



June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. That draws us to consider the wonderful mystery of the love of God shown to us in so many ways, and caught up in the image of Heart of Jesus, his love made real in his life and death, something that we experience in the sacraments of the Church. In these days when we do not have immediate access to that sacramental love we can reflect on God's loving presence with us through the feasts of the calendar which thread a pattern through this month. This resource highlights the major feasts and offers a prayer from the liturgy for each day. Prayers to and the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus [pp 4,5] with excerpts from Pope Francis' homilies for the feast of the Sacred Heart [p.3].

As well as the feast days for which prayers are given June is rich with other feasts days you might want to mark of saints who in different ways built up the Church because of their love for God.

June 3	The Martyrs of Uganda
June 5	St Boniface, bishop and martyr : an English Saint killed for the faith in what is today Holland
June 9	St Columba, the Irish monk who founded the abbey on Iona
June 11	St Barnabas, Paul's missionary companion
June 13	St Anthony of Padua, the Franciscan saint and teacher
June 20	St Alban, the first martyr of England
June 30	The First Martyrs of the Roman Church, our fathers and mothers in the faith

June 1 **Mary Mother of the Church –** *Collect from the Roman Missal*

the month begins and closes with feasts about the Church, the community of love
O God, Father of mercies, whose only Begotten Son as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother, to be our Mother also,
grant, we pray, that with her loving help your Church may be more fruitful day by day,
and exulting in the holiness of her children
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.

June 4 **Our Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest** *Collect from the Roman Missal*

Pope Francis instituted this feast, a day to pray for all priests and for priestly vocations.
O God, who for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of the human race,
made your Only Begotten Son the Eternal High Priest, grant that, through the outpouring of
the Holy Spirit, those whom he has chosen as ministers and stewards of his mysteries may
be found faithful in carrying out the ministry they have received.

June 5 **First Friday** – the First Friday of every month is dedicated to the Sacred Heart,
linked to the visions of St Margaret Mary Alacoque. A tradition that deserves more thought.

June 7 **TRINITY SUNDAY** *Collect for Year A from ICEL Opening Prayers*

*when we celebrate the love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
especially through the Sign of the Cross. That great teaching :*
From my head to my heart, from my should to my shoulder, I belong to God.
Merciful and gracious Father, you showed the fullness of your love when you gave your only
Son for our salvation and sent down upon us the power of your Spirit.
Complete within in the work of your love, that we who have communion in Christ may come
to share more fully the undying life he lives with you.

- June 14** **CORPUS CHRISTI** *Collect for Year A from ICEL Opening Prayers*
the Sunday following Trinity Sunday the love Jesus shares with us in the Eucharis
 The bread you give, O God, is Christ's flesh for the life of the world, the cup of his blood is your covenant for our salvation. Grant that we who worship Christ in this holy mystery may reverence him in the needy of this world by lives poured out for the sake of that kingdom
- June 19** **SACRED HEART** *Collect for Year A from ICEL Opening Prayers*
Christ's love for us : Come to me all you who labour
and are overburdened and I will give you rest – a message for this crisis
 God of love, you set your heart upon the least of nations
 and in the heart of Jesus you reveal your love to the merest of children.
 Make us simple enough to receive your great love
 and strong enough to bear it to others.
- June 20** **Immaculate Heart of Mary** *Collect from the Roman Missal*
the Saturday after the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
It celebrates Mary's love for her Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and for his Body, the Church.
 O God, who prepared a fit dwelling place for the Holy Spirit
 in the Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, graciously grant that through her intercession
 we may be a worthy temple of your glory.
- June 22** **SS John Fisher and Thomas More, martyrs** *Collect from the Roman Missal*
They were willing to give their lives because of their love for the Church, the Body of Christ.
A day to pray for all who are persecuted for their Christian faith across the world today.
 O God, who in martyrdom
 have brought true faith to its highest expression,
 graciously grant that,
 strengthened through the intercession of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More,
 we may confirm by the witness of our life, the faith we profess with our lips.
- June 24** **Solemnity of the Birth of JOHN THE BAPTIST** *Collect from ICEL Opening Prayers*
John leaps with joy in his mother's womb, at the presence of Christ, when Mary visits Elizabeth. John's love for the Truth will lead to his martyrdom.
 God most high,
 from his mother's womb you destined John the Baptist
 to preach repentance to challenge hardened hearts and so to herald salvation.
 Grant us to embrace the conversion he proclaimed
 and to follow the one whose coming he announced.
- June 28** **Solemnity of Saints PETER and PAUL, apostles** *Collect from ICEL Opening Prayers*
Peter and Paul, the founding apostles of the Church, demonstrate their love for Christ
by moving on from their own weaknesses to tirelessly proclaim the gospel.
It leads to their martyrdom for the faith from love for the Gospel.
A day to pray for Pope Francis as bishop of Rome, successor to Peter.
 Lord, living God,
 you crowned the faith of Peter and the tireless preaching of Paul
 with a share in Christ's triumphant death.
 Renew our faith through their intercession
 and, by the example of their lives
 rekindle our zeal for proclaiming the gospel,

Pope Francis homily for the feast of Sacred Heart, 2014

God's love, in fact, can only be experienced by people willing to let go of their egos and humbly let God take the lead, allowing him take their hand like a loving father with his children, the pope said in his homily June 27.

"One can say that today is the feast of God's love in Jesus Christ, of God's love for us, of God's love in us, .. There are two aspects of love. First, love is more about giving than receiving. Second, love is more about deeds than words. Love is always given or transmitted to another and love always gives life, fosters growth. But, in order to understand and experience God's love, people have to be humble and childlike before the immensity of the divine. God wants a "father-child relationship" with people and wants to assure everybody, "I am with you." This is the tender affection of the Lord. This is what he communicates and it gives strength to our tenderness. But if we make ourselves out to be strong," he said, "we will never experience the Lord's caress, the Lord's caresses, (that are) so beautiful." When Jesus says, "Be not afraid. I am with you," and explains "I am meek and humble of heart," the pope said, he is helping people understand "the mysterious love" God has for us. Jesus himself the son of God, lowers himself in order to receive the father's love. The other defining characteristic of God's love is that he loved us first. God is always "before us" and "he is waiting for us." When we go looking for him, he sought us out first. He is always ahead of us, he's waiting for us in order to receive us in his heart, in his love. He gives us joy and takes us on life's journey like a child, by our hand. To express his love God needs our smallness, to lower ourselves. And he also needs our amazement when we look for him and discover him already there, waiting for us."

Pope Francis – Morning Homily – June 23, 2017 – Sacred Heart

The Sacred Heart of Christ is not a 'holy card' for the devout, but is "the heart of revelation, the heart of our faith, because He made Himself small," choosing this way "of humbling Himself, of emptying Himself even to death on the Cross."

Drawing inspiration from today's first Reading, from the book of Deuteronomy, where Moses says that God has chosen us "from all the nations on the face of the earth to be a people peculiarly His own."

For this, God is praised because in the Heart of Jesus, He gave us the grace to celebrate with joy the great mystery of our salvation, of His love for us," that is to say, in celebrating our faith.

The Holy Father dwelt on two words in the reading: "choosing," and "smallness."

Choosing

On choosing - it is not that we have chosen God, but rather, that God has made Himself "our prisoner." He has attached Himself to our life; He cannot detach Himself. He is strongly yoked! And He remains faithful in this attitude. We were chosen for love and this is our identity." I have chosen this religion, I have chosen...' [we might say]. No, you have not chosen. It is He Who has chosen you, has called you, and has joined Himself to you. And this is our faith. If we do not believe this, we don't understand the message of Christ, we don't understand the Gospel."

Smallness

Turning to 'smallness - The Lord, Moses said, chose the people of Israel because it was "the smallest of all nations." He was enamoured of our smallness, and for this reason He has chosen us. And He chooses the small: not the great, the small. And He is revealed to the small: 'you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones.'

And He not only chooses and reveals Himself to the little ones; He calls the little ones: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest.'" But the great, does He not call them? His heart is open, but the great do not recognize His voice because they are not able to hear it because they are full of themselves. To hear the voice of the Lord, you must make yourself little."

The mystery of the Heart of Christ -

Coming to the mystery of the Heart of Christ - it is not a "holy card" for the devout. Rather, the transfixed Heart of Christ is "the heart of revelation, the heart of our faith, because He made Himself small, He has chosen this way": that of humbling Himself, of emptying Himself "even to death on the Cross." It is a choice for smallness, so that the glory of God might be manifest. Today's celebration is of a Heart that loves, that chooses, that is faithful, and that is joined to us, is revealed to the little ones, calls the little ones, makes itself little."

"We believe in God, yes; yes in Jesus too, yes... 'Is Jesus God?' [someone asks.] 'Yes,' [we respond]. This is the manifestation, this is the glory of God. Fidelity in choosing, in joining Himself and making Himself little, even for Himself: to become small, to empty Himself."

"The problem of the faith is the core of our life: we can be so much, so virtuous, but with little or no faith; we must start from here, from the mystery of Jesus Christ, Who has saved us with His faithfulness."

May the Lord grant us the grace to celebrate "the great acts and works of salvation and redemption" in the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Consecration of the Family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus – from thelordcalls.org - in modern language

Sacred Heart of Jesus, you have revealed your desire to reign in every Christian family. Today, we come to ask that you take complete possession of our home. We greatly desire that through sincere fidelity to you, our home becomes fragrant with love, peace and joy.

Keep far from us all that can turn us away from You. Drain off feelings of strife; replace our bitterness with forgiveness; do not allow resentments and hurts to dictate what we rule or say. May the flame of sincere and understanding love burn brighter each day thorough our frequent participation of the Eucharist and the habit of daily family prayer.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, preside over all our gatherings and events; be with us in all our joys and sorrows. If any of us should stray away from you and from us, may your merciful heart bring him or her back to obedience to You and to union with us. May each member of our family be a committed Christian, faithful to the way of life you have taught by word and example.

And, at the end, when death comes to take any one of us away, may we accept it with submission and with joyful hope in the resurrection and the final reunion of our family in heaven, where you own hand will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

Mary, Mother of Jesus, be the mother of this family. St. Joseph, take care of each member of this family as you looked after the Holy Family of Nazareth.

May the grace and blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus be on us; the peace of the Sacred Heart envelope us; the merits of the Sacred Heart plead for us; the love of the Sacred Heart strengthen us; the zeal of the Sacred Heart animate us; the virtues of the Sacred Heart shine forth in our words and deeds; and may the beatific vision of the Sacred heart be our eternal joy.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, be King of our home. In our home you be glorified today and forever. Amen

Prayers to the Sacred Heart

franciscanmedia.org

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise to the Sacred Heart

Lord, you deserve all honor and praise,
because your love is perfect and your heart sublime.

My heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude

for the many blessings and graces you have bestowed upon me and those whom I love.

Forever undeserving, may I always be attentive and never take for granted the gifts of mercy and love that flow so freely and generously from your Sacred Heart.

Heart of Jesus, I adore you.

Heart of Jesus, I praise you.

Heart of Jesus, I thank you.

Heart of Jesus, I love you forever and always. Amen.

Prayer to the Sacred Heart

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you and will a lively sorrow for my sins.

I offer you this poor heart of mine.

Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to your will.

Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you.

Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions;

give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs,

your blessings on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death.

Within your heart I place my every care.

In every need let me come to you with humble trust saying,

Heart of Jesus, help me. Amen.

LITANY of the SACRED HEART of JESUS

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
God our Father in heaven, *have mercy on us*
Holy Trinity, one God
Heart of Jesus, Son of the eternal Father
Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin mother
Heart of Jesus, one with the eternal Word
Heart of Jesus, infinite in majesty
Heart of Jesus, holy temple of God
Heart of Jesus, tabernacle of the Most High
Heart of Jesus, house of God and gate of heaven
Heart of Jesus, aflame with love for us
Heart of Jesus, source of justice and love
Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love
Heart of Jesus, worthy of all praise
Heart of Jesus, king and centre of all hearts
Heart of Jesus, treasure house of wisdom and knowledge
Heart of Jesus, in whom there dwells the fullness of God
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father is well pleased
Heart of Jesus, from whose fullness we have all received
Heart of Jesus, desire of the eternal hills
Heart of Jesus, patient and full of mercy
Heart of Jesus, generous to all who turn to you
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness
Heart of Jesus, atonement for our sins
Heart of Jesus, overwhelmed with insults
Heart of Jesus, broken for our sins
Heart of Jesus, obedient even to death
Heart of Jesus, pierced by a lance
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection
Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins
Heart of Jesus, salvation of all who trust in you
Heart of Jesus, hope of all who die in you
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the saints



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; *Spare us O Lord.*
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; *Have mercy on us.*

V. Jesus, gentle and humble of heart
R. Touch our hearts and make them like your own

Let us pray
Father, we rejoice in the gifts of love we have received from the heart of Jesus your Son.
Open our hearts to share his life and continue to bless us with his love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.