

*Holy Love*  
AN ECUMENICAL MINISTRY AND SHRINE



# MARTYRDOM OF LOVE

*“I invite you to see that Spiritual Littleness, Divine Victimhood  
and the Martyrdom of Love are all one.”*

*St. Therese, the Little Flower, September 1, 2005*

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This publication is distributed by:

Archangel Gabriel Enterprises  
Holy Love Ministries  
Maranatha Spring and Shrine  
37137 Butternut Ridge Road  
Elyria, OH 44039 U.S.A.

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Originally compiled September 2006

Publication redesigned / reissued February 2008

Holy Love Ministries  
St. Thomas Aquinas Topical Studies Series

# MARTYRDOM OF LOVE

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*“In the world I am establishing the Confraternity of the United Hearts.”*  
Jesus, September 15, 1999

This topical study is a fruit of the *Confraternity of the United Hearts of Jesus and Mary* and can be viewed and printed from website: [www.AngelsOfMaranatha.org](http://www.AngelsOfMaranatha.org).

*United Hearts of Jesus and Mary* means the mystical union of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary that began at the moment of Jesus’ conception, never to be parted.

The Confraternity of the United Hearts promotes a journey of sanctification through devotion to the United Hearts of Jesus and Mary. The entire journey is based on trustful surrender through love and was established to order lives towards God’s intended purpose: Eternal life in the Holy Trinity through sainthood.

*“Be you therefore perfect, as also your heavenly Father is perfect.”*  
MT 5:48

The first Constitution of the Confraternity of the United Hearts was drafted in the Fall of 1999 by Archbishop Gabriel Gonsum Ganaka of the Catholic Archdiocese of Jos, Nigeria and, at the request of Our Lady, it was officially inaugurated in the Catholic Church on the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25, 2000, by the Apostolic Administrator of the Archbishop’s diocese.

ABOUT THE FOUNDER OF THE CONFRATERNITY  
**ARCHBISHOP GABRIEL GANAKA** (1937-1999)  
His Grace, the Late Most Rev. (Dr.) Gabriel Gonsum Ganaka of the Catholic Archdiocese of Jos, Nigeria, founded the Confraternity of the United Hearts shortly before his death in 1999. He was a native of Plateau State, Nigeria.



Archbishop Ganaka occupied important positions both within and outside this Archdiocese, including:

- Appointed a member of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples by Pope Paul VI
- Appointed to the Canon Law Review Commission and the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue by Pope John Paul II.
- Served as President of both the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria and the Symposium of Episcopal Conference of Africa and Madagascar (SECAM).
- He was a leader and representative to many international pastoral events, including the World Day of Prayer for Peace and the Millennium of Christianity.

The Archbishop was known by all for his loving pastoral approach to his flock, his innovative evangelization which impacted the Church at large, and his role as the Charismatic Renewal leader in all of Nigeria. His Grace promoted the Divine Mercy devotion and other devotions throughout his diocese, and under his care, priestly vocations soared.

### THE CHAMBERS OF THE UNITED HEARTS OF THE HOLY TRINITY AND IMMACULATE MARY



The Door to Each Chamber is  
Deeper Surrender to Love - the Divine Will

In 1997, the Archbishop became acutely ill and was flown to the United States for medical treatment. One of his flock came to Maranatha Spring and Shrine, the home of Holy Love Ministries, to seek Our Lady's intercession and subsequently introduced him to Holy Love Ministries and the all-important messages of Holy and Divine Love. His Foreword graces the pages of the book *Holy and Divine Love: The Remedy and Triumph*.

Archbishop Ganaka established the Confraternity of the United Hearts, with the international headquarters in Nigeria. He wrote the Constitution for the Confraternity before his death on November 11, 1999, exactly three months to the day from when he introduced the visionary and other Missionary Servants of Holy Love to Pope John Paul II.



*On the joyful occasion of the visit by the visionary, Maureen Sweeney- Kyle, with the Holy Father in August of 1999. Her husband, Don (lower right), the Late Archbishop Gabriel Ganaka (top left), and Rev. Frank Kenney, her Spiritual Director (1994-2004) (top center), accompanied her on the visit.*

## How Does a “Martyr of Love” Live in the World?

+10/11/1999 *Jesus*: “Such a soul, who is consecrated to Me through Divine Love, has become a martyr of love. He has died to self and the world, only partaking in such indulgences as necessity dictates. The soul has relinquished everything to Divine Love, the Heart of His Savior. He seeks only to love Me more – to please Me more and to be united in Me. The soul truly consecrated to Divine Love recognizes each present moment as an opportunity to surrender his will to the Divine Will.”

“The soul is a martyr of love because he has died to all else for love of Me. He seeks no other pleasure except My pleasure. He follows no other path save the one I choose for him. He is dead to the world and lives for Me so that I may live through him.”

+10/17/1999 *Jesus*: “Sister, I have been waiting for you. I have come to help you understand. There are degrees of submission and compliance to the Divine Will. This is what the ‘doors’ to the chambers of My Heart represent. So you see, each door is the Divine Will, but entrance to each chamber requires greater surrender and commitment.”

“If he perseveres in overcoming his small attachments and inordinate habits, he will be ready to move into the next

chamber of My Heart (Third Chamber).”

“In this chamber the virtues bloom and the fruits of the Spirit ripen. The soul may think his progress is unremarkable. But, in fact, few souls enter this chamber and try to be perfected in love to such a degree. This is the chamber from which I choose My saints, My martyrs of love.”

“But it is also the chamber where souls are most severely tested by Satan. The soul needs to use heroic virtue in this chamber lest he slip into discouragement.”

+10/20/1999 *Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. My sister, do you understand the deepest, most intimate chamber of My Heart? Most cannot comprehend such unity with their Creator. This is the chamber in which all is conformed to the Divine Will. The souls, and few there are, whom I select from the third chamber as My saints and martyrs of love come into the fourth and most intimate chamber. They have been perfected in Holy Love. They have purged themselves of the smallest fault or attachment which has been an obstacle between their heart and Mine. They have successfully defeated Satan in his discouragements.”

“These are the souls that are able to accept all things as from the Hand of God – that is, God’s Will for them. These souls always trust in Divine Providence. The virtues have been honed and fine-tuned in their lives. They no longer live for themselves, but I live through them.”

+12/18/1999 *Jesus*: Child, I desire now to describe to you the depths of the soul who resides in the fourth chamber of My Sacred Heart. Such a soul desires to be in this chamber more than anything else. Through his desire to be united with Me, he has surrendered all his own wants - that is to say, his own will. Such a soul knows full well his littleness before God. He does not seek laud or recognition for any good deed, for he knows all goodness flows from God. In his humility he desires hiddenness. He longs for littleness in the eyes of the world. Thus, the soul is steeped in humility and meekness.”

“When the soul experiences any trial, he returns it immediately to Me. Therefore, we share each cross together.”

“The soul in the fourth chamber of My Heart does not know fear. He is always at peace, even in the midst of the greatest trial. In every present moment such a soul sees God’s Holy and Divine Will.”

“The fourth chamber of My Heart is the ultimate goal of every soul, though few attain it. Each chamber preceding this fourth and last chamber makes the soul desire perfect union more and more. This fourth chamber is comprised of the living martyrs of love.”

+4/07/2000 *Jesus*: He is a martyr of love who strives to conform to the Divine Will of My Father.”

+8/25/2000 *Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. The third Chamber of My Heart is the one in which My martyrs of love are formed. It is perfection. Thus in the third chamber (perfection):

The soul is given introspection as to his practice of every virtue in thought, word and deed.

He practices these virtues and fine tunes them with the help of grace.

God sees his efforts and infuses the virtues into his soul.”

+10/14/2002 *Blessed Mother*:

**Blessed Mother’s Treatise to Her Remnant Faithful and the Confraternity of the United Hearts**

*(Given by Blessed Mother to Maureen.)*

“I am Mary, Virgin Mother of God. Praise be to Jesus. I come to fill your heart and the world with My grace. I come to tighten the threads of the Remnant Faithful. I come to unite the Confraternity in Holy and Divine Love.”

“Please understand, My children, these perilous times in which you live, Satan is fighting his last battle. It is a decisive battle waged against Holy Love. The final victory will be a Victory of Love. But until the Triumph, My little ones will suffer much persecution. I speak not only of a persecution in the body, but in spirit, as well. In the spiritual battle which lies at hand, you will be able to persevere only through Holy Love.”

“Do not succumb to the lukewarm spirits around you; nor can you allow yourselves to be discouraged by the heresy and apostasy which abounds around you. You must be My warriors in this battle of good against evil. If you surrender to complacency or to popular opinion which may oppose Holy Love, you have chosen sides with My adversary. Persevere, My children—be My martyrs of love.”

+09/01/2005 *St. Therese, the Little Flower*: “I invite you to see that Spiritual Littleness, Divine Victimhood and the Martyrdom of Love are all one. Neither can exist in the soul without the other two. Therefore, to desire one of these is to desire all three. It is a blessed trio of gifts, graces and Spiritual Oneness with Jesus.”

+03/31/2006 *Jesus*: “My brothers and sisters, I remind you that victory will come through the Triumph of Love—Holy and Divine Love—the path that We show you through the Chambers of Our United Hearts. In order to progress through the Chambers, you must accept Holy Martyrdom of Love.”

“I am calling each of you tonight to accept Holy Victimhood on behalf of Our imminent Triumph.”



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## What Does One Need To Do As a Martyr of Love?

+11/01/1999 *All Saints' Day - Jesus*: I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. Today, child, we honor many and all unknown saints. That is, these saints are unknown to the world but [are] deep within the chambers of My Heart, for they are all martyrs of love. No one achieves sanctification without surrendering to this martyrdom of love. My Mother was the perfect example of this beautiful fulfillment of martyrdom. Unknown to the world was Her pain and sorrow. Unknown as well, Her heroic acts of surrender to love.”

“Follow Me blindly, for perfect love casts out all fear. Therefore, surrender the future to Me in trust. Do not be concerned for a plan or your next step. I am always with you. The deepest chamber of My Heart is reserved for the souls who will follow Me blinded by the light of Our Hearts. That is, blinded by love.”

“My blessing rests on such as these.”

+11/16/1999 *Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, Divine Mercy – Divine Love, born Incarnate. I wish to describe to you the soul who surrenders to the Will of God in the present moment. Such a one is embraced by Love and embraces Love. Such a soul does not question the why and the wherefore of moment-to-moment events in his life. He only gives praise to God in all things, knowing and trusting that grace is always with him and all he needs. This is a true martyr of love, annihilating his own will for the sake of the Divine. Such a soul moves swiftly through the chambers of My Heart and into union with Me. It is this surrender that I call all souls to embrace. This is the fourth chamber of My Heart – the chamber every soul in Heaven enjoys. Make it known.”

+01/26/2001 *Jesus*:

**“The Revelation of Our United Hearts.”**

“I have come to you - your Jesus, born Incarnate. I invite you to see that each Chamber of My Sacred Heart is approachable only through a greater submission of free will. Thus, as the soul approaches the second Chamber of My Heart, he begins his martyrdom of love; that is, he dies to his own free will as a sacrifice of love.”

+4/05/2001 *Jesus*: “I come as the Good Shepherd to call My sheep away from the edge of the abyss. Turn away from sin and choose righteousness. This age, more than any other, will be given its measure of grace and saints - Yes! saints, martyrs of Love, bastions of truth, defenders of the faith. The tenderest of My Mercies now fall upon mankind, and the Stream of My Justice begins to flow.”

+04/25/2003 *Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. Today,

I invite you to understand that few are required to give up their life for the faith. In these times, however, and because of the great apostasy within My Church, the members of the Confraternity are being asked to be martyrs of love.”

“To be a martyr of love means to be a martyr of free will. This is what is required of each soul to move deeper into the Chambers of My Heart - to give up free will for the Divine Will of My Father. When a soul can say: ‘I have no more wants except what the Father in Heaven wants for me’ - he is well on the way to martyrdom of love - martyrdom of his free will. He is deep in My Heart.”

+04/08/2005 *St. John Vianney*: “My brothers and sisters, priests must constantly surrender their flock to the Divine Will of the Eternal Father, for it is in this surrender that true martyrdom of Holy Love is begotten. It is only in this way that sanctity can be obtained.”

+08/05/2005 *Jesus*: “I invite all to comprehend that because the messages of Holy Love, which are one with the Mission, clearly define Satan’s defeat—the enemy has set himself against My work here.”

“Satan attacks the Message and My messenger through highly credible and the most unlikely sources. He does not come clothed in truth, but always in lies and convoluted reality. He appeals to the pride of false discernment.”

“You, My devout followers, must be wise as serpents and gentle as doves. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to recognize where Satan is coming clothed in goodness. In the end the enemy will not prevail, for when he opposes the Mission, he opposes Me. Suffer these trials with the dignity of the martyrdom of love. I suffer with you, and I will be victorious with you.”

+10/18/2005 *St. Thomas Aquinas*: “I am going to put this spirituality into terms you will understand. Say a chef is making a cake. The chef represents the free will since he decides what goes into the cake. The ingredients of the cake are the various virtues that the soul accepts or rejects. The flavor of the cake would be the spirit of the person, because it is the sum total of all the ingredients the chef chooses to use.”

“Now, when the soul decides with his free will to become a martyr of love, he is surrendering everything—all the ‘ingredients’ to Holy Love—to the Immaculate Heart. In other words, he empties the bowl of all that goes together to make the delicious cake, and asks the Lord to make it into a

cake of 'love' in whatever way he chooses. So, you see, even the spirit must be surrendered in order to be a true martyr of love."

"Do you understand this now?" *Maureen*: "Maybe."

*St. Thomas*: "Ponder it. You don't have to understand for it to be so."

+04/23/2006 *Jesus*: "Return to love, and through My Mercy become martyrs of love—royal victims for the sake of souls. The Victory of Our United Hearts comes in littleness, not in pomp, weaponry or title. Choose this Victory over all else."

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## What Keeps One From Becoming a Martyr of Love?

11/23/1999 *Jesus*: How important it is for you to know that it is the combined effort between the soul and God that allows the soul to progress through the chambers of My Heart. The soul cannot be inspired to a deeper surrender of his own will to the Divine Will, save through the grace of inspiration. The soul must cooperate with this inspiration – this grace – in order to journey deeper into holiness—deeper into My Heart."

"The more the soul hangs on to old habits, his own judgments and opinions, the more shallow his entry into the chambers of My Heart. So you see, My confidante, it is the soul's own unwillingness to love God above all else that obstructs the way."

"My will is one with the Divine Will of the Eternal Father. Therefore, if you are in love with the Divine Will of God the Father, you are also in love with My Will. Your desire to please Me needs to be greater than your desire to please yourself."

"This is the path of martyrdom of love. Ask for the grace to recognize it and surrender to it."

+11/26/2000 *Jesus*: "I have asked of you martyrdom – to be a martyr of love – and this is what martyrdom is: complete dying to self for love of God. You cannot achieve this on your own merit, but only with My help. It is selfish love that detracts from every virtue. Do not be distraught when I try to show you the areas of self love in your heart, for I desire your purest effort. It is then I can succeed through you."

"Remember, you have not chosen this mission on your own. Rather, I have called you and you have responded. You ask how I desire that your response be more complete. I am showing you. Do not back away in discouragement as I reveal areas of weakness in your heart, but move forward with Me. I will help you overcome each flaw, for your perfection is in Me and through Me – just as this mission is in Me and through Me."

"Great is My Love for those who allow Me to assist them!  
Great is My joy!"

+10/12/1999 *Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. Today, at last, I have come to give you the Consecration to Divine Love. Here it is.”

*“My Jesus, Divine Love Itself, I consecrate myself completely to You. In and through this consecration I unite my soul to Divine Love, understanding that in so doing I will be a martyr of love. I choose to seek only Your good pleasure in the present moment, Jesus. Thus, I surrender to You my health, my appearance, and even my own comforts. Through this surrender I pray that Divine Love will be victorious in every heart. Enfolded within this consecration to Your Divine Love, sweet Jesus, find my ‘yes’ to the Divine Will of God in every moment and with every breath.”*

*“I seek nothing that You would not have me seek. I love no person, place, or thing beyond Your Will for Me. I embrace every cross You permit and cherish every grace You provide. Amen.”*

October 12, 1999 *Feast of Our Lady of the Pillar Prayer Service*  
Jesus and Blessed Mother are here with Their Hearts exposed. *Blessed Mother says*: “Praised be Jesus.”

*Jesus*: “I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. Tonight I invite you to consecrate yourselves to My Divine Love, which is My Most Sacred Heart and the New Jerusalem. To do so means that you conform your will to the Holy and Divine Will of God. My Mother will assist you through the grace of Her Heart. We’re extending to you tonight the Blessing of Our United Hearts.”

October 14, 1999  
*“Heavenly Father, Lord Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit of God, I come before You as I have consecrated my body and soul to Divine Love. I ask Your assistance in living out this consecration in every present moment. Help me to surrender to every cross, and to recognize and respond to every precious grace You place in my life. Through my consecration to Divine Love, I beg Your assistance in annihilating my own will and living in Your Divine Will. Amen.”*

“Sister, I am Jesus, born Incarnate. I have come bearing this promise. Recite this prayer with the consecration to Divine Love daily, and you will receive an angel by your side to assist you in faithfulness to the consecration.”

October 15, 1999  
“I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. My sister, some who receive the consecration to Divine Love will recite it with their lips, but not have understanding in their heart. It is like receiving a present, but not opening it. Therefore, I have

come to bring each heart deeper into the consecration.”

“When you surrender to Me your appearance, it means you are not distracted by the way others perceive you, either on the outside or the inside. This means you do not make excuses for yourself. You do not concern yourself for your reputation, so long as you are on the path of Holy Love. Further, it means you do not pride yourself on achievement, but understand all good is accomplished through Me. The only concern for your physical appearance should be that you appear simple, neat, and clean as My representative.”

“As to your health, often My Cross comes to you as a physical ailment. Do not let it become a physical complaint! Seek help in the world and allow Me to work through the medicine and doctors. Accept as God’s Will a cure, or no cure.”

“As to your comforts: This is an area where many sacrifices can be given to Me. Do not always eat and drink only what you like best, but offer Me something less desirable. If you cannot sleep, instead of tossing and turning come to Me in prayer. Go after unpleasant tasks instead of avoiding them. In this, let your sacrifice be hidden. If you have a tendency to procrastinate, pray for the grace to overcome this, as it leads to confusion. Begin and finish all the tasks before you.”

“Do not avoid people who do not agree with you, or who you find unpleasant. Each person is put in your life so that you can be Holy Love to them.”

“In all of this, see God’s Holy and Divine Will for you, for it is there.” “I will bless you.”

April 18, 2003 *Good Friday – 3:00 p.m.*

“I am your Jesus, born Incarnate. As I drew in My last breath - a breath that caused Me excruciating pain - I was consoled by the knowledge that two revelations would draw My Remnant Faithful together. One was the revelation of My Divine Mercy - the other was the revelation of the Chambers of Our United Hearts.”

“Console Me even now. My greatest pain remains - it is looking into the Heart of My Sorrowing Mother.”

“Say this prayer:”

*“Dear Sacred Heart of Jesus and Sorrowing Heart of Mary, I give You my whole heart, every joy and sorrow, every iniquity and all merit that You find in it today. I offer to You my desire to be Your victim of love. With this desire, see my trust in Your Will for me, and allow this trust to console You.”*  
*“Amen.”*



*MT 16:21* From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.

*LK 24:26* Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into his glory?

*ACTS 5:41* So they left the presence of the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.

*ACTS 9:16* and I will show him what he will have to suffer for my name.

### **Children of God through Adoption.**

*ROM 8:14* \* For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

*8:15* For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, \* Father!"

*8:16* The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

*8:17* and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

### **Steadfastness in Faith.**

*PHIL 1:27* \* Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear news of you, that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind struggling together for the faith of the gospel,

*1:28* not intimidated in any way by your opponents. This is proof to them of destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

*1:29* For to you has been granted, for the sake of Christ, not only to believe in him but also to suffer for him.

*1 PETER 1:6* \* In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials,  
*1:7* so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

*1:8* Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet believe in him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,

*1:9* as you attain the goal of (your) faith, the salvation of your souls.

*MT 24:9* \* Then they will hand you over to persecution, and they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of my name.

*24:10* And then many will be led into sin; they will betray and hate one another.

*24:11* Many false prophets will arise and deceive many;

*24:12* and because of the increase of evildoing, the love of many will grow cold.

*24:13* But the one who perseveres to the end will be saved.

*ROM 8:35* What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

*8:36* As it is written:

"For your sake we are being slain all the day;  
we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

*8:37* No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

*8:38* For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, \* nor future things, nor powers,

*8:39* nor height, nor depth, \* nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE TRUTH

2471 Before Pilate, Christ proclaims that he “has come into the world, to bear witness to the truth.”[265] The Christian is not to “be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord.”[266] In situations that 1816 require witness to the faith, the Christian must profess it without equivocation, after the example of St. Paul before his judges. We must keep “a clear conscience toward God and toward men.”[267]

2472 The duty of Christians to take part in the life of the Church impels them to act as witnesses of the Gospel and of the obligations that flow from it. This witness is a transmission of the faith in words 863, 905 and deeds. Witness is an act of justice that establishes the truth or makes it known.[268] 1807

All Christians by the example of their lives and the witness of their word, wherever they live, have an obligation to manifest the new man which they have put on in Baptism and to reveal the power of the Holy Spirit by whom they were strengthened at Confirmation.[269]

2473 Martyrdom is the supreme witness given to the truth of the 852 faith: it means bearing witness even unto death. The martyr bears witness to Christ who died and rose, to whom he is united by charity. He bears witness to the truth of the faith and of Christian 1808 doctrine. He endures death through an act of fortitude. “Let me become the food of the beasts, through whom it will be given me to reach God.”[270] 1258

2474 The Church has painstakingly collected the records of those who persevered to the end in witnessing to their faith. These are the acts of the Martyrs. They form the archives of truth written in letters of blood:

Neither the pleasures of the world nor the kingdoms of this 1011 age will be of any use to me. It is better for me to die [in order to unite myself] to Christ Jesus than to reign over the ends of the earth. I seek him who died for us; I desire him who rose for us. My birth is approaching ... [271]

I bless you for having judged me worthy from this day and this hour to be counted among your martyrs....You have kept your promise, God of faithfulness and truth.

For this reason and for everything, I praise you, I bless you, I glorify you through the eternal and heavenly High Priest, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son. Through him, who is with you and the Holy Spirit, may glory be given to you, now and in the ages to come. Amen.[272]

1173 When the Church keeps the memorials of martyrs and 957 other saints during the annual cycle, she proclaims the Paschal mystery in those “who have suffered and have been glorified with Christ. She proposes them to the faithful as examples who draw all men to the Father through Christ, and through their merits she begs for God’s favors.”[45]

957 Communion with the saints. “It is not merely by the title of example that we cherish the memory of those in heaven; we seek, rather, that by this devotion to the exercise of fraternal charity the 1173 union of the whole Church in the Spirit may be strengthened. Exactly as Christian communion among our fellow pilgrims brings us closer to Christ, so our communion with the saints joins us to Christ, from whom as from its fountain and head issues all grace, and the life of the People of God itself”[496]:

We worship Christ as God’s Son; we love the martyrs as the Lord’s disciples and imitators, and rightly so because of their matchless devotion towards their king and master. May we also be their companions and fellow disciples![497]

826 Charity is the soul of the holiness to which all are called: it 1827, 2658 “governs, shapes, and perfects all the means of sanctification.”[297]

If the Church was a body composed of different members, it couldn’t lack the noblest of all; it must have a Heart, and a Heart BURNING WITH LOVE. And I realized that this love alone was the true motive force which enabled the other members of the Church to act; if it ceased to function, the 864

Apostles would forget to preach the gospel, the Martyrs would refuse to shed their blood. LOVE, IN FACT, IS THE VOCATION WHICH INCLUDES ALL OTHERS; IT’S A UNIVERSE OF ITS OWN, COMPRISING ALL TIME AND SPACE - IT’S ETERNAL![298]

*Fn 298. St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Autobiography of a Saint*