she suggested that they pray: "My holy mother. help me to learn.'

In that way, she put into the children's hearts a little of the fire that ignited her own.

# 1876 - 1904 A young life for Jesus

A model for catechists



children

# Blessed Eugénie Joubert

Feast day: July, 2nd





www.bienheureuse-eugenie-joubert.fr

# Her life

Eugénie JOUBERT was born in Yssingeaux (Haute Loire, France). She was the 4th in a Christian family of 8 children.

Her infectious cheerfulness is a hallmark of her character, despite the fact that her childhood was marked by the separation of her parents.



From the age of 5, she went to a boarding school.

1881

At 19, she responded to the Call of Jesus by joining the Sisters of the Holy Family of the Sacred Heart.

Eugenie then pprofessed: "JESUS ONLY".

Her short life was devoted to the catechesis of the very young.

Her apostolate was rooted in her religious life, which radiated union with Jesus and love in the little things:

"So long as JESUS is PLEASED."

She exhausted herself with work, but soon became bedridden: tuberculosis. In the silence of the infirmary, a loving intimacy developed between her and Jesus.

Eugenie died in Liège (Belgium), calling out the name of her Beloved.

1904

1902

1895

1897

## SPIRITUAL CHILDHOOD

Barely younger than Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus, Sister Eugénie is her contemporary. Less known, she resembles her in her evangelical childhood.

To be little with Jesus required of Sister Eugenie an uprooting of her nature and a daily struggle that made her great in holiness.

 She wishes to put a lot of love into the little things of daily life

"Nothing is small in what Love demands."

• She abandoned herself with confidence

"I want to be like the tiny child, carried in his mother's arms... he abandoned himself, he trusts her."

• She was not discouraged by her weaknesses and lived by obedience:

Aware that she was small and was not doing anything good by her own strength, she allowed true humility to develop within her.

"God grants his mercy to the little ones, to those who go unnoticed, who don't take up much place."

# Her spirituality

## JOY:

# **«28 YEARS SMILING»**

Eugénie Joubert had an enthusiastic temperament... but even more so a supernatural joy, which was the fruit of her daily struggle:

"If the first movement is not one of joy, repress it immediately and resist as many times as it reappears."

In that way, the little Sister radiated divine joy, guide by this secret:

"So long as Jesus is pleased."

# SHE HAD A FILIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH MARY

At the age of 11, she said:

"The secret to remain a child of our Lord is to remain a child of the Blessed Virgin."

The Rosary was her favorite prayer:

"Love Mary, love Her always more and more."



# INTIMACY WITH JESUS' HEART

Little by little, she established a heart-to-heart relationship with Him:

"My vocation is not only of apostolic life. It is above all of contemplative life. By closing myself up in this way in the wounded Heart of Jesus, I respond ever more fully to my vocation."