

## *Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

*Lord Jesus, thank you for Your example of compassion. My own heart easily gravitates to myself and my own interests. I do care about others, but only up to a certain point, and I miss a lot because my heart doesn't always "see" the ways yours does. You weren't indifferent to anyone; every single person was important and precious to you. Let me start today to see people the way you see them, as dear people entrusted to my care.*

*I realize, Lord, that to do this I will need to think less of myself, and be willing to go beyond my comfort zone. If I truly want a heart like Yours, I need to be bothered with others' concerns and become more selfless and more compassionate.*

*Lord you saw things very clearly. You kept Your priorities straight, even when tempted by tantalizing offers or threatened with horrible punishments. Help my heart to recognize the true value of things, and keep my priorities as clear as Yours. Remind me often that everything here is passing, and only heaven lasts forever.*

*Make me, Lord, an apostle of joy. In a world filled with anguish and pain, Help me to fill with joy the hearts of your people who hunger and thirst for the joy that only You can give. Let joy be the gift I offer to others and to You as well.*

*Lord, You have shown us the completeness of character by the beauty of virtue you revealed and lived. The reality of these efforts at the same time frightens me. It seems to go beyond what I feel capable of. I have so many fears, so many doubts, and so much timidity where I should have strength. Live in me, Lord Jesus; make Your virtuous heart live in me so that my virtue and love are Your virtue and love.*

*Lord, You simply obeyed with full freedom, full consent, and a heart filled full of love. I see in your example how love perfects freedom. Make my heart more docile, so that the Father's Will may become my food, as it was for you. And let me lead this effort with all the joy, peace, and compassion of a child in his Father's arms. I ask this through Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns forever with the Father and Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.*