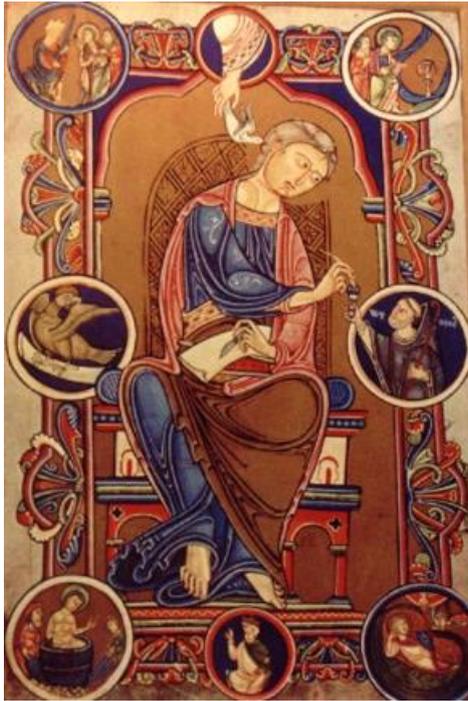


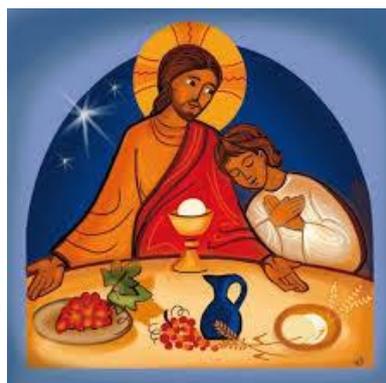
St Mary's, Inverness: Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: Day ONE.



Reflection: The beloved Apostle, St John the Evangelist was close to the Heart of Jesus and is thus the Patron of this devotion. During the Last Supper he leaned his head upon the bosom of Jesus. His gesture of reclining upon Jesus' breast expressed faithful trust and brotherly confidence, a familiarity between Disciple and Master. He was at the foot of the Cross and received from Jesus Himself the role as a son to be Protector of the Virgin Mary (Jn 19:26-27), and Mary was given the Motherhood of the Apostolic Church in the person of the Apostle John.

'Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved'.
[Douai Rheims]

Before beginning our Novena Prayers we imagine what this was like for St John, being as it were, 'heart to heart' with Jesus. We see loving familiarity in which there is reciprocity of understanding.



+ 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

