

## Feast of the Sacred Heart



[Always There](#)- Timothy Schmalz

- On a Friday 19 days after Pentecost, the Catholic Church celebrates The Most sacred Heart of Jesus.
- This devotional has long and historic origins within Christianity. It recalls Christ's love for his people. The feast also celebrates and calls for people to honour through every encounter, the sacredness of the other and to live a life centred on the heart of God.
- The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus took centuries to become a universal celebration. The Solemnity was first celebrated in 1670 in France. The celebration was quickly adopted in other places in France. In 1856, Pope Pius IX established the Feast of the Sacred Heart as compulsory for the whole Church.
- Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is not nearly as popular today as it was a couple of generations ago, when almost every Catholic at least knew about the nine first Fridays and the image adorned nearly every Catholic household, church and organisation.
- This is a special feast day for the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart which calls them to give expression to a spirituality of the heart. It was a feast important to both of their founders, Julian Tenison Woods and Mary MacKillop and it is still held dear in the hearts of the Sisters today.



## Sources:

The commentary of Mary Coloe, sourced from Liturgy Help.

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