

Liturgical Living: Month of the Precious Blood

Traditionally, the Catholic devotion for the month of July is the Precious Blood of Our Lord. During this month, Catholics are encouraged to meditate on the profound sacrifice of Jesus and the pouring out of his blood for humanity.

Veneration of the Precious Blood, which is the first element in our devotion to the Precious Blood, means that we have a deep sensitivity to the awfulness of sin. Sin must be terrible. It must be awful. It must be the most dreadful thing in the universe. Why? Because the cost of our sin was the shedding of the blood of Jesus.

Falling right between June's devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and August's devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, July is an ideal time to connect our devotion to Jesus and Mary into deeper gratitude for the bond they share as well as to heighten our connection to the blood of the Lamb of God.

One way to celebrate this month's devotion while honoring the two hearts is to pray the Fatima Morning Offering each day of July:

*Precious Blood of Jesus, save us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Amen.*

What are some other ways to celebrate this month's devotion?

- If you do not receive the Precious Blood during Holy Communion at Mass, consider receiving it this month
- Go to Eucharistic Adoration (Immaculate Conception offers Adoration every Wednesday from 5-6:30pm and Fridays from 10-4)
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, remembering the moment when blood and water gushed forth from the heart of Jesus
- Add [this prayer to the Precious Blood](#) to your Grace before meals prayer for the month
- Pray [this litany](#) of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus
- Pray [this chaplet](#) of the Precious Blood
- Do a good deed as a family and demonstrate the sacrificial love of Jesus to others

Have you ever heard of the practice of sealing your doorposts? Just as the Israelites sealed their doorposts with the Blood of the Lamb in dark times, we can seal ours with the Blood of the

Paschal Lamb. It is an outward sign of protection and an act of open-hearted trust in our Savior. The Marian Fathers teach that we can “seal our doorposts,” all year round, by placing a Divine Mercy Image on our doors. [Read all about it here.](#)

For young and elementary-age children, check out [this beautiful lesson and craft](#) teaching how the blood of Jesus can wash away our sins.

You can also find free coloring pages [here](#) and [here](#).

"Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that It was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."

~ Pope Clement