



Enthroning the Bible in the Family

To show that God is at the center of their lives, many families enthrone the Bible, the Word of God, in a visible place in their homes. By placing the Sacred Scriptures in a prominent place decorated with flowers and art, and by gathering at this spot for daily prayer, families show that God is present and active through his Word.

Enthroning the Bible in your home is easy. Simply pick a place where the Bible can be honored. The Bible should be placed where it will be seen regularly, but the location should be apart from the noise and confusion of the family entertainment. Place the Bible, opened to a favorite passage or the readings of the day (these can be found at www.usccb.org/nab), on a table or shelf. Decorate the area around the Bible with a cloth, flowers, and/or a candle—whatever makes sense to you. Use the following ritual prayer when you gather as a family to enthrone the Bible.

Things to Prepare

- Bible
- A shelf or table where the Bible will be placed (the shelf may be adorned with a cloth and candles)

Ritual

When possible, the ritual may start outside the main door to the house or outside the main entrance to the room. One member of the family holds the Bible, raised slightly. The father, mother, or other leader begins the celebration with the opening litany:

Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Word of the Father.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Leader: You became one with us to tell of the Father's love.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Leader: You are the light that shines in the darkness.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Leader: You save us from fear and break the bonds of sin and death.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Leader: You come to guide our steps and lead us to God.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Leader: You are the Word of eternal life.

Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

