

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
*(Parts Adapted from the Book of Blessings ~ Order for the Blessing of an Image
of Our Lord Jesus Christ)*

The Enthronement and Blessing of the Sacred Heart of Jesus takes place after the Prayer after Communion and before the final blessing at Mass.

The presider along with other ministers stand near the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Holy water and/or incense are prepared.

Introduction *(from the Book of Blessings)*

Presider: Dear brothers and sisters,
we have genuine reason to rejoice,
because we are about to bless this image of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus for our parish.
This image honors, above all, the truth that Christ
is the visible image of the invisible God.
The eternal Son of God, who came down to the
womb of the Virgin Mary, is the sign and sacrament of
God the Father.
As Christ himself said: "the one who sees me sees the Father."
Therefore, when we honor this image,
let us lift up our eyes to Christ,
who reigns for ever with the Father and the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Prayer of Blessing *(from the Book of Blessings)*

With hands outstretched, the presider says the prayer of blessing.

Presider: Let us pray,
God our Father,
lover of the human race,
we praise you for the great love shown us
in the sending of your Word.
Born of the Virgin, he became our Savior,
our firstborn brother, like us in all things but sin.

You have given us Christ
as the perfect example of holiness:

**We see him as a child in the manger,
yet acknowledge him God almighty.**

**We see his face
and discern the countenance of your goodness.**

**We hear him speak the words of life
and are filled with your wisdom.**

**We search the deepest riches of his heart
and our own hearts burn with that fire of the Spirit
which he spread in order to renew the face of the earth.**

**We look on the Bridegroom of the Church,
streaked in his own blood,
but we revere that blood
which washes our sins away.**

**The Church rejoices in the glory of his resurrection
and shares in the promise it holds.**

**Lord, listen to our prayer.
As your faithful people honor this image of your Son
may they be of one mind with Christ.
May they exchange the image of the old Adam of earth
by being transformed into Christ, the new Adam of heaven.**

**May Christ be the way that leads them to you,
the truth that shines in their hearts,
the life that animates their actions.**

**May Christ be a light to their footsteps,
a safe place of rest on their journey,
and the gate that opens to them the city of peace.
For he lives there reigning with you and the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.**

Amen.

After the prayer of blessing, the preside may sprinkle the image with holy water and/or incense the image as an antiphon or refrain is sung suited to the mystery represented by the image.

Litany

The presider then continues:

Presider: We join together as the one family of _____ parish
Parish Name
in the Heart of Christ
to ask our heavenly Father for all that we need.
With trust in his mercy and love,
our response to the litany is
"We place our trust in you."

Lector: Heart of Jesus, source of all good graces, we pray...*We place our trust in you.*
Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation, we pray...
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation, we pray...
Heart of Jesus, our refuge during life, we pray...
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins, we pray...
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness, we pray...
Heart of Jesus, delight of all saints, we pray...

Presider: O Loving Heart of our Lord Jesus Christ,
you move hearts that are harder than rock,
you melt spirits that are colder than ice,
and you reach souls that are more impenetrable than diamonds.
Touch our hearts with your love,
so that wherever we turn we will only see you.

Prayer of Consecration

Presider: Together let us pray the Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart

All recite together:

Sacred Heart of Jesus,
we the members of _____ parish
Parish Name
consecrate ourselves to your most loving Heart.
We come before You
to offer our thanks, sacrifices, and prayers;
our thoughts, words and deeds.

**Come Lord Jesus into our hearts, homes, and families
as our King of love.
Help us to lead good lives and to remain faithful to You.
Strengthen us against temptation,
help us to love one another,
and to spread your kingdom among all people.
Sacred Heart of Jesus,
hear our prayer
and accept our consecration. *Amen.***

Mass concludes in the normal way with the Blessing and Dismissal.