

## Dear Parish Family,

You and your family are warmly invited to a special family devotion. The enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary is a profound act of faith that welcomes the loving presence of Jesus and Mary into our homes and, more intimately, into our lives. By embracing these Sacred Hearts, we seek to deepen our relationship with God and strengthen the bonds of love and unity within our family.

During this brief ceremony in your home, we will reflect on the significance of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which symbolizes His boundless love and mercy for humanity, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, representing her pure love and maternal care for us. Together, they remind us of our call to live out the virtues of love, compassion, and forgiveness. We will pray, share Scripture readings, and express our commitment to living as a domestic church—fostering an environment where faith, hope, and charity flourish.

If your family would like to participate in this beautiful ceremony, please contact the parish office to set up an appointment. A representative from the parish, and possibly the priest (time permitting), will assist in the ceremony, bringing the intimate joy of Jesus and Mary into your home.

For the enthronement ceremony of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, you will need the following items, similar to those displayed on the enthronement invitation table:

1. A statue or images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
2. An altar or designated table where the images will be displayed.
3. Candles, symbolizing Christ as the Light of the World.
4. A container of holy water for blessing the images and the space.
5. Selected Scripture passages from the Bible that emphasize love, mercy, and devotion.
6. A specific prayer your family wishes to recite, such as the Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
  - Our team has recommended prayer books available if you need assistance.

A parish representative will gladly assist you and your family in gathering these items if needed. Having these items ready will help create a reverent and meaningful atmosphere for the enthronement ceremony, allowing everyone to fully engage in this spiritual experience.

First Friday devotions typically incorporate prayers that focus on the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Here are some commonly used prayers:

### **1. Act of Consecration to the Sacred Heart**

This prayer expresses a commitment to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, entrusting oneself and one's loved ones to His care.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I consecrate myself to Your love,  
and I give You my heart.  
May it be always Yours, and may it be filled with love for You and for my neighbor.  
Amen.

### **2. Litany of the Sacred Heart**

A litany is a series of invocations and responses. The Litany of the Sacred Heart includes various titles and attributes of Jesus, calling for His mercy and intercession.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.  
Jesus, meek and humble of heart,  
make our hearts like unto Yours.  
(Followed by other invocations)

### **3. Prayer of Reparation**

This prayer seeks to make amends for sins and offenses against the Sacred Heart, emphasizing the theme of repentance.

O Jesus, I offer You my heart in reparation for the offenses committed against Your Sacred Heart.  
I desire to console You and to make amends for my sins.  
Amen.

### **4. Novena to the Sacred Heart**

Many choose to pray a novena leading up to First Friday. This involves nine days of prayer, often including specific intentions for the Sacred Heart's mercy.

## **5. Rosary of the Sacred Heart**

Some devotees pray the Rosary with meditations focused on the mysteries of the Sacred Heart, reflecting on Jesus' love and sacrifice.

## **6. Act of Love**

A simple act of love expressing devotion to the Sacred Heart, often recited during First Friday.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I love You with all my heart.  
I offer You my life, my work, and my love.  
Amen.

## **7. Communion Prayer**

After receiving Holy Communion, many offer a prayer of thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart for the gift of the Eucharist.

## **Conclusion**

These prayers are integral to the First Friday devotions, fostering a deeper connection to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They encourage reflection on His love, mercy, and the commitment to live a life of faith and service.

## **Scripture Readings**

***Here are some recommended Scripture readings for the enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary:***

### **John 3:16-17**

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."*

### **Matthew 11:28-30**

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

### **Ephesians 3:17-19**

*"So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."*

### **Luke 1:46-55 (The Magnificat)**

*"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant..."*

### **1 John 4:9-10**

*"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."*

### **Romans 5:5**

*"And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."*

### **Philippians 4:6-7**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

## **Reflection**

These readings emphasize God's love, mercy, and the importance of inviting His presence into our hearts and homes. They can be used during the ceremony to inspire reflection and prayer, creating a deeper connection to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

## **Recommended Prayer Books**

Here are some recommended prayer books and litanies for the enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

### **"The Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus" by various authors**

This book often contains prayers, litanies, and reflections dedicated to the Sacred Heart, along with guidance on how to practice this devotion.

### **"In Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary" by various authors**

This book provides prayers, litanies, and insights into the significance of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and how to deepen one's devotion.

### **"The Heart of the Matter: Reflections on the Sacred Heart of Jesus" by Father Michael Gaitley**

This book offers a contemporary approach to understanding the Sacred Heart devotion, with practical prayers and meditations.

## **Recommended Litanies**

### **Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

This litany is a beautiful series of invocations that honor the Sacred Heart and seek His mercy and love. It typically includes phrases such as "Have mercy on us" following each invocation.

### **Litany of the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

This litany honors Mary's Immaculate Heart, invoking her intercession and love. Similar to the litany of the Sacred Heart, it consists of various petitions and responses.

### **Consecration Prayers**

Many prayer books include specific consecration prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which can be recited during the enthronement ceremony to formally dedicate your home and family to their care.

## **Where to Find**

You can find these books and litanies at local Catholic bookstores, online retailers, or through parish resources. Additionally, many dioceses and parishes provide printed materials or guidance for the enthronement ceremony, which may include recommended prayers and litanies.

## **Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary has a rich history rooted in Christian tradition. Here's an overview of its development:

### **Early Foundations**

The devotion can be traced back to the early Church, where the heart of Jesus symbolized His love and compassion. Early Christians often reflected on Jesus' love, especially in the context of His passion and death.

### **12th Century**

The Benedictines and Cistercians began emphasizing the importance of Christ's heart as a symbol of divine love.

### **17th Century**

The formal devotion gained prominence through the efforts of St. John Eudes, who promoted the Sacred Heart in his writings and established a feast in its honor.

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, a Visitation nun, received revelations from Jesus between 1673 and 1675, emphasizing His Sacred Heart. Her visions included specific requests for the establishment of the Feast of the Sacred Heart, which was approved by the Church in 1856.

### **19th Century**

The devotion spread rapidly, with numerous prayers, liturgies, and practices being established. The feast is celebrated on the Friday after the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

# **Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

## **Early Church**

The concept of Mary's heart as a symbol of her love and suffering for Christ began to emerge in the early Church. References to Mary's heart can be found in Scripture (e.g., Luke 2:19, 51).

## **Middle Ages**

Devotion to Mary grew during this period, with the heart being seen as a symbol of her purity and maternal love.

## **17th Century**

St. John Eudes also played a significant role in promoting devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, establishing a feast in her honor.

## **20th Century**

The devotion was further popularized by the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917, where Mary emphasized the importance of her Immaculate Heart for the conversion of sinners and peace in the world.

## **Feast Day**

The feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary is celebrated on June 24, the day after the Feast of the Sacred Heart.

## **Conclusion**

Today, both devotions encourage believers to reflect on the profound love of Jesus and Mary, promoting a deeper spiritual life rooted in love, compassion, and mercy. The enthronement of these sacred hearts in homes symbolizes a commitment to live out these values within families and communities.

Here are a few examples of families who have experienced the benefits of enthronement:

1. **The Rodriguez Family:** After enthroning the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their home, the Rodriguez family noticed a remarkable change in their relationships. They found themselves more patient and understanding with one another, and conflicts were resolved with greater ease. The family attributed this newfound harmony to the intercession of Mary and the graces received through the enthronement.

2. **The Johnson Family:** The Johnsons were facing financial difficulties and were uncertain about their future. Seeking guidance and assistance, they decided to enthrone the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their home. Over time, they experienced unexpected opportunities, financial blessings, and a renewed sense of hope. The Johnsons credit the enthronement for strengthening their trust in God's providence and leading them to a place of abundance.

3. **The Garcia Family:** Prior to enthroning the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Garcia family struggled with communication and unity. However, after the enthronement, they noticed a remarkable transformation. Family prayer became a central part of their daily routine, and they experienced a deeper connection with God and with one another. The Garcia family now testifies to the power of the enthronement in fostering love, understanding, and spiritual growth within their home.

These are just a few examples of the many families who have witnessed the benefits of enthroning the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Each family's experience is unique, but the common thread is a deepening of faith, a greater sense of peace, and a tangible presence of God's love in their lives.