


  
 Patrons of Parishis
   
 THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS


 UR readers have no doubt all heard of the Blessed Margaret Mary. They know that her name is intimately connected with the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They will be happy, we consider, to have some details on the sublime revelations with which she was blessed and which gave rise to this beautiful devotion now spread throughout the whole world.

Our Lord did not teach his merciful designs to his servant all at once; he led her by three successive stages to the end that he had in view. By three different revelations he thoroughly enlightened her.

It was in 1673. Marguerite was only twenty six years old and had hardly been a professed Visitandine nun for a year when she received her first revelation from the Heart of Jesus. That divine heart, as she herself writes in a letter, appeared to her resplendent on all sides, more brilliant than the sun and transparent as crystal. The wound that he received on the cross was visible. There was a crown of thorns around the divine heart with a cross above it.

During this first revelation Our Lord made her rest her head for a long while on his breast. He told her that he could no longer contain in his heart the love that he felt for mankind, and that he would make use of her to make its marvels known to the world. This was a first step.

A year later, in 1674, Marguerite Marie was, as at the time of her first revelation, in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, when Our Lord again showed himself to her but under a much more magnificent aspect than before. « After I had felt quite withdrawn into myself, » she relates, « by an extraordinary recollection, Jesus Christ, my sweet Master, presented himself