



**CONSECRATION OF THE FAITHFUL
IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO
TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH**



**IN CONCORDANCE WITH THE INVITATION OF
HIS HOLINESS, POPE FRANCIS, THAT ALL THE FAITHFUL
ANNUALLY RENEW THE ACT OF CONSECRATION TO OUR LADY
ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD,
MARCH 25**

SIGN OF THE CROSS

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

GREETING

Bishop:

Peace be with you.

R. And with your Spirit.

Priest/Deacon:

The Lord be with you.

R. And with your Spirit.

Layperson:

Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself to us.

R. Blessed be God for ever.

INTRODUCTION

Dear brothers and sisters, welcoming with joy the invitation of our Holy Father, Pope Francis to renew our consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on this Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, we gather together in faith and devotion, united to our Lord Jesus Christ and under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We humbly implore the incomparable and unfailing help of Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church. We pray that we be endowed with the wisdom and trust to ask for her powerful intercession and the courage to seek her in every distress. May we be ready to welcome all the heavenly graces of divine consolations that her Immaculate Heart obtains for 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,
God for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

WORD OF GOD

John 19.25-27

† A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Standing near the Cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SHORT REFLECTION

From the dogmatic constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council
(Lumen Gentium, 62)

This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace—from the consent which she gave in faith at the annunciation, and which she continued to give unhesitatingly at the foot of the cross—lasts without interruption until all the elect enter into eternal fulfillment. When she was taken up into heaven, she did not lay aside this saving role but she continues by her intercession for all to gain for us the gifts of eternal salvation.

In her maternal love she cares for the brothers and sisters of her Son as they journey on earth in the midst of dangers and hardships, until they are brought safely home to the happiness of heaven.

RESPONSORY

Bishop/Priest/Deacon/Layperson:

O pure and holy Virgin, how can I find words to praise your beauty?

R. The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb (alleluia).

Bishop/Priest/Deacon/Layperson:

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

R. The highest heavens cannot contain God whom you carried in your womb (alleluia).

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

A DECADE OF THE ROSARY – *The Annunciation*

Recalling Mary’s response to the Angel Gabriel “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word,” we meditate on the first joyful mystery of the Rosary, *The Annunciation*.

Our Father
10 Hail Marys
Glory Be

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell,
lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are in most need of your
mercy.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

As we knock at the door of her heart, may Our Lady intercede on our behalf with her Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, as she did at the wedding of Cana, so that the new wine of hope, joy, holiness and peace may flow abundantly in all who call upon her maternal mediation.

Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, I/we, consecrate to you

or *the faithful of this archdiocese*
the faithful of our parish
the members of our family
the members of our school
the members of (insert community or group name)
myself

together with all the faithful of the Church.

We lift up to you, O Mother of the Word Incarnate, all of our families, and all of those brothers and sisters of Your Son, who need your maternal care and your intercession. Through your powerful and loving prayers, bring the consolation of Christ our Lord to all the pastors and the entire flock of your Beloved Son, Jesus: to the young and to the elderly, the sick and the abandoned, the lonely and the dejected, those who are to be born and those who are dying, those trying to find their way and those who have strayed away. With a mother’s heart, welcome our petitions and show forth your great compassion and love to those who have become your children entrusted to your motherly care by the Crucified Redeemer.

By your merciful gaze, look upon all those who are persecuted for their faith, the victims of war and abuse, those who are afflicted by addictions, those who despair and have lost all hope. You who are the gift whom our loving Lord gave to us on Calvary, graciously receive our prayer and deny us not the graces we humbly implore from you.

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in the valley of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy upon us,
and after this, our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
that we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

Mary, Mother of the Church,

R. Pray for us.

INTERCESSIONS

United as one Body in Christ, let us pray to our loving God, who desires that we honour Mary as our mother, and together with her praise the Lord's marvelous works, remembering his promise of mercy:

R. Look upon Mary and hear our prayer.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, who experienced the cares and hardships of earthly life, the weariness of daily toil, the trials of poverty and the sorrows of Calvary, accompany the Church on its pilgrim journey and in its work of building the Kingdom. *R.*

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously hear the cries of those who implore her goodness for health in mind and body, safety and peace, especially for the Archdiocese of Toronto, our domestic churches and all our communities of faith. *R.*

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, obtain the gifts of knowledge and wisdom for government officials and all who are in positions of authority, that they may carry out the will of God with prudence and justice. *R.*

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, pray on our behalf and with us to the Lord of Life and Love, who rules the winds and storms, to calm the tempests in our minds and hearts and bring us unscathed to the shores of our heavenly home. *R.*

Gracious God, you desire that your flock enjoy everlasting life and so you sent your only Son to live as one of us and to guide us home to you. Hear our prayers and those of the Blessed Mother that we might cling to His every word and so, by the Holy Spirit, be transformed into a People after your own heart. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Guided by the Spirit of Jesus and enlightened by the wisdom of the Gospel, together we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us ask the blessing of almighty God, as we conclude this consecration:

Merciful and loving Father,
you have shown us in the Blessed Virgin Mary
the model of sublime love and profound humility;
grant that we your children may be like her,
obedient to your commandment of love,
so that by giving ourselves wholeheartedly
to seeking your glory and to serving others,

with eyes fixed on the Mother of your Son,
we may be led to the harbour of eternal salvation.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. *R.* Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

Bishop/Priest/Deacon:
The Lord be with you.

R. And with your Spirit.

Bishop/Priest/Deacon:
May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

Layperson:
May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

IMMACULATE MARY

Immaculate Mary,
your praises we sing,
You reign now in heaven
with Jesus our king.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.

Most blessed of women,
to whom was revealed,
The plan of salvation
for ages concealed.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.

O perfect disciple,
you cherished God's word;
Proclaimed by your virtue,
the good news you heard.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.

O mother of mercy,
the cross of your Son
Has brought us to new life:
in him we are one.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.

So now with the saints
and the angels above
We join you in praising
our God who is love.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria.

Acknowledgements

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