



Month of the

Immaculate Heart of Mary

"And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed." **Luke 2:35**

Although rooted in Sacred Scripture, and written about down the centuries by many of the saints, devotion to Mary's Heart had a greater flowering following the manifestation of the Miraculous Medal to St. [Catherine Labouré](#) in 1830 and the Appearances of Our Lady at Fatima in 1917.



Mary appeared to St. Catherine Labouré in 1830 in the convent of the Rue du Bac in Paris, standing on a globe, rays of light streaming from her fingers, in an oval frame inscribed with the words, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee". The whole vision "turned" showing the back of the oval inscribed with the letter "M" entwined with a Cross, and the hearts of Jesus and Mary, the former surrounded with thorns, the latter pierced with a sword. 12 stars circled this oval frame. Mary told her to strike a medal in this form -- a medal now known as the Miraculous Medal -- and that all who wore it properly, after having it blessed, would receive great graces. The wearing of the Miraculous Medal has become one of the commonest devotions to the Immaculate Heart.



"You have seen Hell, where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world Devotion to my Immaculate Heart"

In **1917**, from May 13th to October 13th, our Blessed Mother Mary [appeared to three children](#) ,
Jacinta and Francisco Marto and their cousin Lucia Dos Santos
in

Fatima
, Portugal

. On July 13th, she told them: "to save poor sinners, God wishes to establish in the world
devotion to my Immaculate Heart." The Fatima message is one of prayer, penance and making
sacrifices in
reparation to God for the many
offences against Him.

The Five First Saturdays



In October 1925 Lucy dos Santos joined as a postulant in the Dorothean house at **Pontevedra**,
Spain.

on Here
December 10, 1925, **Dec**

sister Lucy, now eighteen, received an apparition of the Child Jesus and the Virgin Mary in her
convent cell.

The Holy Virgin showed her a Heart surrounded by thorns; Our Lady said to her:

**" See, My daughter, my heart surrounded by thorns which ungrateful men pierce at every
moment by their [blasphemies](#) and ingratitude...**

"Say to all those who, for five months, on the first Saturday :

- [confess](#)
receive Holy Communion
recite the [Rosary](#)
and keep Me company for 15 minutes while [meditating on the 15 mysteries](#) of the
Rosary, in a spirit of reparation

...

"...that I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for

the salvation of their souls ."

In 1942, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Fatima, Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. That same year, he assigned the feast day to August 22, the octave of the Assumption. On May 4, 1944, he extended the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the Universal Church. With the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council in 1969, the feast was given a more suitable place on the day following the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

[Consecration of Family and Home to the Immaculate Heart](#) [St Bernardine of Siena](#) (Feast Day 1

[Heart of Mary](#) [St John Eudes](#) (19th August) [Litany of the Immaculate](#)

[List](#) [August Feast of Our Lady](#)

[Act of Consecration](#)

[Act of Reparation](#)

