ENTHRONEMENT TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS (for all Christians)

The most basic definition of the Sacred Heart Enthronement is that you consciously undertake a covenant with Jesus by inviting him to be King of your heart and home. In return, Our Lord promises abundant blessings.

The Enthronement is much more than simply placing an image or statue of the Sacred Heart in your home. By formally inviting Jesus to be King of your home, you pledge to Him your allegiance and place yourself under his protection in a new way. As His royal subject, you strive to serve Jesus and seek his constant presence: in your heart, home, at work and throughout every part of your day and throughout life. In return, Jesus has a burning desire to bless you abundantly!

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a Visitation nun in Paray-le-Monial France, received revelations from Jesus between 1673-1675. Jesus told Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, "I will reign by My Sacred Heart."

Our Lord revealed to her the 12 Promises he would bestow for those who practice devotion to his Sacred Heart:

- 1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
- 2. I will establish peace in their homes.
- 3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
- 4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.
- 5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
- 6. Sinners will find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
- 7. Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.
- 8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
- 9. I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.
- 10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
- 11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart.
- 12. I promise you in the excessive mercy of my heart that my all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in my disgrace, nor without receiving their sacraments. My divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

Although this devotion is Catholic in origin, Jesus intended its blessings for everybody. Only two of the 12 Promises are Catholic in nature: the tenth promise is specifically for priests; and the 12th promise, also known as the *Great Promise*, requires reception of the Holy Eucharist. To worthily receive the Eucharist, one must profess belief it is the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. To receive without believing brings condemnation on a soul as St. Paul warns in 1 Corinthians 11:29. In this promise Our Lord requested reception of Holy Communion be made with the intent of offering reparation for the offenses committed against the Eucharist, which itself is the manifestation of His love for us. This Great Promise serves as an invitation, for all who do not yet believe this reality, to open their hearts to His Love and His Church, and thus benefit from this Great Promise.

PREPARATION FOR THE ENTHRONEMENT

You are invited to prepare both internally and externally for the enthronement.

Internal preparation includes praying with scripture and asking God the Father to help prepare your heart for entering this new covenant with His son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

External preparation includes obtaining a picture or statue of the Sacred Heart and selecting a prominent place in your home to display it. You may wish to have a candle by the picture/statue and a family photo as well. If you are inclined, you may wish to invite family and friends to attend. If a hymn is to be sung, consider providing copies of the hymn for guests. Finally, you may wish to read about Jesus' love for the family as found in the Gospels such as; at Nazareth (Luke 2:40-52), Cana (John 2:1-10), Bethany (Luke 10:38-42 and John 11:1-44) and Jericho (Luke 19:1-10).

ENTHRONEMENT CEREMONY OF THE SACRED HEART

Have a member of the family read a Scriptural passage such as Luke 19:1-10; Luke 10:38-42 or John 12:12-15. You are about to fulfill the great need in our time of making the home Christ-centered, another "Nazareth" or "Bethany," to become a mighty fortress against the onslaughts of the enemies of Christianity.

The head of the household takes the picture of Jesus and places it in the place of honor where it is "enthroned" as a sign of Jesus' rule over the family and as an invitation for Jesus to "stay with us...". (Luke 24:29)

Recite the following prayer:

Lord Jesus, at the Last Supper, in the Upper Room of a private home, You made a covenant of love and mercy between You and your people of the New Testament. By so doing You fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah: "I have loved you with an everlasting love, therefore I have drawn you, taking pity on you. Behold the days shall come, says the lord, and I shall make a new covenant with the House of Israel. I will write my law in their heart, and I will be their God and they shall be my people". (Jeremiah 31:3, 31)

Today we the members of the (Last name) family, specifically (each member of the family says their first name), freely make our covenant with Your Heart. The heart which was opened on Calvary and from which there poured forth blood and water, symbols of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit You promised to those who thirst. (John 19:34-37)

Lord Jesus, verify in each of us Your promise made to Ezekiel: "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh" (Ez. 11:19). Make our hearts meek and humble like Your Heart, for You told us, "...learn from Me, for I am meek and humble of heart...". (Matt II:29)

May it be said of our home what You said of the home of Zaccheus, "Today salvation has come to this house". (Luke 19:9)

You may now sing a hymn, as desired.

FINAL PRAYER

Father in heaven, I thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. I lament my sinful part in contributing to His passion and death. In atonement for my past ingratitude of His sacrificial love for me, I ask for your blessing and grace as we enter a new covenant with your son Jesus.

Father assist us in honoring Him in his most Sacred Heart. Help us conform our lives to your will so Jesus, Our Savior, may reign in our hearts. Bless us Father so that by our words, thoughts, and actions others will know it is your Son who we adore and acknowledge as our King. Amen.

Signing of the Certificate

All family members can sign the Enthronement Certificate on the front side. All guests can sign the certificate on the back side. Refreshments, and fellowship can now be enjoyed as desired.

NOTE: please remember that Our Lord asked that His Heart be venerated. The best way to do so, is to daily, in front of His picture, recite one of the suggested prayers noted on the website.

For your consideration:

Jesus' Mother

Of all the women in biblical history, only one was to become the mother of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. God speaks of her (Genesis 3:15), Isaiah prophesies about her (Isaiah 7:14), and the angel Gabriel visits her (Luke 1:26-27).

From the cold stable in Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, the years at home in Nazareth, and to His death on the cross, Mary was there, holding Jesus in her arms.

Jesus said, "The Father and I are one (John 10:30)". These words confirm who Jesus' father is and verify that his father is Our Father.

Zacharias' wife Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit when she proclaimed Mary as the mother of Jesus (Luke 1:43). Thus, God is his Father and Mary his mother.

The fourth Commandment calls us to honor our father and our mother, and no one doubts that Jesus honored his Father. We can be assured that Jesus honored Mary his mother just as He honored God his Father. Our Lord never violated one of His own Commandments.

Following Jesus' example, Catholics have honored Mary as well, just as the first Christians did in the days of the Apostles. Just before he died on the cross Jesus gave us Mary to be our mother (John 19:26-27).

Her motherly desire is for us to follow her Son. Her last recorded words in scripture attest to this when, at the wedding at Cana, she said, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:5).

In Nazareth, Jesus was the heart of Joseph and Mary's home for many years. By way of His presence, they received abundant blessings. As our spiritual mother, Mary undoubtedly desires us to likewise benefit when we invite Jesus to be the heart of our home, our family, and all that we do.

In this familial spirit, you are invited to join with others around the world in the traditional practice of having a picture or statue of Mary placed near the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As the couple at the wedding in Cana benefitted from her intercession in their moment of great need, so too would she intercede for you in all your times of need.

Thus, you too will be among those who fulfilled Mary's prophecy when, filled with the Holy Spirit she said, "For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed." (Luke 1:48).









