

CONSECRATION OF A PARISH TO OUR LADY

INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

My dear brothers and sisters, we come today in the joy of our risen Lord Jesus Christ and in the love of His Blessed Mother. In these difficult days, we dedicate ourselves to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Mother of the Church, asking for her powerful intercession for us. As we consecrate our parish to her, we entrust ourselves totally to her and ask for her maternal comfort and protection to be with us.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God, Father of mercies,
whose only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his mother,
to be our mother also,
grant, we pray, that with her loving help
your Church may be more fruitful day by day
and, exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
Through our lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

READING FROM THE WORD OF GOD

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

[REFLECTION]

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Let us now entrust our diocese and ourselves to the Virgin Mary's care:

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, you are the fairest fruit of God's redeeming love; you sing of the Father's mercy and accompany us with a mother's love.

In this time of pandemic we come to you, our sign of sure hope and comfort.

Today we make an act of consecration and entrustment, carried out also by those who have gone before us.

With the love of a Mother and Handmaid, embrace this parish of N. which we entrust and consecrate to you, together with ourselves and our families.

In a special way we commend to you those particularly in need of your maternal care.

Mary, Health of the Sick, sign of health, of healing, and of divine hope for the sick, we entrust to you all who are infected with the coronavirus.

Mary, Mother of Consolation, who console with a mother's love all who turn to you, we entrust to you all those who have lost loved ones in the pandemic.

Mary, Help of Christians, who come to our rescue in every trial, we entrust to your loving protection all caregivers.

Mary, Queen and Mother of Mercy, who embrace all those who call upon your help in their distress, we entrust to you all who are suffering in any way from the pandemic.

Mary, Seat of Wisdom, who were so wonderfully filled with the light of truth, we entrust to you all who are working to find a cure to this pandemic.

Mary, Mother of Good Counsel, who gave yourself wholeheartedly to God's plan for the renewing of all things in Christ, we entrust to you all leaders and policymakers.

Accept with the benevolence of a Mother the act of consecration that we make today with confidence, and help us to be your Son's instruments for the healing and salvation of our parish and the world.

Mary, Mother of the Church, you are enthroned as queen at your Son's right hand: we ask your intercession for the needs of our parish, that every desire for good may be blessed and strengthened, that faith may be revived and nourished, hope sustained and enlightened, charity awakened and animated; guide us, we pray, along the path of holiness.

Mary our Mother, bring everyone under your protection and entrust everyone to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUDING BLESSING

Let us pray.

Look, O Lord, on the prayers of your family,
and grant them the assistance they humbly implore,
so that, strengthened by the help they need,
they may persevere in confessing your name.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
The Son whom you merited to bear, alleluia,
has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

REGINA CAELI, Simple Tone

VI



R E-gína cæ-li * lætá-re, alle-lú-ia: Qui- a quem me-
ru- ísti portá-re, alle-lú-ia: Re-surré-xit, sic-ut di-xit,
alle- lú-ia: O-ra pro no-bis De- um, alle-lú- ia.