

PRAYER *of the* GUILD *of the* MOST SACRED HEART *of* JESUS

(Modified from St. John Paul II's Letter to Artists, #16)

O Beauty Incarnate

May the beauty which we engender and pass on to generations still to come be such that it will stir them to wonder so that when humanity loses its way, it will be able to lift itself up and set out again on the right path.

Beauty is a key to the mystery and a call to transcendence. It is an invitation to savour life and to dream of the future. May Beauty stir that hidden nostalgia for God which a lover of beauty like Saint Augustine could express in incomparable terms: "Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you!"

May our many different paths all lead to that infinite Ocean of beauty where wonder becomes awe, exhilaration, unspeakable joy.

May we be guided and inspired by the mystery of the Risen Christ, whom the Church in these days contemplates with joy.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary be with us always: she who is the "tota pulchra" portrayed by countless artists, and is the "beauty that was joy in the eyes of all the other saints."

And may our efforts give the Church hope and affirm that true beauty which, as a glimmer of the Spirit of God, will transfigure matter, opening the human soul to the sense of the eternal.

We ask all this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen



WHAT *is the* GUILD *of the* MOST SACRED HEART *of* JESUS?

The Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus is a community of the faithful that seeks to promote and foster the expression of Beauty in public worship and contemporary culture, through pastoral, spiritual and theological accompaniment and programs centered around the pillars of Sacred Art, Sacred Music, Architecture, Literature, Pilgrimage, Eucharistic Adoration and Retreats.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Or interest in becoming a member?

Visit our webpage:

www.bridgeportdiocese.org/guilds/sacred-heart-guild

Email us: SacredHeartGuild@diobpt.org



GUILD

of the Most
Sacred Heart
of Jesus



"Beauty"

Our SPIRITUAL MISSION

The Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus exists to promote and foster the expression of Beauty in public worship and contemporary culture, enabling an encounter with the Lord Jesus the author of beauty.

The SPIRITUAL REQUIREMENTS

- To pray the Guild prayer every day
- Attend Annual Retreat Day and Guild Mass
- To attend two annual gatherings dedicated to prayer, theological formation and fellowship
- Attend periodic social, formative and specialized encounters of beauty that are open to public attendance.

ASPIRANCY *and* CONSECRATION

Those interested in becoming initiated members of the Guild of the Most Sacred Heart will go through a period of discernment and formation with the Director of Guilds. This period will include some reading and formation.

The aspirancy period will conclude with attending the annual Guild Retreat and Guild Mass where the aspirants will be inducted into the Guild by the Bishop of Bridgeport.

EVENTS

- We gather every year for our annual Retreat and Guild Mass for members, celebrated by the bishop.
- We gather twice a year for formation evenings, hosted by the bishop. This will include dinner, followed by prayer and a presentation and discussion with a guest speaker.
- We host periodic gatherings of prayer, formation and fellowship for new and prospective members.

Our COMMITMENTS

- We strive to live our Catholic faith through radical holiness and personal prayer, especially by reciting the Guild prayer daily for our members.
- We foster a personal love for God the Father, for Jesus Christ and commitment to Him as Lord, and a personal openness to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and openness to all His gifts.
- We participate in the sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly, especially attendance at Sunday Mass and Eucharistic adoration.
- We live a deep love for and loyalty to the Catholic Church and her teachings, as expressed through the Church's Magisterium authority, which includes the Pope and the bishops in communion with him, and serve as guides in matters of faith and morals.
- We foster a personal love for and devotion to Mary, the Mother of Beauty, mother and model of all Christians, and the most beautiful of all God's creation.
- Offer witness to and reverence for the evangelical power of beauty in all its forms and to engage all we encounter steeped in the love of Beauty Incarnate.

