

Here is the Prayer of Consecration as written by St Margaret Mary Alocoque. Pray this prayer out loud. You may do it in a Church or a chapel with the Blessed Sacrament, or you may do it in your own room or your own home or in any place of your choice. It may help to light a candle, kneel, or say a prayer in front of an image of the Sacred Heart. The most important thing is that you mean the words as you pray them.

I consecrate and surrender to the Sacred Heart of our Lord Jesus Christ, my person, my life, my difficulties and my sufferings, that I may henceforth live only for his love and glory. It is my firm and unwavering purpose to be his entirely, to do everything for his love and renounce wholeheartedly everything that could displease his divine Heart.

O Sacred Heart, I choose You as the sole object of my love, the protector of my life, the pledge of my salvation, the support of my weakness and the atoner for all the sins of my whole life. O mild and bountiful Heart, be likewise my refuge at the hour of death, my justification before God, and ward off from me the penalty of his just wrath. O loving Heart, I place my trust entirely in You. While I fear everything from my own malice, I hope everything from Your goodness. Destroy in me whatever may displease You or be opposed to You, and let Your pure love imprint You so deeply upon my heart that it will be impossible for me ever to forget You or be separated from You.

O Sacred Heart, by Your goodness, I implore You, let my name be deeply engraved in You, for in Your service and in Your love I will live and die.

Amen.

Here is the Act of Consecration you will use at the upcoming Mass to consecrate your business to Christ. Take some time to read, reflect, and meditate on these words during the days leading up to the Mass of consecration so that you can fully mean what you say when that day comes.

To consecrate your business to God is to invite God into your business. Your business will no longer be your own kingdom. It will become an outpost of God's eternal Kingdom. It will become a space where grace flows freely, renewing the hearts and minds of everyone who works there and enhancing the service your business offers to society.

To consecrate your business to God is the beginning of a quest, and of a battle. You, as the leader of your business, have prepared your heart and mind for this moment through prayer and study. You will receive needed grace and strength through this consecration.

To consecrate your business to God is also a public declaration that you have discovered in your own heart a call to lead your business the way Christ himself would lead it if he were in your position, and in that way to live out your mission - as a baptized and confirmed Christian - of making Christ's Kingdom ever more present in this needy world.

Finally, to consecrate your business to God is to invoke an outpouring of grace and divine assistance upon your businesses and everyone associated with them.

God has called you to this, and he will not fail you (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:24).

Now state before God and the Church your intention and commitment:

Business Owners (together):

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe and Head of the Church, I thank you for creating and redeeming me, and for calling me to put all my gifts, talents, and skills at the service of building up your eternal Kingdom here on earth.

Throughout history, you have called and chosen men like me to form communities of people who work together to serve the human family in many different ways. In your providence, you have brought me to become a leader of one of these communities.

Today, with full freedom and with fervent hope in your omnipotent goodness, I consecrate to you and to the transforming love of your Most Sacred Heart this community, the business that I own.

I recognize that this community ultimately belongs to you, and that as its leader I am your steward and representative. As such, I promise and commit to lead this community following your own example of integrity, generosity, justice, mercy, and self-sacrificial love.

I can do nothing without you, and so I humble ask for you to help me:

- o Be a blessing to everyone who works for me, every day and every hour;
- Stay alert to the needs and opportunities of those around me, so that I never turn success or money into idols that poison my heart;
- Believe firmly that when a business truly flourishes as a community of persons, it will also truly flourish in its service to society;
- Repent and start afresh with luminous hope whenever my thoughts, words, or actions fail to reflect your wisdom, love, and truth.

Amen.

You may want to watch this online, <u>do-it-yourself retreat</u> to learn more about devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

You may also want to explore the possibility of consecrating your family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through a <u>Sacred Heart Enthronement ceremony</u> like this one offered by The Catholic Company: