

THIS IS THE HEART

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Foundress

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Dear Brothers and Sisters:

"Here is the Heart that has so loved humanity that it has stopped at nothing in order to save them and to reveal to them my Love." These are the words that Jesus told Saint Margaret Mary de Alacoque on the 16th of June in 1675 when He revealed His Heart to her.

Jesus has revealed to us His Heart! Yes, my brothers and sisters, Jesus desires that we contemplate the immensity of love within His Heart. He wants us to know how large, wide, deep and high His love is. We should become aware that God desires us to have a true knowledge of His love. By coming to know His love, we will know Him because "God is love" (1 John 4:8).



We need to ask ourselves then, "What is the love of the Heart of Jesus like?" First of all, we need to understand that it is an infinite love, a sacrificial love, a love of self-offering that is "unto the extreme" (cf. John 13:1). It is a love that will stop at nothing, absolutely nothing, in order to save us, to free us, to heal us and to give to us His life of grace and holiness. It is such a faithful, constant and eternal love that there is nothing at all which can separate us from Him: "Who will separate us from the love of Christ?... tribulation?, anguish?, persecution?, hunger?, nakedness?, danger?, death?... for I am sure that nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God manifested in Christ Jesus, our Lord" (Rom 8:35-39).

The love of Jesus is radically new because it transcends all of our limited ideas and limited loves. It is a universal love, reaching all - our neighbor, our brother, the one with whom we share the same faith, and even to our enemies. It is a love that causes a true revolution in our hearts. It moves us to bless those who curse us (Rom 12, 14); to pray for those who persecute us and to love our enemies (Mt 5:44); to turn the other cheek when we have been struck (Mt 5:39); to give our cloak to him who has taken our coat (Mt 5:40); to sell everything we have and give it to the poor (Lk 18:21); to forgive those who have offended us (Mt 6:12); even to give our very lives for others (John 15:13).

The love of the Heart of Jesus is compassionate and merciful. It is a love that forgives and forgets. It is a love that enters into the very depths, even in to the abyss, in order to lift up those who have fallen, to redeem the sinner. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost sheep, heals the ones that are paralyzed, and carries the ones who are weak in His arms. He is the Good Samaritan who heals suffering humanity, wounded by the mortal wounds of sin. His love is bountiful, giving itself gratuitously to all, healing the sick, freeing those oppressed by evil spirits, multiplying bread and fish in order to feed the hungry, and changing water into wine so that the newlywed couple will not suffer embarrassment. He brings the dead back to life to console their families; He eats with the tax collectors and sinners; He frees an adulterous woman about to be stoned; and above all, He forgives - He forgives sinners.

The love of Jesus is redemptive. In other words, it frees us from the snares of the devil, sin and death. It is a love that is not content with leaving us in our misery, but that desires to elevate us to the dignity of being sons and daughters of God and living as such. It was the love of Jesus that made the adulterous woman leave her public sin and become a faithful follower of Christ and the first witness of His Resurrection. It was the love of Jesus that made a hardened tax-collector one of the twelve Apostles and, moreover, one of the four evangelists. It was the love of Jesus that transformed Saint Paul from a persecutor of Christians to the great Apostle of the Gentiles.

How powerful is the love of the Heart of Jesus! The love of Jesus can do all things, create all things!

To contemplate the Heart of Jesus is to contemplate His love, a love that is capable of transforming our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh (Ezek. 36:26). Yes, it is necessary that we contemplate, with the eyes of our souls, how far the love of the Heart of Jesus goes for us. Maybe, as we look with love and piety at the greatness and the depth of His love, our hearts will be moved. Maybe, as we contemplate with love the Pierced Heart of Jesus that has loved humanity so much, we will ready ourselves to love Him with all our hearts, and we will seek with all our strength to be transformed into the image and likeness of His Heart.

In the Love of the Pierced Hearts,

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