

# FORMATION OF JESUS IN US BY LIVING HIS STATES AND MYSTERIES

Fourth Year | 1



## THE "MYSTERY OF MYSTERIES"

The "mystery of mysteries" of our Christian life, that we know well and repeat often, is the formation of Jesus in us. The renewed and massive use of this expression of Saint John Eudes, taken from Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians (4: 19), is preceded by his personal experience as a loving disciple of Jesus. John Eudes lives another expression of the same letter to the Galatians: "yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me;" (2: 20), the most cited verse in all his works. This is because he had the experience of the interior life of Christ in him, that Saint John Eudes, like Saint Paul, wants his readers and listeners to have; the same experience of welcoming in themselves the life, sentiments, dispositions, and the spirit of Jesus. He is animated by a great desire: to know Jesus, to give everything to Jesus, to live only for Him and in Him. This will lead him to wish that the Heart of Jesus be his heart, or even more, he discovers an incredible gift: Jesus lives in him His immense love, He has given him His Heart! Incredible gift that goes beyond what you can imagine! John Eudes is passionate about Christ and wants everyone he meets to be passionate as well. And, it is worth being men and women passionate about Christ!



To begin this fourth year of the “Forming Jesus in us” spiritual itinerary, we are going to listen to the ardor, passion and enthusiasm of Saint John Eudes, with all the love he could experience for Jesus his Lord.

## TEXT OF SAINT JOHN EUDES

*John Eudes, On the holy name of Jesus, O.C. XII, 190-191*

If I could trust myself, I do not want to have any other language than that of JESUS. I would never say or write but this word: JESUS. It seems to me that the tongue that once uttered it and the pen that once wrote this adorable name and this divine word, JESUS, should not say or write anything else again. By saying JESUS, everything has been said. And after having said JESUS, there is no more to say. JESUS is an abbreviated word that summarizes in itself everything that is possible to think and say of what is great. JESUS is an admirable name that, by its immense greatness, fills heaven and earth, time and eternity, all the spirits and hearts of angels and saints, and fills and occupies even for all eternity the infinite capacity of the Heart of God the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, if I but write this word, JESUS, and go all over the universe shouting incessantly and calling out no other name than JESUS, JESUS, JESUS, I would have said enough to completely fill all the spirits and hearts of the inhabitants of the earth. And it would be possible to speak and be understood without uttering anything other than this sacred and kind word, JESUS, JESUS.

As long as my heart beats in my chest and my tongue prepares to speak and my hand to write, I will never preach or write anything other than JESUS. I do not want to have life, nor spirit, nor tongue, nor pen, but to announce with my lips and in writing the wonders and mercies of this glorious Name. Who will give me a seraphic and divine tongue and pen to pronounce and write this divine Name with dignity? But I would rather a heart to love Him than a pen and a tongue to write and talk about Him. Lord, you can give me the one and the other. It is what I expect from your infinite goodness. The name of JESUS is so full of holiness that it would not be necessary, but to pronounce it just once with dignity to be completely holy. If all sinners on earth and in hell could pronounce it once properly, they would destroy in them the hell of sin and establish there a paradise of holiness.

### FINAL PRAYER:

Oh Good Jesus! Who is there who would not wish to love You? Who would not desire to love ever more and more such lovable goodness? My God, my life and my all, I cannot be content to tell You that I desire to love You as perfectly as possible, and that I desire it so much that, if it were possible, I should will my whole spirit to be transformed into wishing, my whole soul into desire, my heart into yearning, my life into longing. (O.C. I, 385)

### FOR YOUR PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Return to the text of Saint Paul in Galatians (2:20) and interiorize:

1. What does JESUS mean in my life?
2. In what way do I live the life of Jesus in me?
3. Create a prayer of love to Jesus.

