

MUSIC AT SACRED HEART PRESENTS



FRIDAY

JUNE 19, 2020 | 8:00PM

CHORAL MEDITATIONS ON THE 12 PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

Concert of Living composers all inspired by the scriptural and doctrinal
recounting of the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ

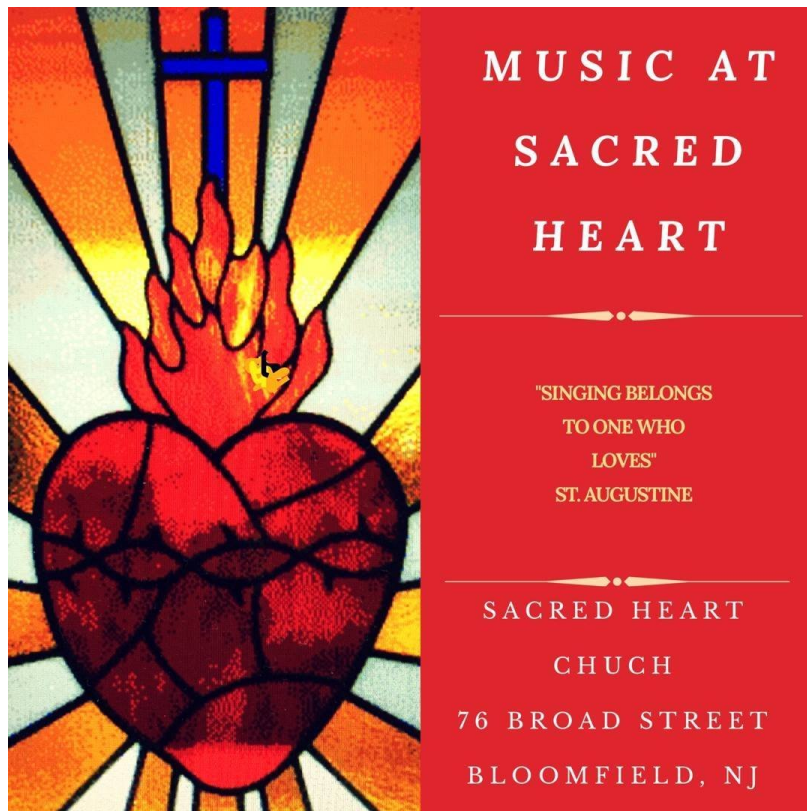
Performed by the socially distanced quartet of Sacred Heart Church

address: 76Broad Street,
Bloomfield NJ 07003

phone: (973) 748-1800
web: www.shcbloomfield.org

MOTIVATION

The inspiration of the concert, one piece for each of the 12 promises of the Sacred Heart. All the composers are currently living and from either the US, Canada or Great Britain. All but two pieces are in English, the exceptions being the work by Michael John Trotta: the Ubi Caritas written for our choir. This is intentional. Part of the idea is to showcase the contemporary relevance of the devotion as evidenced by composers writing music that so perfectly captures the promises given to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque almost 400 years ago. Christ is still working in beauty here and now.



MUSIC AT SACRED HEART PERSONNEL
JENNIFER D. BEHNKE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, SOPRANO
LINEA T. RONDAEL, KEYBOARD ACCOMPANIST, ALTO
KEVIN E. BROWN, CANTOR, BASS
CAMERON SMITH, TENOR
FRANK FANO, PIANO

THE 12 PROMISES OF OUR LORD TO THOSE WHO VENERATE HIS SACRED HEART

Our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to St. Margaret Mary between 1673-1675. Among the words spoken to her, she heard Jesus make several promises to those who would respond to the pleading of His Heart and make an effort to return His love.

1. "I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.
5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
9. I will bless every place in which an image of my Heart is exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart.

I promise you in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in my disgrace, nor without receiving their sacraments. My divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment."

OPENING ANTHEM – BE THOU MY VISION

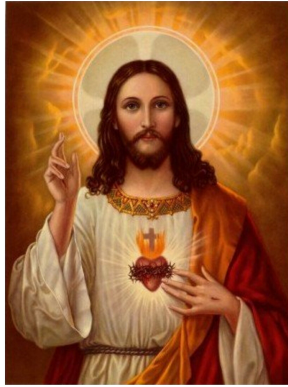
1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light
3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art

ARR. BY DANIEL MUSSELMAN (B. 1980)

2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one
4. High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys, bright Heav'n's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all

Mary Elizabeth Byrne, M.A. (July 2, 1880 – January 19, 1931) was born in Ireland. She translated the Old Irish Hymn, "Bí Thusa 'mo Shúile," into English as "Be Thou My Vision" in *Ériu* (the journal of the School of Irish Learning), in 1905.

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



1.

"I will give to My faithful all the graces
necessary in their state of life."

Three times I begged the Lord about this,
that it (my weakness) might leave me, but He said to me,
"My grace is sufficient for you."

2 Cor 12: 8-9

Lead me Lord, Lead me in the paths of Peace.
Make Your way plain before my eyes.
For it is You, Lord, You and You alone
Who can make me dwell in safety.

Lead me always to listen.

Teach me to live with compassion,
That when I come to a place of rest,
Only by Your Grace and not by my merit.
No Praise be mine.
But let me keep a heart that still can feel
And eyes that still can weep.
Oh my brother, Oh my sister,
All who live in peril. For you, let me keep:
A heart that still can feel,
And eyes that still can weep.

Our first choral meditation is by Dr. Gwyneth Walker, and is entitled "A Prayer of Compassion" from the editor's notes: This prayer combines traditional texts (Psalms 4:8 and 5:8) with the closing lines of

John Greenleaf Whittier's (1807-1892) poem "Divine Compassion."

The biblical passages ask for the Lord's guidance that we may walk in the paths of peace. Extending the supplication, the poignant Whittier lines ask for human compassion:

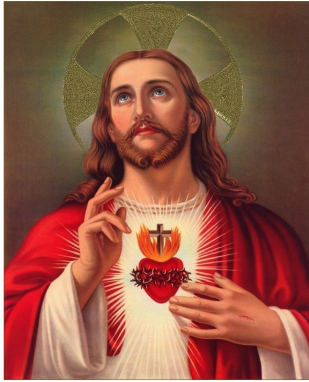
Let me keep a heart that still can feel, and eyes that still can weep.

In today's world of increasing violence, and increasing global awareness of atrocities, we are often challenged to remain sensitive to suffering, to respond with 'a heart that still can feel, and eyes that still can weep.'

THE 2ND PROMISE – UBI CARITAS

MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA (B. 1978)

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



2.

"I will bring peace to their homes."

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!
Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Phil 4: 4,7

Ubi caritas et amor,
Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in
unum Christi amor.

*Where charity and Love are,
There God is.
Christ's love has gathered
us into one.*

Exsultemus et in ipso,
jucudemur.

*Let us rejoice and
be pleased in Him.*

Timeamus et amemus
Deum vivum.

*Let us fear, and let us love
the living God.*

Et ex corde diligamus
nos sincero.

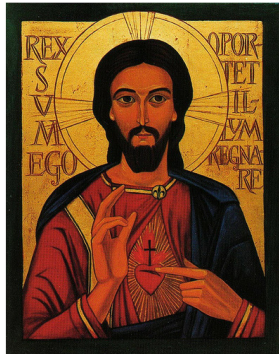
*And may we love each
other with a sincere heart.*

In the Spring of 2018, Sacred Heart Church received a newly commissioned piece by Maestro Michael John Trotta written in loving memory of our recently departed tenor Ed Edquilag. By happenstance, Mr. Trotta attended the mass with Cardinal Tobin to hear the Sacred Heart Choir perform another of his motets "Totus Tuus".

Dr. Trotta remarked upon the wonderful acoustics and the beauty of our glorious sanctuary where we are blessed to worship God and praise Him in song every week. Over 150 choirs applied for the honor of this commission award, and Sacred Heart is grateful for the gift of this prize.

This new setting of the "Ubi Caritas" (Where Charity and Love Prevail) written and dedicated to our choirs was published by Hampton Roads Music Group in October 2018. The text is from the Antiphon for the Foot washing on Maunday Thursday, from the ancient church.

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



3.
"I will comfort them
in all their sufferings."

You are now in anguish.
But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice,
and no one will take your joy away from you.

Jn 16:22

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be consoled.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall have their fill. (*Mt 5:4,10*)

The point of departure -- common to both religious and profane thought -- is the realization that pleasure and pain are inseparable in this life; they follow upon each other with the same regularity as the cresting and falling of waves in the sea.

Man tries desperately to detach these Siamese twins, to isolate pleasure from pain. But in vain.

It is a lesson that comes to us from the daily news and which man has expressed in a thousand ways in his art and literature.

The Bible has an answer to give to this the true drama of human existence. In the wake of the pleasure that is chosen against God's law and symbolized by Adam and Eve who taste the forbidden fruit, God permitted that pain and death should come, more as a remedy than as a punishment. God wanted to prevent man, who would be moved by his instinct and an unbridled egoism, from destroying everything, including his neighbor. Thus, we see that suffering adheres to pleasure as its shadow.

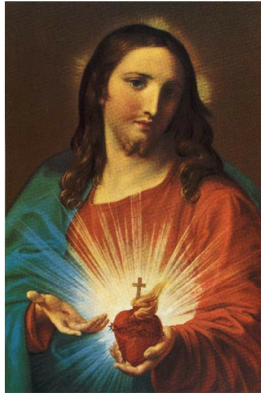
Christ finally broke this bond. He, "in exchange for the joy that was placed before him submitted to the cross" (Hebrews 12:2). In other words, Christ did the contrary of what Adam. All of this is wondrously proclaimed by our beatitude which opposes the sequence weeping-laughter to the sequence laughter-weeping. This is not a simple temporal inversion. The difference, which is infinite, is in the fact that in the order proposed by Jesus, it is pleasure, and not suffering, that has the last word, that counts more, a last word that endures for eternity.

Father R. Cantalamessa, Pontifical Household preacher, in the presence of Benedict XVI and members of the Roman Curia in preparation for Christmas Vatican City, Dec. 17, 2006

THE 4TH PROMISE – O LOVE

ELAINE HAGENBERG

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



4.

"I will be their safe refuge against all
the snares of their enemies in life,
and above all in death."

When my anxious thoughts multiplied,
Your comfort filled my soul with joy...
The Lord has been my stronghold, my God,
the Rock in Whom I find refuge.

Ps 94:19-22

O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

George Matheson (1842-1906)

George Matheson was a bright, promising Scottish student who graduated with first class honours when he was only 19 years old but a deep tragedy was being worked out in his life even as he completed his studies – he was rapidly going blind. He had an incurable condition that would eventually result in total blindness and there was nothing that could be done to help him. It was through the deep trials of illness and desertion that

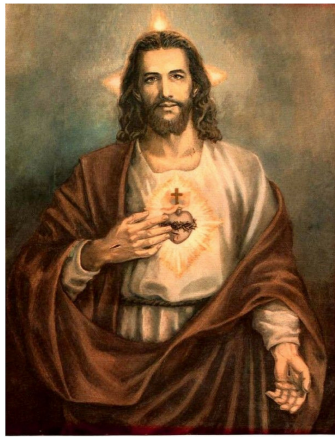
George Matheson had come to place all his trust and hope in the love of God in Jesus Christ as his Saviour. From then on, despite his blindness, he had resolved to study Theology and Christian History and to enter the Christian ministry.

In the poet's own words:

"My hymn was composed in the manse of Innellan on the evening of the 6th of June, 1882, when I was 40 years of age. I was alone in the manse at that time. It was the night of my sister's marriage, and the rest of the family were staying overnight in Glasgow. Something happened to me, which was known only to myself, and which caused me the most severe mental suffering. The hymn was the fruit of that suffering. It was the quickest bit of work I ever did in my life. I had the impression of having it dictated to me by some inward voice rather than of working it out myself. I am quite sure that the whole work was completed in five minutes, and equally sure that it never received at my hands any retouching or correction.

I have no natural gift of rhythm. All the other verses I have ever written are manufactured articles; this came like a dayspring from on high".

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



5.

"I will bestow abundant blessings
upon all their undertakings."

For nothing will be impossible for God.
Lk 1:37

I can do all things in Him, Who strengthens me.
Phil 4:13

And can it be that I should gain an interest
in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who
caused His pain—For me, who Him to
death pursued?

Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou,
my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above So free, so
infinite His grace—Emptied Himself of all
but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race:

'Tis mercy all, immense and free, For O my
God, it found out me!

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and
all in Him, is mine; Alive in Him, my living
Head, And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And
claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Charles Wesley was born an Anglican in post-schismatic England. After attending Oxford, he went to Georgia as a missionary to the New World. In 1735 Wesley sailed with his brother John, but even in this missionary service, doubts about his salvation surfaced. Neither John nor Charles could find assurance that they were indeed the children of God by grace. They returned to England believing their lives and ministry had failed. John Wesley wrote of his experience in Georgia, "I went to America to convert the Indians; but, oh, who shall convert me?" The answer came shortly after Charles's return from America. He wrote this poem, in 1736 after believing that the Spirit of God "chased away the darkness of my unbelief."

St. Paul tells us "We are God's handiwork, having been created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10). Our new creaturehood in Christ Jesus is our reception, through grace, of the "obedience of faith." Through that faith, as through an instrument, God has refashioned us, making us now prompt to obey. Our new estate is thus ordered to good works as to its intrinsic and God-intended finality. With what joy, therefore, do we walk in them, we who believe! And woe to us if we do not walk in them, for then we betray our faith and frustrate God's handiwork.

THE 6TH PROMISE – JESUS, SAVIOR PILOT ME

ARR. BY JONATHAN KOHRS

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



6.

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

He shines as a light for the upright in the darkness; kindness,
mercy and justice are his hallmarks.
Ps 112:4

God be merciful to me, a sinner.
Lk 18:13

1. Jesus, Savior, pilot me, Over life's tempestuous
sea; unknown waves before me roll, hiding rock
and treach'rous shoal; Chart and compass come
from Thee: Jesus, Savior, pilot me!

2. Though the sea be smoothe and bright,
sparkling with the stars of night, and my ship's
path be ablaze, with the light of halcyon days,
still I know my need of Thee: Jesus, Savior, pilot
me!

3. When the darkening heavens frown, and the
wrathful winds come down, and the fierce waves
tossed on high, lash themselves against the sky,
Jesus, Savior, pilot me, over life's tempestuous
sea.

4. As a mother stills her child, Thou canst hush
the ocean wild; Boist'rous waves obey Thy will
When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!" Wondrous
Sov'reign of the sea, Jesus, Saviour, pilot me!

5. When at last I near the shore, And the fearful breakers roar "Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
Then, while leaning on Thy breast, May I hear Thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pilot thee!" Amen.
Edward Hopper 1871

The Sacred Heart devotion was formalized in the 17th century, through apparitions of Jesus Christ to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a simple Visitation nun in Paray-le-Monial, France. It is reported that the Sacred Heart of Jesus first appeared to St. Margaret Mary in 1673.

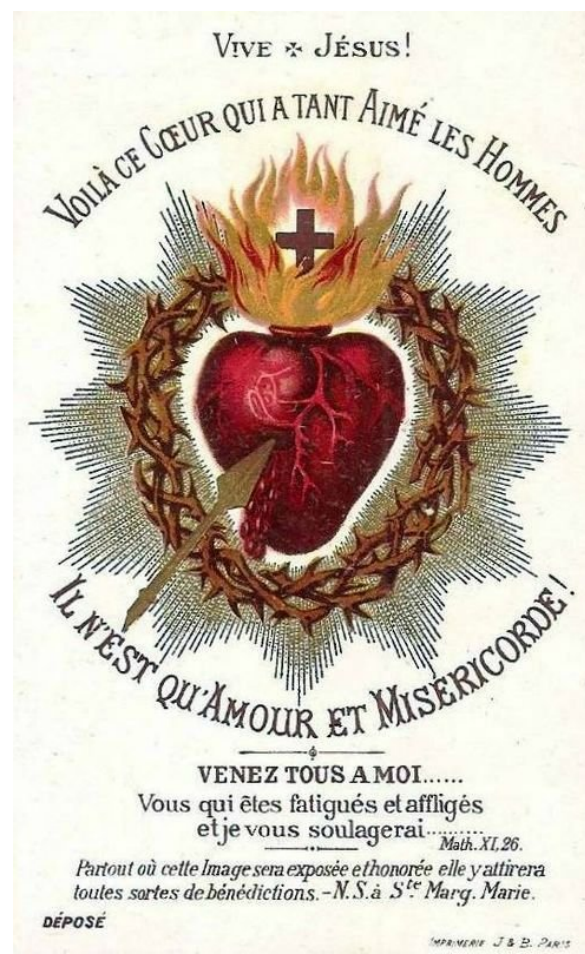
The nun was known to be of modest intellect and clumsy in her duties. Nevertheless, while she was at prayer, Jesus spoke to her and showed her his heart and gave her a message over a span of eighteen months. The message of the Sacred Heart emphasized the immensity of God's love and compassion for all people. It echoed the biblical call of Jesus for sinful and hurt humanity to turn to him for mercy, healing, and restoration.

Fast forward almost three hundred years to another simple nun, to whom God reveals his love and mercy. St. Faustina was a meek Polish sister to whom Jesus appeared in 1931 and showed himself as the Divine Mercy. Pope St. John Paul II purposely waited to canonize Faustina so that she would be the first saint of the twenty-first century.

FROM ST. FAUSTINA'S DIARY - I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. (DIARY699)



THERE WILL BE A BRIEF INTERMISSION
TO ALLOW THE PERFORMERS TO
HYDRATE AND PREPARE FOR THE
SECOND HALF OF THE CONCERT.



THE 7TH PROMISE – IF THOU WILT BE PERFECT

MELISSA DUNPHY

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



7.

"Fervent souls shall mount
to high perfection."

Strive to be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.
Mt 5:48

If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give
the money to the poor.... then come and follow Me.
Mt 19:21

If thou wilt be perfect, go sell what thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come follow me. Amen, I say to you, that a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you: It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven. And ev'ry one that hath left riches for my name's sake, shall receive a hundred times as much, and life everlasting. Many that are first, shall be last: and the last shall be first. *Text adapted from Matthew 19:21–30*

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church

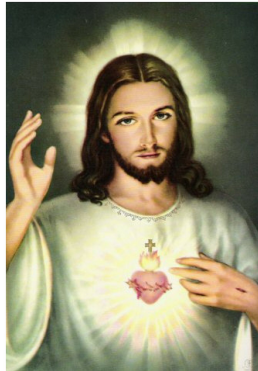
1691 "Christian, recognize your dignity and, now that you share in God's own nature, do not return to your former base condition by sinning. Remember who is your head and of whose body you are a member. Never forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and

brought into the light of the Kingdom of God." **1692** The Symbol of the faith confesses the greatness of God's gifts to man in his work of creation, and even more in redemption and sanctification. What faith confesses, the sacraments communicate: by the sacraments of rebirth, Christians have become "children of God," "partakers of the divine nature." Coming to see in the faith their new dignity, Christians are called to lead henceforth a life "worthy of the gospel of Christ." They are made capable of doing so by the grace of Christ and the gifts of his Spirit, which they receive through the sacraments and through prayer. **1693** Christ Jesus always did what was pleasing to the *Father*, and always lived in perfect communion with him. Likewise Christ's disciples are invited to live in the sight of the Father "who sees in secret," in order to become "perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." **1694** Incorporated into Christ by Baptism, Christians are "dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus" and so participate in the life of the Risen Lord. Following Christ and united with him, Christians can strive to be "imitators of God as beloved children, and walk in love" by conforming their thoughts, words and actions to the "mind... which is yours in Christ Jesus," and by following his example. **1695** "Justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God," "sanctified...[and] called to be saints," Christians have become the temple of the *Holy Spirit*. This "Spirit of the Son" teaches them to pray to the Father and, having become their life, prompts them to act so as to bear "the fruit of the Spirit" by charity in action. Healing the wounds of sin, the Holy Spirit renews us interiorly through a spiritual transformation. He enlightens and strengthens us to live as "children of light" through "all that is good and right and true."

THE 8TH PROMISE – SET ME AS A SEAL

RENE CLAUSEN (B. 1953)

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



8.

"I will bless every home
in which an image of
My Heart will be honored."

Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me,
for I am meek and humble of Heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
Mt 11:29

Set Me As a Seal Upon your Heart,
As a Seal Upon your arm,
For love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love,
Neither can the floods drown it.
Song of Songs 8:6a; 8:7a.

In the composers own words:

My wife had gone through a series of three consecutive miscarriages, and it came to be that she was pregnant again at about six and a half months, into the pregnancy. She was 39 years old at the time, and the doctor ordered something called an Amniocentesis, and the doctor put the needle in the wrong place, into the umbilical cord and the baby died immediately in her womb. It was a little boy, and totally viable, and after three miscarriages, there was nothing wrong with this child. She had to go into a birthing room right off the nursery. So, I remember we were listening to all the screaming babies as we went through that night together.

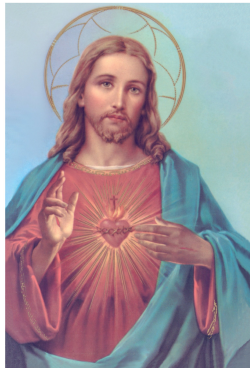
And then she had to stay that whole (next) afternoon, and so I went home and wrote "Set me as a Seal". It was all done in about 20 minutes. I just sat down and wrote it. And that is just about the only time I have ever really had that cleansing, I think this music really became for me, A cleansing that will not end. "For Love is strong as Death" I really meant that for the love that seeks to overflow the boundary between life and death.

From the conductor: When a child is lost to miscarriage or stillbirth, it is rare that the parents take a photo of that child. After the stillbirth of my own son, I was comforted by the clergy, staff and the parish community of Sacred Heart, and eventually by images of the Sacred Heart. Knowing that my broken heart had a safe refugee in Our Lord's heart broken for us, has become the wellspring that gives me hope to face each day without my littlest one.

THE 9TH PROMISE – JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

MICHAEL CULLOTON

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



9.
"Tepid souls shall become fervent."

It is for Your sake that I endure reproach
and that shame covers my face...
Zeal for Your house consumes me.

Ps 69: 8-10

1 Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2 Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

At the age of 32, Charlotte Elliott (b. Clapham, London, England, 1789; d. Brighton, East Sussex, England, 1871) suffered a serious illness that left her a semi-invalid for the rest of her life. Within a year she went through a spiritual crisis and confessed to the Swiss evangelist Henri A. Cesar Malan (PHH 288) that she did not know how to come to Christ. He answered, "Come to him just as you are." Thinking back on that experience twelve years later, in 1834, she wrote "Just as I Am" as a statement of her faith.

Hymn writing provided a way for Elliot to cope with her pain and depression – she wrote approximately 150 hymns, which were published in her *Invalid's Hymn Book* (several editions, 1834-1854), *Hymns for a Week* (1839), and *Thoughts in Verse on Sacred Subjects* (1869). Many of her hymns reflect her chronic pain and illness but also reveal that faith gave her perseverance and hope.

"Just as I Am" was first published in the 1836 edition of *Invalid's Hymn Book* with the subheading "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37). The testimony of Miss Elliott's brother (the Rev. H. V. Elliott, editor of *Psalms and Hymns*, 1835) to the great results arising from this one hymn, is very touching. He says:—

"In the course of a long ministry, I hope I have been permitted to see some fruit of my labours; but I feel far more has been done by a single hymn of my sister's."

The text of this hymn is usually given in full, and without alteration, as in *Church Hymns*, 1871, No. 408. It ranks with the finest hymns in the English language. Its success has given rise to many imitations, the best of which is R. S. Cook's "Just as thou art, without one trace." A Latin rendering, "Ut ego sum! nee alia ratione utens," by R. Bingham, is given in his *Hymnologia Christiana Latina* 1871, and a second by H. M. Macgill, in his *Songs of the Christian Creed and Life*, 1876, as, "Tibi, qualis sum, O Christe!"

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



10.
"I will give to priests the gift
of touching the most hardened hearts."

We are the ambassadors for Christ,
since God is appealing to you through us.

2 Cor 5:20

"May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark. May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark. When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone, May you always remember when the shadows fall– You do not walk alone." - *Traditional Irish Blessing*

Heavenly Father, grant that our priests be strengthened and healed by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate. May the Word they proclaim give them courage and wisdom.

We pray that all those whom they seek to serve May see in them the love and care of Jesus, Our Eternal High Priest, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

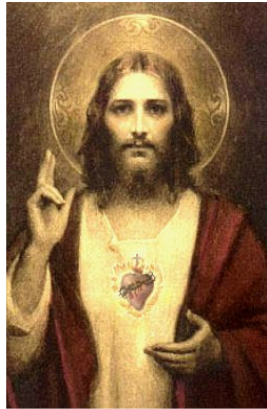
Mary, Mother of the Church, look tenderly upon your sons, our priests. St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, pray for us all.

O my Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church: Grant it love and the light of Your Spirit and give power to the words of priests so that hardened hearts might be brought to repentance and return to You, O Lord.

Lord, give us holy priests; You Yourself maintain them in holiness. O Divine and Great High Priest, may the power of Your mercy accompany them everywhere and protect them from the devil's snares which are continually being set for the souls of priests.

May the power of Your mercy, O Lord, shatter and bring to naught all that might tarnish the sanctity of priests, for You can do all things. - **Prayer by St. Faustina**

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



11.
"Those who promote this devotion
shall have their names written in My Heart,
never to be effaced."

Whoever abides in Me, and I in him,
will bear much fruit.

Jn 15:5

Blessed are the pure in Heart,
For they shall see God. (*Mt 5:8*)

Fr. Jeffrey F. Kirby on Palm Sunday 2018

What makes the heart pure is not just the absence of sin but also the transparency, kindness, and self-donation of love for God and our neighbor. When exercised selflessly, love purifies and orders our intellect, will, and emotions to God's goodness.

This goodness motivates our love and allows our affections and desires to mature and our bodies to be disciplined according to virtue. A world marked by the impurity of selfishness often misrepresents love, but Saint John clarifies it for us in his New Testament letters when he writes:

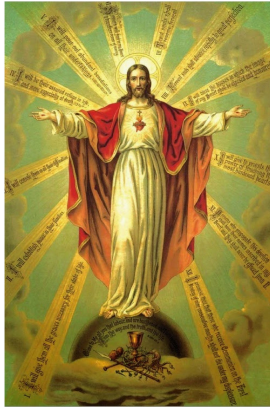
"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the

brethren."

Often our affections and desires can challenge the purity of our hearts. Such an allure is given not only by lust but also by self-pity, immodesty, anger, disrespect, envy, and rash judgment. In the end, however it's expressed, an impure heart seeks to objectify other people. It's permeated by self-absorption and filled with such thoughts as: What can I get from this person? How can this other person give me pleasure or serve my purpose?

In contrast to this inclination, we are invited to seek a pure heart. And so, we must practice temperance, which always weighs what we want with our relationship with God, our own best good, and the authentic good of our neighbor. We must realize that our desires and affections are not an inviolate standard unto themselves. Simply because we feel something or want something does not make it right or good.

12 Promises of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



12.

"To all those who receive Communion
on the First Friday of the month,
for nine consecutive months,
I will grant the grace of final repentance."

To anyone who is victorious,
I will give the right to eat from the tree of life
that is in the paradise of God.

Rev 2:7

O How Glorious is the Kingdom in which all the
saints rejoice. Arrayed in white robes they follow the
Lamb.

*O quam gloriosum est regnum – Magnificat antiphon for
Second Vespers on All Saints.*

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which
no one could count, from every nation, race,
people, and tongue. They stood before the throne
and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and
holding palm branches in their hands. They cried
out in a loud voice:

"Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on
the throne, and from the Lamb." Rev. 7:9-10

The Magnificat antiphon *O quam gloriosum est regnum*
provides an earthly impression of the great
heavenly gathering where all are united, having
shed the human boundaries imposed upon one
another in the former world. Intoned by a chord
cluster on bells or keyboard, a soloist or several

voices chant, "O how glorious is the kingdom", as if in awe of John's description of the angelic scene.
The intensity grows each time this text reappears. The 4-part sections aim to convey a sense of earthly
longing for a time when true unity will be realized. The anthem concludes with a final quiet statement
of the text, "O how glorious is the kingdom." —Fred Gramann, *composer*

CLOSING ANTHEM – FAIREST LORD JESUS

DAVID STOCKER

1. Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God, to earth come down
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
2. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high,
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
3. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming flow'rs of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes the woeful spirit sing.
4. Beautiful Savior! King of Creation! Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, My Joy My Crown.

We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this concert as much as we have enjoyed bringing it to life.

If you are interested in contributing to our live stream fundraiser, please visit:

<https://sacredheartbloomfield.weshareonline.org/LivestreamingFund>

COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CHRISTIAN COPYRIGHT SOLUTIONS PERFORMMUSIC LICENSE #9324

SACRED HEART CHURCH

BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY