



Enthronement
of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
For College Students

Enthroning the Sacred Heart

Rooted in the Church's early meditations on the pierced side of Christ, devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus gained significant momentum in the 17th century when Jesus revealed his Heart, burning with love for humanity, to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. In these revelations, Jesus expressed his desire to be honored in a special way through his Sacred Heart. Out of these revelations arose the tradition of the 12 Promises, according to which Jesus made various promises to those who venerate his Sacred Heart, including blessing every place where an image of his Heart is exposed and honored.

The ceremony of enthronement contained in this booklet, which can be used by individuals, students, and others to dedicate themselves to the Sacred Heart, is based on a version widely promoted in the early 20th century through the work of Father Mateo Crawley-Boevey, SS.CC.

Through the enthronement ceremony, participants recognize Christ's rule over their lives. They do this by placing an image of his Sacred Heart in a place of honor in their homes, dorm rooms, community rooms, or any other place they inhabit, renewing their commitment to be faithful disciples, and consecrating themselves to his Sacred Heart.

By enthroning the Sacred Heart, participants commit to living according to Christ's teachings and embrace a way of life rooted in his love, mercy and blessings.

How to Enthroner the Sacred Heart

1. Choose a date for the enthronement, such as the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a First Friday, or another suitable day.
2. Spiritually prepare for the enthronement.
 - During the nine days prior to the enthronement, you may recite the novena to the Sacred Heart, found on page 4.
 - Attend Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a date close to the ceremony.
3. In advance of the enthronement, invite your pastor or another priest to lead the ceremony. If he will not be present at the ceremony, ask him to bless the image of the Sacred Heart and sprinkle it with holy water in advance of the ceremony.
 - If a priest will not be leading the ceremony, one of the participants will lead it.
4. Choose a place of honor in your home, dorm room, community room, or any other place you inhabit where you can enthrone the image. A central location where the image will be visible is ideal. You may also hang a framed certificate of enthronement next to the image.
5. Identify a small table on which to place the image before the ceremony. If possible, the table should be in a different room so the image can be carried in procession to the place of honor.
6. Select a reader for the Scripture reading and intercessions.
7. Perform the enthronement on page 5.
8. Following the enthronement, continue to allow the Sacred Heart to reign in your life by practicing the devotions found on page 10.

Prayers in Preparation

It is necessary to prepare your soul to welcome the graces the enthronement and consecration will bring. Attend Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a date close to the ceremony. During the nine days preceding the enthronement, you may pray the Novena to the Sacred Heart.

Novena Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Before beginning the novena, choose petitions.

V In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

V O my Jesus, you have said: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). Behold I knock, I seek and ask for the grace of (*share your petitions here*).

Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

R Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

V O my Jesus, you have said: “Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you” (John 16:23). Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace of (*share your petitions here*).

Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

R Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

V O my Jesus, you have said: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away” (Matthew 24:35). Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace of (*share your petitions here*).

Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

R Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

V O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity me, a miserable sinner, and grant me the grace which I ask of you.

R Amen.

The Enthronement Ceremony

This ceremony may be performed by an individual or in a group.

Place the image of the Sacred Heart and the enthronement certificate on the small table you identified earlier. The ceremony will begin at this small table.

If a priest is present at the ceremony, he should bless the image of the Sacred Heart and sprinkle it with holy water.

If a priest is present, he begins:

Priest: In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All make the sign of the cross and reply:

All: **Amen.**

The priest greets all present using the following or other suitable introductory words:

Priest: Today is a blessed day. You have responded to the request of Jesus that he wishes to stay with you. Through the enthronement ceremony today you acknowledge Jesus as Lord, Savior, and King by enthroning his image in a place of honor. The image of Jesus revealing his Sacred Heart is the visible image of God's love. Renew your commitment, this day, to be [a] faithful disciple[s] of Jesus and to make his message of love known by word and example.

All of us present here join in prayer and in our hearts honor Jesus who is present among us and who lives and reigns forever with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

The leader then continues with the following commitment, or

If a priest is not leading the ceremony, the leader begins the ceremony with this prayer:

Leader: Today is a blessed day; with joy [I/we] accept the request of Jesus to welcome him into this place. In this ceremony that [I/we]

celebrate, [I/we] acknowledge Jesus as Lord, Savior, and friend by enthroning his image in a place of honor. The image of Jesus revealing his Sacred Heart is the visible image of God's love. [I/we] renew [my/our] commitment to be [a] faithful disciple[s] of Jesus, the King of Love, and to make his message of love known by word and example.

Reading of the Word of God

Reader: Let us listen to the words of the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Luke 19:1-10 – Zacchaeus wants to see Jesus

He came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."

If a priest is present, he may offer a brief reflection following the reading.

All present recite the Apostles' Creed, Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be

Intercessions

All present are invited to list their own petitions. The following are suggested petitions that may be used.

V Lord Jesus, you assured us that whatever we ask the Father in your name, he will give us. In your name and with great confidence we pray:

R Stay with us Lord.

For the grace of being faithful to our covenant with Jesus, and our new way of life in him, we pray. **R**

That the Holy Spirit may always find our hearts responsive to his call, we pray. **R**

For a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist, the great gift of the pierced heart of Jesus, we pray. **R**

That the Holy Spirit may heal all our hurts and remove from our hearts everything that prevents us from giving ourselves lovingly to Jesus and one another, we pray. **R**

For the intentions of our Holy Father the Pope, we pray. **R**

Lord Jesus, when you lived with the Mary and Joseph in Nazareth your heart grew in wisdom and blessings. Give us new hearts so that we may grow in mutual love and concern for our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

R Amen.

Act of Enthronement

The leader goes to the small table, takes the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and brings it in procession (if space permits) to the designated place of honor where the image will be enthroned.

As the leader enthrones the image, he says:

V [I/we] now proclaim Jesus as [my/our] Lord, King, and friend.

R [I/we] **praise the loving kindness of the Heart of our God.**

Consecration

All present express their covenant with the Lord. This is an act of consecration, an act of offering to God of all that one is and all that one has.

Participants: Lord Jesus, I recall your words in Scripture: “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, [then] I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me” (Revelation 3:20). I have heard your invitation, and today I respond to your covenant with me. I open the door of this place and ask you to stay with me; I open the door of my heart and welcome you. I acknowledge you as my Lord, King, and friend, and promise that I will always be your faithful disciple. I consecrate myself and everything I have to your Sacred Heart.

I ask for the gifts of your Sacred Heart, that I may be poor in spirit, merciful, pure of heart, a peacemaker, a good steward of creation, and concerned for justice, especially for the poor, the sick, and the unborn.

I ask that you stay with me always; increase my love for others; share in my joys, and comfort me in my sorrows. Inspire me with your love, so that I may be devoted to you, and so that this place may be a place of welcome to all, especially those in need. Help me to bring your message of love to all people. Amen.

Dedication to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

As the Apostles joined with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in the upper room in Jerusalem, the Father sent his Holy Spirit upon them. Now, through the help of her prayers, all present ask the Father to send the Spirit upon them so that they may be faithful to the commitment of their lives to Christ through this enthronement. All present entrust themselves to Mary as they pray:

Participants: Hail Mary, full of grace. Today, I dedicate myself to you, and entrust myself, to the loving care of your Immaculate Heart. You prayed with the Apostles in the upper room in Jerusalem, as they waited for the coming of the Spirit, pray for me now, that the Father may send his Holy Spirit upon me, and strengthen me to be faithful to my covenant to commit my life to Christ your Son.

Accept this offering of my faith and devotion; intercede for me, that I may be as leaven in the world for the transformation of society and the promotion of the social reign of the heart of Jesus.

Mother of fair love, pray for me, that my heart may become like the heart of Christ your Son, and that I may imitate the virtue of your Immaculate Heart, that magnifies the Lord, because he has done great things for you. Amen.

If a priest is present, he may end with a blessing of all those present.

Signing of the Enthronement Certificate

The enthronement ceremony ends with the signing of the certificate, which may now be signed by all participants. It is suggested that the certificate be framed and hung near the image of the Sacred Heart.

Living the Enthronement

The enthronement ceremony is only the beginning; the important thing is living the enthronement in our daily lives.

Each year, participants should attend Mass and renew their consecration to the Sacred Heart on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is also recommended that participants practice the First Fridays Devotion. To complete this devotion, one must worthily receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months. Each of these Communions should be received in honor of and in reparation to the Sacred Heart.

Daily Renewal Prayer

This renewal prayer can be said daily.

Lord Jesus Christ, I renew my enthronement commitment and willingly acknowledge you as Lord, Savior, and King of my heart. With the help of your grace, I intend to carry out my responsibilities to my family, to society, and to the Church, so that the Father's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

I praise and thank you for your presence among your children as our Redeemer and friend, and for your promise to remain with me always. Lord Jesus, you are gentle and humble of heart, teach me goodness and kindness, that my heart may be a reflection of the goodness of your heart. Send me your Holy Spirit with his gifts of joy and peace.

Blessed Michael McGivney, devoted to the Sacred Heart, pray for us.

Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, pray for us.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

To the Sacred Heart of Jesus be honor and glory.

Amen.

Notes & Acknowledgments

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