

Jubilee of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
350

Novena to the Heart of Jesus



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



CLICKTOPRAY





Pray the Novena to the Heart of Jesus in Click To Pray

Click To Pray is the Pope's prayer app
which helps us pray for the challenges facing humanity
and the mission of the Church.

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Introduction

During the coming days and until the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we prepare ourselves to align our hearts with that of Christ as we get ready for His great feast.

“It is good, on this day of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to remember the foundation of our mission... It is a mission of compassion for the world; we could say a ‘journey of the heart,’ that is, a prayerful itinerary that transforms people’s lives,” Pope Francis says.

The Lord tells us, “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” The Heart of Jesus is the same love of God, who tells us that have come to bring us life. And although the world is marked by signs of death, war, and destruction, which at times could make us lose hope, the Lord repeats to us that He is a God of life.

Are you ready to start this journey? Along these nine days, the Way of the Heart is going to lead you to tune your heart to the Heart of the One who calls Himself Life, and in doing so, invites you to recognize how this life grows and manifests in your own life.

Our Father - Hail Mary – Glory be the Father.



DAY 1

In the beginning there was Love



Day 1. In the beginning, there was Love

Take Step One of the Way of the Heart: In the beginning, there was Love. In Christ Jesus, Christians acknowledge "the visible image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1: 15). Through Him, we glimpse both what God is and who we are called to be as human beings: fullness of receptivity and self-giving.

Pope Francis tells us, "The spiritual stature of a person's life is measured by love... No one can mature or find fulfilment by withdrawing from others. By its very nature, love calls for growth in openness and the ability to accept others as part of a continuing adventure that makes every periphery converge in a greater sense of mutual belonging. As Jesus told us: "You are all brothers" (Mt 23: 8).

This love is a source of Life, in it "we live and move and have our being." It is a love that creates us in the present moment and continually invites us to be love that overflow to others through concrete decisions, gestures of affection, and words of welcome, acceptance, and peace.

There is a song that says, "I did not make the human being to be alone, Walk together as brothers and sisters, Love one another. I come to bring you life, Life in abundance." The life and love you receive freely from God are meant to be given. Do you want life? Give it. Do you want Love? Love. Do you want closeness? Become close by 'setting aside yourself and becoming a neighbor to those who find themselves on the margins of human life and society.' (Prayer intention - August 2015)

Enter your heart and look for people, faces, conversations, specific moments in your life where you can recognize that love which is a sign of Life and Life in abundance. Allow memories and experiences of life that bring joy to your heart to captivate and thrill you and be grateful for them.

Now think: Who is on the peripheries of others' love? There is always someone at the edge of your path or the path of others... a fraternal gesture, companionship, a smile, giving your time can make a difference for that person. Ask Jesus what you can do for them. 'Give back with love' the love you have received.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 2

The human heart
is restless and needy



Day 2. The human heart is restless and needy

Step Two of the Way of the Heart invites us to embark on the sometimes-dizzying adventure of looking into our hearts. A heart eager to love and be loved, which does not always find the right paths to love. A human heart before which the Lord is ready to knock, asking for permission to enter. A heart made to be free and to exercise that freedom, a freedom that means to love.

Pope Francis tells us, “while painfully aware of our own frailties, we have to march on without giving in, keeping in mind what the Lord said to Saint Paul: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor 12: 9).”

Take some time to becoming aware and recognize those spiritual movements that dwells within you, those inner movements that open you up and connect you with life, and those that lead you down paths of death.

“If you have lost your vitality, your dreams, your enthusiasm, your optimism and your generosity, Jesus stands before you as once he stood before the dead son of the widow, and with all the power of his resurrection he urges you: «...I say to you, arise!»” The Heart of Jesus knows the concerns of your heart, your weaknesses, but He trusts in the grace He gives you and in your deep desires for true Life.

What do you need to let go of in this time? What robs you of freedom, encloses you, angers you, makes you lose patience, distances you from your brothers and sisters? The Lord does not want this suffering for you. Today, you can choose to open yourself to Him and receive His mercy to share it. Also pray that ‘all those who are suffering may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.’ (Prayer Intention - June 2020) Focus your attention on the Love of God that reaches you through others. What or who helps you grow in freedom, love, dedication, generosity, hope? Take some time to go deeper and continue on the journey with the Heart of Jesus.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 3

In a broken world



Day 3. In a broken world

Today, the Way of the Heart invites you to contemplate the world. The book of Genesis tells us that when the Lord beheld the work of His creation, He declared... "And it was very good." (Gen 1: 31) How does the Lord look at His creation? What does He see that leads Him to this declaration?

Pope Francis tells us, "Our contemplative prayer places ourselves before God's loving gaze. The light of that gaze illuminates our spirit, giving us a compassionate gaze to contemplate the world. Christ Himself is the model for all contemplative prayer, a prayer that does not ignore reality and suffering, but rather intensifies before His impending passion."

Our daily choices determine whether there is more or less love in the universe; each and every one of us is a creator of the world we live in. We can reflect on those daily choices, those small decisions we make every day... do they contribute to the humanization of our environments? This begins in the family, the most intimate nucleus where you can learn to love, to respect, to give yourself in the quiet of each day, far from applause. This is why Pope Francis, in his prayer intention for August 2019, asked us to pray especially 'for families, that through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth."

We invite you to ask yourself throughout this day: What have I done? What am I doing? What should I do for Christ? Do you pray for your family and with your family? What concrete actions can you take that reflect the way of Jesus? The world needs your loving heart. Receive the love of the Heart of Jesus, so you can share it each day with those around you.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 4

The Father sends his Son to save



Day 4. The Father sends His Son to save

Step Four of the Way of the Heart affirms that Jesus is sent to save us. He draws near to us to let us experience the Life of the Father. He cared about us, He did not leave us by the roadside, and did not pass by our anguish and suffering, which He chose to know intimately and make His own. Pope Francis asked us to 'reject the prevailing culture of indifference and care for those who suffer, particularly the sick and the poor,' just as Jesus did with each of us. (Cf. Prayer intention - May 2015) "Indifference is the tragedy of being well-informed but not feeling the reality of others. This is the chasm: the chasm of indifference."

In Jesus' style, becoming more human means to be in solidarity with the crucified of history, with the marginalized, the poor, and the excluded, taking up their cross out of love and in solidarity with their lives. Becoming more human in Jesus' style means opening ourselves to love, which involves going through the cross, leading to the resurrection.

We are called to give life through our daily decisions, to continue in this process of humanization by embodying the style of Christ who comes to save us.

Today, accept this invitation from the Heart of Jesus to bring life to others, that life in abundance. How can you be a sign of salvation in your surroundings today? Ask the Lord today "for the grace of not falling into indifference, the grace that all the information we have about human suffering might penetrate our hearts and move us to do something for others." 4

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.

DAY 5

Jesus calls us his friends



Day 5. He calls us His friends

Step Five of the Way of the Heart invites us to enter into friendship with Jesus.

Becoming disciples of Jesus Christ, in intimacy with Him, requires being attentive and docile to the life of the Spirit.

The God of Life, of Life in abundance, invites us today to enter into friendship with Him, to walk the paths of concrete life – work, encounters, family, studies... There the Lord calls us to be His disciples, friends in His mission.

“Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, ‘You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to (the) poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’” (Mk. 10: 21) “The Lord calls us because he wants... to take charge of our lives and place them at the service of the Gospel, in the concrete and everyday ways that he shows us, and specifically in the different forms of lay, priestly and consecrated vocation. Yet... our desire and enthusiasm coexist with our failings and fears... ‘Take heart, do not be afraid! Jesus is at our side... Mary... Grateful that Lord gazed upon her, faithful amid fear and turmoil, she courageously embraced her vocation and made of her life an eternal song of praise to the Lord.” 5

Today, take time to go deeper into this call, illuminated by the gospel of the rich man, and have the courage to be captivated by the Lord and embrace His invitation: "Follow me." And in your times of prayer, do not forget to pray ‘that the personal encounter with Jesus may arouse in many young people the desire to offer their own lives to Him...’ (Prayer intention - June 2015)

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 6

Christ abides in us



Day 6. Christ abides in us

Step Six of the Way of the Heart invites you to abide with Jesus, as close to His Heart as possible, to see Him and listen to Him in the Gospels, to dwell in deep communion with Him, and to allow yourself to be transformed by Him. When you look at His Heart, you renew your first love: the memory of when the Lord touched your soul.

What life force gives us being and doing? What moves us? It is He who is at the origin of the impulse, who vivifies my existence with his omnipresence in everything and everyone. In the life that springs forth in you, in the universe that sustains you, you find Him Himself.

Living in Christ, being inhabited by Christ, also implies "being with Him"—in an intimate relationship that is not confined to restrictive intimacy, but it propels you to the mission: "so that He may manifest Himself to all people." In your actions, you become an instrument of the manifestation of Jesus.

That is why in the prayer intention for July 2023, Francis asked that our life of faith be Eucharistic, meaning that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters. "The Eucharistic Celebration is an encounter with the Risen Jesus. At the same time, it is a way of opening ourselves to the world as He taught us. Each time we participate in the Eucharist, Jesus comes, and Jesus gives us the strength to love like He loved, because it gives us the courage to encounter others, to go out of ourselves, and to open ourselves to others with love.⁶"

How do you live and express your faith in Jesus? Does it reflect, radiate, and influence those around you? Ask the Heart of Jesus to dwell within you, to inspire your day, and to impel you in your daily actions.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 7

We offer our lives along with Him



Day 7. We offer our lives along with Him

Uniting our lives with Christ should lead us to give our lives for others as He did. Despite your poverty and limitation, your life is valuable to others. Knowing that you are loved, enables you to respond to the abundant goodness received. Even if it seems of little value, when you offer your availability, you benefit others because the Father associates this offering with the life and Heart of His Son.

Every day, you can express to the Father this availability with a daily offering prayer and attitude, asking the Spirit not to hinder His action. By nourishing and inspiring yourself especially from the celebration of the Eucharist, you will have the impulse to give your life with Him to your brothers and sisters.

Therefore, the core and heart of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network charism is the attitude of the heart to completely offer our lives with all that we are and all that we have. It is not just about offering our daily tasks but our entire being — our inner availability to be apostles in the mission of compassion for the world, wherever you may find yourself.

Francis desires that every baptized person be a missionary disciple, participating in evangelization and being available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel. (Prayer Intention - September 2021) “This missionary mandate touches us personally: I am a mission, always; you are a mission, always; every baptized man and woman is a mission. People in love never stand still: they are drawn out of themselves; they are attracted and attract others in turn; they give themselves to others and build relationships that are life-giving.” 7

How do you want to answer to this invitation from Jesus through the Pope and his Worldwide Prayer Network? Talk about this with the Heart of Jesus and let Him inspire you with concrete gestures of daily offering. Spend the day savoring and appreciating this gift He gives you, of offering your life and becoming children with the Son to give life to the world, with Him and as He does.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.

DAY 8

A mission of compassion



Day 8. A mission of compassion

Step Eight of the Way of the Heart invites us to enter the missionary dimension of our vocation. It is because we are totally united to the Heart of Jesus that we can, with Him, open ourselves in confidence. Because we have had the experience of being loved and forgiven, and we have experienced the deep mercy of the Lord for us, we can become missionaries of mercy, witnesses of the Joy of the Gospel.

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network invites us to a mission of compassion for the world, praying and mobilizing ourselves to meet the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. This requires consenting to be vulnerable, allowing ourselves to be deeply moved by what our brothers and sisters live throughout the world. This means to leave behind indifference and adopt a "culture of encounter."

An encounter that first begins within our community and extends to the world's peripheries, like the first disciples. That is why Pope Francis encourages us to live out our identity as a synodal Church, who walking together, is open to all. His prayer intention for October 2022 emphasizes the need for a Church that is faithful to the Gospel, courageous in its proclamation, and ever more synodal in nature, and that fosters solidarity, fraternity, and hospitality. What is the Lord calling you to in this time? Where and with whom can you be a missionary of His compassion? Let your heart expand to welcome all who come your way. Spread the mercy that the Heart of Christ has shown you.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



DAY 9

A Worldwide Network of Prayer
and service attentive to
the needs of humanity



Day 9. A Worldwide Network of Prayer and service attentive to the needs of Humanity

On this final day of the novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in the Step Nine of the Way of the Heart, we invite you to focus your eyes and heart on our larger community: the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network and its youth branch, the Eucharistic Youth Movement.

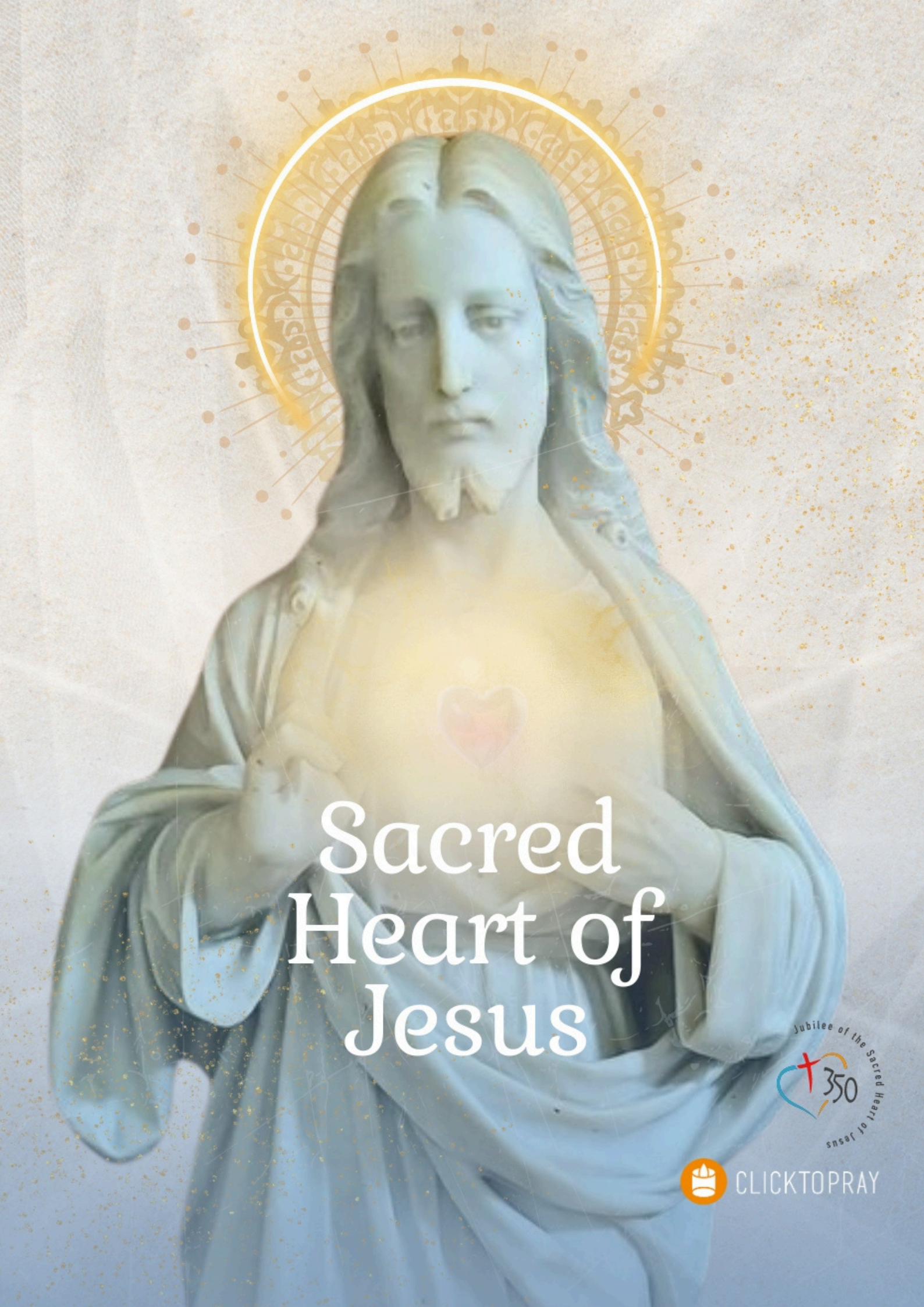
Jesus did not act alone; He sought men and women, formed them, and empower them. He sought their help to make the proclamation of the Kingdom of God possible. "Created in the image and likeness of God, ... we carry forever in our hearts the longing for living in communion, for belonging to a community."

The Church is a body, a community, and a communion open to the world and committed to the challenges of humanity. The Pope tells us, "I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security." (Evangelii Gaudium N° 49)

That is why, in May 2023, Pope Francis asked us to pray for ecclesial movements and groups, that they might rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world. We always strive to respond to this call to be a Network for mission, united in the Heart of Christ, fostering unity and peace, maintaining a constant attitude of conversion, being outward-focused, and open to the needs of men and women who suffer.

How do you live out your faith in community? What is the quality and openness of your participation in the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network? Open your heart and prepare to celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, who comes to give Life in abundance.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



Sacred Heart of Jesus

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350

 CLICKTOPRAY

Solemnity of the Heart of Jesus

“Jesus, make my heart resembles Yours,” Pope Francis invites us to pray. Today is the great celebration of Love, a love that knows no borders, limits, or obstacles. A love without conditions that does not show favoritism.

“We can experience and savor the tenderness of this love at every stage of life: in times of joy and of sadness, in times of good health and of frailty and those of sickness.” (Pope Francis)

Take a moment to recall the most significant moments of this time of preparation, what has been happening in your heart —the motions, feelings, ideas, and desires that have been stirred within you. Express gratitude for these moments, recognizing how they move and where they are leading you. Embrace the spiritual movements that bring you closer to Life, to meaningful encounters with your brothers and sisters, to gratitude, peace, harmony, and help. Let go of anything that hinders the growth of Christ's life within your heart.

Celebrate this feast of Love, offering thanks for all the gifts you have received, and ask Jesus Christ to mold your heart in the image of His.

Our Father - Hail Mary - Glory be the Father.



The Way of the Heart is the formation itinerary of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network that helps us to enter into a mission of compassion for the world. It is a spiritual path that helps us to tune into the Heart of Jesus in order to have a heart more like his and to go out to meet our brothers and sisters.

<https://caminodelcorazon.church/web/en/>