



“There is but one road which reaches God and that is *PRAYER*;  
if anyone shows you another, you are being deceived.” *Saint Teresa of Avila*

May 2021

Please include the special intentions of the members of the following groups  
in your Holy Hour this month:

|      |          |  |
|------|----------|--|
| May  | 2, 2021  | Religious Women and Men in Formation                       |
| May  | 9, 2021  | Seminarians Diocese of Cleveland and Diocese of Youngstown |
| May  | 16, 2021 | Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland (OSU)                        |
| May  | 23, 2021 | Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown (OSU)                       |
| May  | 30, 2021 | Vocation Directors of the Diocese of Cleveland             |
| June | 6, 2021  | Apostles of Jesus (AJ)                                     |

### LOVE MARY!

May is the month of Mary, and we should show our love and devotion to her in a special way. But why?

Loving Mary is pleasing to God. No one has honored her more than God Himself by choosing her to be the mother of His only Son and spouse of the Holy Spirit. She was the most humble, perfect instrument of God.

Loving Mary is a way to imitate her Son. Jesus showed us how to follow the Fourth Commandment by honoring His mother, and we should do so as well. Mary influences her Son. Jesus performed His first public miracle because His mother asked. He said it was not His time yet, but His mother asked for His help. In Old Testament times, people went to the queen – the king’s mother - with their requests. It was the best way to get an answer to their needs and requests.



It’s scriptural to pray to Mary. The first part of the Hail Mary is from Scripture. She was part of the incarnation, birth, first miracle, passion and death of Jesus, and was with the apostles for the descent of the Holy Spirit. She was most probably present at Jesus’ ascension, as well.

Jesus continues to send His mother to help us. There have been many Church-approved Marian apparitions. Her message to us has always been to pray, especially the Rosary, and make reparation for sin. There never was a saint who did not love and honor Mary. Many of them were rarely without a Rosary in hand. Padre Pio and many other saints called the Rosary a weapon against evil and prayed it continuously. There have been many miracles attributed to the Rosary. No one can argue that Mary is the most righteous, and we cannot dispute the power of her prayers on our behalf.

Pope Benedict XVI said that priests must look to Mary as the perfect model for their lives. “Mary loves them with predilection for two reasons: because they are more like Jesus, the supreme love of her heart, and because, like her, they are committed to the mission of proclaiming, bearing witness to and giving Christ to the world.

Therefore, “Love Mary! She is loveable, faithful, constant. She will never let herself be outdone in love, but will ever remain supreme. If you are in danger, she will hasten to free you. If you are troubled, she will console you. If you are sick, she will bring you relief. If you are in need, she will help you. She does not look to see what kind of person you have been. She simply comes to a heart that wants to love her. She comes quickly and opens her merciful heart to you, embraces you and consoles and serves you. She will even be at hand to accompany you on the trip to eternity.” – *St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother*



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June 2021

Please include the special intentions of the members of the following groups  
in your Holy Hour this month:

|      |          |  |
|------|----------|--|
| June | 6, 2021  | Apostles of Jesus (AJ)                             |
| June | 13, 2021 | Order of St. Basil the Great (Philadelphia) (OSBM) |
| June | 20, 2021 | Order of St. Basil the Great (Uniontown) (OSBM)    |
| June | 27, 2021 | Order of St. Benedict (OSB)                        |
| July | 4, 2021  | Benedictine Sisters of Erie, PA (OSB)              |

## **LOVE FLOWS FROM JESUS' SACRED HEART TO OURS**



The heart has always been seen as the center or essence of a person and the wellspring of our emotional life and love.

St. John referred to himself as “the one whom Jesus loved.” (John 13:23). He laid his head on Jesus’ chest at the Last Supper. This intimacy, staying close to the heart of Jesus, describes what we want in our prayer lives, to be in communion with God. Jesus said holiness begins in our hearts. So the closer our hearts are to Jesus’ heart, the more our hearts will grow to what they are meant to become.

In the upper room after Jesus’ resurrection, Thomas was overcome with the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for him – for us all. He saw a heart wounded out of love for humanity, the heart that took the sin of humanity upon itself. Jesus invited Thomas, “bring your hand and put it into my side” (John 20:27). Thomas is invited, as it were, to touch the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and as Thomas encounters the Sacred Heart of Jesus he is forgiven, healed and restored, and his own heart is also changed into a heart of love. He can only respond, “My Lord and my God.” (John 20:28).

Christ’s Sacred Heart which raised up Thomas from doubt to faith is ready to raise up each of us from any despair we may have to Christian hope. Christ invites each of us, “bring your hand and put it into my side” (John 20:27) and invites each of us to draw near to his Sacred Heart, to allow our hearts to become hearts of love. As we look on Christ’s Sacred Heart, we see that his love forgives, heals and restores. In Christ’s Sacred Heart we see His love for us and we can only respond, “My Lord and my God.” (John 20:28)

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque wrote, “He disclosed to me the marvels of his Love and the inexplicable secrets of his Sacred Heart.” The Sacred Side of Jesus is slashed open after his death so that all the blood and water remaining in His Sacred Heart is poured out for sinners.

Priests mirror God’s love. Only for love do our priests live out their daily self-sacrificing. To better appreciate the gift of priesthood, we must ponder the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

“The priest is not a priest for himself ... He is for you ... The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ.” – **St. Jean Vianney, Cure of Ars**