



PARISH-WIDE

# MARIAN CONSECRATION

DECEMBER 31 - FEBRUARY 2

PICKUP BOOKLET IN MAIN ENTRANCE OF CHURCH BY DEC. 31



Join us as we journey through 33 *Days to Morning Glory* in preparation for our Marian Consecration! This will guide you from Day 1 (Dec. 31) to Day 33 (Feb. 2), consecration day.

Opportunities for weekly discussions:

- Wednesdays at 10:30am  
St. Henry Church Basement
- Wednesdays at 7:00pm  
St. Francis Church Basement

If these times do not work for you, call the office for help starting your own group. However, you can also do the consecration without joining a group.

If you'd rather **listen along**,  
Hallow has an option for that!  
Scan the QR code to check it out.



*If you cannot commit the time,  
consider praying devoutly the  
Memorare daily in preparation for  
consecration.*

Consecration will conclude on Feb. 2,  
the Presentation of the Lord. We'll  
celebrate together at Candlemas in  
St. Bernard at 7:00pm with a potluck-  
style social to follow! All are welcome!

## WHAT IS MARIAN CONSECRATION?

One of the definitions for the word "consecrate" is to "dedicate formally to a religious or divine purpose". Marian consecration is the act of entrusting one's body, soul, possessions, works, and entire life to the protection, guidance, and intercession of Our Lady.

The act of entrusting oneself to Mary's care and intercession is nothing new. Jesus Himself entrusted His beloved disciple, John, to Mary while He was on the Cross (John 19:26-27). The early Christians and Church fathers recognized Mary's holiness and her significance as the Mother of God. We've been asking for Mary's intercession and intervention in our lives since the beginning of the Church. She is, after all, our mother, too.

## WHY SHOULD I CONSECRATE MYSELF TO MARY?

Consecration to Mary is simply a furthering and deepening of our devotion to and relationship with Jesus through Our Lady. If you already have an affection for Mary and talk to her often, consecration is a natural next step. But even if you don't really know Our Lady yet and aren't convinced of the hype, Marian consecration can be that bridge that unites you to her more deeply.

When we consecrate ourselves to Mary, we give her our entire lives and selves as well as the merits of all our prayers and works in order to belong more fully to Our Lord. We give Mary everything we are and do to present to the Lord and use at her disposal.

Why give Mary everything? Because she's a good mom. She only wants what's best for us and for all her children. Mary wants us to know, love, and serve Jesus more. She wants us to get to Heaven even more than we do. She's invested in our happiness, both temporal and eternal.

Mary takes all the good we are and do, adds her grace, and presents us to her Son. The best part? When she presents us to Jesus, in all our littleness, and with all our feeble efforts, He does not refuse her, because she never refuses Him.

## CAN'T I JUST CONSECRATE MYSELF TO GOD?

Yes! And ultimately, that's exactly what Marian Consecration accomplishes. When we consecrate ourselves to Mary, really we are consecrating ourselves to Jesus through Mary. They are so intimately united that truly giving ourselves to Mary can lead to nothing but total surrender to God.

By consecrating ourselves to Mary, we leap with faith and joy into the arms of our mom, knowing that she advocates for us, loves us, and wants to see us become saints. We cannot go wrong with Marian Consecration.

## THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF MARIAN CONSECRATION

We are all called to holiness. God created us to be saints. We are made to know the Lord, to love Him, and to serve Him.

Consecrating ourselves to Mary is one way that we grow in that knowledge, love, and service. We allow Mary to take us by the hand and lead us to her Son. She knows, loves, and serves Him best. We have so much to learn from her life, and so much to gain by placing ourselves in her hands.

*Mary, Mother of God, Mother of the Church, and Our Mother, pray for us!*

