DEDICATION SERVICE

ANTHEM: Suscepimus, Deus. Psalm 47:10–11.

We have received your mercy, O God,
within your temple.
As your name, O God, so also your praise
reaches the ends of the earth!
Your right hand is filled with justice.

BLESSING: The Solemn Blessing of a Sacred Image.

℣. Our help is in the name of the Lord,
℟. who made heaven and earth.
℣. The Lord be with you.
℟. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

PRAYER

Almighty, everlasting God! You do not repudiate the practice of representing your saints in sculptured or painted likeness, so that each time we behold their images with the eyes of the body, we may be led to contemplate their lives and holiness with the eyes of the mind and thus to imitate them. In your kindness, then, we pray, bless this image created to honor and call to mind the most blessed virgin Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. And grant that whoever strives earnestly to venerate and honor her in its presence may, by her merits and intercession, obtain grace from you in the present life and eternal glory for the life to come. Through the same Christ our Lord.

℟. Amen.