

MONTMARTRE

Revered scene where the first martyrs of Paris met their death, and site of a famous abbey of Benedictine nuns, visited by Saint Bernard, Saint Joan of Arc, Saint Ignatius Loyola, Saint Francis Xavier, Bérulle (founder of the Oratorians) and Olier.

THE BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART

This Basilica, in Romano-Byzantine style, was built, as the mosaic above the choir reminds us, to accomplish a vow made in consequence of the extreme need of France and of the Church in 1870. Despite the obstacles encountered by the builders, work was brought to a successful conclusion thanks to a law passed by the National Assembly and above all to the countless humble offerings sent from all over France. Saint Theresa of the Infant Jesus, Father de Foucauld, the poet Max Jacob, the painter Utrillo, Pius XII, John XXIII often prayed here, as well as the ordinary people, in times of distress : 1914, 1940, Budapest, Algeria.

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Above the high altar a monstrance containing the bread which has become the body of Christ through the mass, has been solemnly exposed since 1885 for the uninterrupted adoration of men during the night and of everyone during the day. Those who take part in this prayer of adoration are the link between Christ and the people of their social sphere, of their country and of the entire world which the far-reaching view from the parvis enables them better to recall to mind.

Every Sunday : 11 a.m. High mass with the Little Singers of Montmartre — 6. p.m. and 10.15 p.m. Last masses.
Every Friday : 3 p.m. Biblical meditation sung in French.
Chaplain at the disposal of all to the right of the entrance.

ENGLISH

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THE HEART OF CHRIST

In the Bible, the heart is the living centre of thought, will and feeling. Through the Gospel we can have an idea of the Heart of Christ. Filled with a boundless love of God and of men he has reconciled them by his sacrifice. Risen from the dead, he is still living and communicates to all his light, strength and love. That is why his Heart is represented symbolically with a crown of thorns and flames of fire.

Non-Christians. Here you may find an answer to the problems which necessarily arise in your life — your self realization, the value of your efforts, your relations with others. Here at least is a prayer which you can murmur without the slightest hypocrisy.

Oh God whom they call Love, if you exist, enlighten me.

Non-Catholic Christians. Try to understand your Catholic brethren. Here in this basilica there is no superstition, but an acute attention to the love of Christ, a silent worshipping of his perpetual presence among men, a constant meditation of what the Scripture reveals about him, a carrying out of the communion of saints in view of the unity for all Christians. Say at least with your brothers.

Our Father

Catholics negligent perhaps, or who may have come up just to pray for help, listen to the call from the monstrance and remember a priest is always at your disposal to reconcile you with God.

*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.*

For without me ye can do nothing.

They that be whole need not a physican, but they that are sick.

*For I am not come to call the righteous,
but sinners to repentance.*

*I am come that they might have life,
and that they might have it more abundantly
— My Lord and my God.*