



Rejoice!

Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Newsletter

Summer 2018

Dear Friends of Our Lady,

On the ninth of June in two thousand and eighteen in the year of Our Lord, the Motherhouse Property of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita was consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Because it is our ardent desire to usher in the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary we deeply hope that you will personally unite with us, joining us with your own individual and family consecration, and, in doing so, encouraging those you love to be united with Jesus and Mary.



Our family consecration proclaims that we belong to Christ and live under the protection of His Blessed Mother. Christ reigns in our family as we turn everything over to Him. By enthroning images of Jesus and Mary in our homes we are reminded that God dwells in our homes and is at the center of our lives. Our consecration enables us to welcome Christ into the midst of our families that He may live and share our lives in a special way from this day on.

As co-workers with Christ in His Redemptive work, we join Our Blessed Mother in collaborating with the Father in His plan of redemption. God chose Mary at the Annunciation, to be His Mother, and on Calvary, Jesus from the Cross, revealed that Mary is mother to all of us, her spiritual children. As our spiritual mother, Mary gives birth to Christ in us, she, in union with the Holy Spirit who makes us holy, forms us into saints. Through our consecration we give her the freedom to work in us and complete the work she has been given, namely to make us saints.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart and the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart very much fulfill Our Lord's words spoken to Venerable Lucia when she asked him why the consecration of Russia was necessary. He replied: *Because I want my whole Church to acknowledge this consecration as a triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, in order to later extend its devotion and to place the devotion to the Immaculate Heart aside devotion to My Sacred Heart.*

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita hope and pray that you begin, renew and grow in holiness through your devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Mother Mary Magdalene, IHM
Mother Mary Magdalene O'Halloran, IHM
General Superior

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita invite you to join them in consecrating your family and home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

It would bring us great joy to provide you with an "Enthronement Packet" for your home. For more information or a packet, email the Sisters at Rejoice@SistersIHMofWichita.org.

Consecration



On the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Bishop Carl Kemme solemnly consecrated the Motherhouse property and all it contains so that Mary (and therefore Jesus) may be better known, loved and served.

After celebrating the Holy Mass for the Sisters and guests, Bishop Kemme, assisted by Father Sam Brand and Deacon Drew Dellesaga, blessed the images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary that were displayed in the sanctuary throughout the nine evenings of the novena to the Immaculate Heart. He then knelt and prayed the solemn consecration prayer:

Heavenly Father, Source of all that is good,
we thank You for the gift of this land,
the Motherhouse property of the Sisters of the
Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita,
and we humbly ask You to consecrate it, setting
it aside for Your holy purpose.

All creation comes from You
and is in Your gift.
We ask Your solemn consecration over this land
so that on it no evil may be found, no evil works
performed and no evil desires conceived.

Set it aside, we ask You, Heavenly Father,
for the works of holiness,
for the fulfillment of the mission of the Sisters
of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita,
that here on this land set aside for a holy
purpose,
they may live their charism
for Your greater glory, for the salvation of souls
and for their own sanctification.

May this land and the buildings contained
herein
be an external sign of God's presence for a world
sorely in need,
a sign that those who dwell here belong to Him,
worship Him,
and strive to do His will in all things.

May this land
be consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
so that she may be better known and loved.

This property is given, dedicated, consecrated to
the Immaculate Heart of Mary
who teaches us to be docile to God's holy will,
to receive all that He gives, to give all that He
asks,
to be available to Him at all times and in all
ways,
to desire and do all that He asks.

Being all His she wants only to take us to Jesus,
to find in him the meaning of everything
and the fulfillment of our desires,
to love him as she loves him,
with her whole heart, soul and strength.

The defining word of Mary's heart is fiat,
and here, on this property, the only desire is to
echo and to live that same fiat
seeing His loving providence in all events,
circumstances and situations,
in all acts of obedience
and in all the joys and trials of life
as daughters of the Church,
daughters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
daughters of the Heavenly Father,
and brides of Christ.

We entrust this property and all that will take
place here to Mary's Immaculate Heart
so that she may guide the formation of the
Sisters, all activities, and apostolic works
that are initiated and carried out on this
property.

Consecration

May she place this land and all who live here
under her maternal protection.

May she see this land, the buildings and all
they contain
as her own

to draw all peoples to her Son,
to bring hardened sinners to conversion,
and a greater sanctification to priests.

With the assistance of Mary, Our Mother and
Protectress,
may those who live here, who come home
here,
live more fervently their commitment to
conform themselves to Jesus,
her Son and Our Lord, the poor, chaste,
obedient One.

May she teach them how to ponder in their
hearts the mysteries of our faith
and how to give the fruits of this
contemplation to others
especially in their teaching and works of
Catholic education.

May the life lived on this land be Eucharistic
and Marian.

With the consecration of this land to the
Immaculate Heart of Mary,
we beg that those who live here and come
home here be nourished by the Gospel
and the Sacraments
and that through the prayers of the Blessed
Virgin
they may grow in holiness and live a fraternal
life
in imitation of the love between the Persons
of the Most Holy Trinity.

May this place and all who live here be a light
for Christ's faithful
and an anchor of hope;
may they give Christ to all who come here and
to all they encounter.

May the presence of Mary be felt
and may she form the Sisters of the
Immaculate Heart of Mary in her school
of love
so that they may have hearts pure and holy
like unto her own,
hearts for God alone.

This is the land she herself selected,
the convent the Memorares built,
and the religious institute that belongs to
Mary.

May this consecration of the Motherhouse
Property
of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
assist the Sisters in promoting devotion to the
Immaculate Heart of Mary,
encouraging others
to imitate her,
to place themselves under her maternal care,
to turn to her in all things.

May this consecration
proclaim her triumph,
further her triumph,
and make the Sisters more fruitful
instruments, with her,
in bringing about the reign of the Sacred
Heart of Jesus
in the hearts of all.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

It is a great consolation for the Sisters to have solemnly and irrevocably consecrated their Motherhouse Property -- with all it contains and all that will be done on it -- to the service of the Lord and His Blessed Mother. All we have and all we are is hers! Totus Tuus!

*Remember your Enthronement and Consecration Day
just as you would a birthday or anniversary,
and renew the Consecration with your family yearly on that date.*

Promoting Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

This year, for the nineteenth consecutive year, we hosted a public novena the nine evenings preceding the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was, as always, a great joy to see so many returning faces as well as so many new ones. Every year we make new friends who are so devoted to Our Lady!

Each evening of the novena featured a talk by one of the Sisters, a Eucharistic Holy Hour during which the novena prayer is prayed, and then the evening is closed with Benediction.

This year the talks focused on promoting family consecration to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, with different aspects of the consecration highlighted throughout the different talks.

One attendee who regularly participates in this event said, "This year's [novena] was especially good. The topics were simple and pure. They spoke to the heart." Each of the talks are available on our web page: SistersIHMofWichita.org.

Promoting family consecration to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts bears even greater importance today when marriage and the family are under a direct attack from satan. Through this consecration, the family formally establishes Jesus, reigning through the Heart of Mary, as the head of the Christian home. The act of consecration includes placing images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in a prominent place in one's home. This reminds the family of their commitment and serves as a witness to all who visit the home. Additionally, this act of consecration provides the grace of many spiritual benefits such as deeper family unity, protection against satan, and final perseverance in the faith.

Along with promoting this devotion, the Sisters prepared to consecrate their own home and on the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Bishop Carl Kemme solemnly consecrated the Motherhouse property and all that is on it.



- 1: Sister Mary Ann opens the novena, presenting on the theology and history of devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- 2: Sister Mary Monica enjoys a few minutes during refreshment time with Janet Kellerman, regular novena attendee
- 3: Mother Mary Magdalene speaks with Carlene Lubbers one of the evenings of the novena.
- 4: On the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sister Mary Faustina presents her topic "The Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Eucharist" to a full Chapel.

Our Lady of Fatijma Procession - May 13



1: The 11th semi-annual Our Lady of Fatima procession begins on an absolutely picture perfect day! The Knights of Columbus again added to the solemnity and prayerfulness of the occasion.

2: The procession stretches out with all of the participants singing the hymn to Our Lady of Fatima. The Sisters were delighted to be joined by wonderful participants of all ages and from all walks of life. The popularity of this May 13th and October 13th event is growing -- and we know it is not because of the hot dog picnic that proceeds it!

3: They are still coming and they are still singing!

4: Sister Mary Agnes leads the Rosary.

5: Even cleaning up after everyone leaves is a joyful occasion! Mary has provided a beautiful day and so many came out to honor her, pray the Rosary and offer her their Memorares.

Just a reminder: the next Fatima Procession will be Saturday, October 13, 2018, at 6:00. Please join us for a simple picnic dinner, procession, hymns and the Rosary.



What happens when . . .

Some of the most beautiful customs of our life take place with just the Sisters present. One such ceremony is the clothing of a novice in preparation for her profession of vows. Recently Sister Mary Teresa Laville, IHM, experienced just that the evening before her first profession with her professed Sisters present to share in the joyous occasion.



1: Sister Mary Teresa requests permission to wear the habit of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary: "Though I am unworthy to do so, I request the habit of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. May it remind me that I have been set apart to belong exclusively to God, that I am no longer my own and that my life is dedicated to the service of the Church through the contemplation of the Word and the spread of the Gospel. May all who see me, see Mary. And, may I, by wearing it and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, constitute for the world, a powerful sign of hope."



2: The first two articles: the dress of the habit and the cincture are given to Sister Mary Teresa so that she may leave to don them.

3: Mother Mary Magdalene then gives Sister Mary Teresa the habit rosary of the Seven Dolors of Our Lady and shows her how to wear them with her cincture.

4: Sister Mary Teresa is then presented with her profession Crucifix

5: A very happy Sister Mary Teresa!

6: Her fellow novices, Sister Maria Kolbe and Sister Mary Francesca, are then invited in to join the professed community in the celebration.

7: On the way to the Chapel, Sister Mary Grace cannot contain her excitement!

8: After the visit of thanksgiving to the Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows, the community took advantage of the beautiful weather of April 27 to visit the Shrine and sing a few hymns to Our Lady of Fatima.

What happens when . . .

The following day, April 28, 2018, Sister Mary Teresa entered the Chapel of Our Lady of Sorrows in the Novitiate House of Formation of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, still a novice as symbolized by her white veil. When she left the chapel, however, she was a Bride of Christ, joyfully and freely bound through the vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience and clothed with the full habit of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita.

Saint Louis de Montfort, whose feast is celebrated on April 28th, is most widely known for his development of Marian consecration (belonging more completely to Jesus by entrusting oneself to His Mother). But in the IHM Novitiate House chapel, an even deeper consecration took place as Sr. Mary Teresa united herself to Jesus in the most profound way through her profession of vows, vowing to love Jesus undividedly and to give herself unreservedly. The Church document on religious life entitled *Essential Elements of Religious Life* states, “the vows are a triple expression of a single ‘yes’ to the one relationship of total consecration.”

As a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the way to Jesus is always through His Blessed Mother. This is evident in the pieces of the habit that Sister received: a scapular as a sign of Mary’s maternal protection, the badge of the Immaculate and Sorrowful Heart of Mary, and a black veil as a sign of consecration. Father Andrew Heiman, the main celebrant of the profession Mass, prayed the following

9: *Sister Mary Teresa requests from Mother Mary Magdalene permission to profess the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience as a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

10: *Kneeling before Mother Mary Magdalene, with Sister Marie Bernadette and Sister Cecilia Marie as witnesses, Sister Mary Teresa professes her vows.*

11: *The white veil of the novice is exchanged with the black veil of the professed Sister.*

12: *Sister Mary Teresa kneels before the altar during the song of consecration: “I am all Thine, O Mary, and all I have is yours.”*

words as he presented Sr. Mary Teresa with the scapular: “By wearing [this scapular] you are to show that you are totally given to Christ the Lord and dedicated to the service of the Church. May you grow in the love by which the Sorrowful Mother of the Lord, Refuge of Sinners, shared in the redemptive act of her divine Son.”

Shortly after being clothed in the scapular and black veil (there is always a collective sigh throughout the chapel when the white veil is switched to the black without a hitch!), the newly-professed Sister knelt in front of the altar as her Sisters sang *Totus Tuus* (Totally Yours, Mary). The joyous occasion reflected from Sister’s face throughout the entire ceremony.

After the Profession Mass, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary hosted a reception for Sister Mary Teresa’s guests, some traveling from as far away as Louisiana and Washington, D.C. Sister Mary Teresa will now resume her education pursuant of an elementary education degree.



Ite Ad Mariam *- Go to Mary -*

The Graces of Mary's Immaculate Heart *by Saint John Eudes*

We can say in truth that Jesus is the fruit of Mary's heart as well as of her womb, and that the faithful are the fruits of the same heart, because the very virtues of faith, humility, purity, love, and charity, which rendered her worthy to become the Mother of God, made her also the Mother of all God's children.

As the Eternal Father gave her the power to conceive his Son in her heart and in her virginal womb, by clothing her with the divine virtue whereby He generates his divine Son from all eternity in his own adorable bosom, so also did God grant her the power to form Christ and give birth to him in the hearts of the children of Adam, who thus became members of Jesus Christ and sons of God. Even as Mary conceived and will eternally bear her Son Jesus Christ in her heart, she also conceives and holds forever in the same heart all the holy members of our divine Head. They are her beloved children, the fruits of her maternal heart, and she offers them to the divine majesty as a perpetual sacrifice.



I could quote many holy Fathers and illustrious Doctors to show how Almighty God saved mankind "in the midst of the earth," that is, in the holy heart of Mary, Mother of Jesus. Her heart cooperated with his divine mercy, having received such a plenitude of grace, according to the Angelic Doctor, Saint Thomas, that she became enabled to cooperate with her Son in the salvation of all men. This inspires Saint Bonaventure to say that her heart is the source of universal salvation, "All salvation springs from Mary's heart."

All this being conceded, what must be our obligations towards the most charitable heart of our Blessed Mother! What gratitude can we show, what praises can we sing, what feast can we celebrate in honor of her heart, that will be worthy of her excessive charity towards us, and of the favors granted to us by divine mercy through her intercession?

Mary is the center of the earth in which our salvation was wrought. She is also the center of the renewed world: the Christian world, the road of the new man, the world of divine love and holy charity.

Let's Be Saints Together!

SAINT JOHN EUDES Feast Day – August 19

Saint John Eudes was the first of seven children born to Isaac Eudes and Marthe Corbin Eudes in Ri, Normandy, France.

During this time, there were not a lot of seminaries so most young men seeking the priestly vocation did so by first seeking spiritual direction. With the help of this spiritual direction, he was able to overcome obstacles in his own life and, through his own fortitude, determination and courage, enter the Oratory of Jesus founded by Saint Philip Neri where he was ordained to the priesthood in 1625. A few years after his ordination, the plague swept through France again, and he sought his superior's permission to attend to the victims, to ensure that their spiritual needs were being met. During this time, to protect his fellow priests from contracting the plague, he would take his rest outside of the rectory.

Saint John Eudes was an outstanding orator and confessor, leading parish missions lasting anywhere from a week to several months, throughout Normandy where he would teach the beautiful and great truths of our Catholic faith.

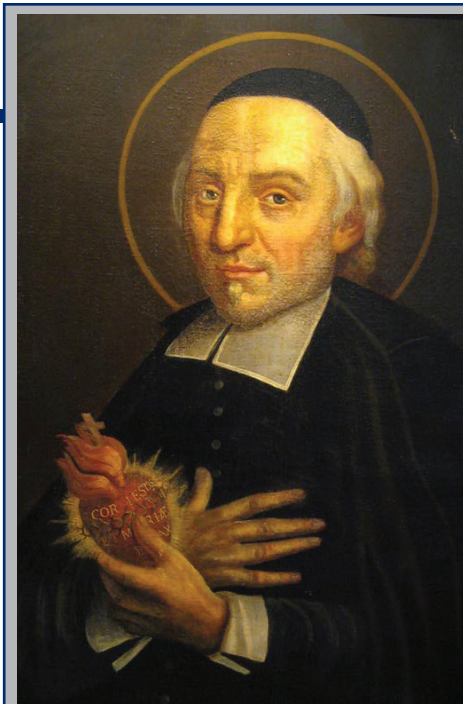
Out of his compassion for women who had fallen into sin, Saint John Eudes founded the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity in 1641, to help women find the merciful love of God. This began a new chapter in his life. In 1643, he left the Oratory of Jesus and founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (CJM), making its primary focus "priestly formation", a direct response to his concerns about the lack of formation opportunities

for those discerning a priestly vocation and "form good workers to bring about evangelization". Of him, Pope Benedict XVI wrote: "Saint John Eudes wanted to recall people, men and women and especially future priests, to the heart by showing them the priestly Heart of Christ and motherly Heart of Mary. Every priest must be a witness and an apostle of this love for Christ's Heart and Mary's Heart."

Saint John Eudes popularized the devotions to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary especially through his preaching, through the writing of liturgical texts in honor of the Hearts of Jesu and Mary and through other literary works.

Saint John Eudes' works were a beacon and light for the faithful in the 17th Century. Sadly, many of his publications have been lost due to the deep wounds of the French Revolution, a time when many of the Eudists were massacred. Those who survived were suppressed by the French government, and many of his publications were destroyed. Efforts were undertaken to re-establish the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (The Eudists) in 1826 and through these efforts the manuscripts were sought. Thankfully many were recovered at least in part.

Saint John Eudes was beatified in 1909 by Saint Pius X and canonized in 1925 by Saint Pius XI. Saint John Eudes is known as the "Father, Doctor and Apostle of the Liturgical devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary."



Saint John Eudes
November 24, 1601- August 19, 1680

Save the Date!

OCTOBER 13
Our Lady of Fatima
Procession
6pm - Picnic Begins

NOVEMBER 3
Memorial Mass
8am

Thank you so very much!
Please keep praying!

3, 5, 9, 1, 8, 7, 6

Memorares
for Our Lady
to Date

Remember the Church

REMEMBER THE SISTERS

BY BRONWEN LEWIS

If there has been one common theme in the last few *Rejoice* newsletters, it is the Sisters' focus on the importance of the family. The Sisters are among the staunchest defenders of the family that I know. In everything they do, they fight against all of Satan's attempts to destroy the Family. They pray the Holy Rosary, they pray for the conversion of sinners, they pray for the sanctification of priests, they pray in Eucharistic Adoration, they pray in the Liturgy of the Hours ... they pray for all of us, they pray for our families, all the time.

A few months ago, as I was watching the news coverage of the funeral of Barbara Bush, I was struck by a quote taken from her 1990 graduation address at Wellesley College. She said:

At the end of your life, you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a child, a friend or a parent.

We are in a transitional period right now ... fascinating and exhilarating times ... learning to adjust to the changes and the choices we ... men and women ... are facing. As an example, I remember what a friend said, on hearing her husband complain to his buddies that he had to babysit. Quickly setting him straight, my friend told her husband that when it's your own kids, it's not called babysitting!

Maybe we should adjust faster, maybe we should adjust slower. But whatever the era, whatever the times, one thing will never change: Fathers and mothers, if you have children — they must come first.

You must read to your children, hug your children, and you must love your children. Your success as a family ... our success as a society depends not on what happens in the White House, but on what happens inside your house.

Had the Sisters uttered these words, they would have simply added to the first sentence of the last paragraph, "pray with your children." Prayer is vital to the fight against those who would see the family being destroyed. Consecrating your home, your family, and yourself, to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary is a wonderful armor and shield as you fly into the protection of Jesus and Mary.

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them..." Saint Mark 10:14

The Sisters are enjoying their summer at the Mother House property. From my observation perch, they are as busy as their bees! They have hosted their annual Novena to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; each Sister is, or has been, blessed with a Retreat; several of the Sisters are studying for their Masters in Theology; several Sisters have had a brief sabbatical; and, Sister Mary Agnes, Sister John Marie and Sister Mary Faustina are taking comprehensive exams. This morning when I arrived, I was greeted by Sister Mary Teresa (who was professed just this past April) with her joyful greeting, "I just love summer...when we are all home!" Home, sweet home! The Sisters' Novitiate House of Formation is just that ... "the house that Memorares Built" ...it is through God's providence, and your ongoing support, that the Sisters have this home in which to welcome the young women who are discerning their vocation to religious life. And, may I say, your support has been simply sensational! Thank you so very much.

Remember the Church

The “family” is the “little Church” which nurtures the thoughts and inspirations for vocations to religious life. The Sisters have many requests to teach in parishes and while their goal is to have a teaching sister in every Catholic school in the state of Kansas, the formation of a Sister into the fullness of the teaching apostolate takes time anywhere from three to seven



years for the formal formation, depending on the education of the young woman entering as a Postulant. It is not unlike the formation of a young man in seminary studying for the priesthood ... it is not a fast process.

When school starts up in August, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Wichita will be teaching in all four of our diocesan high schools. Each year, your love of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit ... your love of Our Lady, your love of the Sisters ... is a beautiful witness to the wonder of God and His goodness.

Through God’s providence and the increase in vocations, the Sisters will be needing to build the Motherhouse in a few years, and every gift ...in fact, all types of gifts ... will be needed to accomplish this for them. Please pray Memorares as you have never done before! Think of ways in which you can, and will, have an impact on the legacy of teaching Sisters. All things pass away eventually, but while you are able, do great things with and for God ... by creating a legacy with your family ... by remembering the Sisters.

Those of you who have been fortunate in your life to achieve financial success, please remember the Sisters in your estate plan with a significant gift, or honor them now with a sizeable gift ... designated for the future Motherhouse, their education fund, or any other purpose. Let your success be theirs! You win twice in a sense ... once in whatever financial success you have achieved, then again by sharing that success with the Sisters.

Family is everything. Be vigilant against the evil one and those who will try to tear the family apart. Heed the words of Barbara Bush ... make a difference in your house. Pray with your children, and for your children. Support and encourage everyone who champions the family above all else.

As the Sisters know, all things are possible with God!

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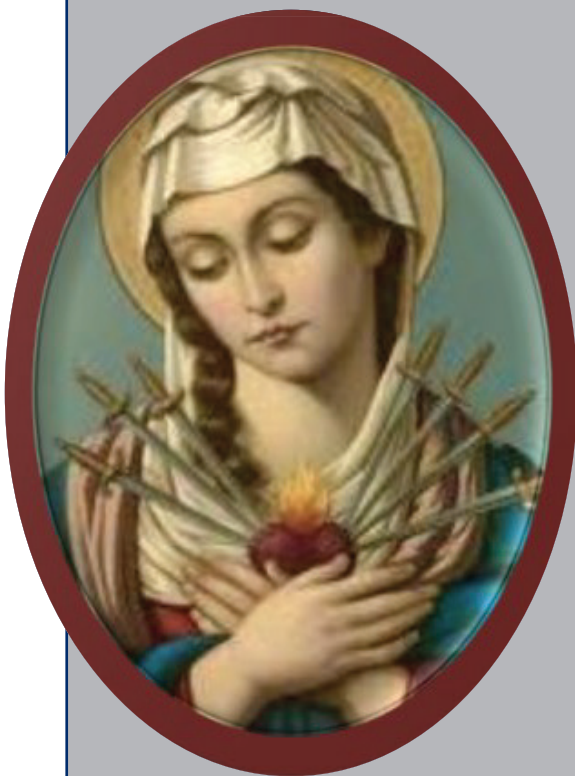
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