



# Faith Formation

## Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Trivia Question:** The Holy Ghost Fathers arrived in Morrilton in January 1879, beginning our Catholic heritage for this area. By the close of March of the same year, three buildings had been erected on Monastery Ridge - a priests' residence, another for the brothers with kitchen and refectory, and a chapel dedicated to who?

**Answer:** The original chapel on Monastery Ridge was dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and could accommodate 200 people. Later, in January, 1890, the Monastery Ridge farmers began to construct the Immaculate Heart Church. When completed, it was a handsome Gothic structure 79 x 27. A short time later, as we know, the buildings on Monastery Ridge were destroyed by a tornado. Here is an account, provided by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny (our original school sisters), they provided to the motherhouse after that fateful day....

*"In the part of the country where we are, the heat is extreme for four months of the year. Storms are frequent and are usually accompanied by torrential rain. The fury of the storms are sometimes very frightening; one of those storms hit us on the Feast of St. Joseph 1891.*

*That Sunday, twenty of our pupils had made their First Communion (this occurred in the chapel in Morrilton), and the Mass of Thanksgiving was to be celebrated the next day in the Holy Ghost Fathers chapel (Immaculate Heart Church on Monastery Ridge) which is situated two and a half miles from Morrilton. The day was oppressive and in the evening, coming out of Vespers, we noticed that the sky was full of dark clouds which seemed to be growing darker and heavier by the minute in a sinister way. Shortly afterwards the hurricane burst with a tremendous fury and continued unabated throughout the night. The day before we had seen the clouds go towards the mountains on the side of the buildings and the Fathers' chapel, but we were far from foreseeing the terrible catastrophe which was to come. In a few seconds, the land was unrecognizable, the beautiful chapel which had been built at great cost, was destroyed from top to bottom as if an ax had sliced it. Nothing could be saved; it was with great difficulty that we were able to get the Sacred Species which was buried under the debris. As for the Father's house it would have suffered the same fate if it had not been for*

*two big trees which protected it. A worker in the house was bruised by a beam which fell on him; but with God's grace, there were no other persons hurt.*

*That day there seemed to be only anguish all around, but our astonishment was indescribable when we saw the statue of Our Lady of the Seven Dolours (Sorrows) without any damage. She was at a short distance from the chapel; the terrible wind only changed her position, and her face stayed turned towards Morrilton. What does this mean for us? Everywhere was full of debris and pieces of trees, and the gentle figure of Our Lady of Sorrows appeared more radiant than ever in the middle of the wild roses which surrounded her head."*

What an awesome account of the event and Our Lady's protection. This week we will focus our Facebook posts on the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

### Activity for Kids:

If your kids love to draw, check out this video from Catholic Icing's YouTube page on how to draw the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

[Catholic How To Draw: Sacred And Immaculate Hearts](#)



And here is a fun craft from the Catholic Icing website on how to make Sacred Heart and Immaculate Heart Rosaries:

[Sacred and Immaculate Heart Rosaries- A Fun Catholic Craft!](#)



Enjoy this short Immaculate

▶ Immacula...

video on the Heart of Mary.



Here is a beautiful free coloring page of the Immaculate Heart of Mary from The Catholic Kid website:

[Immaculate Heart of Mary Coloring Page](#)



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## Heart of Love, Heart of Mercy Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

O Most Blessed Mother,  
heart of love, heart of mercy,  
ever listening, caring,  
consoling,  
hear our prayer.  
As your children,  
we implore your intercession  
with Jesus your Son.  
Receive with understanding  
and compassion  
the petitions we place before  
you today,  
especially those so deep in our  
heart.  
We are comforted in knowing  
your heart is ever open to  
those who ask for your  
prayer.  
We trust to your  
gentle care  
and intercession,  
those whom we love  
and who are sick  
or lonely or hurting.  
Help all of us,  
Holy Mother,  
to bear our burdens  
in this life,  
until we may  
share eternal life  
and peace  
with God forever.  
Amen



*Anastpaul/20*