

# Most Chaste Heart of St. Joseph



You have probably heard of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Promoted by St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1647, in a time where the heresy Jansenism was spreading. This heresy denied the ability of God to forgive, it falsely claimed human beings could not be saved. Nothing is impossible for God. Christ appeared to this saint, showing her His Sacred Heart and telling her of His immeasurable Mercy. At a time when we needed to be reminded of the greatness of God's mercy towards repentant sinners, He gave us this devotion to His Sacred Heart. A devotion to Mary's Immaculate Heart also spread around that same time.

A more recent and less well known devotion is the devotion to the Chaste Heart of St. Joseph! A heart that was so close to Mary's Heart. A father's heart that cared for Jesus and His mother. In This new year honoring St. Joseph, it is a wonderful time to begin to have a greater devotion to St. Joseph and his Chaste Heart. That we may reach a deeper understanding of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary!



*Prayer by Pope Leo the 13th*

To you, O blessed Joseph,  
do we come in our tribulation,  
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,  
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you  
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God  
and through the paternal love  
with which you embraced the Child Jesus,  
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance  
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,  
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.  
O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,  
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;  
O most loving father, ward off from us  
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;  
O our most mighty protector, be kind to us  
and from heaven assist us in our struggle  
with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,  
so now protect God's Holy Church  
from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;  
shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,  
so that, supported by your example and your aid,  
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,  
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen.