June 12, 2021 Saturday of the 10th Week Immaculate Heart of the BVM 2 Cor 5:14-21 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 Lk 2:41-51

WE IMITATE HER HEART!

Yesterday, we celebrated the **Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**. This feast was commemorated to honor the Lord Jesus' love for his people. We give him praise because his Sacred Heart offered us everything, we need to reach our full potential and be counted among those who will be with him in heaven. As St. John Paul II would put it: **"The Sacred Heart has given us everything** — **redemption**, **salvation**, **sanctification**."

Today, we are celebrating the **Feast of the Immaculate Heart of the BVM**. This feast, on the other hand, remembers the purity and love of the heart of Mary for God. This pure love of Mary for God was demonstrated in her YES to God's invitation; her cooperation in her Son's redemptive mission; and her humble submission to the Holy Spirit's direction.

In honoring the **Immaculate Heart of the BVM**, St. John Paul II, a devotee of Mother Mary, said, **"From Mary we learn to love Christ, her Son and the Son of God.... Learn from her to be always faithful, to trust that God's Word to you will be fulfilled, and that nothing is impossible with God."**

Aside from learning on how to love God, honoring the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary will always bring us to Jesus' Sacred Heart. The heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary is constantly connected to the heart of her Son, Jesus Christ. A true devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary will always point us to the source of love, Jesus Christ! Her heart will always point us to His heart. **What is the feast inviting us to do?** The Feast of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary invites us to examine our hearts. If in our examination of our hearts we find any impurities, this feast invites us to ask the Lord Jesus to help us cut ties with it so we can imitate the Blessed Virgin Mary with regard to keeping God's message in our hearts.

As we continue with our Eucharistic celebration, we thank God for giving us the Blessed Virgin Mary as the best example on how to love him. May her example of purity and love for God inspire us to do the same as we continue to respond to the call of stewardship.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!