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

Dear Devotees of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Friends, Benefactors and Patrons of the Rosary Hour, Praised be Jesus Christ!

We will be soon entering into the beautiful month of June, which traditionally is devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the greatest human expression of divine love. **The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** 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 a passage in which Christ himself says: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart" (Mt 11:28-29). Then 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.

In June we celebrate Father's Day. On this special day, the Franciscan will begin the NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JE-SUS.

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.

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 16th to the 24th 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 Franciscans. During this Novena, connected with you spiritually, Franciscans will remember all fathers, both those living and those who have already left this world, as well as all the imtentions sent to them. Please send your 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 21st century through the radio and the Internet.

May the Merciful God bless you for the generosity of your heart. With prayers and gratitude,

Br. Daniel Geary, OFM Conv.

Br. Daniel and the Rosary Hour Community PS. As a "thank you" for taking part in this Novena Franciscans will send you **Novena to the Sacred** Heart of Jesus.

PS. You can visit our website: www.rosaryhour.com. Share this message with others.





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