Pope John Paul II Award   
Commissioning Ceremony

Feast of Christ the King

Encourage Award participants to be involved in the following areas of the Liturgy:

* Welcome (sample included)
* Readings (of the day)
* Commissioning Ceremony (sample outline included)
* Prayer of the Faithful (sample included)
* Presentation of the Gifts
* Ministers of Holy Communion (if any Award participants have been commissioned)
* Communion Reflection (samples included)

**Welcome**

*(Read by a Pope John Paul II Award participant)*

Good morning/Good evening and welcome to our Mass. As part of the liturgy today, we will have a short commissioning ceremony for the young people in our parish that have enrolled this year to participate in Pope John Paul II Award.

The Pope John Paul II Award is for young people aged 16 and older or in TY. The aim of the Award is to enable young people to play an active role in their parish and local community. Through the Award, young people are encouraged to get involved in different aspects of parish ministry and support local charities and projects in their society. This is the [enter number] year the Award has been running in our diocese. We are looking forward to participating in it over the weeks and months ahead in our parish. We hope you will support us in this initiative. Some of the John Paul II students will be involved in the Liturgy today.

I invite everyone to please stand for ……….. (Opening hymn or Entrance procession)

**Readings**

(For the Day)

The readings are available from: http://www.catholicbishops.ie/readings/

**Commissioning Ceremony** (Post Gospel/Homily)

*(Read by Diocesan Award Coordinator/Parish Leader)*

Dear Friends

Today is the Feast of Christ the King and marks the end of the year of evangelisation. For these young people signing up to do the Pope John Paul II Award it is only the beginning of a new phase in their journey with Christ.

Pope Francis recently encouraged you young people to make yourselves known in your parish, create a fuss. He says 'The Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity and the joy that is so characteristic of you...Christ is counting on you! The Church is counting on you.'

By saying Yes to participate in this faith based award you are keeping open that door of faith and enriching our church with your youthful zeal.

We welcome the joy and enthusiasm these young people will bring as they volunteer and put themselves forward to work in our Church and local community.

Today in our Church Community we commission these young people in the Pope John Paul II Award.

*Celebrant:*

I invite those who have chosen to participate in the Pope John Paul II Award to come forward (together with their Award leader if possible).

(The Celebrant calls out their names)

Participant 1

Participant 2

On behalf of this parish community I welcome your enrolment in the John Paul II Award. I wish to commend you for your generous participation and your youthful idealism.

When you were baptised you became a follower of Jesus Christ. This means you were called to be the presence of Christ in your community. By taking part in this Award you will have the opportunity to serve others as Christ asks each of us to do.

*Celebrant:* Have you taken on this role freely and of your own choice?

*Award Participants:* We have

*Celebrant:* Do you promise to play an active part in your parish? *Award Participants:* We do

*Celebrant:* Do you promise to serve others in your school and local community?

*Award Participants:* We do

*Celebrant:*

God our Father, send your Holy Spirit upon these young people. Be their helper and guide, and grant them the spirit of wisdom, generosity and courage. Enable them to complete their chosen tasks with faith, honesty and dedication. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

*(Read by Award participants)*

Lord, we thank you for our parish community, may we all help and support each other on our faith journey. **Lord Hear Us**

Lord, we ask your blessing on all young people especially those doing their John Paul II Award. May our experiences enable us to grow in wisdom and love. **Lord Hear Us**

Lord, we ask your blessing on all who are part of our parish community. We pray especially for those who are sick, may we support each other with love and understanding. **Lord Hear Us**

Lord, we ask your strength when we experience obstacles and difficulties. May we face each new situation with courage and hope. **Lord Hear Us**

Lord we thank you for the uniqueness of each person. May we learn to appreciate and celebrate ‘difference’. **Lord Hear Us**

Lord may we find time to build true friendships, to help those in need and to serve others with joy and enthusiasm. **Lord Hear Us**

**Communion Reflections**

Lord, you are love,

Teach us to become loving.

Lord, you are compassion,

Teach us to become compassionate.

Lord, you are gentleness,

Teach us to become gentle.

Lord, you are divine,

Draw us into your divinity.

*(Prayer for parish groups J Kavanagh & D Harrington)*

MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood, as to understand; To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*(Attributed to St Francis of Assisi)*

PATHS

I weave into my life this day

The presence of God upon my way,

I weave into my life this hour

The mighty God and all his power.

I weave into my sore distress

His peace and calm and no less.

I weave into my step so lame

Heaving and helping of His name.

I weave into the darkest night

Strands of God shining bright,

I weave into each deed done

Joy and hope of the Risen Son.

*(David Adam, Tides and Seasons)*

*If possible you might like to have a social time for the young people and their families after Mass, perhaps tea and biscuits!*