

Immaculate Heart of Mary



In March, the Pope consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary to promote peace. Every diocese and parish, including St. John's, continues to pray for peace through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. What is the Immaculate Heart of Mary?

It is one of the most popular Marian devotions in the Catholic Church today and is often honored alongside the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion has its roots in Sacred Scripture, which makes frequent mention of Mary's contemplative heart, for example in Luke 2:19:

"But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart."

According to Catholic doctrine, Mary is the Immaculate Conception; that is, in preparation for the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity in her womb, Mary was conceived without the corruption of original sin, and was preserved from committing any actual sins

throughout the course of her life through the infinite merits of her Son, Jesus Christ. She was virginal not only of soul, but also of body, both before and after giving birth to Our Lord.

Our Lady was created literally "Full of Grace" as the Archangel Gabriel declared at the Annunciation, meaning that her soul was literally adorned with all of the virtues at the moment of her conception, as well as all the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

This fullness of grace is said to emanate from the center of her being—her heart—understood both physically and spiritually. It is Mary's heart, in its unspoiled created perfection, that is the source and wellspring of her purity . . . therefore her heart is called Immaculate.

Our Lord took His sacred humanity from the flesh and blood of his Blessed Mother; Christ's heart is taken from her heart. At Calvary, the perfect hearts of Jesus and Mary were united for the salvation of mankind. And this is why the Two Hearts are honored together.

While the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the source of Christ's burning love for humanity, and is largely spurned by the indifference of mankind towards Him, the Immaculate Heart of Mary is the source of Our Lady's burning love for God and her desire to bring souls to her Son, and is so often outraged by the offenses of mankind committed against her love.

Source:

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/devotion-immaculate-heart-mary-6227>

SYMBOLS of the HEART of MARY

HEART **FIRE**

SWORD **ROSES**

Her Heart
Symbol of her Maternal Love

The Sword
Represents her sorrows

The Fire
Burns with the love of Jesus and us

The Roses
Represent her purity

Coming next month – What is the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

Volume 13- May 2022 -- St. John's Newsletter is a once-a-month publication aimed at providing you with items of interest about our Catholic faith. If there is a topic you are interested in, please contact the parish office and we will try to address it in future issues.