

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - June 19

The Second Person of the Blessed Trinity differs from both the Father and the Holy Spirit in that he is likewise man as well as God and has a heart like the rest of humankind. This heart was broken for us on the cross. From it issued the stream of blood and water that has given health and salvation, pardon and peace to the sons and daughters of men. He, in these latter times, appeared in vision to holy men and women, as he once appeared long ago to St. Paul, showing his heart aflame with the fire of love to the souls he died to save and promising many blessings to those who are especially devoted to his Sacred Heart. By devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus we mean uniting ourselves in thought and desire with his holy heart, loving what Jesus loves and desiring what he desires, so that the heart's desire of Jesus becomes our heart's desire also. The best way to make this devotion practical is to make the love of Jesus the mainspring of all our conduct. St. Paul put it all in one short sentence, "the love of Christ constrains us". [2 Cor. 5:14] The special habitation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the Blessed Sacrament and, therefore, devotion to the Sacred Heart should mean to us devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. (Fr. Paul's Sermon, Trinity Sunday, May 29, 1904)