



Enthronement Ceremony for **THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

Origin of Enthronement

During the major apparition on December 27, 1673, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque had a vision of the Heart of Jesus on a throne of flames, with His wound, surrounded by a crown of thorns and with a cross above. Jesus then asked that His Heart be honored, and He wished that its image be placed on a heart and displayed. He added that “wherever this holy image is exposed for honor, He would pour out His graces and blessings there.”

After the events at Paray-le-Monial, France, it became customary to solemnly enthrone an image or statue of the Sacred Heart.

Promises given to Margaret Mary are associated with this practice:

“[Jesus made known that] as He is the source of all blessings, He would abundantly bestow them in all places where the image of this Sacred Heart would be honored. He would reunite families divided by this means and protect those in any need. He would pour out the sweet anointing of His charity on all religious communities where He would be honored, and which would place themselves under His special protection; that He would keep all hearts united, to be one with Him.”

Spiritual and Material Preparation

Enthronement is an important moment in Christian life, requiring spiritual and material preparation.

From a spiritual perspective, here are a few recommendations:

- It is good to attend Mass and receive Communion on the morning of the enthronement.
- If possible, go to confession in the days leading up to it.
- Pray a novena to the Sacred Heart that concludes the day before (or on the day of) the enthronement.

From a material perspective, prepare a beautiful statue or image, icon, or painting of the Heart of Jesus, and have a place of honor prepared for it.

- It is necessary to have this devotional object blessed in advance by a priest. Bring your object to Mass on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Friday, June 27, 2025, and place it on the side steps of the altar sanctuary before Mass begins.
- Collect your blessed object from the steps after the conclusion of the *Litany of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*.
- Return home and proceed with the enthronement blessing ceremony outlined below.
- It is **NOT necessary** for a priest or deacon to preside over your home ceremony. This family celebration is led by a layperson such as the head of household, or an honored guest.

ENTHRONEMENT CEREMONY

Welcome: Jesus Knocks at the Door

- After welcoming the guests, the leader of the ceremony briefly explains the course and meaning of the celebration. He/She then steps outside and stands at the door of the house, accompanied by one or two invited guests holding the image or statue chosen by the family to be enthroned.
- The leader knocks at the door or rings the bell. He/She then proclaims this Scripture verse: *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and dine with him, and he with Me."* (Rev 3:20).
- The host opens the door.
- Begin with a hymn of praise. Meanwhile, the host places the image in the chosen place.
- Everyone makes the Sign of the Cross and recites the liturgical greeting, "The Lord be with you!"

1. Proclamation of the Word of God

We then enter the second part of the celebration with the singing of the Alleluia.

The Gospel will be proclaimed by a family member using the family Bible.

Several texts are possible: Martha and Mary (Luke 10:38-42); Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10); the calling of Matthew (Matt 9:9-13); the disciples at Emmaus (Luke 24:28-34). After the reading, the Bible is placed in the place chosen by the family.

The leader gives a brief commentary on the significance of the enthronement.

2. Enthronement Liturgy

Blessing of the Image

(This blessing will occur *before* your home enthronement ceremony at the Friday, June 27, 2025 morning Mass at 8:30 a.m. by Father Michael Vaughan).

Enthronement Prayer

The family prays together the enthronement prayer to the Sacred Heart. The guests join their prayer through their listening and silence.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, come reign in our home.

Come dwell here as You did in Nazareth, with Mary and Joseph, that we might receive Your word, see You grow in wisdom, amidst us and within us.

Come dwell here as You did in Bethlehem, with the shepherds and our angels, that we might adore and glorify You.

Come dwell here as You did in Capernaum, with Peter, that we may be open to welcoming the poor and the sick; with Matthew, that we might gather our friends,

publicans or sinners, around You, so that they may know You.

Come dwell here as You did in Jericho, with Zacchaeus, that salvation may enter our home. Come dwell here as You did in Bethany, with Martha and Mary, that we might serve and love You.

Come dwell here as You did in Jerusalem, with the apostles in the Upper Room, that we may recognize You living among us. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us and inflame our hearts. Amen!

Thanksgiving

Everyone may then sing a hymn of thanksgiving, such as “O Jesus Savior, Heart Burning with Love” or “O Jesus, You are Gentle and Humble of Heart, make my heart like Yours.”

Prayer to the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph

The family places themselves under the gaze of the Holy Family by invoking the Virgin Mary with a beautiful Marian prayer, such as the Hail Mary, the Memorare, or the Consecration to Jesus through Mary by St. Louis Marie de Montfort. It is also possible to invoke Saint Joseph, using one of the many existing prayers.

Conclusion

The celebration concludes with the recitation of the Our Father followed by the final blessing:

“May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, descend upon you and remain with you forever.”

Make the Sign of the Cross with holy water, if available.

Finish with the singing of the Magnificat or another hymn.