

THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH

Preface

(Chapter II, no. 75)

Eucharistic Prayer I or III is said with this Preface, which is an integral part of the Rite of the Dedication of a Church:

V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.

V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our sal-va-tion, al-ways and
everywhere to give you thanks, Fa-ther most ho-ly. For you have
made the whole world a temple of your glo-ry, that your name
might everywhere be ex-tolled, yet you allow us to consecrate
to you apt places for the di-vine mys-ter-ies. And so, we dedicate
joyfully to your maj-es-ty this house of prayer, built by hu-man
la-bor. Here is foreshadowed the mystery of the true Tem-ple,
here is pre-fig-ured the image of the hea-ven-ly Je-ru-sa-lem. For

you made the Body of your Son, born of the tender Virgin, the Tem-
-ple consecrat-ed to you, in which the full-ness of the God-head
might dwell. You also established the Church as a ho-ly cit-y,
built upon the foundation of the A-pos-tles, with Christ Jesus him-
-self the chief cor-ner-stone: a city to be built of cho-sen stones, giv-
-en life by the Spirit and bond-ed by char-i-ty, where for endless ages
you will be all in all and the light of Christ will shine un-dimmed for
ev-er. Through him, O Lord, with all the An-gels and Saints, we
give you thanks, as in exul - ta-tion we ac-claim:

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