

2021 June 11

## **The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

### **Reading:**

**First:** Hosea 11.1-9, "I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks." (4b)

**The Psalm:** Isaiah 12.1-6, "With joy I will draw water from the wells salvation." (3a)

**Second:** Ephesians 3.8-19, "Know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (19)

**The Gospel:** John 19. 31-37, One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear and at once blood and water came out." (34)

### **The wounded Heart kept open for us**

"Grant, we pray Almighty God, that we who glory in the Heart of your beloved Son and recall the wonders of his love for us, may be made worthy to receive an overflowing measure of Grace from that fount of heavenly gifts." This is the opening prayer in today's liturgy. If only we could make this our everyday prayer! It is worthwhile and salutary to keep to heart what God speaks to us today through the prophecy of Hosea, his endearing and most sensitive and sensational love. Isaiah also brings to us through today's Responsorial psalm the heart of God as a well of salvation for us to draw water from therein. St. Paul brings to us today the knowledge of the love of Christ that surpasses all other knowledge. St. John's gospels narrates the piercing of the Heart of Jesus from which flows blood and water as the source of living and life-giving drink for us.

Yes, the Heart of Jesus is the one unfailing source of peace and consolation and love always kept open for us. Keeping it always open for us Jesus knocks at our heart, which he cannot enter unless we knowingly open it for him. The more often we open the greater will be his peace, joy and happiness flowing to our heart. Once we are in this bliss with him no kind of fear, loneliness, distress and disappointment will visit us. In him we are secure and well protected. We need to remind ourselves every now and then his assurances, "Peace be with you", (John 20.19) "Do not be afraid" (Matthew 28.10), "I am with you always to the end of the age." (Matthew 28.20), "The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." (John 4.14)

On this feast day of the Sacred Heart of Jesus let us try to enter into this heart and dwell there and enjoy its warmth. If we truly experience this intimacy from Jesus we are likely to be serious to invite many others into this his company, and into his message. Jesus invites us to be active in building up his kingdom. If each of us can invite just one, like Andrew brought Simon his brother, and Philip brought Nathaniel his friend (John 1.41 & 45), to the presence of Jesus, the boundaries of his kingdom will go on widening and we will be earning unlimited milage.

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I trust in you!***

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy on us.***

***Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hide me in your Heart!***

*(The readings of the day are given at the beginning. The numbers in parentheses refer to the quotes from them. Good to go through the readings beforehand to properly understand the Reflections)*

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