

# The Sacred Heart of Jesus

The month of June is the beginning of [Ordinary Time](#), which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time.

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## The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of June 2026

**For the values of sports:** Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth. (See also [Apostleship of Prayer](#).)

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## Feasts for June 2026

1. [Justin](#), *Memorial*
2. [Marcellinus & Peter](#), *Opt. Mem.*
3. [Charles Lwanga & Companions](#), *Memorial*
5. [Boniface](#), *Memorial*
6. [Norbert](#), *Opt. Mem.*
7. **CORPUS CHRISTI**, *Solemnity*
9. [Ephrem](#), *Opt. Mem.*
11. [Barnabas](#), *Memorial*
12. **SACRED HEART OF JESUS**, *Solemnity*
13. [Immaculate Heart of Mary](#), *Memorial*
14. **ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**, *Sunday*
19. [Romuald](#), *Opt. Mem.*

21. TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, *Sunday*
22. *Paulinus of Nola; John Fisher & Thomas More, Opt. Mem.*
24. **NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**, *Solemnity*
26. *Josemaría Escrivá, Opt. Mem.*
27. *Cyril of Alexandria, Opt. Mem.*
28. THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, *Sunday*
29. **STS PETER & PAUL**, *Solemnity*
30. *First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church, Opt. Mem.*

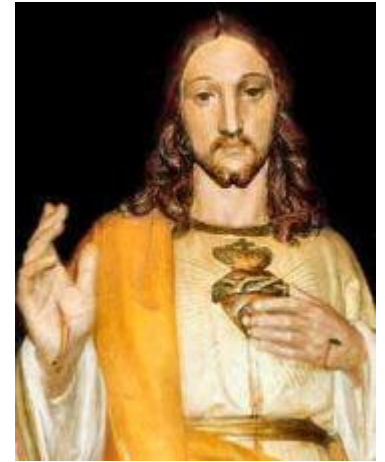
### Focus of the Liturgy

The Gospel readings for June are from St. Matthew. All Sunday readings are from Cycle A, and Weekday readings are Year II.

<b>June 7</b> Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	<b>Cycle A, John 6:51-58</b> My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.
<b>June 14th</b> Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>Cycle A, Mt 9:36-10:8:</b> If we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more will we be saved by his life.
<b>June 21st</b> Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>Cycle A, Mt 10:26-33:</b> Do not be afraid of those who kill the body.
<b>June 28th</b> Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>Cycle A, Mt 16:37-42:</b> Whoever does not take up his cross is not worthy of me. Whoever receives you receives me.

## Highlights of the Month

As we begin to feel the warmth of summer, we can reflect that we celebrate the feasts of the **Corpus Christi** (June 7), the **Sacred Heart of Jesus** (June 12), the **Immaculate Heart of Mary** (June 13), **Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist** (June 24) and the **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul** (June 29). God is Love and the Sacred Heart of Jesus — present on earth in the Blessed Sacrament — is the human manifestation of God's Love for men. Appropriately June is considered the month for weddings where human hearts join and cooperate with the Creator in bringing forth new life. The family they create is a human reflection of the Blessed Trinity.



The saints that we will focus on this month are:

**St. Justin** (June 1),

**Sts. Marcellinus and Peter** (June 2),

**St. Charles Lwanga & Companions** (June 3),

**St. Boniface** (June 5),

**St. Norbert** (June 6),

**St. Ephrem** (June 9),

**St. Barnabas** (June 11),

**St. Anthony of Padua** (June 13),

**St. Romuald** (June 19),

**Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More**, and **St. Paulinus** (June 22)

the **Nativity of St. John the Baptist** (June 24),

**St. Josemaría Escrivá** (June 26),

**St. Cyril of Alexandria** (June 27),

**Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul** (June 29),

and the **First Martyrs of the Church of Rome** (June 30).

The feasts of **St. Aloysius Gonzaga** (June 21) and **St. Irenaeus** (June 28), are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

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## **A Time of Love**

Following Pentecost, the Church begins her slow descent from the great peaks of the Easter Season to the verdant pastures of Ordinary Time, the longest of the liturgical seasons. She pauses briefly, to praise the Holy Trinity — Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier; and then the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, Corpus Christi. Like the lush June growth all around us, the green of the liturgical season points to the new life won for us by the Redemption of Jesus Christ, the new life of Charity. For Our Lord came to cast the fire of His love on the earth, and to that end, sent His Holy Spirit at Pentecost in the form of tongues of fire.



Therefore, the close of the Easter season marks not the cessation but rather the beginning of Ordinary Time is the commencement of the Church's activity. Ordinary Time is the hour to "go out to all the world and tell the good news." The feasts of June highlight this expansion of the Church. At least ten times, the Church vests in the red of the martyrs whose blood is the very seed of her growth. She also celebrates the feasts of the Apostles Peter and Paul, and the birth of St. John the Baptist, proto-disciple and prophet.

We, too, are called to be witnesses like the apostles and martyrs. May the Heart of Jesus inflame our hearts so that we may be worthy of our Baptismal call to holiness. Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

## **An Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

Most sweet Jesus, humbly kneeling at Thy feet, we renew the consecration of our family to Thy Divine Heart. Be Thou our King forever! In Thee we have full and entire confidence. May Thy spirit penetrate our thoughts, our desires, our words and our deeds. Bless our undertakings, share in our joys, in our trials, and in our labors. Grant us to know Thee better, to love Thee more, to serve Thee without faltering.

## **Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

*Personal Consecration* \_ *Family Consecration* \_ *Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

*Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

*The First Fridays* \_ *Enthronement of the Sacred Heart*

*Twelve Promises of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary*

## **Documents**

*The Sacred Heart And The Eucharist* — John A. Hardon, S.J.

*Doctrinal Foundation of Devotion to the Sacred Heart* — John A. Hardon, S.J.

*Litany of the Twelve Promises of the Sacred Heart*

*Worship Of The Physical Heart Of Christ* — Fr. Bertrand de Margerie, S.J.

*The Revelation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Paral-le-Monial, France* — George Pollard

*Devotion To the Sacred Heart: Part 1* — Peter C. Milward, S.J.

*Devotion To the Sacred Heart: Part 2* — Peter C. Milward, S.J.

## **Websites**

[EWTN](#)

[Catholic Encyclopedia](#)

[Sisters of Carmel](#)

[The Sacred Heart](#)

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## The Popes on Devotion to the Sacred Heart



The feast of the Sacred Heart was approved for specified dioceses by Clement XIII in 1765, and extended to the whole Church by Pius IX in 1856. In 1889 Pope Leo XIII elevated it to the rank of first class, and through an encyclical letter in 1899 dedicated the whole Catholic world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart was also an essential component of Pope John Paul II's hopes for the "new evangelization" called for by the Church.

"For evangelization today," he said, "the Heart of Christ must be recognized as the heart of the Church: It is He who calls us to conversion, to reconciliation. It is He who leads pure hearts and those hungering for justice along the way of the Beatitudes. It is He who achieves the warm communion of the members of the one Body. It is He who enables us to adhere to the Good News and to accept the promise of eternal life. It is He who sends us out on mission. The heart-to-heart with Jesus broadens the human heart on a global scale."

Here are some of the relevant documents: Leo XIII in his Encyclical Letter [\*Annum sacrum\*](#) (1889) on the consecration of mankind to the Sacred Heart; Pius XI in [\*Caritate Christi Compulsi\*](#) (On The Sacred Heart) and [\*Miserentissimus Redemptor\*](#) (On Reparation To The Sacred Heart); Pius XII in his Encyclical Letter [\*Haurietis aquas\*](#); Paul VI in his Apostolic Letter *Investigabiles divitias Christi* (1965) and John Paul II in [\*Message on the centenary of the consecration of mankind to the Sacred Heart of Jesus\*](#) (1999), in *L'Osservatore Romano*, 12 June 1999.

## The Sacred Heart and Our Spiritual Life



Devotion to the Sacred Heart is a wonderful historical expression of the Church's piety for Christ, her Spouse and Lord: it calls for a fundamental attitude of conversion and reparation, of love and gratitude, apostolic commitment and dedication to Christ and his saving work.

Devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus are numerous. Some have been explicitly approved and frequently recommended by the Apostolic See. Among these, mention should be made of the following:



### **Personal Consecration**

Personal consecration, described by Pius XI as "undoubtedly the principal devotional practice used in relation to the Sacred Heart" (*Miserentissimus redemptor*).



### **Family Consecration**

Family consecration to the Sacred Heart, in which the family, by virtue of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony already participating in the mystery of the unity and love of Christ for the Church, is dedicated to Christ so that he might reign in the hearts of all its members (*Aliae concessiones*).



### **Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

The Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, approved for the whole Church in 1891, which is evidently biblical in character and to which many indulgences have been attached (*Aliae concessiones*).



### **Act of Reparation to the Sacred Heart**

The act of reparation, a prayer with which the faithful, mindful of the infinite goodness of Christ, implore mercy for the offences committed in so many ways against his Sacred Heart (*Aliae concessiones*).



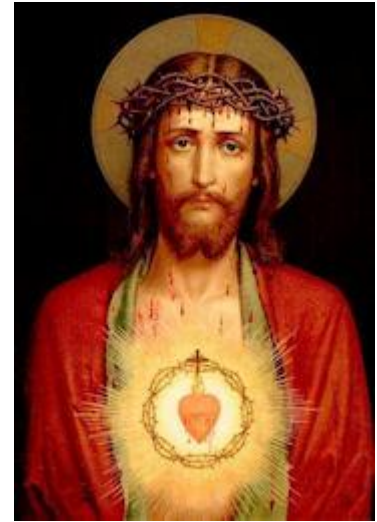
### **The Practice of the First Fridays**

The pious practice of the first Fridays of the month which derives from the "great promises" made by Jesus to St. Margaret Mary. At a time when sacramental communion was very rare among the faithful, the first Friday devotion contributed significantly to a renewed use of the Sacraments of Penance and of the Holy Eucharist. In our own times, the devotion to the first Fridays, even if practised correctly, may not always lead to the desired spiritual fruits. Hence, the faithful require constant instruction so that any reduction of the practice to mere credulity is avoided and an active faith encouraged so that the faithful may undertake their commitment to the Gospel correctly in their lives. They should also be reminded of the absolute preeminence of Sunday, the "primordial feast" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*), which should be marked by the full participation of the faithful at the celebration of the Holy Mass.

Excepted from the *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*

## Twelve Promises of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary

In the apparitions to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Jesus gives these twelve promises for those who are devoted to His Sacred Heart.



1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. They shall find in My Heart an assured refuge during life and especially at the hour of their death.
5. I will pour abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source of an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.
9. I will bless the homes where an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the power of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart, never to be effaced.
12. The all-powerful love of My Heart will grant to all those who shall receive Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die under my displeasure, nor without receiving their Sacraments; My heart shall be their assured refuge at that last hour.

