

# Appendix A

## THE BOOK OF OCCASIONAL SERVICES

The Reformed Episcopal Church  
53<sup>rd</sup> General Council

THE  
BOOK OF OCCASIONAL SERVICES

Services for Certain Occasions  
not provided in the  
Book of Common Prayer

*Compiled by the*  
Standing Liturgical Commission  
of the Reformed Episcopal Church

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## Prayers at Mid-Day

O God, make speed to save us.  
*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
*And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

¶ The following psalm, or some other psalm(s), shall be sung or said.

### Psalm 121. *Levavi oculos.*

**I** WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills; \* from whence cometh my help?  
2 My help cometh even from the LORD, \* who hath made heaven and earth.  
3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; \* and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.  
4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel \* shall neither slumber nor sleep.  
5 The LORD himself is thy keeper; \* the LORD is thy defence upon thy right hand;  
6 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, \* neither the moon by night.  
7 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil; \* yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.  
8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in, \* from this time forth for evermore.

¶ Here shall be sung or said the *Gloria Patri*.

**G**LORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*The Angel Gabriel was sent from God ... to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph ... and the virgin's name was Mary. (St. Luke 1:26-27)*

**W**E beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ announced by the message of an angel to the Virgin Mary, so by his cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of the resurrection, Through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. (St. John 12.32)*

**B**LESSED Saviour, who at this hour didst hang upon the cross stretching out thy loving arms: Grant that all mankind may look unto thee and be saved; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

*Peter went up upon the house-top to pray, about the sixth hour. (Acts 10.9)*

**F**ATHER of mercies, who to thine Apostle Saint Peter didst reveal in three-fold vision thy boundless compassion: Forgive, we pray thee, our unbelief, and so enlarge our hears, and enkindle our zeal, that we may fervently desire the salvation of all people, and with more ready diligence labour in the extension of thy kingdom; for his sake, who gave himself for the life of the world, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*At mid-day, O king, I saw a light above the brightness of the sun. (Acts 26.13)*

**A**LMIGHTY Saviour, who at mid-day didst call thy servant Saint Paul to be an Apostle to the Gentiles: We beseech thee to illumine the world with the radiance of thy glory, that all nations may come and worship thee; who art, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Additional Prayers may be added.

**T**HE Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

## An Order for Compline or Prayer at the End of the Day

**T**urn us, O God our Saviour;  
*Answer.* And let thine anger cease from us.

*Minister.* The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

*Answer:* Amen.

**B**e sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith.  
*(1 Peter 5:8-9a)*

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us;

*Answer.* Thanks be to God.

*Minister.* Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

*Answer.* Who hath made heaven and earth.

¶ Then, all kneeling, the Minister and people shall say,

**W**e confess to God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, through our own grievous fault. Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.

*Minister.* May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Minister: O God, make speed to save us;

Answer: O Lord, make haste to help us.

¶ Here, all standing, the Minister shall say,

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*Answer:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.  
*Amen.*

Minster: Praise ye the Lord;

Answer: The Lord's Name be praised.

### PSALM 134. *Ecce nunc.*

**B**ehold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord; \* Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord,

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord.\* The Lord that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

¶ Or Psalm 4, 31, 33, 34, 91, or 136

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:\*  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

¶ Here a short Lesson of Scripture shall be read. A hymn may follow.

*Minister.* Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit,  
*Answer.* For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

*Minister.* Keep me as the apple of an eye;  
*Answer.* Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Lord, have mercy upon us,  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Minister.* Lord, hear our prayer;  
*Answer.* And let our cry come unto thee.

**V**isit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this habitation: drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace, and let thy blessing be ever upon us, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**L**ighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ Other prayers may be added.

*Anthem.* Save us, O Lord, while waking, and defend us while sleeping: that when we are awake we may watch with Christ, and when we sleep we may rest in peace.

*Nunc dimittis.* St. Luke 2:29-32

**L**ord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation; Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:\*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Anthem.* Save us, O Lord, while waking, and defend us while sleeping: that when we are awake we may watch with Christ, and when we sleep we may rest in peace.

*Minister.* We will lay us down in peace and take our rest;

*Answer.* For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

*Minister.* Let us bless the Lord;

*Answer.* Thanks be to God.

**T**he Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless us and keep us. *Amen.*

## The Admission of a Communicant

¶ For use by the Bishop in admitting into the Communion of this Church persons already confirmed in another part of the holy Catholic Church, not in communion with this Church.

¶ Such persons, having presented evidence of Baptism and Confirmation, after examination by the Minister as to their sincerity of purpose, and instruction in the differences between this Church and the Church from which they come, may receive Holy Communion, but shall be admitted formally by the Bishop at his next visitation.

¶ If such persons are to be received at the time of Confirmation, they shall be presented, examined, and admitted after all have been confirmed, immediately before the Lord's Prayer.

¶ The Candidates shall stand before the Bishop, sitting in his chair, and the Minister presenting them shall say,

**R**EVEREND Father in God, I present unto you *these persons*, already Confirmed, to be admitted into the Communion of this Church.

¶ The Bishop, addressing the Candidates shall say,

**D**O you believe that this Church is a true part of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church?

*Answer.* I do.

*Bishop.* Do you promise to conform to the teaching, discipline, and worship of this Church?

*Answer.* I do.

¶ Then the Candidates shall kneel severally before the Bishop, who shall take them by the right hand, saying,

**N**. I admit you into the Communion of this Church, and welcome you into our fellowship. May the Peace of the Lord be always with you; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ When this order is used separately from the Confirmation service, the Bishop shall conclude with the Lord's Prayer, the prayers following, and other suitable prayers with the Blessing.

**A**LMIGHTY and most merciful God, grant, we beseech thee, that by the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, we may be enlightened and strengthened for thy service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

**A**LMIGHTY and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church, that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

## The Blessing of Married Persons

¶ This form may be used when the Priest is satisfied that the marriage is in conformity with the Canon. No entry shall be made in the parish register.

¶ The Priest, standing before the altar, with the Husband and Wife standing before him, shall say,

**D**EARLY beloved, forasmuch as you have been joined together in holy Matrimony, which is an honourable estate instituted of God, and have come hither to ask for the blessing of the Church; I require that you promise, by the help of God, to fulfill the obligations which Christian marriage demands.

¶ Then, addressing the Husband, the Priest shall say,

**N**. DOST thou promise to love this thy Wife, to comfort, honour, and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

¶ And the Husband shall answer,  
I do.

¶ Then, addressing the Wife, the Priest shall say,

**N**. DOST thou promise to love this thy Husband, to comfort, honour, and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

¶ And the Wife shall answer,  
I do.

¶ Then the Priest shall say,

The Lord be with you.  
*And with thy Spirit.*  
Let us pray.

¶ Then the Priest may bless the Ring or Rings; the Wife (and Husband) extending the hand (or hands) toward him, he shall say,

**O** GOD, whose blessed Son sanctified, with his presence, the marriage at Cana: Bless, we beseech thee, *this ring*, to be the token of the union of this man and woman in holy Matrimony; that ever growing in love, they may abide in thy peace, and continue in thy favour unto their life's end; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Priest and the Married Persons, still standing, shall say the Lord's Prayer.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

¶ Then the Priest shall say,

**O**ETERNAL God, creator and preserver of all mankind, giver of all spiritual grace, the author of everlasting life: Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy Name; that they, living faithfully together, may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, (whereof *this ring is* a token and pledge,) and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Priest may add one or both of the following prayers.

**O**ALMIGHTY God, creator of mankind, who only art the well-spring of life: Bestow upon these thy servants, if it be thy will, the gift and heritage of children; and grant that they may see their children brought up in thy faith and fear, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**O**GOD, who hast so consecrated the state of Matrimony that in it is represented the spiritual marriage and unity betwixt Christ and his Church: Look mercifully upon these thy servants, that they may love, honour, and cherish each other, and so live together in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and of peace; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Priest shall join their right hands together, and say,

Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

¶ Then the Husband and Wife kneeling, the Priest shall add this Blessing.

**G**OD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

## The Order for the Adoption of Children

¶ The Minister shall stand at the entrance of the chancel, facing the people. The parents shall stand before him, with two witnesses, one of whom shall hold or stand with the Child to be adopted. All shall stand throughout the service.

¶ The Minister shall begin by saying the following Versicles with the people.

**I**BOW my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
*Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.*  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*  
Praise ye the Lord;  
*The Lord's Name be praised.*

¶ Here may be sung a Hymn.

¶ Then the Minister and people shall say responsively the following.

From Psalm 68. *Justi epulentur.*

**L**ET the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;  
*Let them also be merry and joyful.*  
He is a Father of the fatherless, and defendeth the cause of the widows;  
*Even God in his holy habitation.*  
He setteth the solitary in families;  
*Thy congregation shall dwell therein.*  
Praised be the Lord daily,  
*Even the God who helpeth us, and poureth his benefits upon us.*  
Thy God hath sent forth strength for thee;  
*Stablish the thing, O God, that thou hast wrought in us.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ Then the Minister shall read the Gospel, first saying,

Hear the words of the holy Gospel according to Saint Mark.

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

**The Gospel.** St. Mark 9:33-37.

**J**ESUS came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way? But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest. And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all. And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in

my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me.

Minister: The Gospel of the LORD.

People: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

## THE PROMISES

¶ Then the Minister shall ask the following Questions, the parents alone making reply.

**D**O you desire to take this Child for your own?  
*(Both) Answer. I do.*

*Minister. Will you be to him a true Father and Mother, in spirit and in deed?*

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

*Minister. Will you show him love and understanding; give him companionship and guidance; and treat him with patience and forbearance?*

*Answer. I will endeavour so to do.*

*Minister. Will you bring him up in the knowledge and love of the Lord, in the godly discipline of the home, and of Christ's holy Church?*

*Answer. I will, God being my helper.*

**M**AY our heavenly Father, who hath put it into your hearts to do all these things, grant you his grace to fulfill the same unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

¶ Then, if the Child be of sufficient years to answer for himself, the Minister shall say,

**D**O you desire to have this man and this woman for your Father and Mother, and to be their Child?

*Answer. I do.*

*Minister. Will you love, honour, and help your Father and Mother?*

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

**M**AY God, who hath given you a good will, grant you his grace to perform the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE ADOPTION

¶ Then the Minister, taking the Child in his arms, or by the hand, shall give the Child to the Mother, saying,

**A**S God hath received us as his children, so now receive this Child as your own son;  
In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Father shall lay his hand upon the Child, saying,

**M**AY God, who hath redeemed us, bless this Child, and us: and may our name be named upon *him*. *Amen*.

¶ Minister and people.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. *Amen*.

Thou wilt be a Father unto us;  
*And we shall be thy sons and daughters.*  
The Lord be with you;  
*And with thy spirit.*

*Minister:* Let us pray.

**O** GOD our Father, who makest us thy children by adoption and grace: Give thy blessing, we humbly beseech thee, to this family, who have now bound themselves one to another in thee, that dwelling together in holiness, they may be made perfect in love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen*.

**M**AY God the Father, who hath adopted you as his children, grant you his grace; May God the Son, who dwelt in the home of Nazareth, fill you with his love; May God the Holy Ghost, who hath united you in one family, keep you in his peace; And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be with you, and remain with you always. *Amen*.

## The Form for the Setting Apart of a Deaconess

¶ All things being in readiness, a Priest shall present to the Bishop, sitting in his chair near the Holy Table, she who is to be set apart as Deaconess, saying,

**R**EVEREND Father in God, I present unto you this woman, to be set apart to the office and work of Deaconess.

¶ Then shall the Bishop say,

**D**ECLARE, we pray you, unto those who are here gathered what the office and work of a Deaconess is.

¶ Then shall the Priest, addressing the People, say,

**D**EARLY beloved, that it is agreeable to the mind of Christ that women should do him service by offices of loving-kindness, we gather from Saint Paul, who saith to the Philippians, *Help those women which laboured with me in the Gospel*, and who also commendeth unto the Romans one Phoebe, a Deaconess of the Church which was at Cenchrea.

Touching the duty of women set apart to this office and ministry, the Canons of the church affirm that it is to assist the ministry in the care of the poor and sick, in the religious training of the young and others, and in the work of moral reformation. That she may be duly appointed to such service, has this woman come hither.

¶ Then shall the Bishop say,

**B**ELOVED, we have good confidence that she who is now presented to be set apart to the office of Deaconess is competent thereto, for it has been so certified unto us, as the Canons require, by those whose word we trust. Nevertheless, if there be any who can allege aught on account of which it is inexpedient that this person be so set apart, let protest be now made openly and before all men.

¶ If no good reason be alleged by any why she should not be set apart, the following the twelfth chapter of Saint Paul's letter to the Romans will be read for the Lesson.

¶ Then shall be said or sung the Magnificat or Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100).

*Magnificat.* St. Luke 1:46-55.

**M**Y soul doth magnify the Lord \* and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded \* the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth \* all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; \* and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \* throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \* he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \* and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things; \* and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; \* as he promised to our  
forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, \* and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \* world without end. Amen.

¶ Then, all kneeling, the Bishop shall say,

Unto thee lift we up our eyes;  
*O thou that dwellest in the heavens.*  
As the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters;  
*And as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress;*  
Even so our eyes wait upon thee, O Lord;  
*Until thou have mercy upon us.*  
O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Have mercy upon us.*  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us;  
*As our trust is in thee.*

¶ The Bishop shall then say,

**O** ETERNAL God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast in all times accepted and  
blessed the services of holy women: Look mercifully, we beseech thee, upon this thy  
servant, about to be set apart to the office and work of Deaconess. Protect her in the way  
wherein she goes, and grant that in singleness of purpose and with a willing mind she  
may worthily accomplish the task committed to her, to thy glory and to the praise of thy  
Christ, to whom with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, be glory and worship for  
ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Bishop ask of her the following questions, to which the Candidate shall give answer.

**D**EARLY beloved in the Lord, who are minded to take upon you this service in the  
Church of God, have you duly considered how weighty an undertaking this is, and  
are you prepared with a willing mind to take upon you this office?  
*Answer.* I have so considered it, and will do so, by the help of God.

*Bishop.* Will you endeavour faithfully to fulfill the duties of the same?  
*Answer.* I will.

*Bishop.* Will you diligently ask of God the grace to enable you to persevere in this  
endeavour?  
*Answer.* I will.

*Bishop.* Will you be diligent in prayer and in reading of the Holy Scripture, and in such  
studies as help to the knowledge and teaching of the same?

*Answer.* I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

*Bishop.* Will you be obedient to those who are over you in the Lord, cheerfully and faithfully performing the service that shall be appointed to you as Deaconess in singleness of heart?

*Answer.* I will endeavour so to do, the Lord being my helper.

¶ Then shall the Candidate kneel, and the Bishop shall say,

**A**Lmighty God, who hath called you to serve him in this holy life, give you power to fulfill this your service acceptably; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Bishop lay his hand upon the head of the person to be made Deaconess, saying,

**G**OD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and sanctify you; and so endow you with all faith, wisdom, and humility, that you may serve before him to the glory of his great Name, and to the benefit of his Church and people; and make you faithful unto death, and give you the crown of everlasting life. *Amen.*

**N**I admit thee to the office of Deaconess, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Bishop.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Bishop.* Let us pray.

¶ Then, the People kneeling, the Bishop shall say these prayers following.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**E**NDUE, O Lord, we beseech thee, this thy servant, with the meekness and gentleness of Christ. Preserve her alike from faithless fears and unreasonable desires, that with a steadfast heart and settled purpose she may run the way of thy commandments; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall be said,

*Bishop.* O magnify the Lord with me;

*Answer.* And let us exalt his Name together.

*Bishop.* O give thanks unto the God of Heaven;

*Answer.* For his mercy endureth for ever.

*Bishop.* O give thanks unto the Lord of lords;

*Answer.* For his mercy endureth for ever.

*Bishop.* The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ It is desirable that the Service of Holy Communion should follow, the newly set apart Deaconess communicating.

**At the Communion**

*The Collect.*

**O** GOD, who hast prepared for those who love thee such good things as pass man's understanding: Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*The Epistle.* Romans 15:1-6.

*The Gospel.* St. Luke 12:35-39.

## The Installation of a Bishop

¶ The Inceptor shall be the Presiding Bishop, or a Bishop or Priest appointed by him. The Warden of the service and other Ministers shall be Clergy and Laity of the Diocese, appointed by the Inceptor.

### THE INDUCTION

¶ When Ministers and People have assembled in the Church, all shall stand facing the door. The Warden shall close the door, and wait inside to open it. The Bishop, standing outside with his attendants, shall knock on the door three times, saying,

**O**PEN me the gates of righteousness, that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.

¶ The Warden shall open the door, and say,

**H**E that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep; to him the porter openeth.

¶ The Bishop shall enter the Church, stopping inside the door. As he enters trumpets may be sounded or bells may be rung. Then he shall make his Petition, as follows.

**I**, N., whom God hath ordained to be a shepherd and servant, whom also you have chosen, coming before you in all humility, desire to be Inducted, and Invested, as Bishop of ———, and to be Installed in the Chair of this Church pertaining to this Office.

¶ The Warden shall reply,

**W**E are ready and willing to do so. But that all men may know that we do act according to the Canons of the Church, we require that the Certificate of Election be read in your presence, and in the presence of this congregation.

¶ Then the Clerk shall read aloud the said document. After which the Warden shall conduct the Bishop to the chancel gate. Meanwhile a Hymn may be sung.

¶ Having arrived before the Inceptor, who shall sit in a chair at the chancel gate, the Warden shall say,

**M**OST Reverend Father in God, we present unto you our Bishop to be Inducted, Invested, and Installed in his Office.

¶ Then the Inceptor, still seated, shall say,

**B**Y the authority committed unto me, and with the consent of those who have chosen you, I induct you, Right Reverend Father in God, N., as Bishop of ———, with all the temporal and spiritual rights and responsibilities of the same; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

## THE INVESTITURE

¶ Then the Institutor and Warden shall conduct the Bishop before the Holy Table. Meanwhile the Cantor shall say responsively with the people the following Antiphon and Psalm.

*Antiphon.* I will give you pastors according to mine heart, \* which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

*Dominus regit me.* Psalm 23.

**T**HE Lord is my shepherd;  
*Therefore can I lack nothing.*  
He shall feed me in a green pasture;  
*And lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.*  
He shall convert my soul;  
*And bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.*  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;  
*For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.*  
Thou shalt prepare a table before me in the presence of them that trouble me;  
*Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.*  
Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
*And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ Then the Reader, standing before the Altar, facing the Bishop, shall read the Lesson, as follows.

Hear the words of the Apostle Peter.

*The Lesson.* 1 St. Peter 5:2.

**F**EED the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

¶ Then the Institutor may take from the Altar the Pastoral Staff and give it to the Bishop, saying,

**I**N the name and behalf of the Diocese of —— I do receive and acknowledge you, Right Reverend Father in God, N., as Bishop of the same; [*and in token thereof give into your hands the Pastoral Staff*].

¶ The Bishop, (holding the Pastoral Staff,) shall place his right hand on a Bible, held by the Warden, and shall take his Oath, as follows.

**I**, N., Bishop in the Church of God, now inducted and acknowledged by you as the Bishop of this Diocese [*receive this Staff at your hands, as the pledge of my institution, and of your recognition, and*] promise to be a faithful shepherd unto you; So help me God, and the contents of this Book.

## THE INSTALLATION

¶ Then the Institutor and Warden shall conduct the Bishop to his Chair. Meanwhile a suitable Hymn or Anthem may be sung.

¶ The Hymn or Anthem being ended, the Warden shall bow to the Bishop, and say,

**R**IGHT Reverend Father in God, we Install you in the Chair pertaining to your Office, and we salute you as Bishop of ———, in which may our Lord Jesus Christ preserve and keep you.

¶ Then the people shall say,  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

¶ And the Bishop, still seated, shall reply,  
And with thy spirit.

¶ Here trumpets may be sounded or bells may be rung. Then the Clerk shall say,  
**S**O now is our Right Reverend Father and Faithful Pastor really and lawfully Inducted, Invested, and Installed. Wherefore it is incumbent upon us to thank God upon the occasion, and to petition the Divine Majesty: that this his servant may be blest in the execution of his office, and that he, together with the people committed to his charge, may at last attain unto eternal life.

## THE PRAYERS FOR THE BISHOP

¶ Then all still standing, the Bishop alone kneeling at his Chair, the Institutor, standing before him, shall say with the people the *Kyrie* and the Lord's Prayer.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, save thy servant;  
*Who putteth his trust in thee.*  
Send him help from thy holy place;  
*And evermore mightily defend him.*  
Be unto him a strong tower;  
*From the face of the enemy.*  
Lord, hear our prayer;  
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

**O** GOD, great in power, unsearchable in understanding, wondrous in counsels towards the children of men: Do thou fill with the gift of the Holy Spirit him whom thou hast

willed to undertake this ministry; that he may be worthy to stand before thy holy Altar unblameably, to announce the Gospel of thy kingdom, to administer the Word of thy truth, to offer gifts and spiritual sacrifices unto thee, and to renew thy people in the font of Regeneration; that, at the second coming of thine only-begotten Son, he may go forth to meet him, and by the multitude of thy mercies receive his reward; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Institutor shall bless the Bishop, saying,

**T**HE God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ Then the *Te Deum* or a Hymn may be sung, and the Bishop, or someone appointed may deliver an Address.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE BISHOP

¶ Then the Bishop shall go to the Altar and kneel before it, all others kneeling with him, and say this Prayer.

**O**LORD, attend our supplications; and graciously hearken unto me, who am the first to need thy mercy; and as thou hast made me the Minister of this work, not by choosing me on account of merit, but by the gift of thy grace, so give me confidence to perform thine office; and do thou thyself, by our ministration, fulfill the purpose of thine own loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ If the Holy Communion is to follow, this office shall end here, the following Collect being used as the Collect of the Day in the Liturgy. Otherwise, the Bishop, standing, shall say the following.

**O**LORD, we beseech thee, graciously to cast thy light upon thy Church; that thy flock may everywhere go on and prosper, and its pastors, by thy governance, may become acceptable to thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then, turning to the people, the Bishop shall give them his Blessing, saying,

**T**HE Almighty Trinity and one true God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, grant you to desire him wholly, to know him truly, and to love him sincerely; and bestow upon you such perseverance in his faith and love that he may bring you hereafter to himself and his unchangeable glory, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ When the Bishop is to be Installed at the time of his Consecration, the Acts of Induction, Investiture, and Installation, and such other parts of this service as the Presiding Bishop shall think convenient, shall be used immediately after the Consecration and before the continuation of the Liturgy.

## The Admission of a Canon, Archdeacon or Dean

¶ The Bishop, seated in his chair near the Holy Table, shall appoint a Presbyter who shall present the Canon, Archdeacon or Dean to the Bishop for Admission.

### THE PRESENTATION

¶ The congregation being seated, the Canon, Archdeacon or Dean shall stand at the chancel gate, facing the Bishop. The Sponsor shall say,

**R**IGHT Reverend Sir, I present unto you this godly and well-learned person to be admitted to the Office of Canon (*or Archdeacon, or Dean*) in this Diocese.

*Bishop.* Is the person whom you present unto us duly prepared to exercise his ministry to the honour of God and the edifying of the Church?

*Presbyter.* I believe him so to be.

### THE EXAMINATION

¶ The Bishop, addressing the Canon, Archdeacon or Dean, shall say,

**D**EARLY beloved, who has been appointed to the Office of Canon (*or Archdeacon, or Dean*) in this Diocese, are you convinced that the work of this ministry is so important that, while you are appointed thereto, you should be diligent in performing the same?

*Answer.* I am so convinced.

*Bishop.* Will you try faithfully and reverently to execute the duties of your Office to the best of your ability, as unto the Lord and not unto men?

*Answer.* I will try to do so.

*Bishop.* Will you strive to live in accordance with the sacredness of this Office?

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

*Bishop.* May God guide and bless you in the doing of this work.

### THE ADMISSION

¶ The Bishop admits the Canon, Archdeacon or Dean with the following words and may present a pectoral cross or some other token of office.

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Canon (*or Archdeacon, or Dean*) in the Diocese of —; [and I give you this — as a token of your ministry;] In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

## THE CONCLUSION

*Bishop.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Bishop.* Let us pray.

**O**LORD, without whom our labour is but lost: We humbly beseech thee to prosper all works in thy Church undertaken according to thy holy will; and grant to thy labourers a pure intention, patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving thee in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**O**ETERNAL God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten with thy grace the Canon (*or Archdeacon, or Dean*) of this Diocese, and so rule his mind and guide his counsels, that in all things he may seek thy glory and the welfare of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**T**HE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## The Admission of Lay Ministers and Officers

¶ To be used before the Liturgy, or after the Collects of the Daily Offices.

¶ The Priest shall appoint a Sponsor who shall instruct and examine the Candidates in the duties of their Office, and present them for Admission.

¶ Candidates for different Ministries may be presented and examined together, but shall be admitted separately with the Proper pertaining to their Office.

### THE PRESENTATION

¶ The congregation being seated, the Priest shall stand at the chancel gate, facing the people, the Sponsor and the Candidates, clad in the proper vesture of their Office, standing before him. The Sponsor shall say,

**R**EVEREND Sir, I present unto you *these persons*, to be admitted to the Office of *Reader (or Acolyte, etc.)* in this Parish.

*Priest.* Are the *persons* whom you present duly prepared by purity of life, regular attendance at Church, and knowledge of *their* duties, to exercise *their* ministry to the honour of God and the edifying of the Church?

*Sponsor.* I have instructed and examined *them*, and believe *them* so to be.

### THE EXAMINATION

¶ The Priest, addressing the Candidates, shall say,

**D**EARLY beloved, who desire to be admitted to the Office of Reader (or Acolyte, etc.) in this Church, are you convinced that the work of this ministry is so important that, while you are appointed thereto, you should be diligent in performing the same?

*Answer.* I am so convinced.

*Priest.* Will you try faithfully and reverently to execute the duties of your Office to the best of your ability, as unto the Lord and not unto men?

*Answer.* I will try to do so.

*Priest.* Will you strive to live in accordance with the sacredness of this Office?

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

*Priest.* May God guide and bless you in the doing of this work.

### THE ADMISSION

¶ Then, the people being seated, the Candidates, standing, shall be admitted as follows. The Priest shall take each Candidate by the right hand, saying the words of Admission, *I admit you, etc.* Then he shall give the Candidate the Token of the Office, saying, *And I give you, etc.* and shall say over them the Collect.

#### 1. OF LECTOR

**I** ADMIT you, having been duly licensed, to the Office of Lector in this Church; and I give you this Bible as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let us pray.

**O** ALMIGHTY God, whose blessed Son didst read the holy Scriptures in the synagogue: Look graciously upon the Readers of thy Church, and so enlighten them with wisdom and understanding that they may read thy holy Word to the edification of thy people, and the glory of thy holy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **2. OF ACOLYTES**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Acolyte in this Church; and I give you this Candle as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** GLORIOUS King, before whose heavenly throne the angels stand to do thy will: Bless, we beseech thee, the Acolytes of thy Church, that ministering before thine earthly throne they may serve thee with reverence and true holiness, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **3. OF CHORISTERS**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Chorister in this Church; and I give you this Hymnal as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who didst inspire thy servant David both to write songs, and to appoint singers for thy worship: Give thy grace to the Choristers of thy Church, that speaking together in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs, they may sing and make melody in their hearts to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **4. OF SACRISTANS OR ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Sacristan in this Church; and I give you this Purificator as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who of old didst give the Levites the charge of the instruments of thy holy temple: Give thy grace, we beseech thee, to the Sacristans of thy Church, that devoutly caring for the vessels and vestments of thy worship, and adorning the place of thy sanctuary, they may make the place of thy presence glorious; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **5. OF CATECHISTS OR TEACHERS**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Catechist in this Church; and I give you this Prayer Book as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, whose blessed Son taught in the temple: Give thy blessing and the guidance of thy Holy Spirit to the Catechists of thy Church, that teaching thy children both by word and good example, they may lead them to the knowledge and love of thee and of thy holy Church; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### **6. OF OTHER LAY WORKERS**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of — in this Parish (*or* Diocese); and I give you this — as a token of your ministry [*The token to be given must be determined by the office*]; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** LORD, without whom our labour is but lost: We humbly beseech thee to prosper all works in thy Church undertaken according to thy holy will; and grant to thy labourers a pure intention, patient faith, sufficient success on earth, and the blessedness of serving thee in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### **7. OF WARDENS AND VESTRYMEN**

**I** ADMIT you to the Office of Warden (*or* Vestryman) in this Church; and I give you this Book of Canons as a token of your ministry; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

**O** ETERNAL God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten with thy grace the Wardens and Vestrymen of thy Church, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek thy glory and the welfare of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

#### **THE CONCLUSION**

*Priest.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us pray.

**R**EGARD, we beseech thee, O Lord, our supplications, and confirm with thy heavenly benediction thy servants whom we have admitted to the lay ministry of thy Church, that with sincere devotion of mind and body they may offer a service acceptable to thy divine Majesty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

**T**HE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

# The Founding of a Church

## I. BREAKING GROUND

¶ Before the service four stakes may be set in the ground at the four corners of the proposed building. And three cords may be prepared, two to extend diagonally from corner to corner, a third to enclose the space. A spade shall be placed at the site of the Altar.

¶ The Bishop, or a Priest appointed by him, shall officiate. Having vested nearby, the Ministers shall go in procession, with the people, to the site of the new Church, singing or saying the Prayer Book Litany or the Litany for the Church. Then an appointed Minister shall read the Lesson, as follows.

Hear these words from the First Book of Chronicles.

*The Lesson from 1 Chronicles 21 and 22*

THE angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the Lord in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the Name of the Lord. Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of this threshing floor, that I may build an altar therein unto the Lord. And Ornan said to David, Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eyes: lo, I give it all. And king David said to Ornan, Nay, but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the Lord, nor offer burnt offerings without cost. So David gave Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight. Then David said, The house that is to be builded for the Lord must be exceeding magnificent; I will therefore now make preparation for it. Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the Lord God of Israel.

¶ Here may follow a Hymn, and an Instruction or Sermon. Then, while the following Antiphon and Psalm are being sung or said, appointed laymen may stretch the two cords diagonally, from the northeast to the southwest, and from the southeast to the northwest, securing them to the stakes, thus, forming the Greek letter X, the symbol both of the Cross and of the name of Christ, across the space.

*Antiphon.* Thou son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, \* and let them measure the pattern.

From Psalm 132. *Memento, Domine.*

L ORD, remember David,  
And all his trouble.  
How he sware unto the Lord,  
And vowed a vow unto the Almighty God of Jacob.  
I will not come within the tabernacle of mine house,  
Nor climb up into my bed;  
I will not suffer mine eyes to sleep, nor mine eyelids to slumber;  
Neither the temples of my head to take any rest;  
Until I find out a place for the temple of the Lord;  
An habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.  
Arise, O Lord, into thy resting-place;

*Thou, and the ark of thy strength.  
Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness;  
And let thy saints sing with joyfulness.  
For thy servant David's sake.  
Turn not away the face of thine anointed.  
For the Lord hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for himself;  
He hath longed for her.  
This shall be my rest for ever;  
Here will I dwell for I have a delight therein.  
I will deck her priests with health,  
And her saints will rejoice and sing.  
There shall I make the horn of David to flourish:  
I have ordained a lantern for mine anointed.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶During the following Antiphon and Psalm the laymen may stretch the third cord completely around the four stakes, enclosing the area, moving clockwise, beginning and ending at the southeast. If convenient, the Ministers and people may follow in procession.

*Antiphon.* We have a strong city; \* salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.

From Psalm 48. *Magnus Dominus.*

**G**REAT is the Lord, and highly to be praised,  
*In the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.*  
The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth;  
*Upon the north side lieth the city of the great king: God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.*  
Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God,  
*God upholdeth the same for ever.*  
We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God,  
*In the midst of thy temple.*  
O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end;  
*Thy right hand is full of righteousness.*  
Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughters of Judah be glad,  
*Because of thy judgments.*  
Walk about Sion, and go round about her;  
*And tell the towers thereof.*  
Mark well her bulwarks, consider her palaces,  
*That ye may tell them that come after.*  
For this God is our God for ever and ever:  
*He shall be our guide unto death.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ Here a Hymn may be sung. Then the Officiant, standing at the site of the Altar, shall say,

**F**ORASMUCH as devout and faithful people have taken in hand to build on this ground, now marked with the symbol of Christ, a House to be dedicated to the glory of God, (and in honour of ———,) to be known as (*Title*), wherein the Gospel shall be truly preached, the Sacraments duly administered, and the service of Prayer and Praise offered in this and coming generations;

¶ Then, taking the spade, and removing the first shovelful of earth, he shall continue,

**T**HEREFORE I break ground for this Church; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ Minister and people.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon its.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O God, wonderful art thou in thy holy places;  
*Stablish the thing that thou hast wrought in us.*  
O be favourable and gracious unto Sion;  
*Build thou the walls of Jerusalem.*

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

Let us pray.

**O**LORD God of Israel, who didst move thy servant David to find out a place for thy temple, and dost have thy habitation among the sons of men: Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to hallow this ground, upon which we propose to build a Church and to set up an Altar therein, that the work now begun may be brought to completion, to the honour and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Here shall follow the COLLECT OF THE NAME OF THE CHURCH. Then the Officiant shall say,*

**N**OW set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God; arise therefore and build ye the sanctuary of the Lord God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the Lord,

and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the Name of the Lord; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## II. THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE

¶ Before the service, the Foundation Symbols, namely, the Cross, the Holy Bible, the Book of Common Prayer, the Record of Founders, and any other articles to be deposited in the Corner Stone, shall be ready at the place of vesting.

¶ The Record of Founders, copies of which shall be filed with the Bishop and with the Clerk of the Congregation, shall contain the names of the Bishop, the Clergy and Lay Officials of the Congregation, and the Contributors to the building.

¶ The Bishop, or a Priest appointed by him, shall officiate. Having vested nearby, the Ministers shall go in procession, with the people, to the site of the new Church, singing or saying the Prayer Book Litany or the Litany for the Church. Appointed laymen shall bear the Foundation Symbols. An appointed Minister shall read the Lesson, as follows.

Hear the words of the First Epistle General of Saint Peter.

*The Lesson. 1 St. Peter 2:1-10.*

**W**HEREFORE laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speaking, as newborn babies desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: if so be that ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore it is contained in the scriptures, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they are appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who bath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light; which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

¶ Here may follow a Hymn and an Instruction or Sermon. Then the persons appointed shall deposit the Foundation Symbols in the Corner Stone, as follows.

### *1. The Cross*

*Layman.* I place the Cross of Christ in this foundation; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Officiant.* God forbid that I should glory save in the Cross;

*People.* For other foundation can no man lay than is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

## 2. *The Holy Bible*

*Layman.* I place the Holy Bible in this foundation; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Officiant.* Seek ye out the Book of the Lord and read;

*People.* For we are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Corner Stone.

## 3. *The Book of Common Prayer*

*Layman.* I place the Book of Common Prayer in this foundation; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Officiant.* Prayer shall be made ever unto him, and daily shall he be praised;

*People.* That we may continue steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

## 4. *The Record of Founders*

*Layman.* I place the Record of Founders in this foundation; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*Officiant.* A book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his Name;

*People.* This shall be written for those who come after, and the people which shall be born shall praise the Lord.

¶Then mention shall be made of any other articles to be deposited, and they shall be placed in the stone. After which, while the following Antiphon and Psalm are being sung or said, the receptacle shall be sealed and the Corner Stone made ready for laying.

*Antiphon.* Behold, I lay in Sion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: \* judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet.

From Psalm 118. *Confitemini Domino.*

**O** GIVE thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious;  
*Because his mercy endureth for ever.*

Let Israel now confess that he is gracious;

*And that his mercy endureth for ever.*

Let the house of Aaron now confess;

*That his mercy endureth for ever.*

Yea, let them now that fear the Lord confess;

*That his mercy endureth for ever.*

The Lord is my strength and my song,

*And is become my salvation.*

The voice of joy and health is in the dwellings of the righteous;

*The right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass.*

The right hand of the Lord hath the pre-eminence;

*The right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass.*

Open me the gates of righteousness;

*That I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.  
This is the gate of the Lord;  
The righteous shall enter into it.  
I will thank thee for thou hast heard me;  
And art become my salvation.  
The same stone which the builders refused,  
Is become the head stone in the corner.  
This is the Lord's doing,  
And it is marvellous in our eyes.  
This is the day which the Lord hath made;  
We will rejoice and be glad in it.  
Help me now, O Lord;  
O Lord send us now prosperity.  
O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious;  
And his mercy endureth for ever.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ Then the Officiant shall say,

**O**LORD, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who art the brightness of the Father's glory, and the express image of his person, the one foundation, and the chief corner stone: Bless what we do now in laying this stone in thy Name, and be thou, we beseech thee, the beginning, the increase, and the consummation of this work, which is undertaken to the glory of thy Name, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then, assisted by the builders, the Officiant shall lay the stone, and striking it three times with a trowel, shall say,

**L**AY this Corner Stone; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

**H**ERE let the true faith and fear of God, with brotherly love, ever abide; and may this place now set apart with prayer, and with the invocation and praise of the Most Holy Name, be evermore the Temple of the Most High God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Here trumpets may be sounded, and the Officiant shall say,

**P**RAISE ye the Lord, because the foundation of the House of the Lord is laid!

¶ And the people shall reply with a loud voice,

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

¶ Here a Hymn may be sung. Then the Officiant shall conclude with the following.

*Anthem.* Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it; \* the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his.

¶ Minister and people.

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us;  
*O prosper thou our handy-work.*  
Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us;  
*Like as we do put our trust in thee.*

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

**O** ALMIGHTY God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the head corner stone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ Here shall follow the COLLECT OF THE NAME OF THE CHURCH. Then the Officiant shall say,

**O** GOD, who laid the foundations of the earth: Make sure this corner stone and the foundation of the Church now begun in thy Name, and bless all who take part in this holy undertaking; remember for good those who give alms; guide those who plan and direct the work; give skill to the workmen and protect them from harm; that the building of thy temple may be completed, to the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

**B**E strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with thee: he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be with you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## **The Opening of a Church** **(For use before the Consecration)**

¶ The Bishop, or a Priest appointed by him, shall officiate. But if the Opening and Consecration take place at the same time, the Bishop shall officiate.

¶ Bells and organ shall remain silent, and no lights shall be lighted, until the time appointed. The Altar shall be bare, its vestments and ornaments being placed nearby.

### THE OPENING OF THE DOOR

¶ The People having assembled in the Church shall stand facing the door. The Senior Warden, or some other appointed Layman, shall close the door, and wait inside to open it. The Officiant and other Ministers, having vested, shall go outside to the Church door, where the Officiant, with the foot of the Pastoral Staff or of the Processional Cross, shall knock three times, saying,

**O**PEN me the gates of righteousness, that I may go into them, and give thanks unto the Lord.

¶ The Warden shall open the door, and say,

This is the gate of the Lord, the righteous shall enter into it.

¶ Then the Officiant, with the foot of the Pastoral Staff or of the Processional Cross, may mark the threshold with the sign of the cross, and shall say,

**P**EACE be to this House, and to all who enter here; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ Then the Procession shall enter the Church, stopping inside the door. Meanwhile an appointed Minister shall say responsively with the people the following Antiphon and Psalm.

*Antiphon.* This is none other than the house of God, \* and this is the gate of heaven.

Psalm 122. *Laetatus sum.*

**I** WAS glad when they said unto me,  
*We will go into the house of the Lord.*  
Our feet shall stand in thy gates,  
*O Jerusalem.*  
Jerusalem is built as a city  
*That is at unity in itself.*  
For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord,  
*To testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.*  
For there is the seat of judgment,  
*Even the seat of the house of David.*  
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem;  
*They shall prosper that love thee.*  
Peace be within thy walls,

*And plenteousness within thy palaces.  
For my brethren and companions' sakes,  
I will wish thee prosperity.  
Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek to do thee good.*

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ The people kneeling, the Officiant and other Ministers shall proceed up the center aisle to the chancel gate, saying or singing the Prayer Book Litany or the Litany for the Church.

### BENEDICTION OF THE ORNAMENTS

¶ Then, the people standing, the Officiant may go with the other Ministers to bless the various Ornaments, Vessels, and Vestments of the Church, beginning with the Font, and ending with the Altar. A Hymn may be sung while the Ministers move to the various stations.

### THE DEDICATION

¶ After blessing the Altar, the Officiant shall turn to the people, and say,

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

Lift up your hearts;  
*We lift them up unto the Lord.*

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;  
*It is meet and right so to do.*

¶ Then turning back to the Altar, he shall continue,

**I**T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, who dwellest in the heavens, yet hast thy habitation among the sons of men; who by thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, didst cleanse the temple, that it might be a house of prayer for all people; Regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of thy people; cleanse and sanctify this house, which we desire to dedicate unto thee, that being devoted henceforth to the proclamation of thy glorious Gospel, the ministration of thy holy Sacraments, and the offering of prayer and praise, it may be filled with the glory of thine abiding presence, and may be an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

¶Then the Officiant may pour water on the midst of the Altar in the form of a cross, and shall say,

**I** DEDICATE this Altar, and this Temple, together with all the Vessels and Vestments thereof, to the glory of God, and in honour of ———; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ Here bells may be rung, and the organ shall sound for the first time. The Officiant shall dry the Altar with a towel, and then go to his seat.

### THE VESTING OF THE ALTAR

¶ While the following Antiphon and Canticle are being sung, appointed Ministers shall vest the Altar, place the Ornaments, and (unless the Consecration is to follow) light the lights.

*Antiphon.* Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Sion: \* put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city.

*Canticle. Benedictus es, Domine.*

**B**LESSED art thou, O Lord God of our Fathers: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: \* praised and exalted above all for ever.

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

¶If the Consecration is to follow, the Bishop shall proceed to that service immediately. Otherwise the Officiant shall begin the Holy Communion, at which the following shall be the Collect, Epistle, and Gospel.

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

*The Collect.*

**O** ALMIGHTY God, who in every place art present, and yet doth hallow the places set apart to thy Name: Pour forth thy blessing upon this House of Prayer; and grant that all who shall seek thee here, may ever find the light of thy countenance, and the joy of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Epistle.* Revelation 4:1-11.

*The Gospel.* St. Mark 14:12-16.

## A Form for Declaration of Secularization of a Church Building

¶The Clergy, church-wardens and other officers, with as many other persons as may desire, being assembled within the building, a statement shall be made declaring it is considered desirable that the consecration shall be removed from it, the Minister speaking as follows.

**G**OOD people, you know already the reasons for which it is thought well that this building, hitherto consecrated and separated from all worldly uses, shall be no longer continued in this use, but shall be taken down or appropriated to other purposes. We have carefully considered these reasons, and are persuaded that they are just and right. We believe that the glory of God and the work of his spiritual building will be the more promoted by that which we are about to do.

To many of you this building has become endeared by many sacred memories, and you will suffer a loss and feel that something has passed out of your lives. Such persons will be comforted by the assurance that the Presence of God, and the consolation of our holy religion, are not tied to any one place or building.

We have caused that the Altar hitherto in this church should be carefully removed and protected from desecration.

We have also taken proper care that the congregation hitherto worshiping in this church shall be duly ministered to.

¶Then shall be read by the Warden, or the person appointed, the Declaration of the Secularization, issued by the Bishop, and duly signed by him.

In the Name of God, *Amen.*

**F**ORASMUCH as on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_, by our predecessor, \_\_\_\_\_, Bishop of the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_, according to the order of the Reformed Episcopal Church, this fabric was duly consecrated and hallowed by the name of (Saint) \_\_\_\_\_ Church; and

Forasmuch as his Sentence of Consecration has been full of force and effect until this date;

We, \_\_\_\_\_, Bishop of the Diocese aforesaid, do hereby declare said Sentence of our Right Reverend predecessor to be revoked and canonically annulled, and do hereby revoke and annul the same, and do remit this fabric and the appurtenances thereof to secular and common uses for any lawful and reputable employment by honest men, for their good and honourable work, business, or profession, according to the laws of this land.

And this fabric, accordingly, is hereby forever secularized, and the Sentence aforesaid is voided and revoked, and this place, heretofore a holy place, and sacred to the preaching of God's holy Word, and the ministration of his holy Sacraments, is hereby pronounced secular and unconsecrated, and no longer within our canonical jurisdiction, but given back solely to the protection of the laws of the land, and to none other than such common uses and secular control as by said laws are recognized and allowed.

Given under our hand and seal, in the City of \_\_\_\_\_, State/Province of \_\_\_\_\_, and before divers witnesses duly published within the walls of the fabric aforesaid, on this day of —, in the year of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ two thousand —,

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

¶ Then shall the Minister say,

The Lord be with you.

*And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**O**LORD God, who in thy great goodness didst accept as a dwelling place for thine honour this building now to be \_\_\_\_\_: Receive, we pray thee, our praises and thanksgivings for the blessings, help, and comfort which thou hast bestowed upon thy people through the ministrations in this place. Grant that they may never pass from the hearts and lives of those who have received them. Continue in greater measure, we beseech thee, thy manifold mercies in the Church to be erected in thy name and to thy glory, that we may be ever conscious of thine unchanging love. Hear this our prayer, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

**A**SSIST us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**T**HE LORD bless us and keep us. The LORD make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The LORD lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. *Amen.*

## Certain Occasions in the Church Year

### SETTING UP THE CHRISTMAS CRECHE

¶ It is fitting that the following, when used, should follow the services of the Fourth Sunday in Advent and precede the services of Christmas Eve.

¶ When there is a procession, the Minister shall say,

Let us proceed in peace.

*Answer.* In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

¶ To a suitable hymn, the Clergy and choir may go in procession around the church, joined at some convenient place by children bearing the (crib and) figures for the Nativity scene.

¶ The procession having arrived at the appointed place, the Minister shall say,

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;

*Answer.* And we beheld his glory, full of grace and truth.

¶ The crib shall then be set up (and lighted); after which, the Minister shall say,

The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Minister.* Let us pray.

Glory to God in the highest;

*Answer.* And on earth peace, good will towards men.

*Minister.* Let us bless the Lord.

*Answer.* It is meet and right so to do.

¶ The Minister shall continue, saying,

**T**HANKSGIVING and honour and glory be unto thee, Almighty God, who for us men and for our salvation didst give thine only Son to be born in great humility of the Virgin Mary his mother. Accept and bless to our use this Christmas Creche, that it may set before us the exceeding love of our Saviour, and bring us with the shepherds and kings to pay to him our true devotion; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all praise and worship, world without end. *Amen.*

**O** GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thine only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

**PALM SUNDAY**  
**The Blessing of Palms and Procession**

¶ The following procession and preparation may be used before the Ante-Communion or after Morning Prayer.

¶ The Ministers shall take their places within the sanctuary, the people standing.

¶ The palms may be ready on the Altar, or may be presented to the Priest who shall place them on the Holy Table; after which the Priest shall say,

The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Priest.* Let us pray.

**O** SAVIOUR of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us;  
*Answer.* Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

¶ Then shall the Priest, or some other Minister, read the Lesson.

Hear the words of the Gospel written in the eleventh chapter of Saint Mark, at the first verse.

**W**HEN they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him. And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither. And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him. And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt? And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him. And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strawed them in the way. And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord;

Minister: Hosanna in the highest.

*Answer.* Thanks be to God.

¶ Then shall the Priest go to the Holy Table and, facing the people, shall say,

Lift up your hearts.

*Answer.* We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Priest.* Let us bless the Lord.

*Answer.* It is meet and right so to do.

¶ Then shall the Priest turn to the Holy Table and say,

**I**T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, bless thee, O Lord, Almighty, Everlasting God, for thy whole creation; but especially do we praise thee, at this time, for the mighty acts whereby thou hast redeemed us, through thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And we beseech thee, O Lord, send thy blessing upon us who now make our prayer unto thee, and sanctify to our use these branches of palm; that we who bear them in thy Name may ever hail him as our King, the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the palms be distributed to the people; or, the procession being started, the people shall receive their palms as they join the procession, the Priest first singing or saying,

LET us proceed in peace.

*Answer.* In the Name of the Lord. Amen.

¶ During the procession shall be sung the Hymn, All glory, laud, and honour.

¶ When the procession has returned to the chancel steps, the procession shall pause, and there shall be said or sung,

Psalm 122. *Laetatus sum.*

**I** WAS glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord.

*Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.*

Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity in itself.

*For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord, to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.*

For there is the seat of judgment, even the seat of the house of David.

*O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee.*

Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

*For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will wish thee prosperity.*

Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do thee good.

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

¶ Then, if the Ante-Communion is to follow, the Priest shall add,

**A**SSIST us mercifully with thy help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the meditation of those mighty acts, whereby thou hast given unto us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ If there be no Ante-Communion, the Priest shall add,

**O**LORD Jesus, whom the multitudes in Jerusalem at thy first coming greeted as their King, strewing thy way with palm and olive branches: Grant that we, by steadfast obedience to thy sovereign will, may prepare the way for thee to come again.

*Answer.* Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

## THE WAY OF THE CROSS

¶ A hymn or other song may be sung during the entrance of the ministers.

*Minister.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

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

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

V. We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:

R. In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**A**SSIST us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### FIRST STATION

*Jesus is condemned to death.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, "He deserves to die." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.*

V. God did not spare his own Son:

R. But delivered him up for us all.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**A**LMIGHTY God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

### **SECOND STATION**

*Jesus takes up his Cross.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.*

V. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:

R. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**A**LMIGHTY God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

### **THIRD STATION**

*Jesus falls the first time.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became*

*obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is the Lord our God.*

V. Surely he has borne our griefs:

R. And carried our sorrows.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

#### **FOURTH STATION**

*Jesus meets his afflicted mother.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*To what can I liken you, to what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What likeness can I use to comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.*

V. A sword will pierce your own soul also:

R. And fill your heart with bitter pain.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, who willed that in the passion of your Son a sword of grief should pierce the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother: Mercifully grant that your Church, having shared with her in his passion, may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

## FIFTH STATION

*The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*As they led Jesus away, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross to carry it behind Jesus. "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

V. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me:

R. Cannot be my disciple.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**H**EAVENLY Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

## SIXTH STATION

*A woman wipes the face of Jesus.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*We have seen him without beauty or majesty, with no looks to attract our eyes. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of men. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.*

V. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:

R. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

#### **SEVENTH STATION**

*Jesus falls a second time.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.*

V. But as for me, I am a worm and no man:

R. Scorned by all and despised by the people.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**A**LMIGHTY and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

#### **EIGHTH STATION**

*Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*There followed after Jesus a great multitude of the people, and among them were women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.*

V. Those who sowed with tears:  
R. Will reap with songs of joy.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**T**EACH your Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

**NINTH STATION**  
*Jesus falls a third time.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light. He has besieged me and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago. Though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes. "Remember, O Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!"*

V. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:  
R. And like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.  
*Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

## TENTH STATION

*Jesus is stripped of his garments.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill the scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing."*

V. They gave me gall to eat:

R. And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**L**ORD God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

## ELEVENTH STATION

*Jesus is nailed to the Cross.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*When they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, the other on the left, and Jesus between them. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was numbered with the transgressors."*

V. They pierce my hands and my feet:

R. They stare and gloat over me.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**L**ORD Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

### **TWELFTH STATION**

*Jesus dies on the Cross.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished!" And then, crying with a loud voice, he said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." And he bowed his head, and handed over his spirit.*

V. Christ for us became obedient unto death:  
R. Even death on a cross.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

### **THIRTEENTH STATION**

*The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*All you who pass by, behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. My eyes are spent with weeping; my soul is in tumult; my heart is poured out in grief because of the downfall of my people. "Do not call me Naomi (which means Pleasant), call me Mara (which means Bitter); for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me."*

V. Her tears run down her cheeks:  
R. And she has none to comfort her.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**L**ORD Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

**FOURTEENTH STATION**  
*Jesus is laid in the tomb.*

V. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:  
R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.*

V. You will not abandon me to the grave:  
R. Nor let your holy One see corruption.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**O** GOD, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day: Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.*

**S**AVIOUR of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us: Save us. and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

Let us pray. (Silence)

**W**E thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**T**O Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**EASTER EVEN**  
**Blessing of the Paschal Candle**

¶ When the People have gathered for a greeting outside or in the Narthex with unlit individual candles around the Paschal Candle, the Minister shall say,

**D**EARLY beloved in the Lord: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed from death to life, the Church bids thee and the faithful throughout the world to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Minister.* Let us pray.

**O** GOD, through thy Son thou hast bestowed upon thy people the brightness of thy light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant in this Paschal feast our hearts may so burn with heavenly desire, that with pure minds we may attain to the Everlasting Banquet with thy Saints in light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ The Paschal Candle is lighted from new fire struck from the previous year's palms, and the Deacon (or if there be no Deacon, then the Priest) bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying

*Minister:* The light of Christ.

*Answer.* Thanks be to God.

¶ When all the Ministers are in their appointed places, the Paschal Candle is placed in its stand. And from its light all other candles and lights in the church shall be illuminated. The Deacon, or other person appointed, shall stand before the Paschal Candle, and sing or say as followeth, the People all standing.

The Paschal Song: *Exultet.*

**R**EJOICE now, all ye heavenly hosts of angels, for the King who cometh with victory let the trumpet proclaim salvation.

Sing with joy, O earth, illumined with celestial splendour, and the glory of the eternal King, for the darkness of the world has now been put away.

Be joyful, O Church, adorned with the radiancy of so great a light, and let your holy courts resound in praise, with the voices of thy people.

Wherefore, beloved brethren, all ye who seek this heavenly brightness, I beseech you to pray God Almighty, that he would show forth his mercy towards us, through our Lord Jesus Christ, his only Son, who liveth and reigneth with him, in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

¶ The Deacon or Priest shall continue as follows.

The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Deacon.* Lift up your hearts

*Answer.* We lift them up unto the Lord.

*Deacon.* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*Answer.* It is meet and right so to do.

**I**T is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Father Almighty, invisible God, and to thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for the Paschal Feast wherein the true Lamb was slain, who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath restored unto us everlasting life.

This is the night, wherein thou didst lead forth our fathers, the children of Israel, out of Egypt, making them pass over the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, wherein all who believe in Christ were delivered from the shadow of death, and were renewed unto grace and made partakers of everlasting life. This is the night, wherein Christ loosed the bonds of hell, and from the grave did rise again victorious over sin and death. How wonderful art thou, O God, in thy loving-kindness unto us, that to redeem a servant, thou didst give up thine only Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**W**HEREFORE, we beseech thee, O Lord, Holy Father, accept this our evening sacrifice, that this Candle which we consecrate to thine honour, may shine forth continually to dispel the shades of darkness, and may the Day-star that knoweth no setting find it ever burning, the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who giveth his light unto all creation.

We therefore pray thee, O Lord, that thou wouldest direct, sanctify, and govern us thy servants, and all thy faithful family, with thy continual grace, that we may pass our time in peace and gladness, in the festival of our redemption; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Priest begin the service of Holy Communion for which two Old Testament Lessons are read, in addition to the appointed Epistle and Gospel. The first being Genesis 1:1-2:2 and the second being Exodus 14:10-15:1. Between the Lessons, Psalm 33:1-11, or some other suitable Psalm or Canticle, may be said or sung. Holy Baptism and Confirmation may be administered after the Gospel. The Apostles' Creed is said or sung, rather than the Nicene Creed.

¶ It is customary that the Paschal Candle burn at all services from Easter Day through the reading of the Gospel on Ascension Day and at all Baptisms and services for the Burial of the Dead throughout the year.

**A LITURGY FOR THE ROGATION DAYS,  
Being the Three Days before Ascension Day**

*Minister.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Minister.* Let us pray.

**The Collect for the Fifth Sunday after Easter,  
Commonly called Rogation Sunday**

**O**LORD, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ Here may be sung a hymn.

**The Litany or General Supplication**

¶ Here shall be said the Litany or General Supplication, as provided in the Book of Common Prayer. If there is to be a procession to a field, the Litany shall be read in procession with the crucifer going before.

¶ Then shall be said the Collect for the Rogation Days. The procession stops at the first corner appointed.

**The Collect for the Rogations Days**

**O**ALMIGHTY God, who hast committed to the hands of men the ministry of reconciliation; We humbly beseech thee, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, to put it into the hearts of many to offer themselves for this ministry; that thereby mankind may be drawn to thy blessed kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**The First Lesson.**

Here beginneth the eighth verse of the eleventh chapter of the book of Deuteronomy.

**T**herefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it;

And that ye may prolong *your* days in the land, which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their seed, a land that floweth with milk and honey.

For the land, whither thou goest in to possess it, *is* not as the land of Egypt, from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed, and wateredst *it* with thy foot, as a garden of herbs:

But the land, whither ye go to possess it, *is* a land of hills and valleys, *and* drinketh water of the rain of heaven: A land which the LORD thy God careth for: the eyes of the LORD thy God *are* always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year.

And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul,

That I will give *you* the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. And I will send grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

And then the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and *lest* ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you.

Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to thee, O Lord.*

¶ Here may be sung a canticle or hymn.

### **The Second Lesson.**

Here beginneth the eighth verse of the fourth chapter of the Epistle of St. James.

**D**raw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded.

Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of *his* brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. But now ye rejoyce in your boastings: all such rejoycing is evil. Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

¶ Here or at such other point as may be convenient the minister may deliver a short sermon.  
¶ Then the crucifer and minister going before, the congregation shall process to the next corner of the boundary, reading responsively the following Psalm(s).

Psalm 67. *Deus misereatur.*

**G**OD be merciful unto us, and bless us, \* and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

2 That thy way may be known upon earth, \* thy saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise thee, O God; \* yea, let all the peoples praise thee.

4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad; \* for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise thee, O God; \* yea, let all the peoples praise thee.

6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase; \* and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

7 God shall bless us; \* and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Psalm 28. *Ad te, Domine.*

**U**NTO thee will I cry, O LORD, my strength: \* think no scorn of me; lest, if thou make as though thou hearest not, I become like them that go down into the pit.

2 Hear the voice of my humble petitions, when I cry unto thee; \* when I hold up my hands towards the mercy-seat of thy holy temple.

3 O pluck me not away, neither destroy me with the ungodly and wicked doers, \* which speak friendly to their neighbours, but imagine mischief in their hearts.

4 Reward them according to their deeds, \* and according to the wickedness of their own inventions.

5 Recompense them after the work of their hands; \* pay them that they have deserved.

6 For they regard not in their mind the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands; \* therefore shall he break them down, and not build them up.

7 Praised be the LORD; \* for he hath heard the voice of my humble petitions.

8 The LORD is my strength, and my shield; my heart hath trusted in him, and I am helped; \* therefore my heart danceth for joy, and in my song will I praise him.

9 The LORD is my strength, \* and he is the wholesome defence of his anointed.

10 O save thy people, and give thy blessing unto thine inheritance: \* feed them, and set them up for ever.

**G**lory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

¶ Here may be offered special prayers for family, land, crops, beasts and work, in the coming year.

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**A**Lmighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life ever-lasting. Amen.

**Benediction**

(1 Chronicles 17:26, 27)

**A**ND now, LORD, thou art God, and hast promised this goodness unto thy servant; Now therefore let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may be before thee for ever; for thou blessest, O LORD, and it shall be blessed for ever; in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

## The Blessing of Houses

- ¶ For the Benediction of Homes, and of Ecclesiastical, Educational, and Medical Buildings.
- ¶ Any religious ornaments may be blessed in the rooms in which they are to be used.
- ¶ And Note, For a shorter form the section entitled, *The Blessing of the House*, may be used.

### AT THE DOOR

¶ As the Priest enters the House he shall say,

PEACE be to this House, and to all who enter here.

*Anthem.* Through wisdom is a house builded, and by understanding is it established; \* the house of the righteous shall stand, and by knowledge shall the rooms be filled with riches.

¶ Then shall follow the Blessing of the Light, or the Priest may pass at once to the Blessing of the Rooms, at his discretion.

### THE BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

¶ A Candle shall be brought to the Priest, who shall light it and bless it as follows.

Hear the words of the holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

*Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

*The Gospel. St. Matthew 5:14.*

**Y**E are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your lights so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

*Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

There is sprung up a light for the righteous;  
*And joyful gladness for such as are true-hearted.*  
The Lord be with you;  
*And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, whose glory shines as the light in the face of Jesus Christ: Bless, we beseech thee, this candle for the illumination of this place, and grant that as it giveth light unto all that are in the house, so those who enter here may show forth in their lives the brightness of good works; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ This Candle shall be borne before the Priest into all the rooms that are to be blessed, and other lights in the house may be kindled from it.

## THE BLESSING OF THE ROOMS

### THE ENTRANCE HALL

*Antiphon.* Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, \* and shut thy doors about thee.

The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in;  
*From this time forth for evermore.*

Let us pray.

**O** LORD, who art about our paths and art acquainted with all our ways: Preserve all in this house in their going out and coming in, that ever seeking to walk with thee, they may attain at last unto the eternal habitations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### THE ORATORY

*Antiphon.* Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High, \* shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Have respect unto the prayers of thy servants;  
*And to their supplications.*

Let us pray.

**G**IVE ear, Lord, unto the prayers which shall be offered here, and with thy grace protect those who offer them, pouring forth blessings upon both their souls and bodies, that they may so serve thee in this life, that in the world to come they may have life ever-lasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

*Antiphon.* Obey them which have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, \* for they watch for your souls as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief.

Know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord;  
*And esteem them very highly in love for their works' sake.*

Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY God, be present in this place with those whom thou has set in authority over this house, and so stir in them the manifold gifts of thy Holy Spirit, that both by their life and doctrine they may show forth thy true and living word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE COMMON OR LIVING ROOM

*Antiphon.* A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you; \* by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples.

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love;  
*In honour preferring one another.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: Give thy blessing to all who shall share this room, that they may be knit together in true fellowship here upon earth, and finally may be joined in the communion of thy saints in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE STUDY, LIBRARY, OR CLASS ROOMS

*Antiphon.* Every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an house-holder, \* which bringeth forth out of his treasures things new and old.

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser;  
*Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.*

Let us pray

**O** GOD the Holy Ghost, the Teacher who leadest into all truth: Grant us so to give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine, and so to meditate in thy law, that we may be filled with the knowledge of thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE LABORATORIES AND WORK ROOMS

*Antiphon.* Study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, \* that ye may walk honestly towards them that are without, and that ye may lack nothing.

Work your work betimes;  
*And in his time he will give you your reward.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, the Creator of all things, whose blessed Son worked in the carpenter shop of Nazareth: Be present with those who work in this place, and grant that, laboring diligently as fellow-workers with thee, they may share in the joy of thy creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE DINING ROOM OR REFECTORY

*Antiphon.* The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord, \* and thou givest them their meat in due season.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
*They that seek after the Lord shall praise him.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, who givest food to all flesh: Fill our hearts with joy and gladness, that we, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound unto every good work; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE KITCHEN

*Antiphon.* Behold, I will send you corn and wine and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith; \* be glad then and rejoice in the Lord your God.

Thou, O God, halt of thy goodness prepared for the poor;  
*Thou fillest us with the flour of wheat.*

Let us pray.

**O** ETERNAL God, who fillest the hungry with good things: Send thy blessing upon this kitchen and upon all who work in it, and make us ever thankful for our daily bread; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE BEDROOMS OR DORMITORIES

*Antiphon.* Save us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, \* that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Have I not remembered thee in my bed;  
*And thought upon thee when I was waking.*

Let us pray.

**O** HEAVENLY Father, who dost ever guard thy children by thy grace: Bless, we beseech thee, this room, and thy servants who occupy it, that waking they may be thankful for thy protection, and asleep they may rest in thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE INFIRMARY OR WARDS

*Antiphon.* Jesus sent them to preach the kingdom, \* and to heal the sick.

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;  
*Save me, and I shall be saved; for thou art my praise.*

Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY God, the giver of life and health, who didst send thine only-begotten Son into the world, that all thy children might be made whole: Send thy blessing on all who are sick in this place, and upon those who minister to them of thy healing gifts, that they may be restored to health of body and of mind; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **THE GUEST ROOM**

*Antiphon.* Be not forgetful to entertain strangers,\* for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Love ye therefore the stranger;  
*For ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.*

Let us pray.

**O**ALMIGHTY God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to use hospitality without grudging: Bless, we beseech thee, this guest room, that all who sojourn here may be received in true friendship and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **THE PORCH, CORRIDORS, OR CLOISTERS**

*Antiphon.* Jesus walked in the temple, \* in Solomon's porch.

Teach me thy way, O Lord;  
*And I will walk in my house with a perfect heart.*

Let us pray.

**O**GOD, who dost ever guide us by thy Holy Spirit: Give thy blessing to all who walk here, that ever seeking to know and to fulfill thy will, they may come to the way which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **THE BLESSING OF THE HOUSE**

¶ Proceeding again to the Entrance, or to some other convenient place, the Priest shall complete the Blessing of the House as follows.

¶ If the shorter form is used, the Priest shall stand in the principal room and begin the service as follows.

*Anthem.* The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever; \* and my people shall dwell in peaceable habitations, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

¶ Minister and People

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, protect this house;  
*And let thy holy angels dwell herein.*  
The Lord be with you;  
*And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray.

¶ Here the Priest shall use one of the following Prayers, according to the nature of the building.

*For a Home.*

HEAVENLY Father, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named: Be present in this house, that all who live here, being kindly affectioned one to another, may find it an haven of blessing and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For a Parish House.*

GOD, who by thy Holy Spirit has made us all members of the fellowship of thy holy Church: Give thy blessing to this Parish House, which we now dedicate to the use of thy Church, and grant that all who enter here, whether to teach or to learn, to work or to play, may be bound together in thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For a School, College, or Seminary.*

LORD our God, the source of all knowledge and all truth: Bless with thy heavenly grace this *School*, and all who study here, that by the inspiration of thy wisdom, both teachers and scholars may love thee with all their mind, and find in all created things the revelation of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For a Hospital.*

GOD, the giver of health and salvation: Give thy blessing to this Hospital, and to all who serve herein, that doing all that they do for love of thee, they may with wisdom, skill, and sympathy minister to the sick; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For a Conventual House.*

GOD, who prearest a mansion in heaven for all those who forsake this world: Enrich, even now, this earthly house with thy heavenly treasure, and grant to the members of this Community such grace, that having served thee with constancy upon earth, they fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ The service shall conclude with this prayer and blessing.

**C**OME, O Lord, we humbly beseech thee, and fill this house with the serenity of thy love and joy and peace; Let thine abundant grace and benediction be upon those who make their home herein, that dwelling together in health in this habitation made with hands, they may themselves be evermore thy dwelling-place; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**T**HE Peace and Blessing of God Almighty rest upon this house and upon all who dwell in it. The Lord preserve your going out and your coming in. And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## The Blessing of a Grave or Cemetery

¶ At the Burial of the Dead, before the service At the Grave, or at some other convenient time, the Minister may bless the place of Burial as follows.

*Antiphon.* In the place where he was crucified there was a garden: \* and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.

The eternal God is thy refuge;  
*And underneath are the everlasting arms.*

Let us pray.

**O** GOD, whose blessed Son was laid in the holy sepulchre in the garden: Bless, we beseech thee, this *Grave*, that *he* whose *body is* buried here may dwell with Christ in paradise, and may come to thy heavenly kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## The Blessing of Oils

¶ Before the service of Holy Communion a table should be prepared in the midst of the Sanctuary, on which should be placed the Oil for the Sick and the Oil of the Chrism.

¶ After the Communion, before the Post-Communion Prayer the Bishop shall bless the Oils as follows.

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

Let us pray.

¶ The Bishop places his hand over the vessel containing the Oil for the Sick.

**O** LORD, holy Father, giver of health and salvation: Send thy Holy Spirit to sanctify this oil; that, as your holy apostles anointed many that were sick and healed them, so may those who in faith and repentance receive this holy unction be made whole; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ The Bishop places his hand over the vessel containing the Oil of the Chrism.

**E**TERNAL Father, whose blessed Son was anointed by the Holy Spirit to be the Savior and servant of all, we pray you to consecrate this oil, that those who are sealed with it may share in the royal priesthood of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ The Bishop returns to the Altar, where he offers the Post Communion Prayer and Blessing.

**Prayer of Blessing  
for the Anniversary of an Ordination of a Deacon**

*Bishop.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Bishop.* Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY God, we beseech thee to send upon this thy servant, N., at the \_\_\_ anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate, thy heavenly blessing; that he continue his ministry clothed with Christ's righteousness. And that thy Word spoken by his mouth and witnessed by his deeds may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. *Amen.*

*Deacon.*

**M**OST Merciful Father, who has called me to be a servant at the table of thy holy mysteries, fill me, I beseech thee, with a deep sense of my unworthiness, that approaching thy Sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with a pure heart, hands undefiled and mind sanctified, I may always render a service acceptable to thee.

I acknowledge that on my own I am not worthy to serve in thy Name; yet I beseech thee, of thy great goodness, graciously to accept this, the rededication of my life to thy service. Prosper my work and defend me in thy faith. Give me such grace to follow, that wisely and charitably, prudently and acceptably, I may proclaim thy Gospel in word and deed, and so serve the blind, comfort the needy and weary, support the weak, and guide the strong; that by all my words and actions I may minister to the spiritual and material welfare of those who wait upon thee and those who are the least among us, showing forth thy honour and glory through our Lord Christ, and for his name's sake. *Amen.*

*People.*

**C**OME, Holy Spirit, Shepherd of our bishops, priests and deacons, especially N., whose anniversary we celebrate, today, and guide them who guide us; Enlighten the understanding of the Scriptures for them who enlighten us; give blessing to them who give to us: Grant that we may have such grace to succor those who serve and support those who lead us in worshipping thy glory and in caring for the lease of those among us; that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Bishop.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercy, receive the prayers and intercessions of all thy servants who, either now or hereafter, entering into this thy House of Prayer, shall call upon thee; And by thy grace prepare our hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; that all who shall call upon thee here may worship thee in Spirit and in Truth, and in their lives show forth thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**T**HE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## Prayer of Blessing for the Anniversary of the Ordination of a Priest

*Bishop.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Bishop.* Let us pray.

**A**Lmighty God, we beseech thee to send upon this thy servant, *N.*, at the \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary of his Ordination, thy heavenly blessing; that he continues his ministry clothed with Christ's righteousness: And that thy Word spoken by his mouth have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain. *Amen.*

*Priest.*

**M**OST Merciful Father, who has called me to be a steward of thy holy mysteries, fill me, **M**I beseech thee, with a deep sense of my unworthiness, that approaching thy Sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with a pure heart, hands undefiled and mind sanctified, I may always render a service acceptable to thee.

I acknowledge that on my own I am not worthy to offer anything unto thee; yet I beseech thee, of thy great goodness, graciously to accept this, the rededication of my life to thy service. Prosper my work and defend me in thy faith. Give me such grace to follow, that wisely and charitably, prudently and acceptably, I may proclaim thy Word, and so give guidance to the blind, comfort to the sad and weary, strength to the weak, and confirmation to the strong; that by all my words and actions I may minister to the spiritual welfare of those who wait upon thee, and show forth thy honour and glory through our Lord Christ, and for his name's sake. *Amen.*

*People.*

**C**OME, Holy Spirit, Shepherd of our bishop(s), \_\_\_\_\_, and our priest(s), \_\_\_\_\_, and guide them who guide us; Enlighten the understanding of the Scriptures for them who enlighten us; give blessing to them who give to us: Grant that we may have such grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of thy most holy Word, and be agreeable to the same as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Bishop.*

**A**Lmighty God, Father of all mercy, receive the prayers and intercessions of all thy servants who, either now or hereafter, entering into this thy House of Prayer, shall call upon thee; And by thy grace prepare our hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; that all who shall call upon thee here may worship thee in Spirit and in Truth, and in their lives show forth thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**T**HE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Prayer of Blessing  
for the Anniversary of the Consecration of a Bishop**

*Officiating Bishop.* The Lord be with you.

*Answer.* And with thy spirit.

*Officiating Bishop.* Let us pray.

**A**LMIGHTY God, we beseech thee to send upon this thy servant, N., at the \_\_\_ anniversary of his Consecration, thy heavenly blessing; that he continue his oversight clothed with Christ's righteousness. And that thy Word spoken by his mouth may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. *Amen.*

*Bishop.*

**M**OST Merciful Father, who has called me to be a shepherd of thy flock and steward of thy holy mysteries, fill me, I beseech thee, with a deep sense of my unworthiness, that in caring for thy sheep, I may always endeavor to follow with lowliness and devotion, the path of the great Shepherd and Pastor of thy flock, so that I may always render a service acceptable to thee.

I acknowledge that on my own I am not worthy to offer anything unto thee; yet I beseech thee, of thy great goodness, graciously to accept this, the rededication of my life to thy service. Prosper my work and defend me in thy faith. Give me such grace to follow, that wisely and charitably, prudently and acceptably, I may proclaim thy Word and so give guidance to the blind, comfort the sad and weary, strength to the weak, and confirmation to the strong; that by all my words and actions I may minister to the flock under my care and show forth thy honour and glory through our Lord Christ, and for his name's sake. *Amen.*

*People.*

**C**OME, Holy Spirit, Shepherd of our bishops, priests and deacons, especially N., whose anniversary we celebrate, today, and guide them who guide us; Enlighten the understanding of the Scriptures for them who enlighten us; give blessing to them who lead us: Grant that we may have such grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of thy most holy Word and be agreeable to the same as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds, we may seek thy glory, and the increase of thy kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Officiating Bishop.*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercy, receive the prayers and intercessions of all thy servants who, either now or hereafter, entering into this thy House of Prayer, shall call upon thee; And by thy grace prepare our hearts to serve thee with reverence, godly fear and love; that all who shall call upon thee here may worship thee in Spirit and in Truth, and in their lives show forth thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**T**HE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*