



# The Holy See

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APOSTOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA

**PRAYER OF JOHN PAUL II  
ON OCCASION OF THE VISIT TO  
THE CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART**

*Delhi (India)*

*Saturday, 1st February 1986*

*Dear Archbishop Fernandes,  
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

In the solemn joy of this moment, as I begin my pastoral visit to India and as I consecrate the Archdiocese of Delhi to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, let our first action be to praise and bless our God. Let us glorify him for his love for the world which is shown to us in the heart of his Son. In the human heart of the Son of Mary the eternal love of God came to abide; and through Christ's human life, and especially through his death on the Cross, the tender mercy of God was revealed.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life". This is the Good News of our Redemption. This is the saving message of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is the Gospel which I have come here today to proclaim to you.

During these days I wish also with you to show my respect and esteem – beyond the limits of the Church – to every person in India. In this too we are impelled by the love of Christ.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, Burning Fire of Love, have mercy on us and make our hearts like your own.

"Grazie per ciò che sei  
e per ciò che fai"

Lord Jesus Christ,

Redeemer of the human race,  
to your most Sacred Heart  
we turn with humility and trust,  
with reverence and hope,  
with a deep desire to give to you  
glory and honour and praise.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Saviour of the world,  
we thank you for all that you are  
and all that you do for the little flock  
and all the twelve million people  
living in this Archdiocese of Delhi,  
which includes those entrusted  
with the stewardship of this nation.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the Living God,  
we praise you for the love  
that you have revealed  
through your Sacred Heart,  
which was pierced for us  
and which has become the fountain  
of our joy, the source of our eternal life.

Gathered together in your Name,  
which is above all other names,  
we consecrate ourselves to your most Sacred Heart,  
in which dwells the fullness of truth and charity.

In consecrating themselves to you,  
the faithful of the Archdiocese of Delhi  
renew their desire to respond in love  
to the rich outpouring of your merciful love.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of love and Prince of peace,  
reign in our hearts and in our homes.  
Conquer all the powers of evil  
and bring us to share in the victory of your Sacred Heart.  
May all we say and do give glory

and praise to you and to the Father  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God living  
and reigning for ever and ever. Amen.

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