

18 May 2021

18 MAY – ST. RAPHAELA’S DAY

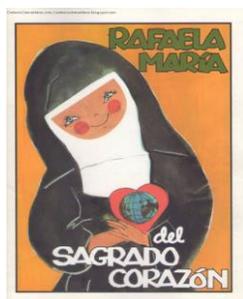
Rafaela Maria felt deeply loved by God and decided to give herself to Him in humble service to her brothers and sisters, especially the poorest. Attentive to the needs of her time, and in response to the call of the Lord to follow Him in a more radical way, she and her sister Pilar founded the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with the fundamental mission of making reparation to the Heart of Jesus, working with Him to repair the world destroyed by sin.



With apostolic zeal, our Saint worked to enlarge the Kingdom. She said: "The heart of a Handmaid should not be limited to a certain number of people, but to the whole world, because all are children of the Heart of our Good Jesus and all have cost Him all His blood". Raphaela made the Eucharist the centre of her life and worked tirelessly to "Put Christ to the Adoration of all peoples".

God, Our Father, who by the path of humility and total surrender to the Heart of your Son, inspired St. Raphaela Mary to holiness, give us by her intercession a profound love to Jesus in the Eucharist and let our lives be transformed through generous work for the reparation of the peoples.

For Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen



Dear Friends of the ACI Famy: we pray to St. Raphaela to help us grow in humility and simplicity, and only thus, as she said, shall we attract the blessings of God. Let us be peaceful and joyful, patient and grateful, wishing to serve God and to give witness of His Love in our daily lives.

Let us be united in prayer for the end of the pandemic and of war. Let us ask the intercession of St. Raphaela for all the victims and their families, in these times of pain. Let us pray to the Lord of Life to comfort and fill them with hope.

Claudia Iwanica, Isabel Branco, Juan Jairo Lavarde, Silvestra Bardeskar, Vanessa Amarelle, Sr. Brigit Viji, Sr. Pilar Guzmán, Sr. Maria Vaz Pinto
International Commission of the ACI Family