

**Prayer of Consecration of the Diocese of Kalamazoo to Jesus through Mary,
Mother of the Church**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2018, St. Augustine
Cathedral

Loving and Gracious God, as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States, we as a Diocese take this occasion to renew our deep Faith in, and Love for Your Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, inspired by the example and through the intercession of the sinless Virgin Mary, our Blessed Mother.

Dear Mary, Mother of the Church, having renewed our Baptismal Promises whereby we renounce Satan absolutely, we commit ourselves to follow Your Son Jesus intently, faithfully and joyfully in our lives.

To help us do that, dear Mother Mary, we consecrate ourselves to you today: body, mind, and spirit, and we ask for your intercession and protection from your heavenly Home. Please set our hearts on fire with love for your Son, Jesus. Make us attentive to His Love for all people as we too give generously of ourselves to our sisters and brothers in Christ, especially those most in need. Keep our hearts pure with your own pure and perfect love, so that we may love Jesus and all those with whom we are united in the Body of Christ.

Help us to persevere in penance and prayer for the salvation of the world, and to do all that we can to help advance the Kingdom of God each day.

Dear Mary, we offer you the prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this, and every day. Give us a heart like yours, and through God's grace, may we keep our hearts pure and free from sin and ever attentive to God's holy Will.

To you, O Immaculate Mother Mary, you who humbly and joyfully do God's holy Will, I, Bishop Paul J. Bradley, solemnly consecrate the clergy and faithful, the parishes and institutions, of the Diocese of Kalamazoo to your Immaculate Heart for the Glory of God and the growth of His Kingdom here on earth.

Let us pray together:

Ever Virgin, Immaculate Mother, Queen of Heaven and Earth, Mother of Divine Grace and Mother of the Church, we ask you to protect us, guide us toward your Son, strengthen us in our missionary calls, and cover us with the infinite merits of your Divine Son in order to safely arrive to the Eternal Day and see God Face to face.

***We ask this + in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.***