

July 20

- 1874 *Decree of approbation of the MSC Institute.*
1926 *Death of Mgr. L. Couppé, first Vicar Apostolic of New Pomerania (Rabaul, PNG), at Douglas Park (AUS).*

The necessity of reparation (1)

The Son of God wants everyone he has redeemed
to be associated in his work of reparation,
so that there might be harmony
between his Heart and ours (*Col 1: 24*).

The work of reparation did not stop on Calvary.
It continues on our altars,
because the torrent of wickedness
does not cease for an instant to flow sadly on
through generation after generation
of humanity.

Constantly in the state of victim,
Jesus offers to his Father,
in expiation for all the sins of the world,
the same sacrifice he offered on the cross.
His adorable Heart, in his mystical immolation,
repairs unceasingly the offenses committed;
his continual and perfect oblation
is like a hymn of praise
that covers the noise of blasphemies and outrage.
On the table of sacrifice or in the tabernacle,
Jesus Christ utters a cry,
not of vengeance or of justice,
but of mercy and pardon.

(*SC, p. 217*)

July 21

- 1873 *The MSC General Council decides to send Father Chappel to Toronto.*
- 1878 *Father Chevalier leaves Issoudun for his 10th journey to Rome.*
- 1896 *Appointment of Fr. H. Linckens, MSC, as Provincial of the newly-erected German MSC Province, and Superior of the MSC Mission House, Hiltrup (D).*
- 1982 *Father E.J. Cuskelly, former Superior General, appointed auxiliary of Brisbane (AUS), is ordained at Brisbane.*

The necessity of reparation (2)

Jesus has made the Eucharist
the summary of all his gifts,
the supreme expression of his love for us.
People mostly respond to these wonders of kindness
with ingratitude or contempt.
Listen to what Jesus said in these last times
to Blessed Margaret Mary:
"See, my daughter, how sinners treat me
and despise me."
Then he showed himself to her
as an *Ecce Homo*, lacerated and disfigured,
completely covered with wounds and bruises,
his adorable blood flowing all over his body;
he said to her in a sad and sorrowing voice:
"Is there no one who would have pity on me,
who would want to suffer with me
and take part in my sorrow,
in this pitiable state in which sinners put me,
especially at present?"

(SC, p. 217f)

July 22

- 1939 *Canonical erection of the Canadian MSC Province and of the MSC Province of the United States.*
- 1970 *Erection of Switzerland as MSC Section.*
- 1970 *Pinheiro, Brazil, entrusted to the Italian MSC since 1946, is erected as a Section.*

The necessity of reparation (3)

Jesus had already said in the Apocalypse
that the apathy of a tepid soul
sickens him (*Apoc 3: 15, 16*).
And St. Paul states
that those who abandon themselves to evil-doing
crucify again the Son of God
and expose him to public shame (*Heb 6: 6*).
But Jesus Christ, today glorified and impassible,
cannot suffer;
the expressions in question are figurative;
God uses them to accommodate himself
to our way of speaking;
we would be wrong to take them
in their normal sense used for human beings.
This is true.
But surely God speaks in order to say something;
his word could not cover over a lie.

(SC, p. 218)

July 26

- 1891 Fathers Chevalier and Piperon leave for Salzburg to visit the community.*
- 1921 Leon Bourjade, French aviation hero, is ordained an MSC priest.*
- 1946 The first team of MSC missionaries from the USA depart to PNG to help rebuild that mission severely damaged during World War II.*

What does reparation involve? (1)

Reparation is one of the main purposes of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

All Christians are called by Our Lord himself to walk this path.

It involves many acts, the most important are: knowledge, adoration, love, satisfaction, prayer, praise, supplication, thanksgiving, imitation, union with Jesus Christ, zeal for his glory, for souls, for mortification.

To repair the insults the Heart of Jesus receives, we must in the first place make a serious effort to realize his dignity, his excellence, his greatness, his love, his suffering,

the treasures of grace his Heart contains, in a word, whatever makes him worthy of the admiration of heaven and earth.

This knowledge is indispensable.

How could one render homage to someone whose nature and qualities are unknown?

It is impossible to seek enthusiastically something that we hardly even appreciate; and even more so if we do not even know it.

How rare are those who make a serious effort to gain this knowledge of the Heart of Jesus!

(SC, p. 222f)

July 27

- 1878 *Father Chevalier visits the Cardinal Protector of the MSC, Monaco La Valletta, and the Spanish Minister, in connection with the acquisition of the church of St. James.*
- 1891 *Fathers Chevalier and Piperon arrive in Salzburg.*
- 1893 *Mgr. Navarre has an audience with Pope Leo XIII.*

What does reparation involve? (2)

If knowledge of the Sacred Heart leads to adoration; it also produces *love*.
What is this divine Heart?
Infinite goodness, love itself, mercy incarnate.
So we should love him, not only because all possible perfection is eminently his but also because of his warmth towards us that knows no bounds.
We should love him because of the immense benefits he heaps on us; and all the favours he does not cease to lavish upon us every day despite our sins.
Our love for him, therefore, should be generous, active and constant.
"Let us therefore love God, since he first loved us" (1 John 4: 19).
Thus, we shall naturally share his joy and sorrow, we shall be grieved over whatever may trouble, afflict and sadden him.
We shall try to stop the arrows directed against him; generously we shall shield him from them, and vigorously repulse them.
We shall not shrink from any trouble, from any sacrifice to please him.
We shall accept all suffering to console him.
"Our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active" (1 John 3: 18).
(SC, p. 223f)

July 28

- 1897 *Erection of the Apostolic Vicariate of the Gilbert Islands (Kiribati), distinct from the Apostolic Vicariate of Micronesia, entrusted to the MSC since 1881. Mgr. Leray, MSC, is the first Apostolic Vicar.*

What does reparation involve (3)

We will pray to him with all the fervour of which we are capable.
Prayer consoles, prayer disarms, prayer obtains all things (Sir 35: 21).
At times it takes the form of petition or praise, at times thanksgiving or gratitude.
Prayer, even by itself so efficacious, becomes as it were all powerful when united with the sentiments of Jesus' Heart, and when we imitate the example he gave us; because then God sees in us the image of his Son, through the reproduction of his virtues in us: "I have given you an example so that you will do just what I have done to you" (John 13: 15; Phil 2: 5).
And then God will show himself well-disposed towards whatever we desire (Rom 8: 29f).
We shall feel ourselves burning with zeal to promote the glory of the Heart of Jesus, to extend his kingdom, to win souls, to make him reign everywhere.
In this way we shall repair the offenses committed against him.

(SC, p. 224)