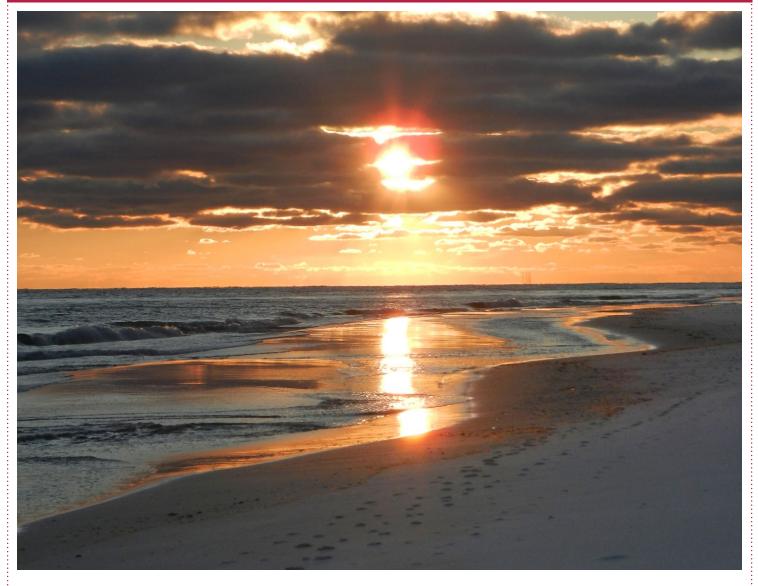
God on the Gulf Coast





## OUR DAWN AND OUR GOD

One pre-dawn morning during my retreat in Gulf Shores, Alabama, I was given a wonderful gift. As the black sky turned into dawn, the morning light pierced through the clouds and poured light out upon the entire sea. It was more than dawn beginning another day. It was the love of the pierced Heart of Christ poured out on the entire world.

Saint Madeleine Sophie, the foundress of our Society of Sacred Heart, wrote long ago, '[o]ur little Society was born when Jesus' heart was pierced on the cross, and blood and water flowed out.'

I think signs, symbols, and sacramentals have the power to draw us into the deepest realities of our faith, whether they be a sign in the sky, or a pierced heart on RSCJ profession crosses, Children of Mary medals, class rings, or water glasses. They are all reminders of the love of the Heart of Christ poured out on each of us and on our world, and of our call to share that love with all whom we encounter.



