

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart Ceremony for Knights of Columbus Council

1. Introduction and preparation

Chaplain: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**

Grand Knight: **You know, I think this might well be one of the most important gatherings of our life as a Council. I say this because I am convinced from what I have been told and what I have read about the Enthronement, that it brings countless blessings to individuals and families such as ours. The Good Lord knows we need them.**

By the Enthronement we are told, we proclaim Jesus as King who rules over us through love ... more like a Father than a ruler. He becomes our generous provider, our friend, our spiritual physician, our constant companion, the unseen guest at every meal.

We certainly want Him to be all these things because each and every one of us needs His help. It is not easy to be good. We can't do it alone, but with Jesus' help, we can make it.

Chaplain blesses the icons, images and pictures to be used in the ceremony

Deputy Grand Knight reads Biblical passage: Deut. 7:6-11

For you are a people sacred to the Lord, your God; he has chosen you from all the nations on the face of the earth to be a people peculiarly his own. It was not because you are the largest of all nations that the Lord set his heart on you and chose you, for you are really the smallest of all nations. It was because the Lord loved you and because of his fidelity to the oath he had sworn to your fathers, that he brought you out with his strong hand from the place of slavery, and ransomed you from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Understand, then, that the Lord, your God, is God indeed, the faithful God who keeps his merciful covenant down to the thousandth generation toward those who love him and keep his commandments, but who repays with destruction the person who hates him; he does not dally with such a one, but makes him personally pay for it. You shall therefore carefully observe the commandments, the statutes and the decrees which I enjoin on you today.

Chancellor reads from Biblical passage: Luke 19:1-10

He came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."

Chaplain: The Sacred Heart of Jesus says to you: My people, I am your Lord and I rule through My Heart! I desire to be enthroned as Lord of your hearts and of your Knights of Columbus family as your King, Brother, and Friend. I wish to share your everyday life; your joys as well as your sorrows. My people, whom I love so dearly, "behold, I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me" (Rev. 3:20). I am Jesus, your Savior, your Liberator. I want to save you and your family from the evil forces working to destroy you and it, to liberate parents and children from the slavery of sin and the shackles of fear, depression, and worry. I am ready to release in your home the power of My Spirit, the Healer, the Consoler, the Sanctifier, the Teacher. But, my people, I will not force my way into your hearts or your home. I want to be invited. I am waiting to hear what you say to Me.

Council says together: Come, Lord Jesus! Stay with us, we need you! Be the Lord, the King, Brother, Friend of our Family! Send us your Holy Spirit and give us new hearts, a new spirit! Say to us as you did to John: "Surely I am coming soon" (Rev. 22:20).

Chaplain: Yes, my people, my Father loves you, I love you, the Holy Spirit loves you. What have you to fear? My wounded Heart is the sign and pledge of our merciful love. This Heart is open to receive you!

2. Blessing and Procession

Grand Knight takes up Sacred Heart image and leads the procession to the place of Enthronement.

Deputy Grand Knight takes up Bible and follows the Grand Knight.

Council Officers take up other Sacramentals and votive candle(s). The group processes from table to place of honor singing Holy God we Praise thy Name

**Holy God, we praise thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee;
all on earth thy scepter claim;
all in heaven above adore thee.
Infinite thy vast domain;
everlasting is thy reign.**

**Hark the glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heavens with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord.**

**Lo! the apostolic train
joins thy sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow.
And from morn to set of sun,
through the church the song goes on.**

**Holy Father, Holy Son,
Holy Spirit: three we name thee,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim thee,
and adoring bend the knee
while we own the mystery.**

3. Enthronement

*After arriving at the place of honor, the Council Members forms a **semicircle** facing the Grand Knight who enthrones the Sacred Heart image.*

Grand Knight: **I now enthrone Jesus as King, Brother and friend of this Council!**

Deputy Grand Knight lays Bible at place of honor)

Deputy Grand Knight: **We are nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ and the Word of God!**

The Council says together: **Jesus, we love you, we praise you! We accept your loving rule over our hearts and our family.**

*Council Officers place Sacramentals and votive candle(s) in place of honor;
parent/relative/friend lights votive candles)*

The Council says together: **"God is enthroned as King forever" and "All that the Lord has said we will heed and do".**

Grand Knight: **Let us recite the Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 to the dead.
On the third day, He rose again.
He ascended to Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

4. Covenant of Love with the Sacred Heart

Chaplain introduces the Covenant saying: **This is the moment why we have gathered together in the Lord's name when the Council makes its Covenant with Jesus. Let us listen with attention and witness the Council in their moment of Grace.**

Kneeling or standing before the enthroned image of the Sacred Heart, the Council makes their covenant with the Lord.

Council says together: **Jesus, we proclaim you and enthrone you as King and Friend of our family. Yes, Lord, we do want you to rule over our hearts and wills through your loving Heart. Share our everyday life; our joys and our sorrows. Be our well beloved Brother, our intimate Friend!**

Come, Lord Jesus, come! Our hearts and home are open to you. Stay with us, we need you. Release in our home the power of your Spirit, the Healer, the Consoler. Save our family from the evil forces seeking to destroy us.

Our Father in heaven take away our stony hearts and give us new hearts; unselfish, generous, pure hearts filled with love for you!

Heal our hurts, bind up our wounds, unite us in love. May our love go beyond our family and inspire us to love those in need as you love us.

Lord Jesus, to your loving, glorified Heart, your wounded Heart, we dedicate, we consecrate our weak, our selfish hearts. We humbly acknowledge that without you we can do nothing, but with your help and grace we can do all things: even though we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we fear no evil, for you are with us, your rod and staff they comfort us.

Mary, Mother of the Church and our Mother, help us to make our family a true reflection of your Church that is a community of love, a worshiping, praying family. Good St. Joseph, head of the Holy Family, watch over us as you watched over Jesus and Mary at Nazareth. Obtain for each of us that same loving trust in Divine Providence that sustained you in all your trials.

May the Lord bless us and keep us! May His face shine upon us and be gracious to us! May He look upon this family with kindness and give us peace! May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Praise the Lord now and forever. Amen.

5. Intercessions

Chaplain invites all present to pray The McGivney Prayer

All: God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present for intentions of the Holy Father and all absent Council members, living and deceased. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 and we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen,

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Chaplain: **Lord Jesus, you told us, "Whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give it to you," in your name, and with great confidence, we pray:**

Deputy Grand Knight: **Our response is "Lord, hear our prayer. For the grace to be faithful to this covenant with Jesus and our new way of life in Him, let us pray to the Lord.**

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

First Trustee: **For a deeper appreciation of the gift of the Heart of Jesus, the Eucharist, through frequent participation in the Celebration of the Eucharist, especially on Sundays, First Fridays and First Saturdays, let us pray to the Lord.**

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Second Trustee: **For the grace to take better advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, let us pray to the Lord.**

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Third Trustee: **For the grace to make Scripture reading and recitation of the Rosary part of our family's daily spiritual formation, let us pray to the Lord.**

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grand Knight: **For the deceased members of this Council and our Order, let us pray to the Lord.**

Grand Knight adds other special petitions

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Chaplain: **For those intentions which lay in our hearts. (pause)**

All respond: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

All: **Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we thank you for choosing our family from so many others to receive the gift of your presence and of your love. Help make this home another Bethany, where you will always find yourself among friends. Amen.**

6. An Act of Thanksgiving

Council Officers: **We thank you Lord Jesus for all the benefits you have granted to us through the merciful love of your Sacred Heart. We are truly grateful for your gift of life. We thank you for the gift of Faith we received in Baptism when we were made children of your Father and heirs to heaven and received your own Divine Life in our souls. We also thank you for the gift of the priesthood and of the other sacraments which increase your life in us; for the gift of your Blessed Mother whom you have given to us as our Mother and Queen. Above all, good Jesus, we are grateful for the gift of your loving Heart; the gift of yourself in the crib, on the cross and in the Holy Eucharist.**

7. Enshrinement of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Deputy Grand Knight: **O Immaculate Heart of Mary, queen of heaven and earth and our family, rule over us together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our King, Brother, and Friend.**

Council Officers takes up Immaculate Heart of Mary image and enshrines image in selected place.

Chaplain introduces the Consecration saying: **Let us now listen and witness the family make their consecrations to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.**

8. Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Council Officers: **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary and tender Mother of the Church, we consecrate ourselves to you and to your Immaculate Heart and recommend to your loving care our family, families in our neighborhood, and families throughout our country and the world. Please accept our consecration dearest Mother and use this Council and all Councils to accomplish your designs upon the world. O spouse of the Holy Spirit, kindle in our hearts and homes the love of purity, the practice of truly Christian family life, and the courage to witness to our faith, even at the cost of ridicule and suffering. Make our place a Marian shrine, a Eucharistic shrine, a house of prayer, a Christian fortress, so that through us Jesus may be proclaimed as Lord and loved as Friend in many Councils in our parish and country. Amen.**

All Sing: *Immaculate Mary*

**Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing;
You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!**

**In heaven, the blessed your glory proclaim;
On earth we, your children, invoke your sweet name.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!**

**We pray for the Church, our true Mother on earth,
And beg you to watch o'er the land of our birth.
Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!**

9. Signing of the Certificate

Grand Knight: This concludes our ceremony and we ask that you all sign our Enthronement Certificate which is a treasure for our Council now and in years to come. Thanks you all for coming.

The Council Officers sign the Enthronement Certificate on the front. The Members present and all guests sign it on the backside. Refreshments served for all.