

**MEN OF THE SACRED HEARTS
OF JESUS AND MARY**

STATUTES

June 2007





Congregation of the Sacred Hearts

77 Adams Street, Post Office Box 111, Fairhaven, Massachusetts 02719-011

Provincial Office

Dear Men of the Sacred Hearts,

It is with joy that this booklet is being given to you, which contains the updated statutes of the association "Men of the Sacred Hearts". I recall the enthusiasm Fr. Francis Larkin, ss.cc. had in starting the Men of the Sacred Hearts in 1964. Fr. Mateo had confided much love and enthusiasm of the Sacred Heart to Fr. Larkin and he was able to convey that to others.

The primary focus of this update was to address chapter level governance, suggestions and guidelines for members during home visitation and general spirituality matters. These are all offered to assist the effectiveness of our role as lay apostles of the Enthronement of the Sacred Hearts in families or other communities.

The Enthronement Apostolate was the vision of Fr. Mateo Crawley-Boevey, ss.cc. (1875-1960). This booklet is being published on the one hundredth anniversary of Fr. Mateo's inspiration to start the Enthronement after the impetus of a visit to Paray-le-Monial in France in 1907. This is where the Sacred Heart appeared to Saint Margaret Mary in the 17th Century. With the power of the love of the heart of Christ, we are called to build together a civilization of love. Such was the goal of Fr. Mateo; such is the burning need today to which we want to give ourselves once again. Fr. Mateo believed, "to save the world, Jesus must live among us. For this to happen, society needs to be reclaimed by Christ and the Christian family renewed."

Faithful use of these statutes will enable all members to be effective instruments of the Sacred Heart in establishing his primacy over families, communities and society. The Enthronement commits us to put the heart of Christ at the center of our lives. With the power of the love of the heart of Christ, we build together a civilization of love. The Men of the Sacred Hearts are remembered in my Masses and prayers.

Sincerely yours in the Sacred Hearts

Very Reverend William F. Petrie, ss.cc.
Provincial

Telephone (508)993 2442 | Fax (508) 996-5499 | Email: frpetrie@sscc.org | Online: WWW.SScc.org

MEN OF THE SACRED HEARTS STATUTES

A. NATURE AND PURPOSE

1. "Men of the Sacred Hearts" (MSH) is a private association of the Christian Faithful (specifically, Catholic men) united spiritually for one purpose: *to help spread the Kingdom of Christ*, principally through the apostolate of the *Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in families, communities and businesses*, plus its auxiliary movement, *Night Adoration in the Home*. Like the founder of the apostolate, Fr. Mateo Crawley-Boevey, SS.CC., the MSH desires to promote the Social Reign of the Sacred Heart.

2. The MSH exists in order to coordinate the activities of men who are trying to bring the all-powerful love of the Sacred Heart into the social groups integral to their life: the home; parish organizations; business, social and fraternal groups.

3. Men of the Sacred Hearts will come together periodically for prayer, formation, heart to heart sharing and business matters necessary to prepare for the effective conduct of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate.

B. TITLE AND HEADQUARTERS

1. Title: They are called *Men of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary* to emphasize both the manly character of their love for the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart and their total commitment of making Jesus and Mary known and loved. This title also reflects its relationship to the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and Perpetual Adoration (SS.CC.)

2. Headquarters: The headquarters is located at the National Enthronement Center, P. O. Box 111, Fairhaven, MA 02719. This non-profit organization has been incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana. It was founded in April 1964, by Fr. Francis Larkin, SS.CC. and Mr. Dominic DeAngelo with the approval of Archbishop Albert Meyers of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

C. OBJECTIVES

1. To be a witness of the power of true devotion to the Sacred Heart in daily life. He pledges himself:

a. To fulfill, as best he can, the great commandment of Christ...total love of God and neighbor. "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind...You must love your neighbor as yourself." (Matt. 22:37-40)

b. As a sign of total dedication, to enthrone prominently the image of the Sacred Heart in his home and, if possible, in his place of business.

c. To speak to individuals and groups about the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart, thus sharing knowledge and love for the Sacred Heart with other people. "If any man acknowledge me before men, I acknowledge him before my Father in heaven." (Matt. 10:32)

2. To forge a bond of unity between isolated men and women promoters of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate, priests, religious or laity, to increase their effectiveness.

3. To help and encourage each other by uniting prayers and sacrifices, and by pooling experiences and techniques.

4. To pray and offer sacrifices for the sanctification of seminarians, priests and religious brothers and sisters and for an increase in vocations.

D. WHAT MOTIVATES MEN TO JOIN THE MSH?

1. A sincere personal *love* for the Sacred Heart of Jesus, especially in the Eucharist. Love by its very nature diffuses itself; it tends to give itself to others. "Love was not put in our hearts there to stay; love is not love 'til it is given away!" Zeal is nothing else but the fire of love in a man's heart communicating itself to others. As Father Mateo said, "An apostle is an *overflowing chalice*." The need to love as Christ loves is driven by many reasons:

a. **Reciprocal love:** "The love of Christ impels us." (2Cor. 5:14)

b. **Grateful love:** "Let us therefore love, because God first loved us." (1Jn 4:19)

c. **Reparative love:** The Sacred Heart promised at Paray-le-Monial, "I will reign through love." With faith in that promise, we make reparation for the attempts to dethrone Christ in the temporal order.

d. **Apostolic love:** To carry out the Church's mandate, "Every baptized and confirmed Christian should be an apostle." (Decree of the Apostolate of the Laity, Vatican II). See Appendix B for more excerpts.

2. They are actually called to the work. They may see this as an excellent way of "living" their own Enthronement. They may also appreciate associating with Catholic men who have a common purpose. They can spread the Good News with confidence despite trying times. St. Margaret Mary tells us, "Confidence is the key to the treasures of the Heart of Jesus." Our Lord told her, "I will reign despite Satan and his agents."

3. Some may feel that they wish to join the MSH for spiritual reasons, but do not feel called to be active promoters. They are not comfortable with the idea of presenting the teachings of the apostolate to families or groups. St. Paul tells us that we are all unique and have different gifts. (1Cor.12:4-11) So too, in the MSH. There are many activities involved with this work including prayer support for those presenting the teachings.

E. SPIRITUAL ADVANTAGES

1. A rich share in the special graces promised by the Sacred Heart to friends and apostles; especially this one: "Those who promote this devotion shall have their names written on my Heart, never to be blotted out." (See the **Enthronement of the Sacred Heart**, by Fr. Francis Larkin, SS.CC., for all the promises to apostles.)
2. The special protection of Mother Mary, as promised to St. Margaret Mary: "The Blessed Virgin Mary will be their special protectress; she will assist them in attaining the perfect life."
3. A mutual sharing in the prayers and sacrifices and good works of all Men of the Sacred Hearts.

F. ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary periodically appoint a National Director of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate who is also the Spiritual Director and the ultimate person of authority to whom the MSH Board of Directors and Officers, Chapters and general MSH membership report. Chapters and the Officers they select are guided by a MSH Board of Directors. The National Board reports to the National Director of the Enthronement Apostolate. MSH members that do not have a Chapter affiliation report to MSH National Board until a Chapter affiliation can be established or a new Chapter formed.

G. Government

1. The MSH National Board of Directors will be comprised of elected and Ex-Officio members. Ex-Officio members are generally members of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary who have been assigned as National Director, Assistant Director or Acting Director of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate. Elected members will be those laymen nominated by anyone in the general membership and approved by the current Board. The Board may have up to twelve elected members. Approval by election means that a quorum of the current Board was present (defined as 75% of the Board) and that two-thirds of the current Board approved the nomination.
2. The term of Board membership will be three years from their initial election date. Board members are permitted up to two three-year extensions if approved by the member first, and the Board secondly, in accordance with the process outlined in G.1. above. Following a nine year period on the Board, a member may stand for election again after a year of absence.

3. The Board Officers will include the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. These positions will be selected from among the elected Board members. If there is only one nomination for a given position, then the Board may declare the winner by acclamation. Nominations of two or more for the same position will be elected by written vote. The one selected must receive the majority of votes, which may require more than one voting session. In each voting session, the candidate with the least votes is eliminated until one emerges with at least two-thirds majority votes.

4. An elected Officer will serve a three-year term in that position with up to one three-year term extension, pending acceptance by the Board member first and Board approval in accordance with the process outlined in G.1. The second term may not last a full three years if the maximum duration of Board membership expires, i.e., nine years.

5. In geographic areas where there are at least six candidates willing to prepare for coming into the work of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate and becoming MSH, the leader of these men may appeal for recognition as a Chapter to the MSH National Board of Directors. Temporary Chapter status will be granted upon submission of a proposed Chapter name, member names and addresses of candidates and the spiritual advisor (any ordained clergyman), identification of those assigned or elected to Chapter Office Positions. There are at least six Chapter functions to be performed. These include primary leader, a backup leader, secretary, treasurer, procurer/custodian of inventory and scheduler of Enthronements. Chapters can decide which of the formal Office positions will be used such as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and the duties or functions assigned each Officer. It is recommended that those assigned or elected to an Office retain their position for at least two years. An additional two year term may be approved. These matters should be documented as Chapter by-laws.

All MSH candidates and their spiritual advisor must be willing to enter into a self-study formation program. Formation will include: on-site or remote direction by an MSH Board Member or an Officer from an existing MSH Chapter; reading of the Statues of the MSH; reading of a **Handbook for Promoters**, reading of Fr. Francis Larkin's book, **Enthronement of the Sacred Heart**, reading of the biography of Fr. Mateo Crawley-Boevey, SS.CC., **Firebrand** and reading of material written by Fr. Mateo, **Jesus King of Love**. The first three references above must be read before beginning the work. All these may be obtained from the National Enthronement Center, Box 111, Fairhaven, MA 02719. Following basic formation, official Chapter status will be granted by the MSH National Board. The first order of business should be the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in the new Chapter member households for those who have never done this. MSH Chapters should meet periodically for business and spiritual matters with appropriate recordings of decisions and action items. MSH Chapters submit a short written report of Chapter activities once a year. Chapter presidents will be notified of timing and content.

6. The MSH Board will meet at least once each year for fraternal, spiritual and business purposes. Additional meetings will be called on an *as needed* basis including telephone conferencing. Meetings will be guided by Robert's Rules of Order. A recommended meeting format can be found in Appendix A of these Statutes. A simple majority will guide approval of all business matters except changes to the MSH Statutes. The latter requires both a quorum of Board members (75%) and a two-thirds majority for approval. Appendix A can also be used by MSH Chapters.

H. SPIRITUAL CHARACTERISTICS OF MSH

1. Have a love of the Church: the Sacraments, attendance at Celebrations of the Eucharist, the Scriptures, the Church as an institution, and a genuine desire to serve.
2. A great love for the Sacred Heart and devotedness to his mother, the Immaculate Heart, especially through the Rosary.
3. Lives out the covenant made with the Lord at the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in his personal family.
4. Committed to the evangelical and missionary aspects of our Faith and promoting the Social Reign of the Sacred Heart through families.
5. Recognizes the importance of daily prayer and scripture reading, First Friday and First Saturday Communions of reparation. Takes advantage of reading material from the Church such as Pope Pius XII's **Haurietas Aquas**, Paul V's **Humanae Vitae**, Pope John Paul II's **Familiaris Consortio** and **Veritatis Splendor**, Pope Benedict XVI's **Deus Caritas Est**, **Sacramentum Caritatis** and publications on Catholic Social Teaching. One such excellent source is **Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church** by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

I. CONDITIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. A Catholic man in good standing with the Catholic Church. There are no impediments to receiving the Sacraments.
2. A genuine love of our Savior especially in Eucharistic practices and devotedness to his mother.
3. A general intention to lead a good Catholic life, obey the Commandments of God, accept the Precepts of the Church and Canon Laws, be obedient to the proclamations and teachings of the Holy Father and avoid situations that could cause scandal of any kind.
4. A willingness to engage in the study programs outlined in sections G. and H. above.
5. A willingness to have the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in your own family (personal or parents) if not already done. The family should renew this covenant at least once annually. MSH should include a short renewal of their consecration to the Sacred Heart on a daily basis.
6. A willingness to attend MSH Chapter meetings or attend special spiritual formation workshops if distance and cost are not out of the question.
7. Willing to make the MSH Consecration prayer in the presence of your spiritual advisor (Chapter advisor or your personal advisor) as shown in Appendix C.

J. HOME VISITATION COURTESIES

1. Learn about the family in advance. MSH Chapter Presidents or home visitation team leaders should determine the needs of families requesting the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart. Is this a family in communion with the Church? Is this a family trying to raise children as Catholic even though there is a marriage impediment? Is there an attempt to get previous relationships annulled? Can you assist them on this? Is this a non-Catholic Christian family? You may need to seek guidance from your pastor or the National Director of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate.
2. MSH Chapter Presidents or home visitation team leaders must inform pastors of intentions to work with a family in their parish preparing for the Enthronement. The pastor is also welcome.
3. Home visitations must have at least TWO people present; two MSH members or an MSH member and his spouse.
4. Visiting MSH should be properly groomed and have attended to personal hygiene matters. Members should comply with any distinctive dress in accordance with the local Chapter's preference such as embroidered sports coats, a special Sacred Heart rib-

bon/chain and medallion or a Sacred Heart Badge.

5. Visiting MSH members do not sell services or products during home visitations.

6. Visiting MSH members do not wander throughout the household or pick up household objects unless specifically permitted.

7. Visiting MSH members do not make any negative comments about Church matters, hierarchy or clergymen. Members of households desiring to talk negatively about Church matters should be counseled that we often do not have all the facts and it should be left to appropriate Church authority for resolution/disposition.

APPENDIX A

MSH Board or Chapter Meeting Outline

Preliminary note: The spirit of meetings should be that of *togetherness*, of *unity*, as in family. To this end it is suggested that each man become acquainted with other members at the first meeting. A name-tag would eliminate any embarrassment. At all meetings let there be a spirit of comradeship befitting men who are united in the bond of love for the purpose of spreading love for the Sacred Heart. Cliques or sitting apart silently should be discouraged. A circular seating arrangement will facilitate the meeting and create a family-like atmosphere.

If the MSH has a permanent meeting place, the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart should take place as soon as possible. The enthroned image should be the focal point for the opening and closing prayers. There should also be a small picture or statue of the Sacred Heart on the table around which the members sit.

Order of Business

1. President calls the meeting to order and formally introduces new members.
2. Opening prayer: *Consecration to the Holy Spirit* followed by a *Rosary* or *Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus*.

Consecration to the Holy Spirit

God, Holy Spirit, Infinite Love of the Father and the Son, through the pure hands of Mary, your Immaculate Spouse, I place myself this day, and all the days of my life, upon your chosen altar, the Divine Heart of Jesus as a sacrifice to you, consuming Fire, being firmly resolved now more than ever to hear your voice, and to do in all things your most Holy and Adorable Will.

Purest and holiest heart of Mary, in whom Jesus lives through the Holy Spirit, implore for us from this Holy Spirit, that the Sacred Heart of Jesus, through him, live in our hearts. Our Lady of Light, spouse of the Holy Spirit, obtain, O obtain for me the grace of an intimate union with Jesus!

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy Kingdom Come! (5x)

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! (3x)

St. Joseph, friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

St. Margaret Mary, pray for us!

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, pray for us!

3. Reading of the Minutes from previous meeting.
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Guest speaker or a short spiritual reading.
8. Open discussion on the topic of the guest speaker, on the spiritual reading or any subject pertinent to the apostolic work of the MSH.
9. Closing prayer.

In Honor of Christ the King

(All) O Christ Jesus, I acknowledge you to be the King of the universe; all that has been made has been created by you. Exercise over me all your sovereign rights. I hereby renew the promises of my Baptism, renouncing Satan and all his works and empty promises, and engage myself to lead henceforth a truly Christian life. And in an especial manner do I undertake to bring about the triumph of the rights of God and your Church, so far in me lies. Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer you my poor actions to obtain acknowledgement by every heart of your sacred kingly power. In this way may the kingdom of your peace be firmly established throughout all the earth. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Thy Kingdom
Come! (5x)

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! (3x)

St. Joseph, pray for us!

St. Margaret Mary, pray for us!

St. Claude de la Colombiere, pray for us!

If a priest is present he gives his blessing. Otherwise all bless themselves.

APPENDIX B

Excerpts from Vatican II Decree of the Apostolate of the Laity

“The Church was founded for the purpose of spreading the kingdom of Christ throughout the earth for the glory of God the Father, to enable all men to share in his saving redemption and that through them the whole world might enter into relationship with Christ. All activity of the Mystical Body directed to the attainment of this goal is called the apostolate, which the Church carries on in various ways through all her members.

“The laity must take up the renewal of the temporal order as their own special obligation. Led by the light of the Gospel and the mind of the Church and motivated by Christian charity, they must act directly and in a definite way in the temporal sphere.”

“The greatest commandment in the law is to love God with one’s whole heart and one’s neighbor as oneself. (Matt. 22:37-40) Christ made this commandment of love of neighbor his own and enriched it with new meaning. For he wanted to equate himself with his brethren as the object of this love when he said, “As long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did it for me.” (Matt 25:40)

“A particular form of the individual apostolate as well as a sign specially suited to our times is the testimony of the whole lay life arising from faith hope and charity. It manifests Christ living in those who believe in him.

“Then by the apostolate of the spoken and written word, which is utterly necessary under certain circumstances, lay people announce Christ, explain and spread his teaching in accordance with one’s status and ability, and faithfully profess it.”

“In the present circumstances, it is quite necessary that in the area of lay activity the united and organized form of the apostolate be strengthened. In fact, only the pooling of resources is capable of fully achieving all the aims of the modern apostolate and firmly protecting its interests.”

“In this way, by giving spiritual help to one another through friendship and the communicating of the benefit of their experience, they are trained to overcome the disadvantages of excessive isolated life and activity and to make their apostolate more productive.”

“The laity derive the right and duty to the apostolate from their union with Christ the head: incorporated into Christ’s Mystical Body through Baptism and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation, they are assigned to the apostolate by the Lord himself.”

“The whole Church must work vigorously in order that men may become capable of rec-

tifying the distortion of the temporal order and directing it to God through Christ.”

“One engages in the apostolate through faith, hope and charity which the Holy Spirit diffuses in the hearts of all members of the Church. Indeed by the precept of love, which is the Lord’s greatest commandment, all the faithful are impelled to promote the glory of God through the coming of his Kingdom and to obtain eternal life for all men – that they may know the only true God and him whom he sent, Jesus Christ.” (John 17:3)

“Since Christ, sent by the Father, is the source and origin of the whole apostolate of the Church, the success of the lay apostolate depends upon the laity’s living union with Christ, in keeping with the Lord’s words, ‘He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for without me you can do nothing.’ (John 15:5) This life of intimate union with Christ in the Church is nourished by spiritual aids which are common to all the faithful, especially by active participation in the sacred liturgy.

Summary Thoughts

Man learns by doing. Thus, active participation should create not only the individually holy but socially minded layman, intelligently, morally and spiritually formed and capable of ‘living the Mass’ in the temporal world where he must work out his salvation as a witness of the crucified savior, whose Heart was opened for all.

One thing more, and it is important. “Men,” said Pope Leo XIII, “are to be saved by men, not by angels.” In the ordinary providence of God, laymen seeking holiness must look to their priests for guidance in spirituality and all apostolic works. For the priest is the divinely instituted guardian and dispenser of the sacraments and grace – the teacher of the word of God. Therefore, if formed, intelligent and apostolic men are the hope of the Church, then the vital importance of forming them cannot be overlooked.

APPENDIX C

Catechesis of the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate

Our mission is to bring forth Jesus Christ as the Enthroned King of the World. This is done by propagating a 'way of life' for God's people and fostering the Eucharistic life of individuals and families which in turn extends to parish family, communities and society as a whole.

This propagation encourages the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in order to give Christ his rightful primacy in lives, homes, workplaces, communities and nations. It asks all involved to love Jesus intensely in return for his unconditional and on-going love of all humankind. It further asks that individuals make reparation for all the offenses against our Lord's most Sacred Heart especially those acts that 'dethrone' him from his rightful place as the true King of all creation.

The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart according to its founder, Father Mateo Crawley-Boevey, SS.CC, is *not a devotion*. It is an apostolate whose aim is to win souls for Christ. It is rooted in Scripture. Its essence is love. The heart and soul of it is the Eucharist. It recognizes the inherent redeeming power of the Mass and the sacraments; in particular the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the spiritually ill. An important goal of the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in families will unite the tabernacle of the church and the tabernacle of the home in a way that will make each home a true domestic Church with a strong Eucharistic foundation.

Since the Heart of Christ or the Person of Jesus, is the central focus of this apostolate, the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart can be viewed as a remedy for our times. Our families are in a crisis worldwide. People have lost the dread for sin. The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart can bring about a *new* Pentecost in the Church, home by home. The act of honoring our Lord's Heart does not bind individuals or families to anything new. It is a way of life that calls us to simply live and practice the fundamental truths of our faith. Jesus of the Gospel calls us to the two great commandments: love of God and love for each other. It is living out our Baptismal commitment. Our Lord's promises to St. Margaret Mary for families that honor his most Sacred Heart by entering into a covenant of love relationship with him are the same as that found in the Scriptures. (Deut 7:6-15)

The Enthronement Apostolate also calls forth some individuals to be promoters and advocates for this way of life. It places high priority on the spiritual formation of apostles in order to bring about a heart to Heart relationship with the Person of Jesus. Priests, religious, Men of the Sacred Hearts and other laypersons are called forth to be modern day Gideon warriors, armed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, to help bring about a transformation of hearts to be reflections of the Heart of Christ.

Men of the Sacred Hearts
CONSECRATION PRAYER

I, _____,
consecrate myself to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
I promise, to the best of my ability,
to promote the social rights of Christ,
King of love,
in my private and public life,
and in the private and public life of others.
Moreover, I promise to defend these rights;
rights which are above human consideration
and ,if necessary,
at the cost of personal sacrifice.

I will,
to the best of my ability,
endeavor to encourage families
to enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their homes,
and to make him known in the marketplace,
thus establishing the rights of Christ in the world of business.

I will urge families
to consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
and to pray the family Rosary.
Further, I ask our Blessed Mother to defend me,
and to keep me in the presence of our Savior,
Jesus Christ.

I ask St. Joseph,
Patron of the Church and the Guardian of families,
to help me keep this pledge,
assist my growth in the spiritual life,
that I may be an effective instrument in the hands of God.

I ask St. Margaret Mary,
St. Claude de la Colombiere,
the heavenly host,
and my brothers and sisters to pray for me.

Praise, honor and glory to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, now and forever.

Amen.



National Enthronement Office
PO BOX 111
Fairhaven, Mass. 2719-0111
Phone: (508) 999-2680
Fax: (508) 993-8233
Email necenter@juno.com
Visit Us Online: WWW.SSCC.ORG