

We publish this pastoral letter, O. D. B. B., on this day of the Ascension of our Lord Who ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us, and to send us, with His Holy Spirit, the abundance of His graces, by which we shall merit the crown of the elect. Oh! may we, like the Apostles, keep our eyes always fixed on this abode of glory and happiness! It is there, indeed, as St. Paul says, *our conversation* should be (Philip. III. 20.), that is to say, this should be the object of our desires and the end towards which we should tend; from thence shall come to judge the living and the dead He Who, on this day, ascended into heaven in presence of the Apostles. Terrible and consoling thought which will animate us to good and keep us from evil! May it be engraven on your hearts! May it form the subject of your attentive meditations!

Having invoked the Holy name of God, we decree and ordain as follows:

1° On the sunday after the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in all the churches and chapels of this province where public service is performed, and in all religious communities, after the reading of that part of the present pastoral letter which relates to this devotion, a public and solemn consecration shall be made of the parish or of the community to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After mass, shall take place, if possible, a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, during which one or more hymns from the office of the Sacred Heart, shall be sung. After the procession shall be read from the pulpit, where several priests are present, or at the foot of the altar, a consecration to this Divine Heart, according to the formula to be found at the end of the present pastoral letter, and, after the *Tantum ergo*, and the prayers of the Blessed Sacrament and of the Sacred Heart, the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament shall be given. The priest, who shall read the consecration, shall bear the stole, and shall hold a lighted taper in his hand. This consecration shall be renewed, each year, on the sunday after the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

2° We desire that there be every where a picture of the Sacred Heart, that confraternities be every where established in its honor, that all the faithful be invited to join them, and frequently to invoke the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the remembrance of which is so powerful