

## *In the Media*



Listen to Bishop Barron's Sermon delivered on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus back in 2020. As much as we honor the mind and will of Christ, it is His Heart that draws us most closely.



## **Sign up for a Holy Hour at St. Clement**



## *Adoration Newsletter*

**June 2025:**

**The Sacred Heart of Jesus**



*Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."*

*- John 19: 34,36-37*

**Saint Clement  
Eucharistic Shrine**



# Reflection

“Why in the world are you still Catholic? You just keep getting hit by cars. How can you still be Catholic when you’ve been so depressed?”

We were walking. It had been a few years since I had walked and talked with my youngest sibling. This last year has been agonizing for him. I was listening.

But then he asked me that question. We walked further; more quiet. Finally, I said, “I promised”.

He thought about this for a long time, and as we approached the hill that looked out over the ocean near my mother’s home, he shook his head. “People aren’t like that”, he said finally, “no one else does that”.

We both stopped. “**Jesus does**”, I said. And it struck me more deeply than ever that Jesus is present, was present, will be present, and He remained faithful in the Crucifixion.

He’s present in the Eucharist each day, even when no one shows up to see Him. He waits. He promised “***I will be with you always***”.

If I promised when things felt fine and I was reasonably convinced of God’s truth, goodness, and presence, why would that change when I was in pain? Jesus was in pain, after all. He rode it right on through to harrowing Hell and rising on the third day. That hardly gives the Passion its full depth and reverence. But no words do.

I promised and God took me seriously, so here I am.

We stood a lot longer, and when we walked home in the dark, I think we both wept. “I love you”. And my brother knew it was because God loved me, because God knows me that I could still show up for either prayer or my youngest sibling.

Adoration is where, paradoxically, I can hold the tiny Infant in Bethlehem, and be held by the Father in the same instant. And sometimes, I can behold others, because ***he first loved me***.

## FROM THE SAINTS: St. Margaret Mary Alacoque



***“I need nothing but God, and  
to lose myself in the heart of Jesus.”***

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart was enkindled by St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French nun born in 1647 whom Jesus appeared to a few years after she entered the Order of the Visitation at age 24. Jesus requested that St. Margaret Mary make known his extraordinary and merciful love for humankind through her. The message was symbolized by his Sacred Heart, which was pierced for the sake of the whole world and from which the grace of Baptism (water) and the Eucharist (blood) poured forth (John 19:34).

Christ continued to appear to St. Margaret Mary for 13 months and called her to live a life of devotion and love in reparation for the coldness and ingratitude of the world toward Him. During her life she experienced a great deal of suffering and hostility from others, which she united to Jesus’ sufferings on the Cross. She died at age 43 in 1690 and was canonized in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV.

# Prayer

“Devotion to the heart of Christ is not the veneration of a single organ apart from the Person of Jesus. What we contemplate and adore is the whole Jesus Christ, the Son of God made man, represented by an image that accentuates his heart. That heart of flesh is seen as the privileged sign of the inmost being of the incarnate Son and his love, both divine and human. More than any other part of his body, the heart of Jesus is ‘the natural sign and symbol of his boundless love’.

It is essential to realize that our relationship to the Person of Jesus Christ is one of friendship and adoration, drawn by the love represented under the image of his heart. We venerate that image, yet our worship is directed solely to the living Christ, in his divinity and his plenary humanity, so that we may be embraced by his human and divine love...

In one of her poems, Therese voiced the meaning of her devotion, which had to do more with friendship and assurance than with trust in her sacrifices:

*“I need a heart burning with tenderness,  
Who will be my support forever,  
Who loves everything in me, even my  
weakness...*

*And who never leaves me day or night...  
I must have a God who takes on my nature,  
And becomes my brother and is able to  
suffer! ...*

*Ah! I know well, all our righteousness  
Is worthless in your sight...*

*So I, for my purgatory,  
Choose your burning love, O heart of my  
God!”*

- Pope Francis

*Excerpts from ‘Dilexit Nos’*