



6. 'FIRST FRIDAY' PRAYER

(There is a venerable tradition that the first Friday of every month, except during Lent or when there is a Feast to be observed, is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. In the Roman Catholic Church the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion and, if necessary make their Confession. The Blessed Sacrament is often exposed for veneration on an altar during Holy Hour. Whilst this tradition is not common in the Anglican Communion, nonetheless some of its practices are to be encouraged and the following Prayer, taken for 'Celebrating Common Prayer', could be used on the First Friday in place of the Collect)



Merciful God,
whose Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
was moved with compassion for all who had gone astray
and with indignation for all who had suffered wrong:
inflame our hearts with the burning fire of your love,
that we may seek out the lost,
have mercy on the fallen
and stand fast for truth and righteousness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.