

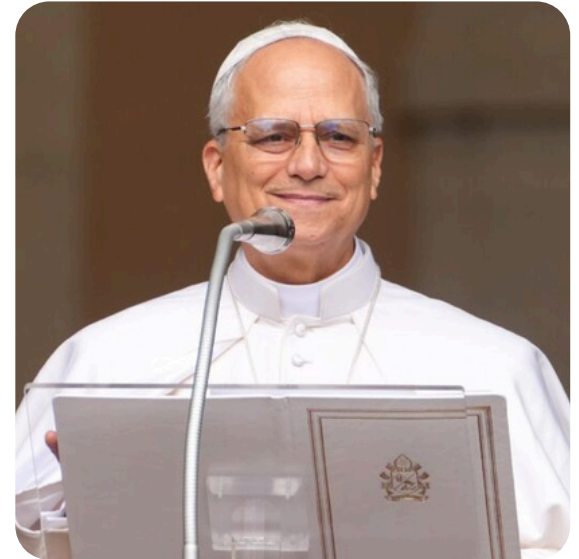
Heart of Jesus, *aflame with love for us*

June 3



Pray

In his [prayer intention](#) for June, the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pope Leo XIV encourages us, “Let us pray together that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from His Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.” As we begin this Novena to the Sacred Heart, we join the Holy Father in that prayer.



CNS photo / Lola Gomez

**Lord, I come to Your tender Heart today,
to You who have words that set my heart ablaze,
to You who pour out compassion on the little ones and the poor,
on those who suffer, and on all human miseries.
I desire to know You more, to contemplate You in the Gospel,
to be with You and learn from You
and from the charity with which You allowed Yourself
to be touched by all forms of poverty.
You showed us the Father’s love by loving us without measure
with Your divine and human Heart.
Grant all Your children the grace of encountering You.
Change, shape, and transform our plans,
so that we seek only You in every circumstance:
in prayer, in work, in encounters, and in our daily routine.
From this encounter, send us out on mission,
a mission of compassion for the world
in which You are the source from which all consolation flows.
Amen.**

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

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Learn

While reflections on the heart of Jesus date to the earliest writings of Christianity, the modern devotion to the Sacred Heart began in 17th century France when Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque received visions of Jesus revealing his heart burning with love for humanity. In this revelation, Jesus expressed his desire to be honored in a special way through his Sacred Heart. This devotion grew when Pope Pius IX extended the observance to the universal Church in 1856, and later when Saint Mary of the Divine Heart urged Pope Leo XIII to consecrate the world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which he did in 1899 through his encyclical, *Annum Sacrum*.

There have been four papal encyclicals on the Sacred Heart of Jesus: *Annum Sacrum* (on consecration to the Sacred Heart), Pope Pius XI's 1928 encyclical *Miserentissimus Redemptor* (on reparation to the Sacred Heart), Pope Pius XII's 1956 encyclical *Haurietis Aquas* (on devotion to the Sacred Heart), and Pope Francis' 2024 encyclical *Dilexit Nos* (on the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ).

Act

Take time today to [read *Dilexit Nos*](#) and [explore resources](#) to reflect on Pope Francis' final encyclical. What stands out to you about the Holy Father's writings on the Sacred Heart? How might this meditation on Jesus' love for us set your own heart on fire to love others?