

Episcopal Services

Concerning Confirmation

Confirmation is a necessary Sacrament wherein the Bishop, a direct descendant of Christ's Apostles, bestows the empowering gifts of the Holy Ghost for a life of ministry as Christ's servant. Confirmation can also be seen as an extension of Baptism, as an adult acceptance of promises, usually made by parents and godparents on behalf of an infant.

At this stage in the Church's life there are at least two different ways of understanding Confirmation and its place in Christian life. One view holds that it is properly understood as a part of Baptism. It is then understood as an adult profession of faith in the presence of the Bishop, which does not add to the grace already received in the font. It is simply an important opportunity for those baptized in tender years to "own" their faith.

At the same time, this view has not been universally accepted, and some bishops in particular wish to stress the necessity of Confirmation as an independent Sacrament. It is considered to be a vital sacramental connection with the laity and their Bishop by which the gifts of the Spirit are bestowed, confirming and strengthening the grace received in Baptism.

Perhaps the most fruitful way to understand the Sacrament of Confirmation is to see it in connection with our appreciation of the ministry of the laity. Confirmation confers the particular gifts of the Holy Spirit to the lay person, to enable and equip him for the fullness of his particular ministry as an adult lay

member of Christ's Body, the Church. It is then a kind of "ordination to the laity." As in his ordination a Deacon, Priest, or Bishop receives the promise of God's grace to fulfill that particular ministry, so also in Confirmation the layman receives that which he needs to fulfill his ministry. This need not, of course, imply that Baptism is in any way incomplete in the incorporation of the Christian into Christ. Rather, it takes seriously, in a spiritual and sacramental way, the ministry to which all are called.

Confirmation

with forms for Reception and for the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. If desired, the service may begin with the Penitential Order, page 245.

The people standing, the Bishop may say

**⌞ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People and blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
 Amen.**

In place of the above, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost

**Bishop ⌞ Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

In Lent and on other penitential occasions

**Bishop ⌞ Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People His mercy endureth for ever.**

The Bishop then continues

People There is one Body and one Spirit;
Bishop **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
People One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People **One God and Father of all.**

Bishop The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Bishop Let us pray.

Here may follow the Collect for Purity, the Summary of the Law, Kyrie eleison, and Gloria in excelsis Deo. Then, in the usual manner, the Collect of the Day, Lessons, Gospel, and Sermon.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The Bishop says

The Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation.

or I present *these persons* to be received into
this Communion.

or I present *these persons* who *desire* to reaffirm
their baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Dost thou reaffirm thy renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Bishop Dost thou renew thy commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him
as my Savior and Lord.

*After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation
saying*

Will ye who witness these vows do all in your power to support
these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ
and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Bishop Dost thou believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Dost thou believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,**

born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into Hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.

Bishop Dost thou believe in God the Holy Ghost?

People **I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Bishop Wilt thou continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in
the prayers?

People **I will, by God's help.**

Bishop Wilt thou persevere in resisting evil, and
whenever thou dost fall into sin, repent and return
unto the Lord?

People **I will, by God's help.**

Bishop Wilt thou proclaim by word and example the Good
News of God in Christ?

People **I will, by God's help.**

Bishop Wilt thou seek and serve Christ in all men, loving thy neighbor as thyself?

People **I will, by God's help.**

Bishop Wilt thou strive for justice and peace among all men, and respect the dignity of every person?

People **I will, by God's help.**

The Bishop then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *have* renewed *their* commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their hearts* to thy grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with thy holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of thy holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to thy love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of thy peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Bishop then says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ thy Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who liveth and reigneth now and for ever. **Amen.**

A period of silence follows. Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank thee that by the death and resurrection of thy son Jesus Christ thou hast overcome sin and brought us to thyself, and that by the sealing of thy Holy Spirit thou hast bound us to thy service. Renew in *these thy servants* the covenant that thou hast made with *them* at their Baptism. Send *them* forth in thy Holy Spirit to perform the service that thou dost set before *them*; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Then may the Bishop say

Almighty and everliving God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate these thy servants by water and the Holy Ghost, and hast given unto them forgiveness of all their sins: Strengthen them, we beseech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, and daily increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.**

For Confirmation

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Defend, O Lord, thy servant *N.* with thy heavenly grace, that *he* may continue thine for ever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until *he* come unto thine everlasting Kingdom. **Amen.**

For Reception

N., we do acknowledge thee as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we do receive thee into the fellowship of this Communion. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost bless, preserve, and keep thee, now and ever more. **Amen.**

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Ghost, who hath begun a good work in thee, direct and uphold thee in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

the Bishop concludes with this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, let thy fatherly hand be ever over *these* thy *servants*; let thine Holy Ghost ever be with *them*; and so lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that *they* may serve thee in this life, and dwell with thee in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or the following

Almighty and everliving God, who makest us both to will and to do those things which are good, and acceptable unto thy Divine Majesty; we make our humble supplications unto thee for these thy servants, upon whom, after the example of thy holy Apostles, we have now laid our hands, to certify them, by this sign, of thy favor and gracious goodness towards them. Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over them; let thy Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that in the end they may obtain everlasting life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the same Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Peace may now be exchanged.

The service then continues with the Offertory of the Eucharist, page 259.

Concerning Holy Orders

The Anglican Church, while deeply influenced by many of the principles of the Reformation, has carefully maintained the historic threefold order of catholic Christian ministry - *Bishop, Priest, and Deacon*. It understands this order as a gift to the Church from above, directly flowing from the ministry of Christ. Bishops, in their apostolic work of ordaining other bishops, priests, and deacons, solemnly invoke the presence of the Holy Spirit. The authority of this ministry is not of man, but of God.

The Ordinal, as this part of the Prayer Book is called, has frequently been a controversial issue for the Church. In every age, a distinctive part of the Church's ministry tends to be emphasized, sometimes at the expense of other elements. At times the priesthood has been understood solely in terms of the offering of the Mass; it is reduced by some to one of the so-called helping professions.

The traditional Anglican Ordinal avoids such one-sided views of the ordained ministry. It seeks to awaken in the Church's self-understanding a vision of ministry that is Apostolic, founded directly upon New Testament teaching and established in the work of the early Church fathers. In particular, the Ordinal stresses the work of preaching and teaching the Gospel, caring for the spiritual needs of the people, and abiding faithfully in the fellowship of Christ and the Apostles.

While the services which follow represent in all essential matters the authorized forms in the Book of Common Prayer, they also restore several traditional elements from earlier Anglican and other Western Ordinals. The Litany of Saints

reminds us of the *cloud of witnesses* which surrounds and upholds in a special sense those who are set apart for the work of God. The ordination prayer beginning "Almighty God, and heavenly Father, ..." is the classical Anglican expression of the dignity and divine origin of the apostolic calling. The "tradition of the instruments," the ceremony of vesting the newly ordained with the instruments of his work is here expanded to its historic fullness.

Ordination of a Priest

A hymn may be sung as the procession enters. The Bishop may be received in the traditional manner with the form found on page 692. The people standing, the Bishop may say

**✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
 Amen.**

or, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost

**Bishop ✠ Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

or, in Lent and on other penitential occasions

**Bishop ✠ Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People His mercy endureth forever.**

The Bishop then says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presentation

The Bishop and people sit. Priests and Lay persons, standing before the Bishop, present the Ordinand, saying

N., Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of N., we present unto thee N.N. to be ordained a priest in Christ's Holy Catholic Church.

Bishop

Has he been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do ye believe his manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters

We certify to thee that he has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe him to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop says to the Ordinand

Wilt thou be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And wilt thou, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey thy bishop and other ministers who may have authority over thee and thy work?

The Ordinand responds

I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs this Declaration in the sight of all present.

All now stand. The Bishop says to the people

Beloved in Christ, ye know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *N.* for ordination to the sacred priesthood. Therefore if anyone knoweth any impediment or notable crime in this person presented for which we ought not to proceed, let him come forth in the Name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

If no objection is made, the bishop continues

Is it your will that *N.* be ordained a priest?

The People respond

It is.

Bishop

Will ye uphold him in this ministry?

The People respond

We will.

The Bishop then calls the people to prayer with one of the following or similar words

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

or

Dearly beloved, let us pray that God the Almighty Father will send his manifold gifts from heaven to this servant of his, whom he hath chosen for the Office of Priesthood, and will help him to accomplish the task he hath permitted him to undertake.

All kneel.

The Litanist begins the following, the Litany for Ordinations which is found on page 420, or some other approved litany.

The Litany of Saints

Kyrie, eleison

Christe, eleison

Kyrie, eleison

Kyrie, eleison

Christe, eleison

Kyrie, eleison

O God, the Father of heaven,

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the Faithful,

Have mercy upon us.

Holy Trinity, One God.

Have mercy upon us.

Holy Mary, **pray for us.**

Holy Mother of God, **pray for us.**

Holy Virgin of Virgins, pray for us.
Holy Michael, pray for us.
Holy Gabriel, pray for us.
Holy Raphael, pray for us.
All ye holy Angels and Archangels, pray for us.
All ye holy orders of blessed Spirits, pray for us.
Holy John Baptist, pray for us.
Holy Joseph, pray for us.
All ye holy Patriarchs and Prophets, pray for us.
Holy Peter, pray for us.
Holy Paul, pray for us.
Holy Andrew, pray for us.
Holy John, pray for us.
All ye holy Apostles and Evangelists, pray for us.
All ye holy Disciples of the Lord, pray for us.
Holy Clement, pray for us.
Holy Stephen, pray for us.
Holy Lawrence, pray for us.
Holy Vincent, pray for us.
All ye holy Martyrs, pray for us.
Holy Sylvester, pray for us.
Holy Gregory, pray for us.
Holy Augustine, pray for us.
All ye holy Bishops and Confessors, pray for us.
All ye holy Doctors, pray for us.
Holy Anthony, pray for us.
Holy Benedict, pray for us.
Holy Dominic, pray for us.
Holy Francis, pray for us.
All ye holy Priests and Levites, pray for us.
All ye holy Monks and Hermits, pray for us.
Holy Mary Magdalene, pray for us.
Holy Agnes, pray for us.
Holy Cecilia, pray for us.
Holy Anastasia, pray for us.

Holy Catherine, **pray for us.**

All ye holy Virgins and Widows, **pray for us.**

All ye holy Saints of God, **intercede for us.**

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord; and that it may please thee to grant peace to the whole world, and to thy Church;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to sanctify and bless thy holy Church throughout the world;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with love of thee and of thy truth;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to endue all Ministers of thy Church with devotion to thy glory and to the salvation of souls;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless this thy servant, now to be admitted to the Order of Priest, and to pour thy grace upon him; that he may duly execute his Office, to the edifying of thy Church, and to the glory of thy Holy Name.

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to guide by thine indwelling Spirit those whom thou dost call to the Ministry of thy Church; that they may go forward with courage, and persevere unto the end;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to increase the number of ministers of thy Church, that the Gospel may be preached to all people;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that we, with all thy saints, may be partakers of thy everlasting kingdom;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

The Bishop stands and says

The Lord be with you.

People

And with thy spirit.

Bishop

Let us pray.

The Bishop then reads the Collect of the Day, or the following collect, or both.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably upon thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of thy providence, carry out the work of man's salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being renewed unto the perfection of him through whom all things were made, thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Three lessons are read. The Readings are ordinarily selected from the following list and may be lengthened if desired. On a major feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select Readings from the Proper of the Day.

Old Testament Isaiah 6:1-8, or Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25
(omitting the final clause)

Psalm 43, or 132:8-19

Epistle I Peter 5:1-4, or Ephesians 4:7, 11-16, or Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel Matthew 9:35-38, or John 10:11-18, or John 6:35-38

Before the Old Testament and Epistle, the reader first says

A Reading from _____

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each reading, the Reader says

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Before the Gospel, a hymn or psalm may be sung. A deacon or priest reads the Gospel, first saying

People The Lord be with you.
 And with thy spirit.

Reader The ☩ Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to _____.

People **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says

People **The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Congregation then stands and sings or says the Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin
Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to
the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son);
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Examination

All are seated except the ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.

The Bishop addresses the ordinand as follows

My brother, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit. All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world. Now thou art called to work as a pastor, priest, and teacher, together with thy bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take thy share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be thy task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion thy life in accordance with its precepts. Thou art to love and serve the people among whom thou dost work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. Thou art to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted unto thee.

In all that thou dost, thou art to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

My brother, believest thou that thou art truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

Ordinand I believe that I am so called.

Bishop Dost thou at this time in the presence of the Church commit thyself to this trust and responsibility?

Ordinand I do.

Bishop Wilt thou respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of thy bishop?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop Wilt thou be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make thee a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop Wilt thou endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop Wilt thou undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom thou art called to serve, laboring together with them and with thy fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop Wilt thou endeavor to pattern thy life (and that of thy family, *or* household, *or* community) in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that thou mayest be a wholesome example to thy people?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop Wilt thou persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for thyself and for others, offering all thy labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Ordinand I will.

Bishop May the Lord who hath given thee the will to do these things give thee the grace and power to perform them.

Ordinand Amen.

The Consecration of the Priest

All now stand except the Ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop.

The hymn, Veni Creator Spiritus, or the hymn, Veni Sancte Spiritus, is now sung.

A period of silent prayer follows, the people still standing.

The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration

God and Father of all, we praise thee for thine infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the image of thine eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn of many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank thee that by his death he hath overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, hath poured his gifts abundantly upon thy people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the Ordinand, the vested priests who are present also laying on their hands. At the same time the Bishop prays

Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ thine only Son, give thy Holy Spirit to N.; fill him with grace and power, and make him a priest in thy Church.

or, in place of the above, the Bishop may say the following

Almighty God, and heavenly Father, who, of thine infinite love and goodness towards us, hast given to us thine only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer, and the Author of everlasting life; who after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, sent abroad into the world his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Doctors, and Pastors; by whose labor and

ministry he gathered together a great flock in all the parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of thy holy Name: For these so great benefits of thine eternal goodness, and for that thou hast vouchsafed to call these thy servants here present to the same Office and Ministry, appointed for the salvation of mankind, we render unto thee most hearty thanks, we praise and worship thee; and we humbly beseech thee, by the same thy blessed Son, to grant unto all, which either here or elsewhere call upon thy holy Name, that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto thee for these and all thine other benefits; and that we may daily increase and go forwards in the knowledge and faith of thee and thy Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that as well by these thy Ministers, as by them over whom they shall be appointed thy Ministers, thy holy Name may be for ever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. **Amen.**

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the Ordinand, the vested Priests who are present also laying on their hands. At the same time the Bishop prays

Receive the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of a Priest in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the Imposition of our hands. Whose sins thou dost forgive, they are forgiven; and whose sins thou dost retain, they are retained. And be thou a faithful Dispenser of the Word of God, and of his holy Sacraments; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

The Bishop then continues

May he exalt thee, O Lord, in the midst of thy people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to thee; boldly proclaim the

gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant. Make him a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise counsellor. Grant that in all things he may serve thee without reproach, so that thy people may be strengthened and thy Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The new Priest is now vested according to the order of Priests.

At the giving of the stole, the Bishop says

Take thou the yoke of the Lord, for his yoke is easy and his burden is light.

The new Priest is then vested with the chasuble, the Bishop saying

Receive this priestly garment which symbolizes charity; for God is well able to give thee an increase of charity and a perfect work.

The Bishop now anoints the hands of the new Priest, saying

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to consecrate and sanctify these hands by this unction, and by our blessing; that whatsoever they shall bless may be blessed, and whatsoever they shall consecrate may be consecrated and sanctified; in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop delivers into his hands a chalice, containing wine and water, and a paten, saying

Take thou authority to offer sacrifice to God, and to celebrate Mass both for the living and for the dead. In the Name of the Lord. **Amen.**

A Bible is then presented, the Bishop saying

Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given thee to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed unto thee as a Priest of the Church of God.

The Peace

The Bishop greets the newly-ordained Priest.

People **The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.**

Greetings and necessary announcements are now made.

The Liturgy continues with the Offertory of the Mass, page 259.

After Communion

In place of the usual postcommunion prayer, the people kneel, and the Bishop and people pray

Almighty Father, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and that thou dost make us one body through him in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. We thank thee for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of thy Word and Sacraments. We pray that *N.* may be unto us an effectual example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve

thee now and always rejoice in thy glory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop then blesses the people

Pontifical Blessing

| | |
|---------------|--|
| <i>Bishop</i> | Our help is in the Name of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | Who hath made heaven and earth. |
| <i>Bishop</i> | Blessed be the Name of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | From this time forth for evermore. |
| <i>Bishop</i> | The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the ☩ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. |
| <i>People</i> | Amen. |

or the new Priest blesses the people in the usual manner. It is customary for the people to receive the first blessing of a new Priest at some convenient place following the Ordination.

Dismissal

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Deacon</i> | Let us bless the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | Thanks be to God. |

From Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia," may be added to the dismissal and to the response.

Ordination of a Deacon

A hymn may be sung as the procession enters. The Bishop may be received in the traditional manner with the form found on page 692. The people standing, the Bishop may say

**✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
 Amen.**

or, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost

**Bishop ✠ Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

or, in Lent and on other penitential occasions

**Bishop ✠ Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
People His mercy endureth forever.**

The Bishop then says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Presentation

The Bishop and people sit. Priests and Lay persons, standing before the Bishop, present the Ordinand, saying

N., Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of *N.*, we present unto thee *N.N.* to be ordained a deacon in Christ's Holy Catholic Church.

Bishop

Hath he been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do ye believe his manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters

We certify to thee that he has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe him to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop says to the Ordinand

Wilt thou be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And wilt thou, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey thy bishop and other ministers who may have authority over thee and thy work?

The Ordinand responds

I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs this Declaration in the sight of all present.

All now stand. The Bishop says to the people

Beloved in Christ, ye know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *N.* for ordination to the sacred order of deacons. Therefore if anyone knoweth any impediment or notable crime in this person presented for which we ought not to proceed, let him come forth in the Name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues

Is it your will that *N.* be ordained a deacon?

The People respond

It is.

Bishop

Will ye uphold him in this ministry?

The People respond

We will.

The Bishop then calls the people to prayer with one of the following or similar words

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

or

Dearly beloved, let us pray that God the Almighty Father will send his manifold gifts from heaven to this servant of his, whom he hath chosen for the Office of Deacon, and will help him to accomplish the task he hath permitted him to undertake.

All kneel.

The Litanist begins the following, or the Litany of Saints which is found on page 403, or some other approved litany.

The Litany for Ordinations

O God the Father,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy upon us.

O Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

We pray to thee, Lord Christ.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the holy Church of God, that she may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of thy Coming, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all members of thy Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve thee in a true and godly life, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For *N.*, our Chief Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with thy love, may hunger for

thy truth, and may thirst after righteousness,
we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For *N.*, chosen (priest, deacon) in thy Church,
we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry,
build up thy Church, and glorify thy Name,
we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit he may be
sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end,
we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For his family [the members of his household *or*
community], that they may be adorned with all
Christian virtues, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who fear God and believe in thee, Lord Christ, that our
divisions may cease, and that all may be one as thou and the
Father are one, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness she may
preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth,
we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in positions of public trust [especially _____], that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For a blessing on all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be free from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have ✠ died in the communion of thy Church, and for those whose faith is known to thee alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to thee, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, (Blessed *N.*) and] all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Bishop stands and says

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | The Lord be with you. |
| <i>People</i> | And with thy spirit. |
| <i>Bishop</i> | Let us pray. |

The Bishop then reads the Collect of the Day, or the following collect, or both.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably upon thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of thy providence, carry out the work of man's salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being renewed unto the perfection of him through whom all things were made, thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Three lessons are read. The Readings are ordinarily selected from the following list and may be lengthened if desired. On a major feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select Readings from the Proper of the Day.

Old Testament Jeremiah 1:4-9, or Ecclesiasticus 39:1-8
Psalm 84, or 119:33-40
Epistle 2 Corinthians 4:1-6, or I Timothy 3:8-13, or Acts 6:2-7
Gospel Luke 12:35-38, or Luke 22:24-27

Before the Old Testament and Epistle, the Reader first says

A Reading from _____

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each reading, the Reader says

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

or the Reader may say Here endeth the Reading (Epistle).

Before the Gospel, a hymn or psalm may be sung. A Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

People The Lord be with you.
 And with thy spirit.

Reader The ✠ Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to _____.

People **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Congregation then stands and sings or says the Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost
of the Virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to
the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son);
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Examination

*All are seated except the ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.
The Bishop addresses the ordinand as follows*

My brother, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God doth now call thee to a special ministry of servanthood directly under thy bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, thou art to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.

As a deacon in the Church, thou art to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model thy life upon them. Thou art to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by thy word and example, to those among whom thou dost live, and work, and worship. Thou art to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. Thou art to assist the Bishop and Priests in public worship and in the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments, and thou art to carry out other duties assigned to thee from time to time. At all times, thy life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself.

My brother, dost thou believe that thou art truly called by God and his Church to the life and work of a deacon?

Ordinand I believe I am so called.

- Bishop* Dost thou now in the presence of the Church
commit thyself to this trust and responsibility?
Ordinand I do.
- Bishop* Wilt thou be guided by the pastoral direction and
leadership of thy bishop?
Ordinand I will.
- Bishop* Wilt thou be faithful in prayers, and in the reading
and study of the Holy Scriptures?
Ordinand I will.
- Bishop* Wilt thou look for Christ in all others, being ready
to help and serve those in need?
Ordinand I will.
- Bishop* Wilt thou endeavor to pattern thy life [and that
of thy family, *or* household, *or* community] in
accordance with the teachings of Christ, so
that thou mayest be a wholesome example to
all people?
Ordinand I will.
- Bishop* Wilt thou in all things seek not thy glory but the
glory of the Lord Christ?
Ordinand I will.
- Bishop* May the Lord by his grace uphold thee in the
service he layeth upon thee.
Ordinand Amen.

The Consecration of the Deacon

All now stand except the Ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop. The hymn, Veni Creator Spiritus, or the hymn, Veni Sancte Spiritus, is now sung. A period of silent prayer follows, the people still standing.

The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration

O God, most merciful Father, we praise thee for sending thy Son Jesus Christ, who took upon himself the form of a servant, and humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death on the cross. We praise thee that thou hast highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all; and that, through him, we know that whoever would be great must be the servant of all. We praise thee for the many ministries in thy Church, and for calling this thy servant to the order of deacons.

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the Ordinand, and prays

Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ thy Son, give thy Holy Spirit to N.; fill him with grace and power, and make him a deacon in thy Church.

The Bishop then continues

Make him, O Lord, modest and humble, strong and constant, to observe the discipline of Christ. Let his life and teaching so reflect thy commandments, that through him many may come to know thee and love thee. As thy Son came not to be served but to serve, may this deacon share in Christ's service, and come to the unending glory of him who, with thee and the holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever.

The People, in a loud voice, respond Amen.

The new Deacon is now vested according to the order of deacons.

As the Deacon is vested with the stole, the Bishop shall say

Receive this noble stole from the hand of God; fulfill the work of thy ministry. May God who is mighty assist thee with his grace, who liveth and reigneth world without end. Amen.

As the Deacon is vested with the Dalmatic, the Bishop shall say

May the Lord clothe thee with the garment of salvation and the vesture of gladness; may the Dalmatic of righteousness always cloak thee in the Name of the Lord. Amen.

The Bishop gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying

Receive this Bible as the sign of thine authority to proclaim God's Word and to assist in the ministration of his holy Sacraments. In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

The Peace

The Bishop greets the newly ordained Deacon.

People The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And with thy spirit.

Greetings and necessary announcements are now made.

The Liturgy continues with the Offertory of the Mass, page 259.

After Communion

In place of the usual postcommunion prayer, the people kneel, and the Bishop and people pray

Almighty Father, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and that thou dost make us one body through him in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. We thank thee for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of thy Word and Sacraments. We pray that *N.* may be unto us an effectual example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve thee now and always rejoice in thy glory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop then blesses the people

Pontifical Blessing

| | |
|---------------|---|
| <i>Bishop</i> | Our help is in the Name of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | Who hath made heaven and earth. |
| <i>Bishop</i> | Blessed be the Name of the Lord. |
| <i>People</i> | From this time forth for evermore. |
| <i>Bishop</i> | The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the ☩ Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. |
| <i>People</i> | Amen. |

The new Deacon then dismisses the people, who respond "Thanks be to God." From Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to the dismissal and the response.

Celebration of a New Ministry

The Apostle Paul teaches us that in the ministries of the Church, the "pastors and teachers" are "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-12) This service provides the local church with an opportunity to affirm and celebrate the beginning of a relationship between a church leader (usually a rector) and the people whom he has been called to serve.

A priest undertakes his new ministry reminded that he stands as God's steward before the people and as the people's representative before God. Emphasis in the service is placed upon both the joy and the seriousness of serving Christ and His Church, for the man being inducted and for those who will minister with him for the "building up of the body of Christ." The community that celebrates this new ministry is reminded of its place in the life of its diocese through the presence of the Bishop or his representative.

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The Institution

The Bishop (or his representative) shall be seated in a chair before the Altar. The Wardens, standing before him with the new minister, say these or similar words

Right Reverend Father in God: We present unto thee *N.N.* who has been chosen to serve as *Rector* of this *parish*. We do believe him to be well qualified, and that he has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

The new Minister shall kneel in front of the Bishop, and the Bishop shall say,

Dearly beloved brethren, *N.*, elected *Rector* of this Church, is present here to enter upon his office; wherefore we think fit that he shall be examined, according to the rule of the godly Fathers, in those things which belong to our holy religion and to the clerical state. Wherefore, before instituting him thereto, I require that if any of you do know of any just cause or impediment why he should be instituted to this office, ye do now declare it.

If any objection be alleged, the Institutor, according to his discretion, shall suspend or continue the service.

Brother, seeing that the grace of God, and the choice of this congregation and thy former life have called thee to this office, we desire to know from thine own lips, whether thou art willing to dwell with thy flock in this place, to refrain thyself from all evil ways, and to devote thyself to all good works, as God shall grant?

Answer I am willing.

Bishop

Wilt thou diligently observe and keep thy priestly vows and pledges, and instruct those set under thee?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

Bishop

Wilt thou be a good steward of the goods of this Church, and guard them for the benefit of the brethren, the poor, and strangers?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

Bishop

Wilt thou observe holiness and patience, and teach others the like?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

Bishop

Wilt thou busy thyself in holy things, and shun earthly concerns, so far as human frailty suffereth thee?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

Bishop

Wilt thou be courteous and merciful to the poor and the stranger, and to all that are in need, for the honor of God's Name?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

Bishop

Wilt thou yield canonical obedience in all things to thy Mother Church?

Answer I will, God being my helper.

The Bishop may read the Letter of Institution, or else may state the purpose of the new ministry. If the previous examination has not taken place, the Bishop inquires whether the new minister commits himself to this new ministry.

The Bishop then addresses the congregation

Will ye who witness this new beginning support and uphold N.
in this ministry?

People We will.

The Bishop, standing, says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

The following is said, all kneeling,

**Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time
most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us;
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Bishop, standing, says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Bishop continues

Let us offer our prayers to God for all his people, for this congregation, and for *N.*, their *Rector*.

The Litany for Ordinations, page 420, or some other appropriate litany, is led by a person appointed. At the end of the litany, the Bishop, standing, says the following or some other Collect, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Bishop Let us pray.

Most gracious Father, the giver of all good and perfect gifts, who of thy wise providence hast appointed divers orders in thy Church; give thy grace, we beseech thee, to thy servant, to whom the *charge of this congregation* is now committed; and so replenish him with the truth of thy doctrine, and endue him with innocency of life, that he may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great name, and the benefit of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our only mediator and redeemer. **Amen.**

At the Liturgy of the Word

The Readings are selected from the following list, or the Proper of the Day.

Old Testament Joshua 1:7-9, or Numbers 11:16-17, 24-25a
Psalm 43, or 132:1-9, or 146, or 133 and 134 (especially
suitable for use in the evening)
Epistle Romans 12:1-18, or Ephesians 4:7, 11-16
Gospel John 15:9-16, or Luke 10:1-2, or John 14:11-15

The Sermon

The Induction

Representatives of the congregation and of the clergy of the diocese stand before the Bishop with the new minister.

The Senior Warden, or some other lay parishioner, shall deliver the keys of the Church to the new Minister, saying,

In the name of this Parish (or Church), I, *N.N.*, acknowledge you, *N.N.*, as *Priest* and *Rector* of the same, and in token thereof give into your hands the keys of this Church.

Then the new Minister shall answer,

I, *N.N.*, receive these keys of the House of God at your hands, as the pledge of my institution, and of your recognition, and I promise to be a faithful shepherd over you, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

The Bishop, representatives of the Congregation, and of the diocese then present the new minister with a Bible, a Book of Common Prayer, and canons of the Church and the Bishop says

Receive these Books; and let them be the rule of thy conduct in dispensing the divine Word, in leading the devotions of the people, and in exercising the discipline of the Church; and be thou in all things a pattern to the flock committed to thy care.

Other symbols of office may be presented, with appropriate words, if desired.

Then the Bishop shall lead him to his stall, and say

O praise the Lord for his goodness, and declare the wonders that he doeth for the children of men. Exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the seat of the elders.

Then shall the Bishop say to the minister

Almighty God be thy Helper, in these and all other good things.

Then shall the Bishop say to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Bishop Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech thee Almighty God, the increase of thy grace to this thy servant, whom we have elected to the cure of souls, that by thy bounty we, and the choice we have made, may be pleasing unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Bishop may then add one or more of the following

O God, who rulest all the kingdoms of the earth according to thy divine pleasure, we humbly pray and beseech thee to bless with the grace of heavenly sanctification this thy servant *N.*, whom we have chosen as Pastor of this Church; that in his days holy discipline may increase, and that by thy help, he may set a good example to his flock, and carrying on his warfare in thy fear and with gentleness to his people, may be ever peacefully sheltered under the shield of thy majesty. Vouchsafe to

strengthen him with thy divine right hand, that he may be a wise steward, and able to help lovingly all them that need. Be thou his worship, his joy in his home, his companion in his journeys, his comfort in sorrow, his counsel in doubt, his medicine in sickness, his helper in toil, his defense in adversity, his patience in tribulation. Let him learn in thee forethought and wisdom, to rule prudently the flock entrusted to him, that ever prospering and rejoicing in the riches of thy bountiful goodness, he may thankfully enjoy the temporal gifts of this present life, and finally be united in everlasting fellowship with the heavenly citizens and the choirs of angels; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Look down graciously, O Lord, we beseech thee, on this thy servant, and give him true knowledge, unshaken hope, right counsel, and holy doctrine, that he may be meet to receive the grace of thy blessing, and, without offense, may follow the footsteps of thy saints, and cause his flock to follow him by his godly teachings; and that he may bear in mind that whoso taketh on himself the guidance of souls, must give an account for them all in the Judgment Day to our Lord Jesus Christ. Who liveth and reigneth, world without end. **Amen.**

O Holy Jesus, who hast purchased to thyself an universal Church, and hast promised to be with the Ministers of Apostolic Succession to the end of the world; be graciously pleased to bless the ministry and service of him who is now appointed to offer the sacrifices of prayer and praise to thee in this house, which is called by thy Name. May the words of his mouth, and the meditation of his heart, be always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

O God, Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray thee, this congregation with thy love and favor; enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel;

graft in their hearts a love of the truth; increase in them true religion; nourish them with all goodness; and of thy great mercy keep them in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom, with the Father and the Son together, we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Veni Creator may then be sung, all kneeling. the Bishop returns to his seat before the Altar, addressing the new minister, who kneels before him.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

I, *N.*, Bishop of the Diocese of _____, by the authority committed to me, do hereby give thee, *N.*, Institution and Mission (*and cure of souls* as Pastor of this Church or *parish*) and authority to preach the Word, and to administer the Sacraments herein.

The Bishop, standing and facing the people, says

O God, the author of all good things, who by thine apostle Paul didst ordain elders to bear rule in every Church, we humbly beseech thee to guard with thy gracious protection this thy servant *N.*, instituted this day as pastor over thy sheep in this place, and grant him, we pray thee, so to rule those set under him, that he and they all may attain the kingdom of heaven, and that ever aided by thy help, and stayed by the doctrine of thine apostles, he may joyfully enter the gates of Paradise, bearing fruit an hundredfold, and there hear thy commendation, well done, good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will set thee over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord. Which may he grant, who with the Father and the Son liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The new minister may then kneel in the midst of the church, and say

O Lord my God, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; yet thou hast honored thy servant with appointing him to stand in thy house, and to serve at thy holy altar. To thee and to thy service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit, with all their powers and faculties. Fill my memory with the words of thy Law; enlighten my understanding with the illumination of the Holy Ghost; and may all the wishes and desires of my will center in what thou hast commanded. And, to make me instrumental in promoting the salvation of the people now committed to my charge; grant that I may faithfully administer thy holy Sacraments, and by my life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word. Be ever with me in the performance of all the duties of my ministry: in prayer, to quicken my devotion; in praises, to heighten my love and gratitude; and in preaching, to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of thy holy Word. Grant this for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. **Amen.**

The Bishop then presents the new minister to the congregation. When appropriate, the family of the new minister may also be presented at this time.

The new Minister then says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

At the Eucharist

The service continues with the Offertory.

Except on Major Feasts, the Preface may be that for Apostles and Ordinations.

After Communion

The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Almighty Father, we thank thee for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of thy Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of thy Holy Spirit. We thank thee for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of thy Word and Sacraments. We pray that N. may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve thee now, and always rejoice in thy glory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A newly inducted Priest may, at the Bishop's request, pronounce a blessing.

A Deacon, or a Priest if no deacon is present, dismisses the assembly.

Te Deum may be sung.