

THE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

What are they?

They are the words spoken by Our Lord Jesus Christ on the faith of His love towards those devoted to the Sacred Heart.

Where are they to be found?

They are found in letters of St. Margaret Mary (who died in 1690) in which she recounted what the Sacred Heart accomplished in her and through her, asked of others.

What value do they have?

They have the value of private revelations, in which the Church, after rigorous examination, has found nothing contrary, and for the increase of Christian piety, has approved them, as happened with St. Matilda (died 1160) St. Gertrude (died 1334), St. Bridget (died 1373), and so on.

How many are there?

Many, but the most general ones which are known under the title *Promises of the Sacred Heart* are the twelve following.

1. To those devoted to my Heart I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.

Along with the commandments of God and the precepts of the Church, everyone is obliged to carry out the duties of his or her own state, (wedded, priestly, religious and professional, e.g. manual labourer, worker, soldier, lawyer teacher doctor and so on). The Sacred Heart promises the indispensable graces for the needs of each.

2. I will give peace in their families.

I will give it if it is not present. I will preserve it if it is already to be found. Unity and harmony are the basis of domestic felicity.

3. I will console them in all their troubles.

Pain will never be lacking. To have them sweetened or lightened by the Sacred Heart is a comfort to all.

4. They shall find in My Heart an assured refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.

In life and in death, the Sacred Heart will be always open and ready to welcome you. Living and dying in that Heart is something so great, you could not have asked for it.

5. I will pour abundant blessings on all their undertakings.

Have you ever met any of those fortunate people who clearly walk in the presence of God? For whom all is well, even when the contrary seems true? If you are devoted to the Sacred Heart you will also become part of that group.

6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.

If they sincerely wish to abandon sin, that Heart will forget all past offences, however serious they may be, and will make of Itself a river of merciful forgiveness that will become a sea of consolation and magnanimous pardon.

7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.

Tepidity is the enemy of the spiritual life. The problem of being neither good nor evil, nor one thing nor the other, neither hot nor cold but insensible and indifferent, sleepy or without desire, can be effectually cured by the Sacred Heart.

8. Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.

Fire will be added to the flames, virtue strengthened by virtue in a real spiritual climb, watching the horizon that is the Sacred Heart and the heights of generosity reserved for those who seriously undertake it.

9. I will bless the homes in which the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and honoured.

Whoever has consecrated their family to the Sacred Heart, whoever has promised to consecrate schools, colleges, clubs, or the offices, hospitals, parishes and other places of good moral standing of the city, will gain for themselves and others divine gifts.

10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.

Whoever has care of souls (bishops, priests, chaplains, confessors, scribes and missionaries) love, honour and spread the devotion to the Sacred Heart and you will see the marvels of God in your ministry.

11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their name written in My Heart, and it shall never be effaced.

Being zealous in this devotion is equivalent to seeing your name written in gold somewhere even better than the book of life, for the Heart of the divine redeemer is life itself.

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 the last hour.

Final perseverance will be the crown of all graces. The point of your whole life is to die close to God. And having honoured the Heart of the redeemer is one clear sign and token (not the only one however, as divine goodness puts others before us, like for example the devotion to Our Lady) of your destiny in relation to this, *the great promise*.

THE END

Let us meditate on and make known these beautiful promises of the sacred Heart. It will be an act we will be eternally recompensed for. It will be an effective way of doing great good to many people.