

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Adapted for the "National Act of Consecration and Entrustment to the Immaculate Heart of Mary" recited last June 8, 2013. Shortened and directed to our present context, from the "official act of consecration" written by Blessed John Paul II.

I

"We have recourse to your protection, O holy Mother of God." As we recite the words of this antiphon with which the Church of Christ has prayed for centuries, we find ourselves today before you, our Mother, in this Year of Faith. We, who make up the Body of Christ present in our land, recite the words of this present Act of Consecration and Entrustment, in which we gather, first of all, the hopes and anxieties of our Filipino people, at this moment of our history.

Mother of our people, we rejoice in the name, *"Pueblo Amante de Maria, a people who love Mary, bayang sumisinta kay Maria."* You know all our sufferings and our hopes, you who have a mother's awareness of all the struggles between good and evil, between light and darkness, which afflict the world today. Mother of our people, accept the cry which we, deeply moved by the Holy Spirit, address directly to your heart.

Embrace, with the love of the Mother and Handmaid of the Lord, our people and our land, which now we entrust and consecrate to you, for we are truly concerned for the earthly and eternal destiny of every individual among us and for all our people. *"We have recourse to your protection, O holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities."*

II

Behold, as we gather before you, Mother of Christ, as we gather before your Immaculate Heart, we desire, the Church of the Lord in our land, joined in heart and mind with all our people, *"isang bayang Pilipino,"* to unite ourselves with the consecration which, for love of us, your Son made of himself to the Father: *'For their sake,'* he said, *'I consecrate myself that they also may be consecrated in the truth.'* We wish to unite ourselves with our Redeemer in this his consecration for the world and for the entire human race, which, in his divine Heart, has the power to obtain pardon and to secure reparation.

The power of this consecration by your Son, Our Lord, lasts for all time and embraces all individuals, peoples and nations. Thus also it embraces our people and our land. The power of this consecration overcomes every evil that the spirit of darkness is able to awaken, and has in fact awakened in our times, in the hearts of men and women in human history. How deeply we now feel the need for the consecration of our people, in union with Christ Jesus himself. For the redeeming work of our Redeemer must be shared in by the world, and by our own people, through the Church.

We turn to you, Mother of our Redeemer and our Mother: above all creatures may you be blessed, you, the Handmaid of the Lord, who in the fullest way obeyed the divine call. Hail to you, who are wholly united to the redeeming consecration of your Son. Mother of the Church, enlighten the People of God along the paths of faith, hope and love. Help us to live in the truth of the consecration offered by Jesus your Son for the entire human family, and for us, the Filipino people and for our beloved land.

III

In entrusting to you, O Mother, our people, your *"Pueblo amante de Maria,"* we entrust to you this very consecration itself, placing it in your motherly Heart. Immaculate Heart, help us to conquer the threat of evil, which so easily enters and takes root in the hearts of people today, and whose immeasurable effects already weigh down upon our country, and seem to block the paths toward the future.

- From hatred, violence, and conflicts that divide and destroy our people, deliver us.
- From sins against human life, from its very beginning, deliver us.
- From the demeaning of the dignity of the children of God, deliver us.
- From every kind of injustice in the life of society, deliver us.
- From readiness to trample on the commandments of God, deliver us.
- From the loss of awareness of good and evil, deliver us.
- From sins against the Holy Spirit, deliver us, deliver us.

Accept, O Mother of Christ, this cry, laden with the hopes and burdens, the sufferings of each one of us, and of all our people. Help us, with the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome and conquer all sin - individual sins and the sin of the world - sin in all its manifestations.

Let there be revealed once more, in our own history as a people, the infinite power of the Redemption, the power of merciful love. May it destroy the power of sin and evil among us. May it transform consciences.

May your Immaculate Heart reveal for all, in our land and throughout the world, the light of hope! O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, our life, our sweetness and our hope!