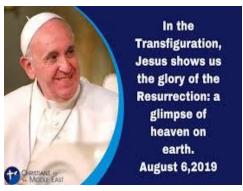
The Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: Day THREE







Reflection: Listening to Jesus: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." (Matthew 17:5)

"And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd...My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:16, 27)

On the Mountain, with three of his disciples, Jesus was seen in the brightness of God's glory. Through the Cloud the disciples were aware of the Voice of God telling them to *listen* to Jesus, not simply hearing what he said, but rather letting the 'inner ear' receive and reflect on his Teaching and what he said and did. Jesus frequently told stories about sheep and likened himself to the Good Shepherd. Symbolically, we are the sheep in need of care, and nurture. Do we listen to our Shepherd King, willing and acting that others will be brought within his care 'one flock, and one shepherd'?

Prayer: Heavenly Father unite us by the gift of your grace, that we may all be one in you as we gather in your name, so that we may in all things hold fast to justice tempered by mercy, and be in love and charity with all. Amen.

+ In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O my Jesus, you have said: "Truly I say to you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and it will be opened to you." Here I am, knocking on the door of your Heart, seeking and asking.

Our Father, Who art in Heaven,

Hail Mary, Full of Grace,

Glory be to

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

Lord Jesus Christ, your heart was moved with love for the men and women who came for help in their need. You healed the sick, you fed the hungry, you forgave sinners, you cried over Jerusalem. Above all, you showed to those who were prepared to listen the way to true life, for you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Lord, your heart is still moved today by your people and their many needs. Open our hearts to hear your word, to accept your love, and to respond to your call. In particular, I beg you to grant me the favour I ask during this novena (*make your request silently*)...I pray that this will contribute to my own eternal good and to the building up of your Kingdom of justice, peace and love here on earth.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you. Amen

