

# News and Views

Newsletter of the Divine Providence Province



## My Lord and My God

St. Thomas, the stubborn doubter leads us forward in our life of faith, as we begin to tread this month of July. He becomes a forerunner and model for all believers for the passage from doubt to faith, from fear to boldness, from despair to hope. From our own experience we all know that it is not very easy and handy to lead a life of faith. Life is not going the way I thought and believed. Life of faith goes beyond my senses and my empirical world. I am so afraid whether this would happen or not; at times I begin to wonder why this happened to me and why this did not happen to me. Because suffering, sickness, disappointments, failures and many other factors of this sort put our faith to the test and we tend to ask, "Is there a God? What is He doing? Why is God silent?"

But St. Thomas, of whom the synoptic Gospels speak very little, for the first time comes out as a courageous follower of Jesus by his spontaneous yes. "Let us also go, that we may die with Him" (Jn 11:16), a complete surrender even to lay down his precious life, when Jesus was proposing to go to Bethany endangering His life over the sudden death of Lazarus. Thus he teaches us a great lesson that human calculations are nullified and have to become secondary before God's plan. God takes precedence in life even if it will cost me much.

St. Thomas is widely known as someone who asked for proofs to believe in the risen Lord. But we see from the Gospel accounts even before him, both Peter and John did not believe the words of Mary of Magdalene, rather they ran to the tomb to verify if what she said was true (Jn 20: 2-9). For eight days He would have heard from many of the disciples of their experience with the risen Lord, but his asking for proof can

be also understood as his longing to meet the Lord personally. This instance insists on the importance of our personal relationship with the risen Lord.

People were trying to understand Jesus by saying prophet, teacher; "You are Christ, the Son of the living God," (St. Peter); "Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world," (John the Baptist); "Truly this man was the son of God," (Centurian). But St. Thomas makes the culmination and summary of discipleship by his affirmation "My Lord and My God". This is the summary of the entire prayer of the Church and the exclamation of the faithful at the encounter with the Eucharistic Lord in today's context. This discipleship and *sequela Christi* is possible when two wounds meet together. The wound of disbelief, dissatisfaction, despair of us is healed at the encounter with the wounds of Jesus "Reach your finger here and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side" (Jn 20:27).

**"St. Thomas is the first to doubt and first to believe." – Pope Benedict XVI**

*Fr. Ronald J, SdC*  
Provincial Superior

July 2019

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*"...look at My hands;  
and reach your hand  
here, and put it into  
My side..."*

Jn 20:27

## July Calendar of Fr. Provincial

- 3 Skype Council Meeting
- 4-5 Cuddalore: Boys Home and Parish Visit
- 10 Chennai: Recollection - Sacred Heart Seminary
- 17-18 Deacons Meet
- 26-27 Cuddalore: St. Joseph Seminary

### INSIDE:

India	2-7
United States	8-9
Calendar	10



### A Proper Home

**KULITHURAI** - Generally absolute poverty is determined by the ability to supply the basic survival needs like food, clothing and shelter. A house worth two lakhs (\$2,000 USD) was built for the poor ladies Miss Joyce, aged 50 and Miss Renjitham, aged 53. It was completed on May 25, 2019 under the direction of Adithala Mulu Vazharchi Sangam. Fr. John Michael, the former parish priest blessed and opened the house. Many thanks to all who generously contributed to the building of this house which will provide them with safety during the rainy season.

### District Official Visits School

**CHENNAI** - With immense pleasure Mr. Balan, DDAWO of the Tiruvallur District, was welcomed



to Don Guanella Special School. Fr. Lourdu Raj, director, introduced him and spoke about his designation. Fr. Michael, vice-director, shared his joy by honoring the chief guest with a shawl. His presence gave double joy to our children as well as to the parents. He gave an awareness of the programs that are available to children with various disabilities. He appreciated us by looking at the programs available at our special school and encouraged us to continue the good work for the welfare of the children.

### Annual Feast

**KULITHURAI** - Celebrating feast days helps bring the liturgical life of the church into the life of the family, helping to build and strengthen the domestic church. The parish feast of Cherukole, Karumputhottam began May 26th with Fr. Jeshu Rathinam hoisting the flag. The people chose the theme of relationship, human and divine. Each



of the novena Masses gave a beautiful message on today's situation of relationship with God, with oneself, with others and with nature. This year 11 students received first Holy Communion during the feast; and each of the pious associations prepared the liturgy and their annual day function. The final day a meal was shared with all the people.

### To Get Ahead - Start

*"You could consider a new beginning as the start of a new year. A fresh start, a new goal, a year to make your dreams come true. Be determined and persevere."* - Catherine Pulsifer

**MYSORE** - The new academic year (2019 -2020) for Preethiya Sevakaru is focused on the theme, "come and see." The triple



celebration on June 1st marked the inauguration of the new academic year, a new arrival, and a farewell. The event began with Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Selvaraj SAC, a

Pallottine priest. He imparted God's blessing upon each and every participant, inviting them to reflect on the five "D's": Sense of discipline, direction, determination, dedication and devotion. At the end of Mass Fr.

Praveen, SdC, thanked and honored the main celebrant Fr. Selvaraj SAC with a small gift. He felicitated Fr. John Kennedy SdC and acknowledged his service to Mysore for the past seven months as administrator and also welcomed the newly assigned Dn. Jeyaseelan SdC, administrator and collaborator in formation.

### Renewing their Commitment

**BANGALORE** - "The Merciful Christian reflects God's mercy," - St. Louis Guanella. Years pass by and what has remained consistent is the zeal and enthusiasm evidenced by the fact that eight Guanellian Cooperators renewed their Promise for the fourth time and twenty Guanellian Lay movement members renewed their Pledge on June 2nd. This wonderful event took place on



the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord in a solemn Mass celebrated by the Superior of the house, Fr. Gnanaraj. He received their Promises and Pledges and prayed for their fidelity. It is such a joy to see the laity being committed and making time amidst their busy lives to dedicate to the works of mercy. The GPN community was overwhelmed and encouraged by the people associated with them who support the mission in various ways. During his homily Fr. Adakalam, Delegate of GC and Spiritual Director of the GLM, took the opportunity to speak to all people gathered about how important the laity is for the Guanellians' mission, what the Promise they make in front of God means and encouraged those gathered to consider joining in the future.

### New Year at Special School

**CHENNAI** - The birds started to sing and flowers started to blossom once again in the scorching heat of the sun, because the special children came back after six weeks of summer holiday. Don Guanella Special School reopened on June 3rd. Mr. Alben, the Advocate, was invited as chief-guest to hoist the flag on this very special day. The teaching strategies are well



respected in the area and as a sign of this, we received 18 new admissions and still more are in the process. He emphasized the continued development of our school. He said that Director, Vice director and all the staff are working together for the welfare of the children. He extended his best wishes for a better mission ahead.

### Sacrament of Confirmation

**KUMBAKONAM** - Guanella Nagar Parish was blessed by the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for seventy-five children. The Guanellian sisters prepared the children well. The local Bishop, Most. Rev. Antonisamy was warmly welcomed with a shawl and bouquet of flowers. He celebrated the solemn Mass and gave a beautiful homily, by which people were taken up and greatly inspired. He also insisted that the parents be regular for the church with their children, so that they may receive the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives. The Sacrament of Confirmation completes a Catholic's baptismal vows, so these parish children renewed their baptismal vows as well. The Bishop and Fr. A. John Bosco, the parish priest, confirmed the children



while each child was led by his/her Godparents. At the end the parish priest thanked the bishop for his availability and presence. As a token of love and gratitude many parishioners contributed money to the bishop for the education of poor children. The

Bishop felt very happy to be there and for the generous heart of the faithful.

### Installation of New Confreres

**CUDDALORE** - Don Guanella Boys Home announced new community members on June 7th. The meeting began with a prayer. The council meeting was in the presence of Fr. Samson, Councilor of the Divine Providence Province. Fr. Samson thanked the previous community confreres for their selfless service to DGBH at the same time he welcomed the new confreres with their new assignment letters

and wished them to do their best. After the council meeting holy Mass was celebrated with Sagayamatha parish by Fr. Francis, superior of the community. On the great occasion of the Holy Trinity, Parishioners of Sagayamatha welcomed the confreres honoring them with shawls: Fr. Francis, Fr. Lourdhuraj and Fr.



John Kennedy. Parish Council members gathered after the Mass and Fr. AP Samy explained and updated them about the new Sagaya Matha church construction from the beginning of the project.

### Installation at Seminary

**CHENNAI** - On June 8th the Don Guanella Major Seminary family joyfully welcomed the new rector of the House Fr. Benson, Fr. Peryanayagam, Vice-Rector and administrator of DGMS, Fr. Anandan, Administrator of DGSS, and Fr. Stanely James Babu, Community Collaborator, the two student priests Frs. Paulraj & Bernandes and regent Bro. Melvin. Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior, organized the event to install



and transfer the responsibilities and documents from the previous Rector, Fr. Samson, and Administrator, Fr. Francis, to the new leadership. As a sign of this transfer, the key of the tabernacle was handed over

to the new Father of the DGMS Community. After transferring the responsibility Fr. Ronald read out the appointments in the DGMS Community officially. The DGMS community expressed its gratitude and feelings and sentiments to the previous administrators, acknowledging their priceless service to DGMS. After the official forum, Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Benson along with the Provincial and other priestly confreres and brothers.

### A Community Farewell

**BANGALORE** - "Life is a journey, not a destination." This is so true in religious life we move on and go where God wants us to be. What we earn in each place is the gift of love and good relationship. So was the case with the fathers and brothers who bid farewell to their friends at Guanella Preethi Nivas. During Sunday Mass those in attendance expressed their gratitude and love with prayers and gifts to Fr. Gnamam, Fr. Lourdu, Fr. John Peter, Fr. Kennedy, Bro. Melvin, Bro. William, Bro.



Philip, Bro. Jestin whom they have known for years. A formal send-off was planned with the faithful and the GC, GLM members who came forward to share their wonderful experiences and wished them good luck. That day, the Guanellian Cooperators and the Guanellian Lay Movement members who renewed their promises gave them all memorable gifts.

### Renovation Begins

**SIVAGANGAI** - "Where we live and work has an effect on our lives and this is even important to give our children the best start in life."

What a joy that the existing Anbagam building is getting a new design and infrastructure. It was originally built in the year 2011, the main roof covered by iron sheets was getting damaged. Now it has been removed and replaced with a paved cement roof. To initialize this significant event Fr. Paul Francis invoked God's blessing upon the project. Fr. Kulandaisamy, Fr. Arputharaj and



brothers in the community accompanied the prayer gathering. The upgraded and renovated building will function as the adult MR home program. The mentally challenged persons over eighteen will be accommodated in this home. We are indeed grateful to the contributors for the realization of this significant work. It is the right moment to thank the Lord for His abundant blessings and the realization of the building project.

### Seminary Officially Installed

**CUDDALORE** - By the grace of God and blessings of St. Louis Guanella, St. Joseph's Seminary was installed as a new religious community on June 13th. Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior, convoked the meeting to install the Seminary as a religious community and the documents were handed over to the upcoming superior. Fr. Ronald celebrated holy Mass with the confreres and other guests. Fr. Vincent, the local superior, read the profession of faith before Mass concluded. He expressed his gratitude to God, to the Superior General and the Provincial Superior and all their councils. The following day Fr. David, the new administrator and vice-rector, was given a warm welcome ceremony by the newly installed community. St. Joseph's Seminary was filled with immense joy and happiness to celebrate these historical moments in the pages of the congregation. May God bless this new endeavor.



### Our Lady of Good Health

**KUMBAKONA** - Guanella Nagar Parish joyfully celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Good Health at Asoor, a substation of more than 50 Catholic families. The Triduum feast began on June 14th with a flag hoisting by Fr. B. Robert, secretary of KMSSS. Then he celebrated Holy Mass during which he gave a stirring homily on Mother Mary. At the end he blessed the newly made Car for the procession. The celebration continued on the second day when Fr. M. Stanislaus, director of Sacred Heart Hospital, celebrated holy Mass with a meaningful homily. He also recommended that one needs to have good heart, mind and soul. After Mass, he blessed the car and the faithful prayed the Rosary while processing through the streets of Asoor. A newly built grotto of Our Lady was also blessed. On the final day Fr. K. Arockiasamy, Chancellor of the diocese, celebrated



the feast day Mass and tackled current problems and issues of the world in his homily. Many faithful attended Mass. The celebration ended when the flag was lowered. On all three days cake and coffee were served to the people, including the many Hindus who participated.

### Inauguration of Evening School

**BANGALORE** - The Guanella Preethi Nivas campus was filled with shouts of joy on June 17th as the children returned after their holidays for the inaugural celebration. It broke the silence of the sacred novitiate with a noise which was eagerly awaited by everyone on campus including the elderly men at the home. The function was well arranged by the brothers, novices and the staff with different programs like dance, singing and speech. Fr. Kulandai, the newly appointed superior, was the chief guest of the day who, in his address, encouraged children to utilize the opportunity given and become smart in their studies and careers

in the future. He also appreciated and honored the dedication of the volunteers and teachers. Fr. Adaikalam continues to be the director of the evening school with



Nov. Maria Paul as his assistant in the ministry. After enjoying all the cultural programs and the sumptuous Tiffin the children went home with their parents.

**Anbagam now a Home**

**SIVAGANGAI** - It is with great pleasure that St. Guanella Anbagam announces the new residential program. Since 2008 Anbagam School has functioned as a day care program. Now the long-time dream has come



to fruition and fulfilled its vision. At present Anbagam has 15 special children both male and female in its care. Anbagam provides a pleasant atmosphere and they are all enjoying their stay. Let us all lend a hand of support to the growth and development of the 'good children.'

**Officials Pleased with Home**

**CUDDALORE** - The Home Management Committee came to visit Don Guanella Boys Home on June 19th. They



looked through all the files and records of to be sure everything is operating according to the regulations. They are pleased with the quality of the programs offered at DGBH. They also suggested providing separate bath room facilities for adults.

**Ten Years - A Great Start**

**KULITHURAI** - This year Fr. John Paul celebrated a mini milestone. It's his tenth year as an ordained priest. Being a priest has not only added meaning to his life but also meaning to the lives of many people whom he has encountered and motivated in this last ten years. Amidst the hard tasks in life, he remained in God's love so on



June 19th, the people of Cherukole, Karumputhottam thanked the Lord for the gift of his priesthood. Fr. Jerin joined the celebration. The people and the local religious gathered to felicitate them.

**Yoga Day Recognized**

**CUDDALORE** - World Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21st in the evening at Don Guanella Boys Home. All the boys did yoga under the



guidance of the Yoga master. Yoga, a spiritual discipline, is based on an extremely subtle science which focuses on bringing harmony between mind and body.



### Visit of a Mystical Rose

**BANGALORE** - Blessing from a mother is never forgotten and ever sought by every son or daughter. GPN was privileged to get the blessing of Mother Mary the Rosa Mystica from Kerala which is famous and miraculous for having answered prayers of many people in grave need. Carried by Bro. Antony a lay devotee of the Mother and lead by Mr. Paul, GLM, the Blessed Mother was brought to GPN chapel in solemn procession reciting the Rosary and singing hymns to Her. It was attended by the faithful who attended Sunday Mass. The statue remained in the chapel until the afternoon for veneration and to pray for her intercession. Bro. Antony spoke about the importance of Marian Devotion and the miracles she wrought in his life. People expressed their deep devotion praying to her and singing hymns of praise. Fr. Kulandai organized the event which benefitted the many people from different places who came for the devotions.

### Patronal Feast Celebrated

**KRISHNAPERI** - It was a great joy for St. Paul's Boys' Home to celebrate their patron feast, St. Paul. Fr. S. Periyannayaka Samy, local superior, celebrated holy Mass and Fr. Vincent, Director preached the homily. In his homily, he said that St. Paul is one of the most important figures in Christian history. He is a great teacher and educator. After Mass, the feast song was



sung; the boys had games, sports matches, singing and dancing competitions; and there was cake cutting and sharing. Truly it was a day of fraternal agape.

### Renewing the Heart

**CHENNAI** - On June 28th the Don Guanella Major Seminary family joyfully celebrated the solemnity of the



Sacred Heart of Jesus. Fr. Ronald, Provincial Superior, celebrated Holy Mass with other fathers of DGMS and Divine Providence House. Fr. Ronald delivered a homily in which he defined the Sacred Heart image as a depiction of the message, "though you have broken my heart, with those broken pieces I Love you all the more." After Communion all of the Guanellian confreres renewed their commitment with joyful hearts at the instruction of our Founder and the constitutions. Following Mass a solemn dinner was served. The feast of Frs. Paul Raj and Paul Dhinakaran and the birthday of Fr. Arun were commemorated by cutting and sharing cake in their honor.

### Spiritual Recollection

**CUDDALORE** - The St. Joseph's Seminary community organized a day of recollection for the seminarians. This



was their first monthly recollection for the 2019-2020 scholastic year. It was animated by Fr. Francis, Superior of DGBH, Cuddalore. The topic for the recollection was, "Called to be the beloved disciples of Jesus." Fr.

(continued on p. 9)

### Honoring our Fathers

**GRASS LAKE** - On June 9th Fr. Leo Xavier held a special Mass at the Pious Union of St. Joseph in honor of



pastors for their support of this raffle, which helps to sustain our residents who receive no outside support,” said Fr. Enzo Addari, CEO.

The winner of this year’s Alaskan Cruise Raffle Drawing on Monday, June 24th was Mary Frances Fielder of St. Mary Parish in Manchester, MI. The winning ticket was purchased for her as a gift by her sister-in-law Barb Fielder, who was representing St. Joseph Mercy Hospital-Chelsea at the Golf and Glory Outing at UM Golf Course that day. Ms. Fielder was excited to learn of her unexpected gift, and has opted to take the cash payout to assist her in her retirement years.

### 25 Years of Golf and Glory

**CHELSEA** - St. Louis Center celebrated the 25th year of its Golf & Glory Outing with back-to-back special events on Sunday June 23rd and Monday June 24th, starting with a special dinner held at Paesano’s Restaurant in Ann Arbor. This year’s event honored co-founder Al Zangara of Grass Lake, and recognized his 25 years of participation in the annual outing. The next day, 144 golfers came out to support SLC during its Silver Anniversary event at UM Golf Course.



all fathers. Fr. Nico of the General Council was the main celebrant and in his homily recognized that St. Joseph is the model for all fathers, giving the perfect backdrop to recognize all of the important men in our lives. The fathers processed into Mass with the confreres and were given a special blessing to strengthen them for their daily vocation as husbands, fathers, grandfathers and role models.

According to Fr. Enzo Addari, SdC. and CEO of the facility, “It was a great event, the people in attendance were very happy to support our residents today, and we didn’t get a drop of rain.”

Along with great golf, the outing included a sports

### Raffle Supports St. Louis Center

**CHELSEA** - Eleven total parishes in the Washtenaw/Jackson County areas supported this year’s Alaskan Cruise Raffle drawing to benefit St. Louis Center. These combined parishes sold over 700 raffle tickets to benefit SLC’s operations. “We are grateful to our many local parishes and their



memorabilia auction, an auction of fine Italian red wines, and pledges toward the purchase of

a wheelchair van. Two service awards were given: the Horodeczny Family of Manchester received the "John Panelli Celebrity Award" for their service to SLC, and event Co-Chair Ron Hingstwas given the Bill Wagner Award. Special recognition was also given to sponsors, hole prize winners, and acknowledgement of the top two winning teams. Lastly, the Alaskan Cruise Raffle winner was drawn.



Sitting Tall. Each resident is assigned a horse that they practice riding and caring for each Saturday morning of the program. Volunteers escort the horse and rider around the arena to be sure of the rider's safety. Susie and Sarah cannot stop talking about how much they love to ride and anxiously await each day of the program

### An End of an Era

**E. PROVIDENCE** - June 28th was an evening of sadness and good-byes as Fr. Peter DiTullio was honored by the



Parish family he has called home for the past 32 years. Nearly 300 people packed the Parish Hall to pay tribute to a man dear to their hearts. Fr. Peter will be returning to Italy, but in his place Frs. Peri and Bernad will be assisting Fr. Silvio with the care of Sacred Heart Church and School



### Sitting Tall

**CHELSEA** - Several residents of St. Louis Center have been sharpening their horseback riding skills at a special hippotherapy program for persons with disabilities called



## July Calendar of Events

- 3 **St. Thomas, Apostle**  
**Foundation Day - India**
- 4 **Anniversary of the First Communion of Blessed**  
**Clare Bosatta (1869)**  
**Ccuddalore:** Candidates arrive from Andhra Pradesh  
and N. India - St. Joseph Seminary
- 12 **Grass Lake:** Mother of Divine Providence Day- PUSJ
- 16 **Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**  
**Chelsea:** Italian American Delegates Golf Outing to  
Benefit - SLC
- 18 **St. Camillus de Lellis**
- 19 **Grass Lake:** St. Joseph Day- PUSJ
- 20 **Chelsea:** Memorial Outing to Benefit - SLC
- 21 **Bangalore:** Sports Day for Evening school - Canadian  
International School.
- 22 **St. Mary Magdalene**
- 25 **St. James, Apostle**
- 26 **Sts. Joachim and Anne**  
**Cuddalore:** English Academy - St. Joseph Seminary
- 27 **Cuddalore:** Reflection - St. Joseph Seminary  
**Cuddalore:** Inauguration of Evening School - St.  
Joseph Seminary

### Best Wishes and Prayers to:

- 1 **Fr. C. Lourduraj:** birthday
- 3 **Bro. Paul Dao Nguyen Van:** birthday
- 8 **Fr. Arulraj:** birthday
- 10 **Fr. Benson, Bro. Arun Kumar A., Bro. Jestin**  
**Jeromin A.:** birthday
- 11 **Fr. Vellington:** birthday
- 15 **Fr. Maria Arokiadass:** ordination day
- 18 **Bro. Bosco Yesuraj M.:** birthday
- 20 **Bro. Philomin Raja S.:** birthday
- 22 **Fr. Sebastian:** ordination day
- 23 **Bro. Arockia Jayaseelan M.:** birthday
- 24 **Fr. Satheesh:** ordination day
- 25 **Fr. James Stanley Babu:** feast day
- 26 **Fr. Nevis:** ordination day
- 28 **Dcn. M. Jeyaseelan, Bro. Karre Yohan:** birthday
- 30 **Fr. M. John Paul:** birthday
- 31 **Fr. Loyola Diraviam:** feast day



(continued from p. 7)

Francis led the seminarians to a better understanding about discipleship. It was an awesome experience for them and their souls were re-energized. Fr. Loyola was kind enough to conduct an hour of Eucharistic Adoration and to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the seminarians. The day concluded with the holy Mass celebrated Fr. Francis. The seminarians give sincere thanks to Fr. Francis and Fr. Loyola.

Have questions or comments about this newsletter? Email the Communications and Community Relations Office at: [kellyf@stlouiscenter.org](mailto:kellyf@stlouiscenter.org)



## “Jesus, meek and humble of heart make our hearts like unto Thine.”

By Fr. Amal, SdC

*In the Heart of Christ pierced on the cross  
and present in the Eucharist we contemplate  
the supreme revelation of the love of God,  
and are able to comprehend how true it is  
that we really are children loved and saved.  
...Nothing therefore, can be preferred to the love of Christ  
With ever greater resolve, each one of us  
should learn to draw inspiration from him,  
the meek and humble one,  
striving to have the Redeemer enter everyone's heart  
to awaken in him the clear sense of his divine calling.*

Cons. #11

The month very dear to the Guanellian Family is here. The Church, in this month of June, giving us the solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, wishes us to understand how precious the heart of Jesus is to all humanity. Our Founder, consecrating his work to the Heart of Jesus, willed that we grow, love and serve imitating the precious Heart of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus has its roots all the way back to the time of the Apostles. St. John the Evangelist is the Apostle associated with the Sacred Heart devotion because, one, he was known as the disciple whom Jesus loved; two, he was called the “Apostle of Love” due to the theme of love repeated in his Gospel and epistles; and three, because he had the special privilege of reclining on the chest of Jesus at the Last Supper.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus is also closely connected with devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. In the revelations of the Sacred Heart to St. Gertrude and St. Margaret Mary, Jesus shows that the Sacred Heart is more than a symbol used to represent his love; his Sacred Heart is also His real heart of flesh. The object of the Sacred Heart of Jesus devotion thus became connected with a devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament; that is, His soul and divinity, and his body and blood. The real, physical Sacred Heart of Jesus is made present to us in the Eucharist!

In biblical language, "heart" indicates the center of the

person where his sentiments and intentions dwell. In the Heart of the Redeemer we adore God's love for humanity, His will for universal salvation, His infinite mercy. Practicing devotion to the Sacred Heart of Christ therefore means adoring that Heart which, after having loved us to the end, was pierced by a spear and from high on the Cross poured out blood and water, an inexhaustible source of new life. The deepest longing of Christ's Heart is that we discover how much He loves us, the extent of His tender love for creatures who, cooled by their selfishness, look only inwards at themselves, as if they were afraid to let themselves be loved unconditionally by their Creator, who asks nothing and gives all! All the solemnities we celebrate this month remind us of God's immense love for humanity, which out of love and unity, the trinity devised the mission of universal redemption through Jesus' incarnation, passion, death and resurrection. We continue to need His redemption on our time.

How our society, culture, economy, politics today need this Heart! It is really true, the more man distances himself from God's Love the more he becomes 'heartless', agitated about a thousand things because he has mislaid the principal one: to let oneself be loved by Christ and to respond to this Love with our love. We cannot undervalue in our time, the necessity to rediscover the merciful Heart, this infinite Love of God, who reveals Himself in our lives if we are open to Him. Never before has the unconditional love of the Sacred Heart been as relevant as it is today. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is the symbol of the fidelity of the love of God. It reminds us that God loves us unconditionally with a love we cannot earn or ever be worthy of. And He loves us for ourselves, not as we should be, or possibly could be, but as we are with all of the physical deformities, psychological quirks and spiritual infidelities. As we come together to renew our vows in devotion on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, let's remember the words in our Constitution #11, “we really are children loved and saved” and in fidelity resolve to awaken in us the clear sense of our divine calling”.