



Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Fr. Justin Rosary Hour • P. O. Box 454 • Athol Springs, NY 14010

May 12, 2017

**Dear Friends of the Rosary Hour
and Followers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus!
Praised be Jesus Christ!**

We will be soon entering into the beautiful month of June, the month particularly devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. During this month, we also observe **Fathers' Day**. On this special day, the Franciscan will begin the **NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**.

The month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the greatest human expression of divine love. On June 23rd we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and this feast sets the tone for the entire month. Popular piety highly values symbols, and the Heart of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of God's mercy. But it is not an imaginary symbol; it is a real symbol which represents the center, the source from which salvation flowed for all of humanity.

In the Gospels we find various references to the Heart of Jesus. For example there is the key account of Christ's death according to John. Indeed this Evangelist bears witness to what he saw on Calvary, that is, when Jesus was already dead a soldier pierced his side with a spear and blood and water came out of the wound (cf. Jn 19:33-34). In that apparently coincidental sign John recognizes the fulfillment of the prophecies: from the Heart of Jesus, the Lamb sacrificed on the Cross, flow forgiveness and life for all people.



The Heart of Jesus wounded by the lance of a soldier remains perpetually open for humanity. It is enough to respond with love, for His love, and faithfulness for His faithfulness. From this Divine Heart is the "source of life and holiness" from which we should continuously draw strength to build within ourselves and our world truth and love, which is so greatly needed in our troubled times.

Our dear Friends, let us not forget the love of God, the love of Jesus: he watches us, he loves us, he waits for us. He is all heart and all mercy. Let us go with faith to Jesus, he always forgives us!

We strongly encourage you to give honor to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. **Today we invite you to take part in our novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, so that together we could adore the mystery of the love of God revealed through His Heart. The Novena will be conducted from the 18th to the 26th of June.** Enclosed with this letter is an intentions card on which you can write the name of your father. In this way you will be able to thank him for his fatherly love and offer prayers for his intentions as well as include him in the nine Masses which will be celebrated by Franciscan. During this Novena we all will remember all fathers, both those living and those who have already left this world, as well as all the intentions which you send to us. **Please send the intentions card along with your offering. Your spiritual and material offerings help support the Rosary Hour apostolate, which still desires to care for evangelization of the people of the XXI century through the radio and the internet.**

May God's Heart - burning furnace of charity and source of all consolation grant You, Your Father, our Holy Father and our entire Rosary Hour's Family the needed graces.

With prayer and gratitude,

Fr. Marcel Sokalski, OFM Conv.

Fr. Marcel and the Rosary Hour Community

PS - as a thank you for participating in the novena we will send you the **Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**