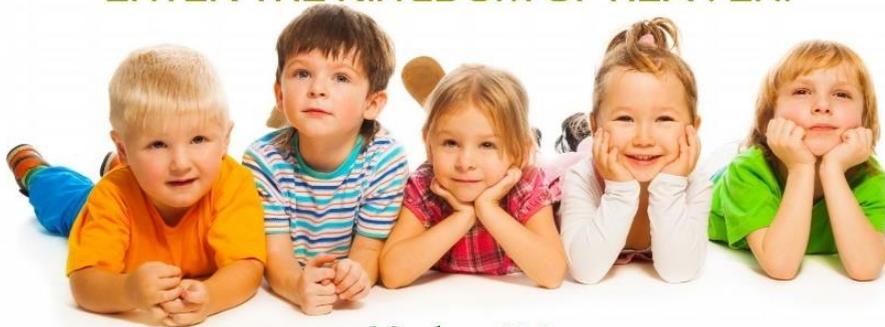


## The Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: Day 4

**Reflection:** *Matthew 18:1-5, 10*

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' He called a child, whom he put among them,

AND JESUS SAID: "TRULY I TELL YOU,  
UNLESS YOU CHANGE AND BECOME  
LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN, YOU WILL NEVER  
ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN."



Matthew 18:3

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Children are trusting, full of wonder, tender and, of course, vulnerable.

How do we see ourselves in relation to God, are we puffed up and self-important, looking for preference?

And what about children, for whom we have an awesome responsibility, do seek to nurture and care for them?

Prayer: Lord, all I am and have is your gift. Help me learn from the spontaneity of children. Lord, grant me a childlike heart to allow you to create with me ever new possibilities even as I age. Give me Lord, a caring heart to look out for the little ones that they do not stumble.



+ 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

