

# The Solemn Ceremony of Enrolment of Altar Servers in the Sodality of St Tarcisius

*The candidates will kneel, facing the altar, (on which six candles may be lit) on the floor of the sanctuary, and the priest, vested in cassock and surplice, and wearing a stole of the colour of the day, will stand facing them on the predella. Two servers will stand nearby, bearing the medals, a tray, and the holy water. It would be fitting for the priest to address the candidates on their privileges and obligations.*

V. Adjutorium ✠ nostrum in nomine Domini.

R. Qui fecit coelum et terram.

*Ant.* Beati qui habitant in domo tua Domine.

Quam dilecta tabernacula tua, Domine virtutum: concupiscit, et deficit anima mea in atria Domini.

Cor meum et caro mea: exultaverunt in Deum vivum.

Etenim passer invenit sibi domum: et turtur nidum sibi ubi ponat pullos suos.

Altaria tua, Domine virtutum:

Rex meus, et Deus meus.

Beati qui habitant in domo tua, Domine: in saecula saeculorum laudabunt te.

Beatus vir, cujus est auxilium abs te; ascensiones in corde suo disposuit, in valle lacrimarum: in loco quem posuit.

Etenim benedictionem dabit legislator, ibunt de virtute in virtutem: videbitur Deus deorum in Sion.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord

R. Who hath made heaven and earth.

*Ant.* Blessed are they who dwell in Thy house, O Lord.

How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my flesh have rejoiced in the living God.

For the sparrow hath found herself a house, and the turtle a nest for herself where she may lay her young ones.

Thy altars, O Lord of hosts: My king and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, O Lord: They shall praise Thee for ever and ever.

Blessed is the man whose help is from Thee.

In his heart he hath disposed to ascend by steps, in the vale of tears, in the place which he hath set.

For the lawgiver shall give a blessing; they shall go from virtue to virtue, the God of gods shall be seen in Sion.

Domine Deus virtutum, exaudi  
orationem meam: auribus  
percipe, Deus Jacob.

Protector noster aspice Deus: et  
respice in faciem Christi tui.

Quia melior est dies una in atriis  
tuis: super millia.

Elegi abjectus esse in domo Dei  
mei: magis quam habitare in  
tabernaculis peccatorum.

Quia misericordiam et veritatem  
diligit Deus: gratiam et gloriam  
dabit Dominus.

Non privabit bonis eos, qui  
ambulant in innocentia: Domine  
virtutum, beatus homo qui sperat  
in te.

Gloria Patri et Filio: et Spiritui  
Sancto. Sicut erat in principio,  
et nunc, et semper: et in saecula  
saeculorum. Amen.

*Ant.* Beati qui habitant in domo  
tua, Domine.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison,  
Kyrie eleison.

Pater noster (*secreto*).

V. Et ne nos inducas in  
tentationem.

R. Sed libera nos a malo.

V. Domine, exaudi orationem  
meam.

R. Et clamor meus ad te veniat.

V. Dominus vobiscum.

R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my  
prayer: Give ear. O God of Jacob.  
Behold, O God our protector: and  
look on the face of Thy Christ.

For better is one day in Thy courts  
above thousands.

I have chosen to be an abject in the  
house of my God, rather than to  
dwell in the tabernacles of sinners.

For God loveth mercy and truth:  
the Lord will give grace and glory.

He will not deprive of good things  
them that walk in innocence. O

Lord of hosts, blessed is the man  
that trusteth in Thee.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

*Ant.* Blessed are they who dwell in  
Thy house, O Lord.

Lord have mercy, Christ have  
mercy, Lord have mercy.

Our Father (*secretly*),

V. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto Thee.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

*OREMUS*

Deus, qui corda fidelium Sancti Spiritus illustratione docuisti, da nobis in eodem Spiritu recta sapere, et de ejus semper consolatione gaudere.

Actiones nostras, quaesumus Domine, aspirando praeveni, et adjuvando prosequere ut cuncta nostra oratio et operatio a te semper incipiat, et per te coepta finiatur.

Defende, quaesumus Domine, beata Maria semper virgine intercedente, istam ab omni adversitate familiam; et toto corde tibi prostratam ab hostium propitius tuere clementer insidiis. Per Christum Dominum nostrum.

*R. Amen.*

*LET US PRAY*

O God, who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that, by the gift of the same Spirit, we may be always truly wise, and ever rejoice in His consolation.

Direct, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our actions by Thy inspiration, and further them by Thy continual help; that every prayer and work of ours may always begin from Thee, and through Thee be likewise ended.

Do Thou, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by the intercession of Blessed Mary ever virgin, defend this family from all harm, and mercifully deign to protect from the snares of the enemy, those who prostrate themselves before Thee. Through Christ Our Lord.

*R. Amen*

*The Priest will then interrogate the candidates. This may be done collectively.*

*Priest:* What do you seek?

*Servers:* The blessing of Almighty God and admission to the Sodality of St Tarcisius for Traditional Altar Servers.

*Priest:* Do you promise to serve with reverence and to keep the rules of the Sodality?

*Servers:* With the help of God I do so promise.

## Blessing of the Sodality Medals

*OREMUS.*

Domine Deus virtutum,  
bonorum largitor, et  
benedictionum infusor, te  
humiliter deprecamur ut haec  
numismata bene ✠ dicere et  
sancti ✠ ficare digneris:  
suppliciter rogantes ut famuli  
tui qui eadem in notam Altaris  
reverenter inserviendi volunt  
induere, tibi officium pie et  
fideliter exequantur, et tandem  
ad te, coram Altari sublimi in  
Caelis, tuae gloriae participes  
perveniant gaudentes. Qui  
vivis et regnas, etc.  
R. Amen.

*LET US PRAY.*

O Lord, God of hosts, bestower of  
all good things and giver of every  
blessing, humbly we beseech  
Thee that Thou wouldst vouchsafe  
to bless ✠ and to sanctify ✠ these  
medals; do Thou grant, we  
beseech Thee, that Thy servants  
who wish to wear them as a token  
of their devout service at Thine  
Altar, may faithfully and  
reverently fulfil their duties to  
Thee until at length being made  
partakers of Thy glory, they may  
joyfully come to Thee before Thy  
heavenly Altar. Who livest and  
reignest, etc.  
R. Amen.

*He sprinkles the medals with holy water.*

*Servers:* I offer myself to God Almighty, to Blessed Mary ever  
Virgin and to our Holy Patron, St Tarcisus, and I promise to do  
my best to serve reverently, intelligently and accurately, having the  
glory of God and my own eternal salvation as my object.

*The candidates will now advance in turn and kneel on the predella. While  
conferring the medal the Priest will say:*

Accipe signum aggregationis ad  
sodalitatem Sancti Tarcisii, ut  
eo jugiter interveniente, vitam  
sanctam ducere valeas.

R. Amen.

Receive the token of your  
admission into the Sodality of St  
Tarcisus that, ever aided by his  
intercession, you may lead a holy  
life.

R. Amen.

*After enrolment the candidates will genuflect to the Blessed Sacrament, and return  
by the sides of the Altar to their places on the lowest step or on the floor of the  
sanctuary.*

*They now say together the Sodality prayer:*

Lord Jesus, I profoundly adore Thee, really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love Thee, and desire to love and serve Thee more perfectly. I do reparation to Thy Sacred Heart, for the negligence and indifference which is often shown to Thy true Body and Blood.

I thank Thee for the great privilege of serving Thee on the Sanctuary, and resolve for the future to serve Thee with greater fervour, devotion, attention, and exactness. O Lord, let my example when on the Sanctuary never be an occasion for scandal to my neighbour, but rather encourage others to greater reverence. May I always act as I believe, and show by my example my belief in the great truths of our Faith.

Most Blessed Mary, Mother of our Lord, obtain for me by thy prayers the grace to serve thy Son with reverence and devotion.

Saint Tarcisius, pray for me, that I may follow thy example by defending the honour of the Blessed Sacrament all the days of my life and even unto death. Amen.

*OREMUS.*

Domine Jesu Christe, qui non venisti ministrari sed ministrare, et qui dedisti Beato Tarcisio gratiam perseverantiae usque ad mortem; concede, quaesumus, ministris tuis ut eadem fide qua ille, te colant celatum in augusto Sacramento, dum sanctis altaribus tuis fideliter subministrent; et accende corda eorum et mentes ad amorem gratiae tuae. Qui vivis et regnas, etc.

*R. Amen.*

*LET US PRAY*

O Lord, Jesus Christ, who didst come not to be ministered unto but to minister, and gave to Blessed Tarcisius the grace of perseverance even unto death; Grant to Thy servants, we beseech Thee, that while faithfully serving Thy holy altars, they may, with faith like to his, worship Thee hidden in Thine adorable sacrament, and in their hearts and their minds, do Thou, O Lord, enkindle the love of Thy grace. Who livest and reignest, etc.

*R. Amen.*

*Making the Sign of the Cross over the newly admitted servers, the Priest says:*

Benedicat vos Deus, et  
custodiat corda vestra et  
intelligentias vestras, Pater, ✠  
et Filius et Spiritus Sanctus.  
R. *Amen.*

May God the Father, Son and  
Holy Ghost, bless you and  
safeguard you in heart and  
mind.  
R. *Amen.*

*Then he sprinkles the servers with holy water.*