

I HAVE FOUND THE HEART I WAS SEARCHING FOR

Mother Adela, SCTJM writing on Servant of God John Paul II, Our Spiritual Father
Foundress

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These words were written for the pilgrimage "Family...be who you are," for the visit to the tomb of our spiritual father, Servant of God John Paul II - February, 2009.

It is difficult to find the words that can explain what it means for us, as a Family, to come before the remains of our spiritual father, John Paul II. We come as sons and daughters to tell him that we will always be willing to receive with total receptivity and to respond with a deep sense of responsibility to his three "great calls of love": Do not be afraid! Family, be who you are! Build a civilization of love and life! Under his Pontificate and his paternal, Josephite and Petrine heart, this Family was born to be a particular enfleshment - humble and simple - of all his Magisterium. We did not choose ourselves for this immense gift; this charism was born and gradually discovered itself to be a response, a singular response, to the heart of John Paul II. Everything - each word, each gesture, every teaching, his life, his vision of the human person, of human love, of the Family, of the Church, his response to the challenges that man and the world confront today, his great call to the human person to live love with responsibility, his luminous Marian path of personal formation and total consecration, of Totus Tuus - all seemed like a shining star before my eyes which marked with clarity my own interior path. It marked my own identity and mission...and the future identity and mission of this Family: to permit love to triumph in our hearts so that love may form us, heal us and make us free; to allow love to elevate us and transform us so that we can live in communion, walk together and live together the science of love; to be a Family because it is the family that is the path of the Church; and together, in communion of hearts, to be ardent witnesses to love so as to go out into the deep, without fear, proclaiming that love is the essence and the vocation of the human heart and the only way of building a new civilization, a world that can be a home for the human person.



On October 16th, 1978, Karol Wojtyla was elevated to the pontificate - a great gift of the Merciful Heart of Christ and of the Maternal Heart of the Blessed Mother, a great, unimaginable gift for the life of the Church at the end of the Second Millennium. With his oblation love and gaze which pierced into the mysteries of the love of God and the reflections of these mysteries in the human heart, he would mark the path of the Church for the Third Millennium. We will understand this great gift with ever greater clarity as the path of the Church of the Third Millennium is built!! For my heart, on that day, my father was also born. I can remember, even though I was very young, that moment when he came out on the balcony...and I saw his face. By the grace of God, I was able to contemplate the profound freedom of his heart and to say these words: "I found the heart I have searched so much for here on earth." Perhaps I did not have a complete awareness of all that my heart understood, but I knew that in John Paul there was a luminous path that I should follow!!! My path and my Marian heart had found, in the heart of Peter (JPII), its deepest identity, its fullest realization, its clearest star to follow with freedom, interior strength and without fear - the path formed in my own heart by the maternal love of the Blessed Mother...in the school of Her Heart and in the fecundity of Her womb.

His life was the most coherent testimony of his words. For this Family, his Magisterium is a treasure which we must live and guard with great gratitude and dedication, which we must study and ponder with filial attention, which we must discover evermore as the map which directs the path this Family follows and will follow in its future generations. We have a plan upon which we are to build this House! We are to be what we were called to be: a living legacy of his Magisterium, a living image of the face of the Church which he has taught us to contemplate and which he has revealed to the world, and a living presence of the potency of love and life that the Holy Spirit has communicated through his Magisterium. Before his remains, on the 6th of April, 2005, two days prior to his funeral, as I was experiencing the desolation of his parting, I asked the Lord for the miracle of leaving the heart of John Paul II beating and pulsating in the Heart of the Church. I heard these words in my heart: "His heart will continue to love, to beat, to palpitate and to form people through your sons and daughters. His Heart will remain beating in this Family."

The paternity of John Paul II over us has been a very profound reality... a very certain one... which, in a mysterious way, entailed his suffering to beget this gift in the life of the Church. "Upon the altar of the suffering of many, my vocation was born," he told us in his book Gift and Mystery. In my immense poverty and littleness, I think I can say to this Family that is it upon the altar of the priestly, paternal, Josephite and Petrine suffering of John Paul II that this vocation, this Marian gift for the Church, has been born. His first suffering for us, in the great and mysterious economy of grace, the economy of love, was on the 13th of May, 1981...when he shed his blood in Saint Peter's Square on the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima. Peter was shedding his blood, his life, for the Marian charism in the Heart of the Church. I am certain that a rosary of

offerings has conceived this gift. His last sacrifice - his agony and death - "would open a new door of grace, mercy, and fecundity in the life of this Family, would give birth to its priests, and would maximize the fecundity of this charism in the Heart of the Church." These words were written in my heart by the Lord on the Holy Thursday before John Paul II's death. To know that our father would soon be going to the House of the Father pierced my heart...my entire being. John Paul II would die soon...our beloved father would die and his oblation would give a new life, a new grace in the life of this Family. What a great sign of love for us that he would go on a First Saturday, opening doors of mercy... and that we would receive notice of his death just moments before beginning the Apostle's meeting. We will never know, but we can lovingly try to deduce that ours was the first Mass that was celebrated for John Paul II's soul.

I have never felt alone! This great father accompanies us, cares for us and points us on the path to follow. He opens ways, opens doors, so that this simple Family can be what it is in the Heart of the Church - like when he showed us his paternity with another gesture on October 3, 2007, when priests of the Family were carrying through St. Peter's square, together with us and some Apostles, the statue which we now contemplate in Two Hearts Convent and miraculously were allowed to take it to his tomb. We were also permitted to remain there for a long time alone with John Paul II...to rest our heads upon his heart...to bless the statue there before his remains. I was able to repeat to him, with all my love and fidelity, "We will do it John Paul; we will be witnesses to love."

On the 25th of March 2006, the Solemnity of the Annunciation, after having gone to Loreto and received the words of the Lord on the theme of the following year - "The Word became Flesh" - in which "a new and special grace of incarnation of the charism would be poured forth," I had the gift of seeing John Paul II, with the eyes of my soul - with his face resplendent, bathed in a most beautiful light and adorned in a gold and red chasuble - place his gaze upon us, smile and say to us, "Do not be afraid!" And then with his right hand, he called us forward to advance, following his footsteps, upon the path that he has marked for the good of the Church of the Third Millennium.

We follow his footsteps, the footsteps of this pilgrim of love. His footsteps have always marked my life, my vision, my path. Listening to his words, which were fecund fruits of his life and his heart, I deeply discovered the most excellent dignity of the human person; the luminous beauty of human love; the fecund power of human suffering; the potent mediation and communication of life that comes from total Marian consecration; the greatness of the fiat of the heart of St. Joseph; the Family as the path of the Church and the heart of the new civilization of love; the vision of consecrated life as a great vocation to love; the priesthood as an incarnation of the heart of the spouse and pastor... so much... so much... With John Paul II, I have understood the most elevated dignity of the feminine heart: to reign is to serve! With him, I learned to discover that the true dignity of woman is in being who she is: the image and presence of the Virgin Mary. In him, I contemplated the Petrine heart elevating, caring for, and revealing the Marian charism...and I understood that the Marian charism reveals all of its splendor when it lives to elevate and serve the Petrine heart.

In Mexico, John Paul II said these words which continue to resound with an echo in our hearts: "I go but I do not go; I go, but I stay... because even though I go, my heart remains." John Paul II, remain palpitating with love for the Church and for humanity in our hearts! To you John Paul, who have taught me that love is the potent fecundity of the human heart and of every mission in the life of the Church, thank you. Thank you for teaching me to live love with responsibility! To you, simply I say, thank you!

In the Love of the Pierced Hearts,

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