



Congregation of St. Pius V

# IMMACULATA



Immaculate Heart Seminary

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May 2023



Dear Friends and Benefactors,

This month we celebrate the glorious Feast of Our Lord's Ascension into Heaven. The Church has kept this feast since the time of the Apostles. Saint Augustine, who lived in the early 5th century, said that "the feast of the Ascension is of such antiquity that it was universally observed in the Church long before his time."

In His discourse at the Last Supper, Our Divine Savior said to the Apostles, "I go to prepare a place for you. . . . That where I am, you also may be" (John 14:2-3). He also addresses these words to us. The Ascension is the fulfillment of these words, for Our Lord went to Heaven on that occasion to prepare the place He promised. The Feast of the Ascension should thus remind us that we are not made for this world. We are made for Heaven. Heaven is our destiny, purpose, and goal. God created us to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him in this world, and to

be happy with Him forever in Heaven. This truth gives meaning and value to our lives, and it should fill us with hope and joy in this valley of tears.

As we go from day to day, let us not lose sight of life's purpose. The world and the things in it are distractions from our heavenly goal. We, therefore, must be on our guard lest we succumb to the world's influence and lose our way. To assist us in this endeavor, let us give the devout attendance at Mass place before other events and the frequent reception of the sacraments priority over other worldly engagements. Furthermore, we should ensure that our daily prayers come before entertainment and news and that the duties of our state in life take priority over the phone and tablet. These are some ways in which we can stay focused amid the distracting times in which we live, and they will help us remember that we are made for Heaven and ensure that we arrive there.

In the Sacred Heart,

*+James Carroll, C.S.P.V*

The Most Reverend James Carroll, C.S.P.V