

## *New Man and New World*



### CHEVALIER, IN HIS TIME...

#### **His life:**

Jules Chevalier's friend and faithful companion since his seminary days, Fr. Piperon, wrote about him that when he allowed himself to be imbued by the vision of Jesus from his Heart, the ultimate revelation of God's love for the world, his life changed considerably and he began a process that led him to be kind, overcoming his dry and distant attitude towards others; tender and compassionate, overcoming his severity and extreme austerity; always ready to forgive and to apologise. Fr Piperon used to say that if anyone wanted to get anything from Jules, he had to become his enemy. This existential experience of Chevalier's led him to think that, if the knowledge of the Love of God revealed in the Heart of Christ changed him so much, the same could happen to the world if it knew the boundless Love of God. And he set out with his character and temperament renewed by love to work for a new world: 'May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved', was his motto and is our congregational motto.

#### **His words:**

"When your Heart will be totally formed by the love of all hearts and by their fusion into one, it will be the kingdom of peace in justice and truth" (Mgr Baudry, quoted by Chevalier, S 84).

"From the Heart of the incarnate Word, pierced on Calvary, I see the birth of a new world..." (Cfr. S 119). "Jesus is the new man. In his human heart, God offers himself to men as a model to imitate, as an example to follow and presents himself to them as the source of virtues" (S 20).

"It is not enough for Jesus to give humankind a certain likeness to Himself. This would be enough for the honour and happiness of people, but it would not be enough for the infinite goodness of God. God wants something more, and out of love He gives Himself to us" (Cfr S 240).

"When God wills a work, obstacles are means to Him. He laughs at human wisdom; He confounds its forecasts; He calls to life what, according to it, should never see the light of day; He develops and fortifies in fruitfulness what it had condemned to die" (J. Ch. 1870).



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### CHEVALIER, FOR TODAY...

Sometimes we ask ourselves, looking at our reality, where are we heading to? We cannot deny that discouragement, which sometimes overtake us. We know from reading Genesis that God left the whole of creation in the hands of human beings. And we see what we have done and are doing with and to it. We are destroying our planet and undoing humanity. Revelation tells us of the solution and the final triumph. **By living the spirituality of the heart we discover that the new has already begun, it is in concrete people who believe in the power of love. God is love and as we are created in his image and likeness. In love we find the power of change for a new world: "Something new is rising, do you not see it?" (Is 43:19), says the Scripture, and we are the witnesses and the instruments of this new thing.**



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## **PRAYER FOR THE MONTH**

"I have loved you with an everlasting love,  
says God to me.  
To me, to me in particular.  
God has loved me like this.  
Me, a sinner.  
God and I, what a distance!  
Infinity and nothingness.  
And this nothingness, God has loved it".  
I have loved you with an everlasting love,  
God tells us.  
To us in particular, as each one of us is.  
God loves us.  
We are chosen, we are loved,  
and God shows us his closeness,  
his tenderness, his forgiveness and affirms  
that everything we do to others we do to him.  
By loving we change the world.

Amen.

(R 17-18)

