

Sacred Heart

The Sacred Heart is a religious devotion to Jesus' physical heart as the representation of the divine love for humanity. It also stresses the central Christian concept of loving and adoring Jesus. The origin of this devotion in its modern form is derived from a French Catholic nun Marguerite Marie Alacoque, who said she learned the devotion from Jesus in visions.

The Sacred Heart is often depicted as a flaming heart shining with divine light, pierced by the lance-wound, surrounded by a crown of thorns, and bleeding.

Sometimes the image is over Jesus' body with his wounded hands pointing at the heart. The wounds and crown of thorns allude to the manner of Jesus' death, while the fire represents the transformative power of love.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is celebrated 19 days after Pentecost. As Pentecost is always celebrated on Sunday, the Feast of the Sacred Heart always falls on a Friday.

