

# A LOOK AT THE PASSIONIST 300th JUBILEE ICON

## I The Passion

### 01 THE PASSION OF THE SON

In the bosom of the Trinity, being born and expressing the Passion of the Father's love for his creation and his creatures and the communion of Love that God is, giving himself in the Spirit. The halo of glory and light that envelops and sanctifies everything. Angels surround and sustain the glory of God that opens up to humanity. And, close to the Crucified Lord, they show the holy divinity in his crucified humanity.

### 02 THE CRUCIFIED SON

He embraces time and pours out his life from the cross, making God's holy love visible. With his head inclined, his body surrendered, his hands nailed, welcoming and protecting, which give God's life together with his, in abundance, to humanity. With his right arm he welcomes his mother; his extended left arm is open to St. Paul of the Cross, to his companions-sons and to all humanity.

### 03 THE CROSS THAT BEARS HIM

implanted in the earth, it profoundly pierces the depths of the *mysterium iniquitatis* which is imprisoned and, despite its mysterious seductive power, is conquered and annihilated.

## II The Mother and the Disciple

### 04 THE NEW CALVARY

the Mother turns her eyes and inclines her head toward the Son from whom the gift of the Spirit comes. With her right hand she demonstrates compassion, and she wishes to console her Son with her handkerchief, like a new Veronica, aiding and caressing the bloody face of the Beloved. With her left hand she points to her Son and embraces Him, the source and origin of new life, as He takes his final breath.

### 05 ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

As a new Beloved Disciple, with his recollected gaze, he welcomes the

gift of the Son, with the attitude of a mother. Dressed in the garb of the Passion, deep mourning and living memory, with his right hand he touches his heart, that has become a memorial to the Crucified Lord. He begs-- engrave in me, oh tender Mother, the wounds of your beloved Son, crucified for love of me. With his left hand he summons new companions who together with him are clothed and sent to be a living memorial of his Crucified Love. Together with him they are summoned, transformed, gathered as brothers, sent and consecrated to his Passion and through his Passion.

At the foot of both the new garden grows beneath the new sky and in the new earth. It's the fruit of wheat that germinates with a new vegetation, a new paradise of fraternity, the primordial presence of the Kingdom of God.

## III The Instruments of the Passion

### 06 AT THE TOP OF THE TWO WINDOWS THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE PASSION

The column of the flagellation, the spear that pierced his side, the nails that pierced his hands and feet, the cross on which the Lord died. The vessel of gall and vinegar. All the instruments of death and destruction are now instruments of new life; the devices that caused the wounds have healed us; the heritage and sacrament of the battered body and the blood that was shed with which we are fed and saved. It is the angels who announce the final victory achieved in the Lord's Passion, the triumph of good and love, the Easter of Creation and the History of Humanity.

## IV New witnesses of the love of God Crucified

### 07 THEY SURROUND AND SUSTAIN THE PASSION IN OUR HEART

The charisma, that is born from "the passion" being in our "heart",



new sons and daughters contemplate and welcome the charisma of our Father, Paul of the Cross, the Mystery of God's love, expressed in the wonderful work of the Passion. **7A Saint Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin**, sustained by the Mother at the foot of the Cross, allows himself to be shaped into a glowing sign in his youth by the work of God's love, bridging and arousing an insatiable desire for completeness, happiness and gratitude. **7B Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God**, seduced by her maternal affec-

tion and eager to make all Christians attain, beyond confessional limits, the universal language of God's love, the source of unity that stems from the Cross, in order to break down all walls, and invite everyone to the one faith in God revealed in Jesus Christ, which makes the Church "a universal sacrament of salvation". **7C Saint Gemma Galgani**, a lay Passionist, the fruit of Christ's Passion, "the flower-fruit of his wounds", seduced by her Crucified Lord and eager to participate in his Passion of love and salva-

tion for the world. Together with Him, she offers herself to God the Father, a sympathetic lover of those most in need. **7D Blessed Isidore De Loor**, the Passionist Brother of the "will of God", who made his life a silent and loving offering to God and humanity, suffusing the everyday events of his life and that of his brothers, with the fragrance of deferential love that finds its joy in giving life, in the image of the Lord from whom he received life.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Text and catechesis by:  
Fr. José Luis Quintero