

In today's readings, we hear St. Paul and Our Lord giving stern warnings to those who would set themselves as judges over others. In a sense, we may miss the minor aspects of judgement ... instead claiming that we are just calling it as we see it, or some may see an opportunity to hide behind their criticisms of others in order to boost a low self-esteem.

Yet, God's "*kindness*" ... His "*priceless kindness, forbearance, and patience*" are always offered to us ... and to others. Instead of being critical or judging others, we should instead pray for God's mercy for them.

Today is the Memorial of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a French Visitation nun who lived in the late 17th century ... a mystic who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This devotion was fostered by the Jesuits, but due to controversies with the order and the Church, took nearly 75 years to become widespread in the Church.

There is nothing radically new in the revelations, rather, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus reminds us that Jesus desires for us to be subject to His mercy, and to offer Him reparation for our failures and those of others ... because of His love for us, and His desire to teach us to love God.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ ... let us pray for a deeper love of God ... of Christ ... and of the Holy Mysteries we experience in the Sacraments and the Mass.

May we subject ourselves to the mercy of Christ, and pray for His mercy on the whole world.