

September 16

1894 "Accepting the proposal of Father Ramot, the following Fathers were appointed as local councillors: for Antwerp, Fathers Linckens and Meyer; for Tilburg, Fathers Peeters and Kicken; for Salzburg, Fathers Kuntz and Balzer." (*Acts of the MSC General Council*)

The Heart of Jesus in early tradition.

The Church of Lyons was founded by a disciple of St. Polycarp, who had the personal privilege of having St. John the Evangelist as his teacher. Towards the middle of the second century the Church there suffered a cruel persecution. Several of its members were martyred. Their generous struggles are mentioned in a letter to the faithful of Asia and Phrygia, believed to be written by St. Irenaeus. In this precious document, preserved for us by the historian Eusebius, one can read these remarkable words: "The deacon Sanctus, one of these glorious athletes, remained firm and unshakeable in his witness, because he was bathed and strengthened by the heavenly spring of living water that flows from *the Heart of Christ.*"

A century later, we hear these outstanding words of St. Cyprian: "It is by virtue of the death of Christ that the sentence condemning us was torn up, our sins wiped away and our freedom restored. By a special privilege, the decree of pardon was stamped with the seal of *the wound in the side of Jesus.*" O Christian, observe the depth of that wound and learn from it the extent of Christ's love. By that wound the true spring has been opened for you, *the Heart of Jesus.* Now you can enter it. So go inside, it has room for all that you are."

(SC, p. 14f)