AUGUST 2026

The Immaculate Heart of Mary

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O Immaculate Heart of Mary, full of grace and tenderness, I consecrate myself entirely to you.

Cover me with your mantle of protection and lead me always to Jesus.

By your sorrows at the foot of the cross, obtain for me the grace of perseverance.

Grant me a heart like yours, pure, humble, and burning with love for God.

Let your Immaculate Heart be my refuge in times of trial and temptation.

Pour out your maternal blessing upon me and upon the whole world, now and forever.

Amen.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary

As we enter the month of August, the Church invites us to contemplate the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a heart perfectly united to the Sacred Heart of her Son. This devotion, deeply rooted in Catholic tradition, reminds us that Mary's heart was preserved from all stain of sin and filled with an extraordinary love for God and for each of us. August calls us to draw near to her maternal heart, to seek her intercession, and to entrust our lives to her gentle and powerful care. Through her Immaculate Heart, we find a sure path to Jesus.

The devotion to the Immaculate Heart has its roots in scripture and sacred tradition. From the moment of the Annunciation, when Mary said her fiat, to her standing at the foot of the cross, her heart was pierced with sorrow and radiant with love. In August, we are called to meditate on this mystery more deeply, to consecrate ourselves to her Immaculate Heart, and to seek the protection and grace that flow from her maternal intercession. May this month draw us closer to Mary, who always leads us to her Son, and may we live each day sheltered beneath her mantle of love. Wishing you a blessed and grace-filled month of August.

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Spiritual Reflections for the Month of August

***"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."* —Luke 2:19**

This Month's Reflection: The Heart That Leads Us to Christ

Mary's Immaculate Heart is not merely a symbol of purity, it is the living heart of a mother who loves each of her children with a love that mirrors God's own. At the Annunciation, her heart said “yes” without reservation. At the foot of the cross, her heart was pierced by the sword of sorrow foretold by Simeon. Yet through every joy and every suffering, her heart remained perfectly united to the will of God.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is a school of prayer and contemplation. Scripture tells us that Mary pondered all things in her heart. She did not rush past the mysteries of God's action in her life but treasured them, turning them over in silence and faith. In August, we are invited to imitate her interior life.

In a world filled with noise and distraction, Mary's heart calls us back to stillness. It invites us to bring our anxieties, our hopes, and our sorrows to her, knowing that she carries them all to Jesus. Her heart is a refuge for the weary and a beacon for the lost.

As we reflect on this mystery throughout August, let us entrust everything to her Immaculate Heart. Let us ask her to form our hearts after her own, to make us humble, pure, and burning with love for God. May we never forget that we have a Mother whose heart never ceases to intercede for us, and may our lives become a living reflection of her fiat.

Saint of the Month

"Saint Louis de Montfort, the 18th-century French priest, dedicated his life to spreading devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Immaculate Heart.

He authored "True Devotion to Mary" and preached tirelessly about the power of Marian consecration.

His life reminds us that through Mary's Immaculate Heart, we find the surest and swiftest path to union with Christ.

This month, as we honor the Immaculate Heart in a special way, let us follow his example of total consecration to Mary.

Whether through praying the Rosary with deeper devotion, making an act of consecration, or simply entrusting our daily struggles to her maternal care, we can draw ever closer to the heart that loves us most perfectly after God.

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SCRIPTURE

Featured Bible Verse

"(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."
— Luke 2:35

The prophecy of Simeon reveals the depth of Mary's participation in the mystery of redemption. Her Immaculate Heart was not spared from suffering; rather, it was precisely because of its purity that it felt every wound more deeply. The sword that pierced her soul was the suffering of watching her Son rejected, tortured, and crucified.

This is the profound gift of this August's devotion: we are invited to bring our own sorrows and unite them with Mary's. Her heart understands suffering because she lived it fully, yet without bitterness or despair. She teaches us how to suffer with faith and hope.

When we turn to the Immaculate Heart, we find a mother who has already walked the path of sorrow and emerged in glory. She stands now as Queen of Heaven, her heart still turned toward us, still interceding, still loving with a love that no suffering could diminish.

INSPIRATION

Inspirational Corner

At every Rosary, we meditate on the mysteries of Christ through the eyes of Mary's heart. This is not mere repetition; it is entering into the contemplative gaze of the Mother of God herself, seeing her Son as she sees him.

The Immaculate Heart is our refuge against the storms of the world. Throughout the centuries, Mary has appeared to the faithful calling for prayer, penance, and consecration to her Immaculate Heart. At Fatima, she promised that in the end, her Immaculate Heart would triumph.

St. Maximilian Kolbe was consumed with love for the Immaculata. He saw consecration to Mary as the most effective means of sanctification. He wrote, *"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did."*

This August, let us approach Mary's heart with renewed trust. Let us not pass through our days without turning to her, but with the confidence of children who know their Mother's love is unfailing. Her heart contains infinite tenderness, infinite patience, infinite desire for our holiness.

May we become instruments of her Immaculate Heart in the world, carrying her peace to those who thirst for hope, healing, and the love of God.

The Triumph of Her Heart

Prayer Intention of the Month

This month, as we honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we unite our prayers for all souls in need of her maternal intercession and protection.

We pray for all who feel lost, anxious, or far from God, that through the power of Mary's Immaculate Heart, they may experience the tenderness of God's love and be drawn back to her Son.

We lift up our families, and our homes so they may be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart, becoming sanctuaries of faith, peace, and holy love.

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Upcoming August Learning Events

Join me for two special evenings of faith formation this August!

Who is the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday, August 20, 2026
7:00 PM EST

Who are the Angels?

Thursday, August 27, 2026
7:00 PM EST

Whether you are new to the faith or looking to deepen your prayer life, these sessions are for everyone. Bring a friend and come with an open heart!

RSVP: healingray@yahoo.com | Free of charge | Zoom link sent upon registration.

A Prayer of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, full of goodness, show your love toward us. Let the flame of your heart, O Mary, descend on all people. We love you immensely. Impress true love in our hearts so that we may long for you.

O Mary, gentle and humble of heart, remember us when we are in sin. You know that all men sin. Grant that through your most pure and maternal heart, we may be healed from every spiritual sickness.

Grant that we may always experience the goodness of your motherly heart, and that through the flame of your heart we may be converted. Grant us the grace to love the Lord Jesus with all our hearts and to make reparation for the sins that offend your Immaculate Heart.

O Mother of mercy, obtain for us the grace that we may live holy lives and that we may be safe under your maternal protection now and at the hour of our death.

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the practice of the Rosary.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Important Dates

There is something beautiful about pausing to honor the sacred moments woven throughout the year.

September
Sept 8 - Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sept 12 - Holy Name of Mary
Sept 15 - Our Lady of Sorrows

October
Oct 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary
Oct 11 - Divine Motherhood of Mary
Oct 13 - Anniversary of Fatima

November
Nov 1 - All Saints Day
Nov 2 - All Souls Day
Nov 21 - Presentation of Mary

December
Dec 8 - Immaculate Conception
Dec 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec 25 - Christmas Day

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Inspirational Corner

Drawing Near to Mary’s Immaculate Heart

Drawing Near to Mary’s Immaculate Heart

In the quiet of August, the Church turns our gaze toward the heart of the woman who said “yes” to God without reserve. This month is an invitation to rest in Mary's love, to let her Immaculate Heart draw us closer to her Son, and to discover the peace that only a mother's faithful heart can offer.

A Heart Beyond Compare

Mary's heart is far more than an expression of love, it is the living, sinless heart of the Mother of God, perfectly surrendered to the Father's will. In its purity, humility, and burning charity, it becomes the mirror we are called to imitate in our own journey toward holiness.

A Mother’s Embrace

At Fatima, Our Lady revealed that her Immaculate Heart would be our refuge and the way that leads to God. Just as a child runs to its mother in times of danger, we are invited to take shelter beneath her mantle. Consecration to her Immaculate Heart is a powerful act of trust, placing our entire lives under her protection and guidance.

A Place of Rest

In times of worry, grief, or spiritual emptiness, the Immaculate Heart offers a place of rest. Mary, who endured the agony of the cross beside her Son, knows the weight of human suffering. She carries our burdens to Jesus with a mother's tenderness, and from her heart flows an endless stream of grace for the weary and brokenhearted.

Walking with Mary this August

Ways to honor the Immaculate Heart during the month of August:

• Pray the Rosary daily, meditating on Mary's heart in each mystery
How to Pray the Rosary
• Make a personal consecration to the Immaculate Heart
Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
• Practice the Five First Saturdays devotion
Five First Saturdays Devotion
• Place an image of the Immaculate Heart in your home

The Immaculate Heart of Mary is our sure path to Jesus. Let us not allow this month to pass without drawing near to her maternal love. As we honor her heart, we honor the one whom God chose to be the Mother of our Savior, and we open ourselves to receive the graces she longs to pour upon us.

Sylvie Brûlé

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