

THE IMMACULATE HEART AND THE SACRED HEART: UNITED AS ONE



An image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.....the Queen Mother and her son, Christ the King. Note that both hearts emit flames of intense love for us and thirst for sinners to return to Christ and His Church. Note also the sword piercing her heart. The Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus are united as one. Thus her role is to carry out the will of her son and to lead souls to God as the great evangelizer.

The Union of Two Hearts. We do not adore Mary, nor do we use her as an intermediary. Yes, we honor her as the perfect model of woman and mother. Even all Muslims recognize that as demonstrated by an entire chapter in the Qur'an (Chap 19 & see my Blog #4 at paulrsebastianphd.blogspot.com). Furthermore, we ask Mary to pray for us as I would ask you to pray for me. Her Immaculate Heart and her son's Sacred Heart are so intimately united that Mary's will is completely subservient to God's will. The great Polish St. Maximilian Kolbe, the founder of the "Knights of the Immaculada" and writer of the Immaculada Magazine which prepared Poland for six years of Nazi subjugation, beautifully described that fact:

"Mary is a faithful image of God's perfection and sanctity. Our soul's degree of perfection depends on the union of our will with that of God. Because the most blessed Virgin surpasses in perfection all the angels and saints, her will is united with and made one in the closest manner with the will of God. She lives and acts solely in God and through God. Hence, by accomplishing the will of the Immaculate, we accomplish by that very fact the will of God."

Thus Mary uses any power that God gives her to carry out the will of her son. Her role in the Church (Blog #83) is to protect it, to nurture the faith of its members, and to evangelize, bringing souls to her son. Thus we have the saying: "To Jesus through Mary". Remember Mary's first public act of intercession at Cana when she told the servants: "Do as He tells you" (John 2:5). She wants us to do likewise. Mary has a key role in the Evangelization of Latin America (Blogs #104 – 106) and the world (Blogs #95 & 96), in healing (#133), and saving Europe from conquest by radical Islam in 1456 at Belgrade, 1571 at the Battle of Lepanto, and 1683 at the Battle of Vienna (#125). She gave us the most beautiful prayer after the Mass.....the Rosary (#50, 73, 78, & 84), as we relive and meditate on different mysteries of the Bible with repetitive prayer as background music. Mary, has given us many messages to help us along on the journey to Heaven in many apparitions, some vigorously authenticated by the Church and many not. Interesting is that every Catholic country and many others have shrines to Mary where she can nurture in a special way the faith of those who visit her.



The Pilgrim Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Patroness of the Diocese of Steubenville (see <http://www.diosteub.org/Reconsecration>). In no way do we adore this or any statue; we honor who it represents. We adore only God and God alone, but we honor and emulate Mary and the saints who belong to our Hall of Fame for heroic virtue and unusual holiness. For example, we honor historical figures with statues and great baseball players with their statues in front of stadiums. You won't find any statue or image in most Protestant churches. With the exception of the Orthodox, the Catholic Church is the only religion that gives a woman a prominent role in the liturgy and daily practice of the faith.

Simeon prophesized to Mary that a sword would pierce her heart (Luke 2:35). From this comes the "Seven Sorrows of Mary": 1) Simeon's prophesy; 2) the slaughter of the innocents & flight to Egypt; 3) the loss of the child Jesus in the temple; 4) meeting her son on the way up to Mt. Calvary; 5) the Crucifixion; 6) taking Christ down from the cross; and 7) the laying of the body of Christ in the sepulcher. Our blessed mother endured each sorrow with grace, with faith, courage, and above all, TRUST that God would make good come out of it and His will would ultimately prevail. Because the Immaculate Heart and the Sacred Heart are so united, Mary must have intensely suffered with her son for us on Good Friday. Some theologians even call her a co-redeemer or "Co-redemptrix". This of course would have to be studied thoroughly by the theologians and marianologists with much prayer before the Pope could infallibly declare that concept a dogma. According to one theory, at the moment that the centurion pierced the heart of the dead savior, Mary's heart was pierced in some way as she felt intense pain there.

St. Pope John Paul II had such a devotion to Mary that he put on his papal coat of arms, the words in Latin, "Totus tuus" or "All yours". The Apostolate of Family Consecration (Catholic Familyland), the family retreat center, promotes the concept that Mary will magnify any prayer, example, sacrifice, or action we offer to God through her.

Be sure to attend Adoration today to worship Jesus Christ, who is mercy & love, and honor His mother and our mother of mercy in this Year of Mercy. Perhaps you can begin the Total Consecration to Mary according to St. Louis de Monfort. It will be SPECIAL.