

NOVENA TO SAINT JOHN PAUL II

DAY 1 – LOVE

Have the courage to live for love... A person's greatness lies not in his possessions but in who he is, not in what he owns but in what he shares with others.

(...) Today the message about purity of heart is very timely. The culture of death wants to destroy the purity of heart. One of its strategies is to deliberately create doubt about the value of the human attitude that we call the virtue of chastity. This is something particularly dangerous when the attack is aimed at the sensitive consciences of children and young people.

A culture that in this way wounds or even kills the correct relationship between individuals, is a culture of death, for man cannot live without true love. (...) Proclaim before the world "the Good News" of purity of heart, and by the example of your lives pass on the message of the culture of love. I know how sensitive you are to truth and beauty.

Today the culture of death sets before you, among other things, a so-called "free love." In this kind of disfigurement of love we reach the profanation of one of the most cherished and sacred values, for promiscuity is neither love nor freedom. (...)

Do not be afraid to live in a way contrary to fashionable opinions and ways of life in conflict with God's law. The courage of faith is costly, but you cannot gamble and lose love! Do not allow anyone to enslave you! Do not allow yourselves to be seduced by illusions of happiness for which you will have to pay a very high price, a price of often incurable wounds or even of a life destroyed!

John Paul II, Homily, June 12, 1999

Let us pray:

**God our Father, in order to return to You,
we must find Your mercy, Your patient and kind love,
which in You, knows no limit.**

**Your infinite mercy as shown by your readiness
to forgive our sins, is as ineffable
as the sacrifice of Your Son.**

**With confidence
we ask You to grant us Your graces ...
through Christ Our Lord.**

Amen.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be... Litany....

