

***An Act of Consecration (Raccolta #96)***

*(The Consecration of oneself to Jesus Christ, Incarnate Wisdom, by the hands of Mary)*

O Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom, most sweet and adorable Jesus, true God and true Man, only Son of the Eternal Father and of Mary ever Virgin, I adore Thee profoundly in the bosom and the splendor of Thy Father through eternity, and in the virginal womb of Mary, Thy most worthy Mother, at the time of Thine Incarnation. I return Thee thanks for that Thou didst empty Thyself, taking upon Thee the form of a slave, to deliver me from the cruel slavery of the devil. I praise Thee and glorify Thee for that Thou didst willingly become subject in all things to Mary, Thy holy Mother, in order to make me through her Thy faithful slave.

But alas, ungrateful and faithless that I am, I have not kept the promises I made Thee so solemnly in my baptism. Nay, I have utterly failed to do my bounden duty; I am no more worthy to be called Thy son [daughter] nor Thy slave, and since there is nothing in me that does not provoke Thy rebukes and Thine indignation, I dare no longer approach alone unto Thy sacred and august Majesty. Wherefore I have recourse to the intercession of Thy most holy Mother, whom Thou hast given me to be my intercessor with Thee; and it is by this means that I hope to obtain from Thee the grace of contrition, the pardon of my sins, and the gift of abiding wisdom.

For which reason I salute thee, O Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, wherein the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored by Angels and men. I salute thee, O Queen of heaven and earth, to whose dominion is subject all that is less than God. I salute thee, O sure refuge of sinners, whose mercy faileth none; graciously hear my prayers for divine wisdom, and to this end receive the vows and oblations which my lowliness offers unto thee.

I, [state your name], a faithless sinner, renew and ratify this day at thy hands my baptismal vows. I renounce satan for ever and all his works and pomps, and I give myself wholly to Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Wisdom, to bear my cross after Him all the days of my life. And in order that I may be more faithful to Him than I have hitherto been, I choose thee this day, O Mary, in the presence of the whole court of heaven for my Mother and my Mistress.

I deliver and consecrate to thee, after the manner of a bond-slave, my body and my soul, my interior and exterior goods, and even the value of my good works, past, present, and future, leaving thee the full and entire right to dispose of me and of all that belongs to me, without exception, according to thy good pleasure and the greater glory of God both in time and in eternity.

Accept, O gracious Virgin, this little offering of my bondage, in honor of and in un-

ion with that submission which the Eternal Wisdom willed to show toward thy Motherhood; as a mark of homage to that dominion which thou and thy divine Son have over me, a wretched worm and a miserable sinner; in thanksgiving for the privileges with which the Most Holy Trinity has favored thee. I protest that henceforth I wish, as a true slave, to seek thine honor and to obey thee in all things.

O Mother most admirable, present me to thy Son, as His slave for ever, in order that, having purchased me through thee, He may receive me through thee. O Mother of mercy, procure for me the grace of obtaining true wisdom from God and of being set thereby in the number of those whom thou lovest, whom thou teachest, whom thou guidest, who thou dost sustain and protect as thy children and thy slaves.

O faithful Virgin, render me in all things so perfect a disciple, imitator and slave of the Incarnate Wisdom, Jesus Christ thy Son, that through thine intercession and example I may come to the fullness of His stature on earth and the plenitude of His glory in heaven. Amen. (Prayer written by St. Louis Marie G. de Montfort).

*[Taken from the Raccolta #96. A plenary indulgence on the usual conditions on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and on the 28th day of April (Pius X, Rescript in his own hand, Dec. 24, 1907, exhib. Jan. 22 1908; S. C. of the Holy Office, Dec. 7, 1927).]* {Usual conditions in general means: going to Confession within 7 days, receiving Holy Communion, praying for our Pope's intentions by saying an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be, asking the Lord for you to receive the Plenary Indulgence and selecting one of the following: Praying the Rosary alone or with your family; reading the Bible for 30 minutes alone or with your family; completing 30 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration, or reciting the Stations of the Cross in a church.