



## Sisters of Charity of Our Lady, Mother of the Church

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Dear Friend,

There was a time when in every Catholic home you could find an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Perhaps there was one in the home of your parents or grandparents . . . or even now in your own home.

When I was a child, a beautiful painting of the Sacred Heart hung in my parents' bedroom. Jesus with gentle, loving eyes, pointing to His heart, pierced and crowned with thorns, inviting me to enter into His Heart. Whenever I looked at that painting, I felt embraced, loved, protected . . . drawn into His joy and peace.

Our parents and grandparents certainly had great devotion to the Sacred Heart. Every First Friday entire families would consecrate themselves anew to His love and mercy. They reminded us of the 12 Promises of Jesus to those who honor and love Him in this devotion. They never missed the practice of the Nine First Fridays, and, of course, participation in the deeply spiritual processions and prayers at the annual celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus each June was always a must.

Sadly, for many Catholics these are just memories. **Not so for the Sisters of Charity.** There isn't a convent in our entire Congregation without a painting or statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. That's because, as Scripture tells us: ***"We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us."*** (1 John 4:16) We have come to know Jesus who calls us to immerse ourselves in the great depths of His Most Sacred Heart, that Heart full of love poured out so generously for each of us. And we have fallen in love.

This devotion has taught me, from my earliest years, to turn to the Sacred Heart of Jesus when I needed the intimate love of the Son of God Who had given His life for me. It has carried me through all these years.

Dear Friend, my Sisters and I want to encourage you in your devotion to Jesus and His Most Sacred Heart. We have published a beautiful and inspiring prayer book:

### [MY TREASURED SACRED HEART OF JESUS PRAYERS](#)

We pray that these prayers will touch your heart as they have touched ours. Let them sustain you in times of loneliness or illness, joy or celebration. It is our hope your love for Jesus will be deepened or rekindled, as you speak to Him in these prayers, from your heart to His.

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*For Sister Sophia (left), Sister Gabriel and all the Sisters of Charity, it is a privilege to bring your prayer intentions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.*

Know that this prayer book has been made available with love from the Sisters of Charity, and with a prayer that you too will fall more deeply in love with this great Fountain of love and mercy. It is our hope that your love for Jesus will be deepened or rekindled, when you speak to Him, in these prayers, and in the prayers from your heart to His.

We Sisters of Charity are privileged to be allowed into the lives of countless souls who rely on our prayers. For us, prayer is a privilege that fills our lives with joy.

**Can we offer prayers for you?** For your needs and intentions? For your family or friends? We will bring you and your loved ones to the Altar each morning, entrust you to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and ask God to bless you in profound and wondrous ways.

**And, if you can assist us in our need with an offering of whatever your means allow, we would be deeply grateful.** In our ministries we have learned that often hope is all some people have left. The homeless who come to us, looking for a place to stay. The man in our nursing home, suffering with Lou Gehrig's Disease. The single Mom who visits our Food Pantry, just looking to make ends meet. The newly arrived immigrant, often confused and frightened. The teens in our high school, frantic about college application essays. The young man on the plane who asks us to pray for his wife who just got bad news about her blood test.

Each of them has hope that their prayers will be answered in a way that will give them courage to face tomorrow. Your gift helps to keep that hope alive in their hearts. **Can we count on you to assist them?**

More than a financial gift, though, we count on your prayers for us and for those we serve. **On June 11<sup>th</sup> when we celebrate the great Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we will be praying for you.**

In sincere appreciation for your kindness, the Sisters offer you the gift of our prayers. Send us your prayer intentions through the [SCMC Caritas Prayer Chapel](#) by June 7th so there is time to place them on the Altar and pray for them at our celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart.



Gratefully, in the love of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,

*Mother Marie Julie, SCMC*  
Mother Marie Julie, SCMC  
Superior General



*The Sisters look forward to  
our Annual Procession and  
Consecration to the Sacred Heart  
of Jesus in celebration of His Feast.  
We carry you with us in our  
hearts and prayers.*

If you would like a copy of the *My Treasured Sacred Heart of Jesus Prayers* book or if you would like one for someone you love, or maybe someone who needs to fall in love with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, [the book can be purchased at the SCMC Gift Shop.](#)