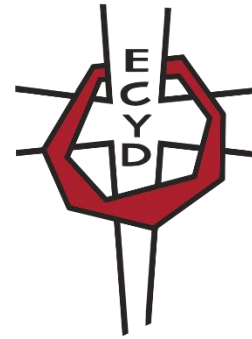


Thy Kingdom Come!

ECYD Pledge of Friendship Rite



Taken from the ECYD Statutes – appendix 2 on p. 49.

1. INVITATION

A team leader or one of the adolescents:

As friends walking together toward heaven, today we make the pledge of friendship with Christ and with each other to build up a new world according to the Gospel. Everyone who is here wants to collaborate with Jesus Christ, our friend, and share the joy of our faith.

Presider:

Convinced that Jesus Christ calls each of us by name to be his close friends and apostles, may you respond to him with generosity by standing and saying “present” when your name is called.

The presider calls by name those about to make the pledge and each one responds “present.” In the same way, he then calls those who wish to renew their pledge.

2. PRAYER OF THE PLEDGE OF FRIENDSHIP WITH CHRIST IN ECYD

Presider:

With your right hand over your heart, pledge your friendship with Christ in ECYD.

All together:

Jesus Christ, our Lord and King, we are happy because we are yours and because you have called us to share in the greatest and most beloved desires of your heart. In response to the love you have shown us, we come to pledge our friendship to you.

We are yours, Lord, and yours we want to be. We offer our lives so that all people might know and love you; because we want you to reign in their hearts.

By ourselves, Lord, we can do nothing; but we know that you are always with us. You also give us your Blessed Mother to be our mother too. In her presence and under her protection; we offer you, Lord, our youth and our fidelity.

3. RECEPTION OF THE ECYD CROSS

The adolescents who have made their ECYD Pledge of Friendship for the first time come up one by one to receive the ECYD Cross.¹

The presider says to each one:

Receive the ECYD Cross, which will remind you of your pledge of friendship with Christ. May it be a sign of the love Christ has for you, and a sign of your call to be his friend and apostle.

The adolescent responds:

Amen.

The adolescent kisses the cross upon receiving it.

4. CLOSING PRAYER

Presider:

Lord Jesus, who today have given these young men [women] the grace of pledging their friendship to you in ECYD; grant them, we pray, your sustaining grace so that, united with all the ECYD members throughout the world, they may grow each day in their friendship with you. Help them to be apostles among their family members, companions and friends; offering up their lives with hope-filled enthusiasm, in order to build up a new world according to the Gospel.

Christ, our King!

All together:

Thy Kingdom Come!

Presider:

Mother most pure,

All together:

Pray for us. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

If a priest or deacon presides over the rite, he concludes by giving them a blessing.

¹ The crosses should be blessed beforehand by a priest, using any of the prescribed formulae for blessing religious objects.

Subsidiary Note 1: ECYD Pledge of Friendship Prayer in singular form.²

Jesus Christ, my friend, King and Lord: I am happy to be yours because you have called me to share in the greatest and most beloved desires of your heart. In response to the love you have shown me, I come to pledge my friendship to you.

I am yours, Lord, and yours I want to be. I offer my life, together with the other ECYD members around the world, so that all people might know and love you; because I want you to reign in their hearts.

By myself, Lord, I can do nothing, but I know that you are always with me. You also give me your Blessed Mother to be my mother too. In her presence and under her protection; I offer you, Lord, my youth and my fidelity.

Subsidiary Note 2: Suggested readings for the Liturgy of the Word.

Old Testament:

Gen. 17: 3-9

Ex. 3: 7-11; 34:5b-9 and 28

1Sam. 3: 1-10,19-20

1Sam. 16: 1-13

Is. 41: 8-10, 13-14

Is. 49: 1-6

Jer. 1: 4-10

Jer. 31: 31-34

Ez. 36: 16-17a, 22-28.

New Testament:

² If because of a particular circumstance the ECYD Pledge of Friendship is done by one young person, this version of the ECYD Pledge of Friendship Prayer in singular form is used. In this case, the presider should adapt the rite accordingly.

Rm. 8:31b-39

Eph. 1:3-10

Col. 3:1-11

Heb. 8:6-13

1Peter 1:3-9

2Peter 1:1-7

1Jn. 1:1-4

1Jn. 4:7-16

Gospel:

Jn. 15:9-17

Mt. 5:13-16

Lk. 24:13-35

Lk. 1: 14-21

Jn. 1: 35-51