

Each year we celebrate many special feast days throughout the year. One special feast day that we celebrate is called the feast of the Sacred Heart. This year that takes place on Friday June 16^{th} , 2023.

Why do we celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart?

Devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to Jesus and his love. A devotion is something that people do or say to show their love for God and Jesus. The prayer "O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in Thee" is often used.

It is a sign or a symbol of both the divine and human love that Jesus has for his Father and for us. It reminds us that God loves us unconditionally. He loves us for ourselves, not as we should be, or possibly could be, but just as we are. Jesus is interested in a person's heart, that place where you are most yourself. That is the place where the real encounter with his father takes place. In Ireland, it was a tradition to have an outdoor altar to the Sacred Heart. A picture or a statue of the Sacred Heart was placed there. The children in the house would place fresh flowers there every day.

a Salesian

I know you love learning new things and that you have lots of questions about God and religion so I thought you might share some of these questions with my friends, the Salesians. They are looking forward to answering your questions. I will share the questions and answers with you all so we can share the learning as we journey together.

Please send your questions to Toby's page, **c/o Salesian House**, **45 St. Teresa's Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12, D12 XK52** or email them to me at **toby@salesiansireland.ie**.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Toby



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