

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH  
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CURACAO

12 October 1972

Dear Mr. Dankmeyer :

Twenty years ago the cornerstone of All Saints Church was laid. At last the interior is basically completed, and our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Guy Marshall, M.B.E., of Caracas, Venezuela, will consecrate the church on Thursday evening, November 2nd, at 20.00 hours, promptly.

We would be pleased to have you attend this service, and hereby extend to you a cordial welcome.

Most sincerely yours,

The Rector, Wardens, and Church Council

Mr. E. Dankmeyer *& senora*  
H.E.L. Maduro & Sons  
Emancipatie Blvd.

*The Order of Consecration*  
*All Saints Church*

*Curaçao*

*Thursday, 2nd November 1972*  
*at 20.00 hours*



*By the Rt. Rev. Guy Marshall*  
*Anglican Bishop in Venezuela*

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## Order of Consecration

### Preamble:

The Consecration or Dedication of a place of worship is not something done for us; it is something which the Family of God does together. In the Dedication of the building each of us must think, act and move at each moment as being entirely occupied in God's service.

As a preparation before the act of Consecration, the following hymn will be sung:

*O Thou, who camest from above  
The pure celestial fire to impart,  
Kindle a flame of sacred love  
On the mean altar of my heart.*

*There let it for Thy glory burn  
With inextinguishable blaze,  
And trembling to its source return  
In humble prayer and fervent praise.*

*Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
To work and speak and think for thee,  
Still let me guard the holy fire  
And still stir up Thy gift in me.*

*Ready for all Thy perfect will,  
My acts of faith and love repeat,  
Till death Thy endless mercies seal  
And make the sacrifice complete.*

The Bishop will be received at the door of the church by the Church Council, and the Rector shall say: "Right Reverend father in God we pray you to consecrate this chapel (or church).

The Bishop shall answer: "I am ready to proceed with the Consecration". And shall then say: "Jesus said: 'Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice and opens the door I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with Me'".

He shall then knock three times on the door with his pastoral staff, saying: "Lift up your heads, By ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of Glory shall come in". The people within the church shall say together: "Who is the King of Glory?" And the Bishop shall answer: "The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory".

The Entrance of the Bishop into the church.

The door shall be opened and sand strewn on the floor at the entrance. While this is being done, the hymn "Come Holy Ghost our souls inspire" shall be sung.

While the hymn is being sung the Church Council will go to their several places leaving the Bishop alone at the door. The hymn being ended, the Bishop shall make the sign of alpha and omega and a cross in the sand with his staff in silence. After which he shall say again: "Jesus said: 'Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice and opens the door I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with Me.'" He shall then proceed to the altar whilst the Doxology is sung.

The sermon shall then be preached after which a hymn shall be sung during which the offering shall be collected and brought to the Bishop. Then shall the Rector and Church Wardens join the Bishop at the altar. While this is being done, the following hymn shall be sung:

*"Lift up your hearts!" We lift them, Lord to Thee;  
Here, at Thy feet, none other may we see:*

*"Lift up your hearts!" E' en so, with one accord,  
We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.*

*Above the level of the former years,  
The mire of sin, the slough of guilty fears,  
The mist of doubt, the blight of love's decay,  
O Lord of Light, lift all our hearts to-day.*

Above the swamps of subterfuge and shame,  
The deeds, the thoughts, that honour may not name,  
The halting tongue that dares not tell the whole,  
O Lord of Truth, lift every Christian soul.

Lift us to Thee, each man, each woman here,  
Our friends, our homes, and all we count most dear,  
Learning and wit, grace, vigour, youthful glee,  
Lift them, O Lord, and lift them all to Thee.

Lift every gift that Thou Thyself hast given;  
Low lies the best till lifted up to heaven,  
Low lie the bounding heart, the teeming brain,  
Till, sent from God, they mount to God again.

Then as the trumpet call, in after years,  
"Lift up your hearts!" rings pealing in our ears,  
Still shall those hearts respond, with full accord,  
"We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord." Amen.

When the Hymn has been sung and the alms of the people  
have been humbly presented the Bishop shall say:

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the  
glory and the victory and the majesty; for all that is  
in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the  
kingdom O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head above all.  
All things come of Thee and of Thy own have we given  
Thee. We beseech Thee, therefore, O Lord our God, be  
pleased graciously to accept this house that we have  
builded for Thy holy name, for everything in this  
building cometh of Thine hand and is all Thine own.  
Amen.

#### The Consecration:

Then shall the people kneel and secretly call to mind  
the gracious promise of the Lord Jesus "Where two or  
three are gathered together in my name, there am I in  
the midst".

The Bishop shall say:

"Let us pray."

O God, the Sanctifier of all things, whose loving-kindness never faileth, who rulest both in heaven and earth, keeping mercy for Thy people who walk before the presence of Thy glory; graciously vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to hallow this building set apart for Thy holy mysteries; mercifully illumine and brighten it with Thine own glory and pour down Thy blessing upon it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall follow the solemn prayer of Consecration, the Bishop first turning to the people and saying:

Answer:                   The Lord be with you  
                                  And with Thy spirit.

Bishop:                   Lift up your hearts.  
Answer:                   We lift them up unto the Lord.

Bishop:                   Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
Answer:                   It is meet and right so to do.

Bishop:  
It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks to Thee O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God. For that Thou, according to Thy most true promise by Jesus our Lord, art present in our prayers and holy rites, and in all the services of these Thy servants.

Let Thy Holy Spirit descend with the fullness of seven-fold grace in the dedication which we, Thy unworthy servants, now make.

To the glory of Thy Holy Name.

In Honour of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath vouchsafed to redeem us upon the Holy Cross, and in special remembrance of his most glorious Resurrection;

That, whensoever Thy Holy Name is invoked within these walls the prayers of all those who call upon Thee may be heard by Thee. O Lord, merciful and gracious;

O BLESSED MAJESTY of God, filling, containing and ordering the whole world;

O HOLY KING OF SAINTS, BUILDER, UPHOLDER and DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH;

O BLESSED HAND OF GOD, sanctifying, blessing and replenishing all things;

O BLESSED AND HOLY TRINITY, who dost give purity, strength and beauty to that which Thou has created; we most humbly beseech Thee of Thy mercy that Thou wouldest

VOUCHSAFE TO BLESS, HALLOW, AND CONSECRATE THIS HOLY TABLE: AND TO BLESS, HALLOW, AND CONSECRATE THIS WHOLE BUILDING WITH THE EVERLASTING FULLNESS OF THY SANCTIFYING POWER:

WHO LIVEST AND REIGNEST, EVER ONE GOD, WORLD WITHOUT END.

During which Hallowing the Bishop shall set the sign of the Cross five times upon the Holy Table.

Then shall the Congregation stand and the Bishop shall pronounce as follows:

" BY VIRTUE of our sacred office in the church of God we do now declare to be consecrate, and for ever set apart from all profane and common uses this House of God, under the dedication of .....

in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Then shall the deed of Consecration be read and signed by the Bishop, after which the following hymn shall be sung.

*Praise my soul, the King of Heaven,  
To His feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransom'd, heal'd, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore His praises sing;  
Alleluia ! Alleluia !  
Praise the everlasting King.*



*Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless;  
Alleluia ! Alleluia !  
Glorious in His faithfulness.*

*Father-like, He tends and spares us,  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes;  
Alleluia ! Alleluia !  
Widely yet His mercy flows.*

*Angels in the height, adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Saints triumphant, bow before Him,  
Gather'd in from every race;  
Alleluia ! Alleluia !  
Praise with us the God of grace.*

Then shall the Rector lead the congregation in prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer. After this the choir shall sing the Hymn, "God be in my head, and in my understanding," the congregation being seated. Then shall the Rector say to the Bishop : "Right Reverend Father in God, bless us." And the Bishop shall pronounce the blessing.

As the Rector, Church Wardens and Bishop proceed out of the church, the people shall sing the following hymn:

*We love the place, O God,  
Wherein Thine honour dwells;  
The joy of Thine abode  
All earthly joy excels.*

*It is the house of prayer,  
Wherein Thy servants meet;  
And Thou, O Lord, art there  
Thy chosen flock to greet.*

*We love the sacred font;  
For there the Holy Dove  
To pour is ever wont  
His blessings from above.*

*We love Thine altar, Lord  
Oh, what on earth so dear?  
For there, in faith adored,  
We find Thy presence near.*

We love the Word of life,      We love to sing below  
The Word that tells of peace,      For mercies freely given;  
Of comfort in the strife,      But, oh, we long to know  
And joys that never cease.      The triumph-song of heaven.

Lord Jesus, give us grace  
On earth to love Thee more,  
In heaven to see Thy face,  
And with Thy saints adore.

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