

My dear fellow pilgrims,
Every good thing comes to an end to be able to welcome with joyful hearts what is to come! Our Marian Pilgrimage of Thanksgiving is coming to an end today - and what a blessing it has been for each one of us - to be able to say "thank you", to be able to be with each other and share our stories, to be able to learn from each other, and to enjoy cultures that are *still* very much and deeply rooted in our Catholic traditions. We have prayed together for the prayers of our family and friends from our respective parishes. What a blessing it has been for me to be with you and share these days with you!

It might take us pilgrims a little while to digest and process the many things that hit us in the last 13 days. But all these experiences and prayers and insights we bring with us back home.

You have been a great group. I remember asking Our Lady and Mother to give me the people to be on this Pilgrimage - the ones that she would want to be here. It was not by accident that you have been called to be with us throughout this pilgrimage, whether virtually or actually. Our Lady wanted you here. And now we are ready to start our journey back home - together.

Your parish priest - a fellow pilgrim,
Fr JC Merino

*Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal
The Church of the Little Flower*







“Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence.”

~ St. John Paul II ~

