The Devotion to the Sacred Heart

The Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Issued on October 17, 1925 by His Holiness Pope Pius XI.

Most sweet Jesus, Redeemer of the human race, look down upon us humbly prostrate before Thy altar. We are Thine, and Thine we wish to be; but, to be more surely united with Thee, behold each of us freely consecrates himself today to Thy most Sacred Heart.

Many indeed have never known Thee; many too, despising Thy precepts, have rejected Thee. Have mercy on them all, most merciful Jesus, and draw them to Thy sacred Heart.

Be Thou King, O Lord, not only of the faithful who have never forsaken Thee, but also of the prodigal children who have abandoned Thee; grant that they may quickly return to Thy Father's house lest they die of wretchedness and hunger.

Be Thou King of all those who are still involved in the darkness of idolatry or of Islamism, and refuse not to draw them all into the light and kingdom of God. Turn Thine eyes of mercy toward the children of that race, once Thy chosen people. Of old they called down upon themselves the Blood of the Savior; may it now descend upon them a laver of redemption and of life.

Grant, O Lord, to Thy Church assurance of freedom and immunity from harm; give peace and order to all nations, and make the earth resound from pole to pole with one cry: “Praise to the divine Heart that wrought our salvation; to it be glory and honor forever.” Amen.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy Kingdom come!
Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in Thee.

THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS COMMUNION OF REPARATION AND THE GREAT PROMISE

True to Her promise, Our Lady returned on December 10, 1925 with the Child Jesus Who said: “Have compassion on the Heart of Our Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce It at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of Reparation to remove them.”

Then the Most Holy Virgin said: “Look My daughter, at My Heart, crowned with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console Me and announce in My Name that I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep Me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making Reparation to Me.”

Three and a half years later, on June 13, 1929, Our Lady appeared again to Sister Lucia, formally announcing Heaven’s command for the other great act of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary: “The moment has come in which God asks the Holy Father to make, in union with all the bishops of the world, the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means.”

Sister Lucia’s confessor, Father Gonçalves, tried for seven years to convince the Pope to perform this Consecration, but without success. Seeing the futility of these efforts, Sister Lucia asked Our Lord why He would not convert Russia without the Pope’s cooperation. Our Lord’s response to her was:

“Because I want My whole Church to acknowledge that Consecration as a triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so that later on it will put the Devotion on the Immaculate Heart of Your Mother’s Immaculate Heart beside the Devotion to My Sacred Heart.”

Those who truly love Our Lord Jesus Christ will heed His request, honoring His Mother by practicing the devotion to, and making reparation to, Her Immaculate Heart.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

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FATIMA POSTER

“BEHOLD THIS HEART! which has so loved men as to spare itself nothing, even to exhausting and consuming itself, to testify to them Its love, and in return I receive nothing but ingratitude from the greatest part of men by the contempt, irreverence, sacrileges, and coldness which they have for Me in this Sacrament of My love.”

O (Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary)

INCLUDED IS OUR LORD’S REQUEST FOR THE DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

atone by voluntary expiation not only for our own personal of- fenses, but also for the sins of those, who, staying far from the path of salvation, refuse in their obstinate infidelity to follow Thee, their Shepherd and Leader, or, renouncing the vows of their baptism, have cast off the sweet yoke of Thy Law.

We are now resolved to expiate each and every deplorable outrage committed against Thee; we are determined to make amends for the manifold offenses against Chris- tian modesty in unbecoming dress and behavior, for all the foul seductions laid to ensnare the feet of the innocent, for the frequent violations of Sundays and holy-days, and the shocking blasphemies uttered against Thee and Thy saints. We wish also to make amends for the insults to which Thy Vicar on earth and Thy priests are subjected, for the profa- ciousness of events by which God will punish the world for its nothing but ingratitude from the greater part of men

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O (Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary)
It was Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself Who introduced, and asked for the promotion and practice of this devotion in a series of apparitions over a two-year period beginning in 1673, whereby He revealed to the world His Sacred Heart through Margaret Mary Alacoque, a religious sister of the order of the Visitation of Our Lady, at Paray-le-Monial in Burgundy, France.

His desire is that we understand His immense love for us, and that through the practice of this devotion we grow in our understanding and love for Him. Our Lord wishes us to recognize and honor all the sufferings of tender love which He has for us in the adorablesacrament of the Blessed Eucharist – where He is so little known, and so little loved even by those who know Him – by frequent adoration, by acts of thanksgiving and homage, and by prayer for the indigent souls of infidels and heretics; the devotion to the Sacred Heart is found, eternally living? ... The devotion to the Divine Eucharist at the hands of sinful men. The practice of this devotion to the Sacred Heart will not be delayed for another day if possible and sacrifices should be made if possible and for the same intentions; if five separate visits are not possible, then a single visit for the five intentions may be made; going to Confession; assisting at Mass and receiving Our Lord in Holy Communion; reciting the Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart and the Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart; other suggested means of making reparation by honoring Our Lord's Sacred Heart; His love for us, His Passion and death; 

In order to ensure that we receive these graces promised by Our Savior, the greatest of which is the supreme gift of His divine love, this feast day must be spent in honoring the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The following is recommended: that on the day before the feast (the vigil), time be spent reading and recollecting to remind ourselves of the motive we should have and of the dispositions and sentiments which should animate our spiritual exercises with regard to this devotion. If possible visit Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and pray the Rosary and other prayers.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart The 12 Promises given by Our Lord for those who Honor His Sacred Heart:

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their difficulties.
4. I will shed abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
5. Sinners shall find in My Heart a fountain and boundless ocean of mercy.
6. Trepid souls shall become fervent.
7. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
8. I will bless every house in which the image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
9. I will be their refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
10. I will give to priests the power of touching the hardest hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart never to be blotted out.
12. I promise in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all who receive Holy Communion on the first Friday of the month for nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence; whether they shall not die in My displeasure nor without their sacraments: My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

ACT OF REPARATION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS Published with the Encyclical Miserentissimus Redemptor, May 8, 1928, by His Holiness Pius XI.

O sweet Jesus, Whose overflowing charity for men is required by so much forgetfulness, negligence and contempt, behold us prostrate before Thy altar eager to repair a special act of homage the cruel indignities and outrages which we have now deplored from the depths of our hearts, we humbly ask Thy pardon and declare our readiness to...