

# EPISCOPAL SERVICES

## THE PREFACE TO THE ORDINAL

The Holy Scriptures and ancient authors teach that, from the Apostles' time, these three orders of ministry have existed in Christ's Church: Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. From the earliest days of the Church, these offices were always held in such reverent estimation that no one might presume to execute any of them without being first called, tried, examined, and ascertained to have such qualities as are requisite. Candidates were approved and admitted to these offices by lawful authority, through public prayer and the imposition of hands by a Bishop. And therefore, to the end that these orders may be continued, and reverently used and esteemed in this Church, no one shall be accounted to be a lawful Bishop, Priest, or Deacon in this Church, or allowed to execute any of the said functions, without first being called, tried, examined, and admitted to such office according to the form set forth in this book, or having received Episcopal Consecration or Ordination already.

The Bishop may only admit a candidate as a Deacon or Priest after sufficient examination and testing to determine that the candidate meets the requirements of the Canons, and is of virtuous conduct, without crime or impediment, instructed in the Holy Scriptures, and fit for ministry in Christ's Church.

THE ORDINAL

*of the*

*Anglican Church in North America*

BEING THE FORM AND MANNER OF

ORDAINING

BISHOPS, PRIESTS,

*and* DEACONS

THE FORM AND MANNER OF  
ORDAINING DEACONS

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

*The People standing, the Bishop says this or an appropriate seasonal greeting*

The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,  
*People* **And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.**  
*Bishop* Your old men shall dream dreams,  
*People* **And your young men shall see visions.**  
*Bishop* You shall know that the Lord is in the midst  
of his people,  
*People* **That he is the Lord and there is none else.**  
*Bishop* And it shall come to pass  
*People* **That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord  
shall be saved.** JOEL 2:27-28, 32; ACTS 2:17, 21<sup>T</sup>

*The Bishop prays (and the People may be invited to join)*

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

## THE PRESENTATION

*The Bishop and People sit. The Presenters, standing before the Bishop, present each Ordinand, saying*

Reverend Father in God, we present *N.N.* to be admitted to the Order of Deacons.

*Bishop* Have these persons been selected in accordance with the Canons of this Church? And do you believe *their* manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

*Presenters* We certify to you that *they* have satisfied the requirements of the Canons, and we believe *them* to be qualified for this order.

*The Bishop then requires the Ordinand(s) to take the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience saying*

The Canons require that no one may be ordained a Deacon in the Church before subscribing without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. It is also required that each Ordinand subscribe without reservation to the Oath of Canonical Obedience. In the presence of this Congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of these oaths.

*Each Ordinand then individually declares*

I, *N.N.*, 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 consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

And I do promise, here in the presence of Almighty God and of the Church, that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, and his successors, so help me God.

*Each Ordinand then signs the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience in the sight of all present.*

*All stand. The Bishop says to the People*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *these persons* for ordination to the sacred Order of Deacons. Therefore, if any of you know of any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now and make it known.

*If no objection is made, the Bishop continues*

Is it your will that *these persons* be ordained as Deacons?

*People* **It is.**

*Bishop* **Will you uphold *them* in *their* ministry?**

*People* **We will.**

*Bishop* **In peace let us pray to the Lord.**

#### THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

*All kneel. Then the Litanist appointed, with the Clergy and People present, says or sings the Litany for Ordinations (Page 510). The Ordinands either kneel or lie prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop stands and prays the following collect, first saying*

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

*Bishop* Let us pray.

Almighty God, by your divine providence you appointed various Orders of Ministers in your Church, and you inspired your Apostles to appoint to the Order of Deacons the first martyr Stephen, with others: mercifully behold *these* your *servants* now called to the same office and administration; so fill *them* with the truth of your doctrine and adorn *them* with holiness of life, that by word and good example *they* may faithfully serve you in this office, to the glory of your Name and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

#### THE LESSONS

*The following Lessons are appointed for the ordination of a Deacon. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select Lessons from the Propers of the Day.*

JEREMIAH 1:4-10

PSALM 119:1-8

1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13 *or* ACTS 6:1-7

LUKE 12:35-40

*The People sit. One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Or the Reader may say* Here ends the Reading.

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### THE SERMON

#### THE NICENE CREED

*All stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Bishop first saying*

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

*Bishop and People*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;**

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],<sup>†</sup>  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE EXHORTATION

*All are seated except the Ordinand(s), who stand before the Bishop.*

*The Bishop addresses the Ordinand(s) as follows*

It belongs to the office of a Deacon to share in the humility and service of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the strengthening of the Church, which is his body. You are to read the Gospel and proclaim Christ at all times through your service, to instruct

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<sup>†</sup> *The phrase "and the Son" (Latin filioque) is not in the original Greek text. See the resolution of the College of Bishops concerning the filioque in Documentary Foundations (page 768).*

both young and old in the Catechism, and, at the direction of the Bishop or Priest, to baptize and preach.

You are to assist the Priest in public worship, to guide the intercessions of the Congregation, to aid in the administration of Holy Communion and to carry the Sacrament to those who are kept from the Table by illness, infirmity, or imprisonment.

Furthermore, you are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. It is the Deacon's office to encourage and equip the household of God to care for the stranger, to embrace the poor and helpless, and to seek them out, so that they may be relieved.

#### THE EXAMINATION

*The Bishop examines the Ordinands as follows*

Will you take up this charge gladly and willingly?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon yourself this Office and ministry, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edifying of his people?

*Answer* I do so trust.

*Bishop* Do you believe that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in accordance with the Canons of this Church, to this Office and ministry?

*Answer* I do so believe.

*Bishop* Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

*Answer* I am so persuaded.

*Bishop* Will you diligently read these Scriptures to the people assembled in the church where you are appointed to serve?

*Answer* I will.

*Bishop* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own *lives* [and the *lives* of your *families*], according to the Doctrine of Christ, and to make *yourselves* [and them, as much as you are able], wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you reverently obey your Bishop and other Ministers who, according to the Canons of the Church, may have charge and authority over you, following with a glad mind and a good will their godly admonitions, and submitting yourself to their godly judgments?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*The Congregation may kneel, and prays silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Bishop prays*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has given you a good will to do all these things, grant you also the strength and power to perform them, accomplishing in you the good work which he has begun, that you may be found perfect and without reproach on the last day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Ordinands kneel or lie prostrate, facing the Bishop. The Veni, Creator Spiritus (page 492) or other hymn to the Holy Spirit may be sung or said as a prayer for the renewal of the Church.*

## THE ORDINATION OF THE DEACONS

*All now stand as witnesses, except the Ordinands, who kneel facing the Bishop. The Bishop then prays the following prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

O God, most merciful Father, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to take upon himself the form of a servant. He humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on a Cross. Yet you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all. For this great mystery, and for *these* your *servants* whom you now call to obedience after his example, we offer you our most hearty thanks; and we ask that we may daily increase in humility and service, that by *their* ministry as well as by those with whom *they* serve, your holy Name may for ever be glorified, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then the Bishop lays his hands upon the head of every one to be made Deacon, each one humbly kneeling before him, and says*

Receive the Holy Spirit for the Office and work of a Deacon in the Church of God, now committed to you by the imposition of my hands; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The Bishop then prays the following over the Ordinands.*

In your great goodness, O Lord, make *these* your *servants* Deacons in your Church; give *them* grace to be modest, humble, and constant in *their* ministry; give *them* a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; and with the testimony of a good conscience always before *them*, may *they* continue stable and strong in the service of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom be glory and honor, world without end.

*The People in a loud voice respond*

**Amen.**

*The new Deacons may now be vested according to the Order of Deacons.*

*As the Deacon is vested with a maniple, the Bishop says*

Receive this maniple as a sign of your service, for your Lord came among us as one who served.

*As the Deacon is vested with a stole, the Bishop says*

Receive this stole as a sign of the yoke of Christ, your Savior.

*As the Deacon is vested with a dalmatic, the Bishop says*

Receive this dalmatic as a sign that you must daily take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

*Then the Bishop delivers to every one of them a Book of Gospels or New Testament saying*

Take the authority to read the Gospel in the Church of God and to teach the same.

*The Bishop then says to the People*

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

*The liturgy continues with the Offertory. The newly ordained Deacons prepare the Table.*

*When the Communion is finished, after the Post Communion Prayer, the Bishop prays the following Collect*

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, through your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop then blesses the People saying*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **The maker of heaven and earth.**  
*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **From this time forth for evermore.**  
*Bishop* 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. **Amen.**

*The newly ordained Deacons together dismiss the People saying*

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" is added to the dismissal. It may be added at other times, except during Lent and on other penitential occasions.*

*The People respond*

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

THE FORM AND MANNER OF  
ORDAINING A PRIEST

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

*The People standing, the Bishop says this or an appropriate seasonal greeting*

The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,  
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of his people,  
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*The Bishop prays (and the People may be invited to join)*

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## THE PRESENTATION

*The Bishop and People sit. The Presenters, standing before the Bishop, present the Ordinand, saying*

Reverend Father in God, we present *N.N.* to be admitted to the Order of Priests.

*Bishop* Has *he* been selected in accordance with the Canons of this Church? And do you believe *his* manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

*Presenters* We certify to you that *he* has satisfied the requirements of the Canons, and we believe *him* to be qualified for this Order.

*The Bishop shall then require the Ordinand to take the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience saying*

The Canons require that no Deacon may be ordained a Priest in the Church before subscribing without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. It is also required that each Ordinand subscribe without reservation to the Oath of Canonical Obedience. In the presence of this Congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of these oaths.

*The Ordinand then declares*

I, *N.N.*, 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 consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

And I do promise, here in the presence of Almighty God and of the Church, that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, and his successors, so help me God.

*The Ordinand then signs the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience in the sight of all present.*

*All stand. The Bishop says to the People*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting *N.N.* for ordination to the sacred Priesthood. Therefore if any of you know of any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now and make it known.

*If no objection is made, the Bishop continues*

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

*People* **It is.**

*Bishop* Will you uphold *him* in this ministry?

*People* **We will.**

*Bishop* In peace let us pray to the Lord.

#### THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

*All kneel. Then the Litanist appointed, with the Clergy and People present, says or sings the Litany for Ordinations (Page 510). The Ordinand either kneels or lies prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop stands and prays the following collect, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

*Bishop* Let us pray.

Almighty God, giver of all good things, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed various Orders of Ministers in your Church: mercifully behold *this* your *servant* now called to the Order of Priests, and so fill *him* with the truth of your doctrine and adorn *him* with holiness of life, that by word and good example *he* may faithfully serve you in this office, to the glory of your Name and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. **Amen.**

#### THE LESSONS

*The following Lessons are appointed for the ordination of a Priest. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select Lessons from the Propers of the Day.*

ISAIAH 6:1-8

PSALM 119:33-40

EPHESIANS 4:7-16 *or* PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

LUKE 10:1-9 *or* JOHN 10:1-16

*The People sit. One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Or the Reader may say* Here ends the Reading.

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### THE SERMON

#### THE NICENE CREED

*All stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Bishop first saying*

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

*Bishop and People*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],<sup>†</sup>  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE EXHORTATION

*All are seated except the Ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.*

*The Bishop addresses the Ordinand as follows*

You have heard, during the Church's discernment of your vocation and in the Holy Scriptures themselves, how weighty is this Office to which you are called. I now exhort you, in the

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<sup>†</sup> *The phrase "and the Son" (Latin filioque) is not in the original Greek text. See the resolution of the College of Bishops concerning the filioque in Documentary Foundations (page 768).*

Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to be a messenger, watchman, and steward of the Lord. You are to teach, to warn, to feed, and to provide for the Lord's family, and to seek for Christ's sheep who are in the midst of this fallen world, that they may be saved through Christ for ever.

Remember how great is this treasure committed to your charge. They are the sheep of Christ for whom he shed his blood. The Church and Congregation whom you will serve is his bride, his body. If the Church, or any of her members, is hurt or hindered by your negligence, you must know both the gravity of your fault, and the grievous judgment that will result.

Therefore, consider the purpose of your ministry to the children of God. Work diligently, with your whole heart, to bring those in your care into the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of God, and to maturity in Christ, that there may be among you neither error in religion nor immorality in life. Finally, equip and lead your Congregation to proclaim tirelessly the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And seeing that the demands of this holy Office are so great, lay aside all worldly distractions and take care to direct all that you do to this purpose: read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Scriptures, that you may show yourself both dutiful and thankful to the Lord; and frame your conduct, and that of your household and those committed to your care, according to the doctrine and discipline of Christ. Know, however, that you cannot accomplish this of yourself; for the will and the ability needed are given by God alone. Therefore, pray earnestly for his Holy Spirit to enlighten your mind and strengthen your resolve.

THE EXAMINATION

*The Bishop then examines the Ordinand, saying*

So that this Congregation of Christ's Church may know your intent in these things, I charge you to answer plainly these questions, which I, in the Name of God and his Church, now ask:

Do you believe in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and according to the Canons of this Church, to the Order and ministry of the Priesthood?

*Answer* I do so believe.

*Bishop* Do you believe that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as necessary to eternal salvation but that which may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

*Answer* I do so believe, and I am so determined, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrine, sacraments, and discipline of Christ, as the Lord has commanded and as this Church has received them, according to the Commandments of God, so that you may teach the people committed to your charge with all diligence to keep and observe them?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you be ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away from the Body of Christ all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's Word; and to use both public and private admonitions and exhortations, to the weak as well as the strong within your charge, as need shall require and occasion shall be given?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you be diligent in prayer, and in the reading of Holy Scripture, and in such study as may further the knowledge of the same, laying aside all distractions of the world and the flesh?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own *life* [and the *life* of your *family*], according to the doctrine of Christ, and to make *yourself* [and them, as much as you are able], a wholesome example and pattern to the flock of Christ?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you maintain and set forward, as much as you are able, quietness, peace, and love among all Christian people, and especially among those who are or shall be committed to your charge?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Bishop* Will you reverently obey your Bishop and other chief Ministers who, according to the Canons of the Church, may have charge and authority over you, following with a glad mind and a good will their godly admonitions, and submitting yourself to their godly judgments?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*The Congregation may kneel, and prays silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Bishop prays*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has given you a good will to do all these things, grant you also the strength and power to perform them, accomplishing in you the good work which he has begun, that you may be found perfect and without reproach on the last day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Ordinand kneels or lies prostrate, facing the Bishop, with the priests present surrounding the Ordinand. The Veni, Creator Spiritus is sung or said as a prayer for the renewal of the Church.*

VENI, CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
And lighten with celestial fire.  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace.  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And thee, of both, to be but One;  
That, through the ages all along,  
This may be our endless song

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## THE CONSECRATION OF THE PRIEST

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

*The Bishop prays the following prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

Almighty God and most merciful Father, of your infinite love and goodness you have given your only Son Jesus Christ to be our redeemer and the author of everlasting life. After he had made perfect our redemption by his death and resurrection, and ascended into heaven, he sent into the whole world his apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers; by the Holy Spirit, through their labor and ministry, he gathered together a great flock to set forth the eternal praise of your holy Name. For these great benefits, and because you have called *this* your *servant* to the same office and ministry, we offer you our most hearty thanks; and we humbly ask that we may daily increase in the knowledge and faith of you and of your Son, and that by *this minister*, as well as by those entrusted to *his* care, your holy Name may for ever be glorified, and your blessed kingdom enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop with the Priests present lays their hands upon the head of each one to receive the Order of Priesthood. The Bishop says*

Receive the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a Priest in the Church of God, now committed to you by the imposition of our hands. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven. If you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld. Be a faithful minister of God's holy Word and Sacraments; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The Bishop then prays the following over the Ordinand.*

Send your heavenly blessing upon *this* your *servant*, that *he* may be clothed with righteousness, and that your Word, spoken by *his* mouth, may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also that we may have grace to hear and receive what *he* shall deliver out of your most holy Word as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek your glory and the increase of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end.

*The People in a loud voice respond*

**Amen.**

*The new Priest may now be vested according to the Order of Priests.*

*As the Priest is vested with a stole, the Bishop says*

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

*As the Priest is vested with a chasuble, the Bishop says*

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

*The Bishop then anoints the hands of the new Priest with the Oil of Chrism, saying*

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

*The Bishop then gives the new Priest a Bible in one hand and a chalice in the other hand saying*

Take authority to preach the Word of God and to administer the Holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a Priest in the Church of God.

*The Bishop then says to the People*

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

*The liturgy continues with the Offertory. The Deacon prepares the Table.*

*Standing at the Holy Table with the Bishop and other Ministers, the newly ordained Priest joins in the celebration of the Holy Communion and in the Breaking of the Bread.*

*When the Communion is finished, after the Post Communion Prayer, the new Priest prays the following Collect*

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, through your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop then blesses the People saying*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **The maker of heaven and earth.**  
*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **From this time forth for evermore.**  
*Bishop* 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. **Amen.**

*Or the Bishop may ask the newly ordained Priest to bless the People saying*

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The Deacon dismisses the People saying*

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" is added to the dismissal. It may be added at other times, except during Lent and on other penitential occasions.*

*The People respond*

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

THE FORM AND MANNER OF  
ORDAINING *and*  
CONSECRATING A BISHOP

*The Archbishop normally presides at the Consecration of a Bishop; however, the Archbishop may choose to designate another Bishop to be the Chief Consecrator. When this happens, all rubrics referring to the Archbishop are to be taken to mean "Chief Consecrator."*

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

*The People standing, the Archbishop says this or an appropriate seasonal greeting*

The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,  
*People* **And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.**  
*Archbishop* Your old men shall dream dreams,  
*People* **And your young men shall see visions.**  
*Archbishop* You shall know that the Lord is in the midst  
of his people,  
*People* **That he is the Lord and there is none else.**  
*Archbishop* And it shall come to pass  
*People* **That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord  
shall be saved.** JOEL 2:27-28, 32; ACTS 2:17, 21<sup>T</sup>

*The Archbishop prays (and the People may be invited to join)*

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

#### THE PRESENTATION

*The Archbishop and People sit.*

*The Bishop Elect, properly vested, is presented to the Archbishop by at least two Bishops of this Church, the Bishops who present him saying*

Reverend Father in God, we present to you *N.N.*, a godly and well-learned man, to be ordained and consecrated Bishop.

*Then the Archbishop causes to be read Testimonials from the President of the Standing Committee and the Secretary of the College of Bishops regarding the person presented for Consecration*

*The Archbishop then requires the Bishop Elect to take the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience saying*

The Canons of this Church require that no Priest may be consecrated as a Bishop in the Church before subscribing without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. It is also required that he subscribe without reservation to the Oath of Canonical Obedience. In the presence of this Congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of these oaths.

*The Bishop Elect then declares*

I, *N.N.*, 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 consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

And I do promise, here in the presence of Almighty God and of the Church, that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, and his successors, so help me God.

*The Bishop Elect then signs the Oath of Conformity and Oath of Canonical Obedience in the sight of all present.*

*Then the Archbishop invites the Congregation present to pray, saying*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, it is written in the Gospel of Saint Luke that our Savior Christ continued the whole night in prayer before he chose and sent forth his twelve Apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Apostles that the disciples at Antioch fasted and prayed before they sent forth Paul and Barnabas by laying their hands upon them. Let us, therefore, following the example of our Savior and his Apostles, offer up our prayers to Almighty God before we admit and send forth this person presented to us, to do the work to which we trust the Holy Spirit has called him.

#### THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

*All kneel. Then the Litanist appointed, with the Clergy and People present, says or sings the Litany for Ordinations (Page 510). The Bishop Elect either kneels or lies prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Archbishop stands and prays the following Collect, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

*Archbishop* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who by your Son Jesus Christ gave many excellent gifts to your holy Apostles, and charged them to feed your flock: Give your grace to all Bishops, the pastors of your Church, that they may diligently preach your Word, duly administer your Sacraments, and wisely provide godly discipline; and grant to your people that they may obediently follow them, so that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. **Amen.**

#### THE LESSONS

*The following Lessons are appointed for the ordination and consecration of a Bishop. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Archbishop may select Lessons from the Propers of the Day.*

ISAIAH 61:1-11

PSALM 100

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7 *or* ACTS 20:17-35

JOHN 21:15-19 *or* JOHN 20:19-23 *or* MATTHEW 28:18-20

*The People sit. One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

**The Word of the Lord.**

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Or the Reader may say* Here ends the Reading.

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### THE SERMON

#### THE NICENE CREED

*All stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Archbishop first saying*

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

*Archbishop and People*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],<sup>†</sup>  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE EXHORTATION AND EXAMINATION

*All are seated except the Bishop Elect, who stands before the Archbishop.*

*The Archbishop addresses and examines the Bishop Elect as follows*

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<sup>†</sup> The phrase “and the Son” (Latin *filioque*) is not in the original Greek text. See the resolution of the College of Bishops concerning the *filioque* in *Documentary Foundations* (page 768).

Brother, the Holy Scriptures and the ancient Canons command that we should not be hasty in laying on hands and admitting any person to authority in the Church of Christ, which our Lord purchased with no less price than the shedding of his own blood; so before we admit you to this Office, we will examine you, in order that this Congregation may know how you will conduct yourself in the Church of God.

Are you persuaded that you are truly called to this ministry, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Order of this Church?

*Answer* I am so persuaded.

*The following questions are addressed to the Bishop Elect by one or more of the Bishops.*

*Question* Do you believe that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach or maintain nothing as necessary to eternal salvation but that which may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

*Answer* I do so believe, and I am so determined, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Will you then faithfully study the Holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer for the true understanding of them, so that you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesome doctrine, and to withstand and convince those who contradict it?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Are you ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away from the Church all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to God's Word, and both privately and publicly to call upon others and encourage them to do the same?

*Answer* I am ready, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Will you renounce all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and live a godly, righteous, and sober life in this present world, that you may show yourself in all things an example of good works for others, that the adversary may be ashamed, having nothing to say against you?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Will you maintain and set forward, as much as you are able, quietness, love, and peace among all people, and diligently exercise such discipline as is, by the authority of God's Word and by the Order of this Church, committed to you?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Will you be faithful in examining, confirming, ordaining, and sending the people of God?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*Question* Will you show yourself gentle, and be merciful for Christ's sake, to poor and needy people and to all strangers destitute of help?

*Answer* I will, the Lord being my helper.

*The Congregation may kneel, and prays silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Archbishop prays*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who has given you a good will to do all these things, grant you also the strength and power to perform them, accomplishing in you the good work which he has begun, that you may be found perfect and without reproach on the last day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop Elect kneels or lies prostrate, facing the Archbishop, with the bishops present surrounding the Bishop Elect. The Veni, Creator Spiritus is sung or said over him as follows*

VENI, CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
And lighten with celestial fire.  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love.  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face  
With the abundance of thy grace.  
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And thee, of both, to be but One;  
That, through the ages all along,  
This may be our endless song

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## THE CONSECRATION OF THE BISHOP

*All now stand as witnesses, except the Bishop Elect, who kneels facing the Archbishop.*

*The Archbishop prays the following Prayer of Consecration, first praying*

Lord, hear our prayer;

*People* **And let our cry come to you.**

*Archbishop* Let us pray

Almighty God and most merciful Father, of your infinite love and goodness you have given your only Son Jesus Christ to be our redeemer and the author of everlasting life. After he had made perfect our redemption by his death and resurrection, and ascended into heaven, he sent into the whole world his apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers; by the Holy Spirit, through their labor and ministry, he gathered together a great flock to set forth the eternal praise of your holy Name. Grant to this your servant such grace that he may ever be ready to spread abroad your Gospel, the glad tidings of reconciliation with you, and to use the authority given to him, not for destruction, but for salvation; not to hurt, but to help; so that, as a wise and faithful steward, he may give to your family their portion in due season, and at the last may be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then the Archbishop and at least two other Bishops lay their hands upon the head of the Bishop Elect, the Archbishop and other Bishops saying*

Receive the Holy Spirit for the Office and work of a Bishop in the Church of God, now committed to you by the imposition of our hands; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The Archbishop then continues*

Most merciful Father, send down upon this your servant your heavenly blessing; so endue him with your Holy Spirit that, in preaching your Word, he may not only be earnest to reprove, beseech, and rebuke, with all love and godly doctrine, but may also present a wholesome example in word and conduct, in love and faith, in chastity and purity; that, having faithfully run his course, at the Last Day he may receive the crown of righteousness, laid up by the Lord Jesus, our righteous Judge, who lives and reigns with you and the same Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

*The People in a loud voice respond*

**Amen.**

*The new Bishop is now vested according to the Order of Bishops. During the presentations that follow, the Archbishop may be assisted by others.*

*The Archbishop presents the new Bishop with a Bible, saying*

Give heed to reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this Book. Be diligent in them, that your growth in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ may be evident to all. In doing so you shall save both yourself and those who hear you. Be to the flock of Christ a shepherd, not a wolf; feed them, do not devour them. Hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring back the lapsed, and seek the lost. Do not confuse mercy with indifference; so minister discipline, that you forget not mercy; that when the Chief Shepherd appears, you may receive the never-fading crown of glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Archbishop presents him with a pastoral staff saying*

Take this staff and watch over the flock of Christ.

*The Archbishop may anoint the forehead of the new Bishop with the Oil of Chrism saying*

Receive the anointing of this oil, and remember continually to stir up the grace of God which is given to you; for God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and self-control.

*The Archbishop may give him a pectoral cross saying*

Receive this cross; remember that he whom you serve reconciled us to God by his own blood.

*The Archbishop may give him an episcopal ring saying*

Take this ring; be faithful to the Bride of Christ.

*The Archbishop may give him a miter saying*

Receive this miter, and remember that your authority rests in God's Word and Holy Spirit.

*The Archbishop then says to the People*

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

*The liturgy continues with the Offertory. The Deacon prepares the Table.*

*Standing at the Holy Table, with the Archbishop and other Ministers, the newly consecrated Bishop joins in the celebration of the Holy Communion and in the Breaking of the Bread.*

*When the Communion is finished, after the Post Communion Prayer, the new Bishop prays the following Collect*

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, through your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Archbishop, or at his direction the newly-consecrated Bishop, then blesses the People saying*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **The maker of heaven and earth.**  
*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **From this time forth for evermore.**  
*Bishop* 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. **Amen.**

*The Deacon dismisses the People saying*

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power  
of the Holy Spirit.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" is added to the dismissal. It may be added at other times, except during Lent and on other penitential occasions.*

*The People respond*

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

THE LITANY AND SUFFRAGES  
*for* ORDINATIONS

*Other petitions may be added with the consent of the Ordinary.*

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 beseech you to hear us, good Lord: That it may please you to grant peace to the whole world and to your Church,  
    **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to sanctify and bless your holy Church throughout the world,  
    **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to inspire all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons with the love of you and of your truth,  
    **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to endue all ministers of your Church with devotion to your glory and to the salvation of souls,  
    **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*At the Ordination of Deacons or Priests this petition is said*

That it may please you to bless *these* your *servants*, now to be admitted to the Order of Deacons [*or Priests*], and to pour your grace upon *them*, that *they* may duly execute *their* office to the edification of your Church, and to the glory of your holy Name,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*At the Ordination and Consecration of a Bishop this petition is said*

That it may please you to bless this our brother *N.*, and to send your grace upon him, that he may duly execute the office to which he is called, to the edification of your Church, and to the honor, praise, and glory of your Name,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to guide by your indwelling Spirit those whom you call to the ministry of your Church; that they may go forward with courage, and persevere to the end,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to increase the number of ministers in your Church, that the Gospel may be preached to all people,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to grant us true repentance, amendment of life, and the forgiveness of all our sins,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to hasten the fulfillment of your purpose, that your Church may be one,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to grant that we, with all your saints, may be partakers of your everlasting kingdom,

**We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hear us, O Lord, when we cry out to you;

**Have mercy upon us and hear us.**

O Lord, arise and help us;

**And deliver us for your Name's sake.**

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;

**And let your saints sing with joy.**

O Lord, hear our prayer;

**And let our cry come to you.**

## ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

On Ember Days or other occasions, if desired, the Litany of Ordinations may be used in place of the Prayers of the People at the Eucharist, or following the Collects in the Daily Office, or it may be used separately.

A maniple may also be bestowed at the vesting of a Priest or a Bishop.

When the Priest or Deacon being ordained is to be immediately instituted as Rector, the rite of the Institution of a Rector is not used. Instead, the Bishop reads the Letter of Institution (page 514) before the Peace during the Ordination liturgy.

## CONCERNING THE INSTITUTION OF A RECTOR

The Bishop holds spiritual oversight as chief Pastor for all the churches in his Diocese. From the earliest days of the Church, the Bishop has delegated spiritual and canonical authority to ministers who lead Congregations.

The Institution should occur early in the Rector's tenure. Because the liturgy may be scheduled some weeks or months after the Rector begins the new ministry, the Bishop may wish to provide initial conveyance of authority, either by private prayer or written instrument, to the new Rector.

The Bishop may adapt the Letter of Institution (page 514) and this liturgy as needed, particularly for a Vicar or other person exercising primary pastoral authority.

LETTER OF INSTITUTION OF A RECTOR

*N.N.*, Presbyter of the Church of God, we hereby install and institute you as Rector of \_\_\_\_\_ *Church, [City, State/Province]* \_\_\_\_\_, and we give you full power and authority to carry out the ministry of Rector of this Congregation, performing those duties as prescribed by the Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Church in North America and the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_ . We pray that Almighty God will enable you to fulfill this sacred responsibility.

Heed the words of Holy Scripture:

Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. I PETER 5:2-4

We hereby reserve to the Bishop of the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_, and his successors, full power and authority to revoke these presents whenever under the Canons he shall have just cause to do so.

Given under my hand and seal, in the City of \_\_\_\_\_, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord 20\_\_\_\_, and in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of my consecration.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_

THE  
INSTITUTION  
*of a* RECTOR

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

THE ACCLAMATION

*The People standing, the Celebrant says this or a seasonal greeting.*

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*The Celebrant prays (and the People may be invited to join)*

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

*The Congregation sits.*

*The Wardens and the new Rector stand before the Bishop.*

*The Bishop says*

Dearly beloved, we have assembled in the presence of God for the purpose of instituting the new Rector of this Congregation.

*The Wardens present the new Rector to the Bishop, saying*

Reverend Father in God, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ Church, we present *N.N.* to be instituted as Rector. We believe that *he* is well qualified and has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

*The Bishop reads the Letter of Institution.*

*The Bishop gives the Letter to the Rector. The Rector then says*

I, *N.N.*, receive this letter from your hands and recognize your episcopal authority. I promise to be a faithful shepherd to your flock, the Lord being my helper.

*The Bishop says*

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

*The Litany for Ordinations (page 510) is sung or said.*

*At the end of the Litany, the Bishop stands and says*

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

Most gracious Father, the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, in your wise providence you appoint leaders for the mission of your Church: Give grace to this your servant, to whom the charge of

this Congregation is now given: so empower *him* with the truth of sound doctrine, and endue *him* with holiness of life, that *he* may faithfully serve before you to the glory of your great Name, and the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### THE LESSONS

*Lay persons read the Old Testament Lesson and the Epistle. The Deacon (or a Priest) reads the Gospel. Selections are ordinarily made from the following list; but on a Major Feast, Sunday, or Feast of Dedication, selections may be made from the Propers of the Day.*

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*)

ROMANS 12:1-18 or EPHESIANS 4:7-16

JOHN 15:9-16 or LUKE 10:1-2 or JOHN 14:11-15

*The People sit. One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Or the Reader may say* Here ends the Reading.

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREEED (*page 501*)

*A hymn may be sung.*

#### SYMBOLS OF THE PASTORAL OFFICE

*Representatives of the Congregation and clergy, standing before the Bishop and new Rector, may present symbols of the work to which the Rector is called. The principal symbols point to leadership in divine worship (Bible and bread and wine), in Christian formation (Book of Common Prayer, and Catechism) and in Congregational mission (keys and water). Additional symbols may be considered as local circumstances dictate.*

*The Bishop says*

Let the symbols of this office now be presented.

*The Bible is presented.*

**N.,** preach the Word at all times, and let our worship and our life together manifest the grace and truth of this Book. **Amen.**

*Bread and wine are presented.*

*N.*, preside in the breaking of the bread and the blessing of the cup, and lead us in our prayers and praises. **Amen.**

*The Book of Common Prayer is presented.*

*N.*, be a man of prayer, and use this book to build us up as living stones of a holy temple. **Amen.**

*The Catechism is presented.*

*N.*, be a teacher of the Faith, making disciples who make disciples. **Amen.**

*Keys to the buildings used by the Congregation for its life and mission are presented.*

*N.*, receive these keys, and let the doors of this place be open to all, that many would come to know the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*The Bishop presents a vessel of water.*

*N.*, receive this water and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in obedience to our Lord. **Amen.**

*After all symbols are presented, the Bishop concludes*

*N.*, let all these symbols be signs of the ministry which is the Lord's and ours in this place. **Amen.**

*The new Rector may kneel in the midst of the church and pray*

O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you have called your servant to stand in your house, and to serve at your altar. To you and to your service I devote myself, body, soul, and spirit. Fill my memory with the record of your mighty works; enlighten my understanding with the light of your Holy Spirit; and may all the desires of my heart and will center in what you would have me do. Make me an instrument of your salvation for the people entrusted to my care, and grant that I may faithfully preach the Gospel and administer your holy Sacraments, and by my life and teaching set forth your true and living Word. Be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; in worship, increase my zeal for godly preparation; and grant that, by the clearness and brightness of your holy Word, all the world may be drawn into your blessed kingdom. All this I ask for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*The family of the Rector may be presented at this time.*

*The Bishop then says to the People*

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

*If there is no Communion, the service continues after the Peace with the Lord's Prayer, followed by the Concluding Prayer and the Blessing.*

*If there is to be Holy Communion, the Bishop is chief celebrant, assisted by the newly instituted Rector. The service continues with the Offertory. The following Post Communion Prayer is used.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us with him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your 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 you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE CONCLUDING PRAYER

*After the Post Communion Prayer and before the Blessing, the Bishop may say*

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant that, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, all Christians may be joined together in unity of spirit and in the bond of peace, that they may be a holy temple acceptable to you. Give the abundance of your grace especially to this Congregation, that with one heart we may desire the health and increase of your holy Church, and with one voice profess the faith once delivered to the saints. Defend us from the sins of heresy and schism. And grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godliness and faithfully walk in the ways of truth and peace; so that, on the day of judgment, we all may be numbered with your saints in glory everlasting; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, the gracious Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

## ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

The Collect of the Day or another prayer suitable to the occasion may be used.

The Sermon may be preached by the Bishop, the newly instituted Rector, or some other person appointed by the Bishop.

When the new Rector has recently come from another Diocese, the diocesan Canons may be presented, after the presentation of the keys, with these words: "Obey these Canons, and be among us to share in the councils of this Diocese."

The Preface of Apostles and Ordinations is ordinarily used for this service.

CONCERNING THE  
CONSECRATION AND DEDICATION  
OF A PLACE OF WORSHIP

The Bishop presides at this liturgy, and the Rector (or Minister in charge) takes part as indicated. At the discretion of the Bishop, other clergy and leaders from the community may be invited to participate and may be assigned appropriate parts in the liturgy.

This liturgy provides for the consecration and dedication of a Place of Worship and its furnishings. Places that may be set apart include purpose-built church structures, as well as facilities acquired and renovated for long-term use by a worshiping community. A Place of Worship may be consecrated and dedicated, even if the building is leased or mortgaged, provided the Congregation has exclusive control of the facility and to the extent the Ordinary and local canons allow.

Shared-use facilities like school auditoriums or community centers are not consecrated and dedicated, but weekly preparation for worship should include spiritual cleansing (exorcising) of any forces of darkness that may have entered, invited or uninvited.

Portions of the liturgy may be used, or adapted when necessary, for dedicating parts of a building, or furnishings that have been

added, altered, or renovated. Likewise, suitable parts of this rite may be used for dedicating a chapel or an oratory within another building.

This liturgy does not preclude the use of the Place of Worship for educational, missional, or social purposes, or for other activities that give glory to God and build up the Church.

It is desirable that all members of the Congregation, young and old, have some individual or collective part in the celebration, as well as the architect, builders, musicians, artists, benefactors, and friends.

Instructions for the setting apart of a church or chapel long in use, and for other special cases, are provided in Additional Directions (page 537). Also provided is a form for secularizing a facility previously used as a Place of Worship, when the use of the building for worship, or for the ministry of the Congregation, has ended (page 538).

THE  
CONSECRATION AND  
DEDICATION  
*of a* PLACE OF WORSHIP

*On the day appointed, the clergy and people gather with the Bishop in a place apart from the church, chapel, or place of worship to be consecrated.*

*When all are ready, the Bishop says*

Through the ages, Almighty God has moved his people to build houses of prayer and praise, and to set apart places for the ministry of his holy Word and Sacraments. With gratitude for the building [*or rebuilding, or acquisition, or adornment*] of \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of church*), we are now gathered to consecrate and dedicate it in God's Name.

Let us pray.

O Eternal God, mighty in power, of majesty incomprehensible, whom the heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands: You have graciously promised your holy presence wherever two or three of your faithful servants gather together in the Name of your Son. Be present with us who now come with humility and gratitude to consecrate this place to the honor of your great Name. We dedicate it to

the work of your kingdom, separating it from all profane use: for reading your most holy Word, for celebrating your holy Sacraments, for offering to your glorious majesty the sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving, for the blessing of your people, and for the mission of your Church. Accept, O Lord, this service at our hands, and fill this place with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

*The clergy and people enter the Church. Standing at the door of the church, the Bishop knocks three times on the door with his pastoral staff, saying*

Lift up your heads, O you gates, and be lifted up, you everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.

*People* **Who is the King of glory? It is the LORD, strong and mighty, even the LORD, mighty in battle. The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory.** PSALM 24:7-8, 10

*The doors are opened by the Rector and Wardens.*

*With the pastoral staff, the Bishop marks the threshold with the sign of the cross of Christ, saying*

Peace be to this house and to all who enter here: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Here the Bishop may use the Oil of Exorcism.*

May our Lord Jesus Christ put his seal upon this place and protect it from all evil and darkness, that it may be a beacon of his truth and love.

*If the Font is at the entrance, the blessing may occur here, followed by the procession and the Prayer for the Consecration of the Church; if not, the procession moves into the midst of the church.*

*During the procession, a hymn may be sung, or Psalm 122 or some other appropriate psalm may be sung or said.*

*The Congregation standing, the Bishop begins the Prayer for the Consecration of the Church*

Everliving Father, watchful and caring, our source and our end: All that we are and all that we have is yours. Hear us now, as we dedicate this place to which we come to praise your Name, to ask your forgiveness, to know your healing power, to hear your Word, and to be nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son. Be present always to guide and to judge, to illumine and to bless your people.

*A Warden or other representative of the Congregation continues*

Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to yourself to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, and to rejoice and give thanks. Grant, Lord Christ, that here we may be united with you and with one another, so that our lives may be sustained and sanctified for your service.

*The Rector or Minister in charge continues*

Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts, that we may grow closer to you through joy and through suffering. Be with us in the fullness of your power as new members are added to God's household, as we grow in grace through the years, when we are joined in Holy Matrimony, when we turn to you in sickness or special need, and, at the last, when we are committed into the Father's hands.

*The Bishop pronounces the Sentence of Consecration, in this or some other form*

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, I, *N.*, by divine grace Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, by virtue of the spiritual authority entrusted to me, now therefore consecrate this Place of Worship, setting it apart from unhallowed and profane use, and dedicating it to Almighty God for the ministration of his holy Word and Sacraments, for building up the Body of Christ, for the mission of the Church, and for public worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Anglican Church in North America.

*All gathered respond, saying*

**Amen.**

#### INSTRUMENTS AND BELLS

*When instruments of music are to be dedicated, the Bishop proceeds to an appropriate place, and says*

Father, your people worship you with many voices and sounds, in times of joy and sorrow. Move us to express the wonder, the power, and the glory of your creation and your salvation in the music we make and in the songs we sing.

Praise him with the sound of the trumpet;  
*People* Praise him upon the lute and harp. PSALM 150:3

We dedicate *these* \_\_\_\_\_ (*names of instruments*) in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Instruments are sounded. Bells may be rung. A hymn or anthem may be sung.*

## THE FONT OR BASIN

*If the Font has not already been set apart, the Bishop moves to the Font, lays a hand upon it, and says*

Almighty and everlasting Father, in your great mercy you saved Noah and his family in the Ark from the destruction of the flood, prefiguring the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We thank you that by faith and through the waters of Baptism we die to sin and are reborn in Christ. Grant through your Spirit that those baptized here may enjoy the liberty and splendor of the children of God.

There is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;  
*People* **One God and Father of all.**                      EPHESIANS 4:4-5

We dedicate this Font in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Water may be poured into the Font (and the Paschal Candle lit if it to be used to bless the Font), the Bishop saying*

Now, Father, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit. May all who are baptized here be cleansed from sin, be born again, and continue for ever faithful in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*If the Paschal Candle was not used to bless the Font, it may now be lit.*

## THE LECTERN

*The Bishop proceeds to the lectern, lays a hand upon it, and says*

Father, your eternal Word speaks to us through the words of Holy Scripture. Here we read about your mighty acts and purposes in history, and about those who served you faithfully. Inspired by the revelation of your Son, we seek to do your will. Give us ears to hear and hearts to obey.

Your word is a lantern to my feet  
*People* **And a light upon my path.** PSALM 119:105

We dedicate this lectern in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*At the dedication of the lectern, the Bible may be brought forward and put into place.*

## THE PULPIT

*The Bishop goes to the pulpit, lays a hand upon it, and says*

Father, in every age you have spoken through the voices of prophets, pastors, and teachers. Purify the lives and the lips of those who speak here, that the Gospel of Christ may be boldly and faithfully proclaimed, for the building up of your Church and the extension of your kingdom.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation  
of my heart  
*People* **Be always acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock  
and my redeemer.** PSALM 19:14

We dedicate this pulpit in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## THE HOLY TABLE

*The Bishop proceeds to the altar, and says*

Father, on the night that he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ instituted for us the banquet of our salvation. Accept here our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, in union with the one perfect sacrifice of your Son. Grant that all who eat and drink at this Holy Table may be fed and refreshed by the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. May they come with penitent hearts, lively faith, and perfect charity; and, being filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, obtain remission of their sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,

*People* **And I will raise him up on the last day.** JOHN 6:54

*The Bishop lays a hand upon the Holy Table, and continues*

We dedicate and consecrate this Table in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May it be to us a sign of the heavenly Altar where your saints and angels praise you for ever. **Amen.**

*Members of the Congregation vest the Holy Table, place the vessels on it, and light the candles.*

*The Bishop concludes the acts of Consecration and Dedication saying*

O God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
sanctify this place;

*People* For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

*Bishop* Yours is the kingdom, O Lord;

*People* And you are exalted as head above all.

**Amen.**

I CHRONICLES 29:11

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Bishop* The Lord be with you

*People* And with your spirit.

*Bishop* Let us pray

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of 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 brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

*Three Lessons are read. Lay persons read the Old Testament Lesson and the Epistle. The Deacon (or a Priest) reads the Gospel. Selections are ordinarily made from the following list; but on a Major Feast, Sunday, or Feast of Dedication, selections may be made from the Propers of the Day.*

THE LESSONS

I KINGS 8:22-30 *or* 2 SAMUEL 6:12-19 *or* HAGGAI 2:1-8  
PSALM 84 *or* 48

REVELATION 21:2-7 *or* I CORINTHIANS 3:1-17  
*or* I PETER 2:1-9

MATTHEW 7:13-25 *or* MATTHEW 21:10-14

*The People sit. One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.*

*After each Lesson the Reader may say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Or the Reader may say* Here ends the Reading.

*Silence may follow.*

*A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.*

*All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (*Page 501*)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Deacon or a member of the Congregation leads the Prayers of the People, saying*

We praise you, almighty and eternal God, that for us and for our salvation, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be born among us, that through him we might become your sons and daughters.

**Blessed be your Name, Lord God.**

We praise you for his life on earth, and for his death upon the Cross, through which he offered himself as a perfect sacrifice.

**Blessed be your Name, Lord God.**

We praise you for raising him from the dead, and for exalting him to be our great High Priest.

**Blessed be your Name, Lord God.**

We praise you for sending your Holy Spirit to make us holy, and to unite us in your holy Church.

**Blessed be your Name, Lord God.**

Either silently or aloud we now bring before Almighty God our petitions and intercessions:

*Other petitions and intercessions may be offered.*

*After a period of silence, the Bishop concludes with the following prayer*

We give you thanks, O God, for the gifts of your people, and for the work of many hands, which have beautified this place and furnished it for the celebration of your holy mysteries. Accept and bless all we have done, and grant that in these earthly things

we may behold the order and beauty of things heavenly; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

*The Deacon or other person appointed says the following*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence*

*The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to 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 PEACE

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

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Preface for the Dedication of a Church is used.*

*After the Post Communion Prayer, the Bishop may pray*

Blessed be your Name, O Lord God, for it pleases you to have your habitation among your people, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon earth: Bless the service of this day and grant that in this place, now set apart to your glory, your holy Name may be worshiped in truth and purity to all generations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Bishop blesses the people and a Deacon or Priest dismisses them.*

## ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

When the clergy and people assemble before the service, they may gather out of doors, in the parish house, in a former or neighboring place of worship, or in some other building. When convenient, the procession may go around the building(s) to be dedicated and then go to the principal door. Hymns or psalms may be used in procession.

The use of portable musical instruments is suitable. When the weather is inclement, or other circumstances make it necessary, the Congregation may assemble inside the church; the Bishop, other clergy, and attendants will enter in procession through the principal door.

When a new church is being consecrated, it may be desirable that sacred vessels, ornaments, and decorations be carried into the building in the

procession. Such things as the deed for the property and the blueprint of the building(s), the keys, and the tools used in its construction may also be carried by appropriate persons.

The cross, signed on the threshold by the Bishop, may also be marked in lasting form (incised, painted, inlaid). In place of a pastoral staff, the foot of a processional cross may be used for the signing.

Selected verses of psalms, hymns, or instrumental music may be used as the ministers move from one part of the church to another.

At the dedication of the Font, children or other lay persons may be assigned the task of pouring the water.

If one reading stand is to serve as both lectern and pulpit, only one of the prayers, and one of the versicles and responses, are used, followed by the words of dedication.

At the dedication and consecration of an altar, the Oil of Chrism may appropriately be used to mark five crosses on the unadorned Altar Table, one each at the four corners and one in the center.

#### FOR THE DEDICATION OF CHURCHES AND CHAPELS IN SPECIAL CASES

If the place of public worship is also to serve as a school or parish hall, or for some other suitable purpose, the liturgy may be adapted to the circumstances, with the Bishop's permission.

If the church is also to be used for regular worship by other Christian bodies, it is appropriate that their representatives take part in the service, and that the service be adapted.

When buildings have been used for public worship over many years without having been consecrated, consecration and dedication are appropriate. Furnishings already dedicated are not set apart again.

SECULARIZATION OF A BUILDING PREVIOUSLY  
CONSECRATED AND DEDICATED

*The altar(s) and all consecrated and dedicated objects that are to be preserved are removed from the building prior to the service.*

*The Bishop, or a Minister appointed by the Bishop, begins with these or similar words*

We who are gathered here know that this building which has been set apart for the ministry of God's holy Word and Sacraments will no longer be dedicated to this use [*or will be taken down*]. We thank Almighty God for all that he has accomplished here.

*The Declaration of Secularization is now read.*

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

On the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_, at the hands of *N.N.*, Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, this building was duly consecrated and dedicated [in honor of \_\_\_\_\_]. The Sentence of Consecration has been in effect until this date.

I, *N.N.*, Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby revoke the said Sentence, and do remit this building, and all the objects remaining in it, for any lawful and reputable use, according to the laws of this land.

This building, having now been declared deconsecrated and secularized, I declare to be no longer subject to my canonical jurisdiction or that of this Church.

This Declaration is given under my hand and seal, in the *City* of \_\_\_\_\_, *State/Province/Commonwealth* of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_. (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

*The service concludes with the Lord's Prayer and such other prayers, including the following litany, as the Bishop may direct.*

#### A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR A CHURCH

Let us thank God whom we worship here in the beauty of holiness.

Eternal God, the heaven of heavens cannot contain you, much less the walls of temples made with hands. Graciously receive our thanks for this place, and accept the work of our hands, offered to your honor and glory.

For the Church universal, of which these visible buildings are a symbol,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered together in your Name,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For making us your children by adoption and grace, and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life.

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the pardon of our sins, which restores us to the company of your faithful people,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the faith of those who have gone before us and for our encouragement by their perseverance,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For the fellowship of [*N.*, our patron, and of] all your saints,

**We thank you, Lord.**

*This Litany may be used on the anniversary of the consecration or dedication of a church, or on other suitable occasions, in which case the Celebrant concludes with the following Doxology.*

*Celebrant* Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

*People* **And of your own have we given you.**

I CHRONICLES 29:11, 14<sup>T</sup>