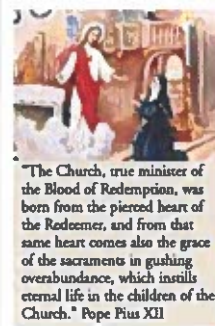


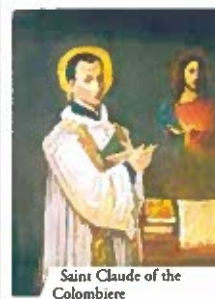
The Twelve Promises linked to the devotion to THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

FRANCE, 17TH CENTURY

The message received by the nun, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque of Paray-le-Monial contains the so called “twelve promises of the Sacred Heart,” in which Jesus reveals the graces linked to this devotion. Love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus is directly tied to that of love for the Eucharist. As the great apostle of this devotion, the Jesuit priest Henri Ramiere wrote, “It is in the Eucharist that we truly find the Heart of Jesus nearest to us; it is in the Eucharist that He unites himself in a most intimate way to us, and we to Him.”



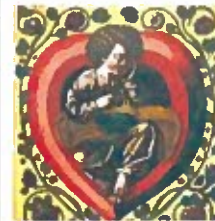
"The Church, true minister of the Blood of Redemption, was born from the pierced heart of the Redeemer, and from that same heart comes also the grace of the sacraments in gushing overabundance, which instills eternal life in the children of the Church." Pope Pius XII



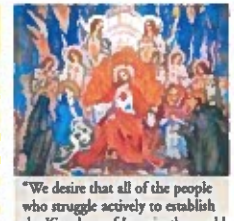
Saint Claude of the Colombiere



A design executed by Saint Margaret



The Child Jesus is pictured in an iconograph in the style of the Spanish Counter Reformation, atop a globe of the earth studded with stars of gold. The Child holds His Heart in His hand. From the collection of the Hieron Museum in Paray-le-Monial



"We desire that all of the people who struggle actively to establish the Kingdom of Jesus in the world, take the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as their banner. [...] Ardently wishing to offer a secure barrier against the impious plottings of the enemies of God and of the Church, and to have families and nations return to the love of God, we do not hesitate to propose devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as the most efficacious school of divine charity, on which charity it is necessary to construct the Kingdom of God in the souls of individuals, in the domestic society and in nations." (Pope Pius XII, *Haurietis aquas*, 82-83)



"Jesus is found in the sacrament of the Eucharist, in which love keeps Him tied like a victim, always ready to be sacrificed for the glory of His Father, and for our salvation. His life is totally hidden from the eyes of the world, which succeed in seeing only the poor and humble appearances of bread and wine. [...] Jesus is always alone in the Blessed Sacrament. Try never to miss any Communion, lest we give great joy to our enemy the devil!" ST. MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE



"The Church wishes to incite the faithful even more to draw near with confidence to this Holy Mystery and to consume ever more hearts in the flames of that divine love with which the Sacred Heart burned when, in His infinite love, he instituted the Most Holy Eucharist." POPE BENEDICT XV



Saint Margaret received many mystical gifts and some revelations from Jesus. We list here below the so called “twelve promises of the Sacred Heart” which the Lord revealed to the saint:

1. To those devoted to My Sacred Heart, I will give all the graces and helps necessary to their state of life (Letter no. 141).
2. I will establish and safeguard peace in their families (Letter no. 35).
3. I will console them in all their afflictions (Letter no. 141).
4. I will be their sure refuge in life, and above all, at the hour of death (Letter no. 141).
5. I will pour abundant blessings on all of their labors and undertakings (Letter no. 141).
6. Sinners will find in My Heart an inexhaustible source of mercy (Letter no. 132).

7. Lukewarm souls will become fervent with the practice of this devotion (Letter no. 132).
8. Fervent souls will ascend rapidly to a higher perfection (Letter no. 132).
9. My blessing will remain in those places in which the image of the Sacred Heart will be displayed and venerated (Letter no. 35).
10. To all those who labor for the salvation of souls, I will give the grace to be able to convert the hardest hearts (Letter no. 141).
11. Persons who spread this devotion will have their names written forever in My Heart (Letter no. 141).
12. To all people who receive Communion on the first Fridays of nine consecutive months, I will give the grace of endless perseverance and of eternal salvation (Letter no. 86).

1347-1380

Jesus appeared to St. Catherine of Siena to assure her that a great flame does not diminish even if it is just to light many candles and such is the flame of the Holy Eucharist, because it does not suffer while enflaming the loyal faithful that come with their strong or weak faith. The stronger and weaker charity of each of the faithful is symbolic only by the flame's dimension of the candles.



St. Catherine of Siena sees the fire come out of the consecrated Host. Museum, Diocese of Milan

Often St. Catherine saw a baby instead of a Host in the hand of the priest; other times St. Catherine saw an ardent furnace that appeared as if the priest penetrated it at the time of Holy Communion. Collection Fresco Located at Museum of Hiéron of Paray-le-Monial

Regarding the Eucharist, Jesus confided the following words to St. Catherine of Siena: "you receive all the divine essence in the most sweetest sacrament, in the form of whiteness in the bread. Just like the sun cannot be divided, so it is that God and man cannot be divided in the whiteness of the holy Host. Let us suppose that the holy Host could be divided: even if it would be possible to fragment it into thousands of tiny pieces, in each one of the tiny pieces, there is the presence of Christ, the whole God and the whole Man. In the same manner that a mirror would shatter into thousands of pieces, the Holy Host will not shatter or divide the image of God and Man that you see in the holy Host; the image of God and Man is in each fragmented part. Contrary to fire, the image of the Holy Host does not diminish in faith or

divinity. Let us look at the following example: If you had one candle and the whole world would light its candle from that single candle, the light would not diminish and everybody would have a lighted candle, while it is true that those who participate in the candle lighting, may have more or less flame, everyone would receive exactly the amount of fire to light their candle. Until that time that it can be better, this example stands.

If there was a lot of people bringing candles of all sizes like one with two candles and one with six candles and one with a candle weighing an ounce, one with a candle weighing a pound or more, then you could see all the lit candles by color, by color of light, by its light, by its heat, you would judge that the

person that has a one-ounce candle has less light than the one with a pound candle. This is how it is for those receiving the Holy Sacrament. Man carries his own candle, so that he can receive the sacrament: however, that candle is unlit, but it is ignited when he receives the Eucharist. As a matter of fact, as you are all alike, made and created in my image and likeness and as Christians you are anointed with Holy Baptism, you can, therefore, grow in virtue as much as you like through my divine grace. You are not changing your spiritual life that I bestowed upon you, but you can grow and increase in love of virtue, using your free will with virtue, with charitable affection, while you still have the time, because once time has elapsed, it will no longer be possible."