

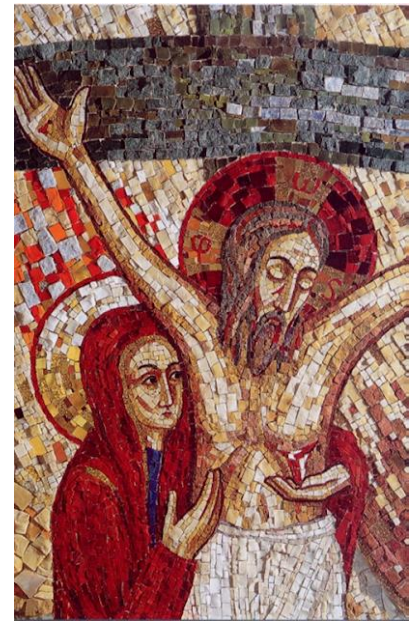


Feast of the Sacred Heart - 11th June 2021

HEART OF JESUS: Place where we are invited to root our hope and trust

Each year the Feast of the Sacred Heart is an opportunity to allow ourselves to be touched more deeply by that Heart and to root our hope and trust there, to be conformed to his feelings and attitudes, his preferences and demands. Wherever you carry out your ministry, you will find that the open heart of Jesus is revealed in the suffering of countless persons and so many peoples.

More than ever, it is time to continue asking for the grace to be women and men who are “Artisans of Hope,” to weave our lives and our ministries with the threads of hope and trust, always fixing our gaze on the One who first loved us.



Marko Rupnik SJ
Cappella Redemptoris Mater

"Only those who have believed in love can direct their gaze toward the pierced Heart of Jesus. To enter this open heart means to be able to contemplate, to encounter real love, the meaning of life, mercy, compassion, the tenderness and hope so necessary to live committed to our mission today.



"Con paciencia de semilla," Salomé Arricibita

To believe in love means to believe in the power of the seed, which holds life within it, and to experience delight when the first green shoots appear. To believe in love means to respond to the call to remain in his love, rejoicing because we are no longer servants but friends. To believe in love means to lay aside our outer garment, ready to wash the weary feet of our brothers and sisters. It means to throw our nets to the other side with the strength that our call to mission gives us, to recognize the voice of the Lord who says, ***"I am your hope" and invites us to open ourselves to trust."***

Patricia García de Quevedo RSCJ
"We have believed in Love"
Closing conference, Probation, June 1997

We know it is not easy, but Jesus left us an invitation: to learn from Him. Jesus was a great pilgrim and educator. His teaching was by means of learning on the journey, through the way of the Heart, our best school. During these days let us make a simple pilgrimage, during the year let us travel along this way of the heart, in order to get closer and strengthen our relationship with Him.

"Being friends of Jesus, deeply united to Him, aware of His joys and sufferings for the world, leads us to commit our lives to Him in meeting the challenges of humanity and the mission of the Church."

Frédéric Fornos SJ

It was in walking with the disciples of Emmaus that he discovered their anxieties and worries and it was while walking with them that he made their hearts burn as soon as he spoke. The "way of the heart" helps us to remove our sandals in the face of so much suffering and to recognise that, compared to the suffering of others, our own suffering is very small.

Let us invite Jesus to walk with us, let us talk with him about our anguish, our worries, our fears, but let us also talk with Jesus about our joys, our dreams and our hopes, about the new things that we are discovering...

What might we say to Jesus on our Emmaus walk? What does Jesus say to us as he walks with us?

This requires us to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, on His Heart, which is a true school of Love. When we keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, we do not lose our faith even in a COVID-19 context and more than ever our HOPE AND TRUST must be ROOTED in HIS Heart.

“We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.”

Romans 5: 3-5. New International Version

That is why patience in the midst of tribulations, the maturing of faith and the rekindling of hope are fundamental attitudes that help us to keep pace with the rhythm of the Heart of Jesus.

If we contemplate the actions of Jesus, we see that wherever he went he left a sign of Life, of Hope, of Certainty; he left behind impressions of his confidence... and very often in a challenging situation, facing rejection, threats, differing opinions... and today we are confronted with our political, social, economic, environmental, provincial and personal realities...



What word, what hope, and what certainty does Jesus offer us? Can I see the signs of his hope and confidence in my life? What do they mean and what are they inviting me to do?

To contemplate the Heart of Christ is to participate in the life of the Spirit. It is the new life of light and hope in the midst of humanity.

As we renew our Commitment, let us renew our hope, which is Christ Himself present in the heart of humanity.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15: 13, New International Version

HAPPY FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART!

Iris da Silva Amaro rscj
Province of Brazil



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