

ENTHRONEMENT OF THE BIBLE IN YOUR HOME

IF YOU ARE SETTING UP A PRAYER TABLE IN YOUR HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME OR IF YOU HAVE NOT GATHERED IN THIS SPACE AS A FAMILY FOR AWHILE YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE THE TIME TO ENTHRONE THE BIBLE IN YOUR HOME SO THAT THERE IS A SPECIAL PLACE WHERE THIS PARTICULAR WAY IN WHICH GOD COMES TO BE WITH US IS HONOURED IN YOUR MIDST.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

At this time when we are unable to go to Mass and encounter Jesus there in the Eucharistic Presence of His Body and Blood we can turn our focus to another most important way in which God comes to be with us through His Word. We encounter Jesus powerfully with us when we proclaim His Word and this we can do in our own homes and not just on Sundays but on other days throughout the week as well.

HOW DO WE DO THIS WITH THE CHILDREN?

If you have a family Bible you might want to take time to introduce your children to this special book which we call The Holy Bible. You can discuss with them why this book is holy and what makes it so precious to us. First of all it is God speaking to us and is God's Word.

Also another good way to explain this to the children is to think of it as a **Book which contains precious secrets which God wants to share with us.** There are several scriptures that refer to the secrets of God or the secrets of the Kingdom that are found in the Bible. The important thing about these secrets is that these are secrets that God wants everyone to know.

Perhaps you could discuss some of the secrets that you know already depending on the age of your children. They may know

- Jesus coming to be with us as a tiny baby
- Jesus dying and rising from the dead.
- Jesus is the Light of the Word p

Let them tell you what they know. You might be surprised.

Next you might have a procession carrying this Holy Bible to your prayer space.

A possible song to sing as you carry the Bible would be God's Word is a lamp unto my feet. There may be others. At the beginning of the year we usually sing Come into God's presence singing alleluia. However the A word has been hidden and is not spoken during Lent - to be kept for the a great celebratory acclamation when we celebrate the resurrection. But if the children choose this song you could sing Jesus is Lord or We love you Lord or some words that the children might put there in place of Alleluia.

In the procession they might also bring other things to decorate the prayer table

- a purple cloth
- Candles to be lit once you place them on the table
- A statue or picture of the Good Shepherd
- A prayer card that the children have chosen or made
- Flowers
- Snuffer and tray.

Processions are loved especially by the youngest children but readily engaged in by the older children especially if they are involved in setting it up and getting it ready.



Let them be as creative as they want. Celebrations in the atrium especially with the older children are very fluid and follow the child and their ideas and interests. The structure here is simply to give some basic ideas for you as parents but let this just be a springboard to see where the children might take you or what they might come up with. Again you might be surprised.

Some questions you could ask might be

How can we honour the Bible here in our home?

What can you think of that you would want to bring in the procession?

Where will we start our procession?

What part of the Bible should we read when we get there?

What other songs would you like to sing?

Afterwards or the next day they might want to draw or paint or write in a journal of their own or make some song cards or prayer cards.

There are many different types of celebrations that you can have around your prayer table. I will send home one that we usually do in the atrium called the Liturgy of Light that announces the Resurrection - the light shining in the darkness and is modelled on the first moments of the Easter Vigil.

Scriptures you could use. Ps119:105, Ps 100:2, Ps 23:1 More on this to come

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