

The Ordinal  
of the  
Anglican Church in North America

Being the Form and Manner of Ordaining  
Bishops, Priests, and Deacons

*Authorized and Adopted*

*by the*

*College of Bishops*

*A.D. 2013*

## The Preface

It is clearly evident to anyone who diligently reads both the Holy Scriptures and ancient Authors, that from the Apostles' time these three Orders of ministry have existed in Christ's Church: Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. From the earliest days of the Church, these Offices were always held in such reverent estimation, that no one might presume to execute any of them, without being first called, tried, and examined, and ascertained to have such qualities as are requisite for the same. Candidates were approved and admitted thereunto by lawful Authority through public Prayer, and the Imposition of Hands. And therefore, to the intent that these Orders may be continued, and reverently used and esteemed in this Church, no one shall be accounted to be a lawful Bishop, Priest, or Deacon in this Church, or allowed to execute any of the said Functions, except they be called, tried, examined, and admitted thereunto, according to the Form set forth in this book, or have received Episcopal Consecration or Ordination already.

And none shall be admitted a Deacon, Priest, or Bishop, except they be of the age which the Canons may require.

And the Bishop, knowing either by himself, or by sufficient testimony, that a Person is of virtuous conduct, and without crime, after examination and trial, finding them sufficiently instructed in the Holy Scripture, and otherwise educated as the Canons require, may, in the presence of the Church, admit them as a Deacon, or admit a Deacon as a Priest, in such manner and form as follows.

# The Form and Manner of Ordaining Deacons

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

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

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

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

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

*In place of the above, on Ember days in the season of Lent*

*Bishop* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* His mercy endures forever.

*Bishop*

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

## The Presentation

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

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

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

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

*The Bishop shall then require the Ordinands to take the Oath of Conformity saying*

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

*Each Ordinand then declares separately*

I, N.N., do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and therefore I hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

*Each Ordinand then declares the following Oath of Canonical Obedience as well, saying*

And I do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, and his successors: So help me God.

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

*All stand. The Bishop says to the People*

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

*If no objection is made, the Bishop continues*

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

*People* It is.

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

*People* We will.

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

## **The Litany for Ordinations**

*All kneel. Then the Bishop or Litanist appointed shall, with the Clergy and People present, say or sing the Litany for Ordinations. The Ordinands shall either kneel or lie prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop shall stand and pray the following collect, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Bishop* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who by your divine providence has appointed diverse Orders of Ministers in your Church, and who inspired your Apostles to choose into the Order of Deacons the first martyr Stephen, with others; mercifully behold *these your servants* now called to the same Office and Administration: so fill *them* with the truth of your Doctrine and adorn *them* with holiness of life, that, both by word and good example, *they* may faithfully serve you in this Office, to the glory of your Name and the edification of your Church; through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

## **The Lessons**

*Following are the readings appointed for the ordination of a Deacon. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select readings from the Proper of the Day.*

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 119:1-8

1 Timothy 3:8-13 *or* Acts 6:1-7

Luke 12:35-40

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

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

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

*After each Reading, the Reader shall say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow. A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.*

## **The Gospel**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or other Minister reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ

## The Sermon

## The Nicene Creed

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

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

*Bishop and People*

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

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

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

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

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

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

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

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

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\* The *filioque* [and the Son] is not in the original Greek text. Nevertheless, in the Western Church the *filioque* [and the Son] is customary at worship and is used for the explication of doctrine [39 *Articles of Religion*]. The operative resolution of the College of Bishops concerning use of the *filioque* is printed with the General Instructions at the end of the Holy Communion, Long Form.

## The Exhortation and Examination

*All are seated except the Ordinands, who stand before the Bishop.*

*Bishop*

It belongs to the Office of a Deacon, to assist the Priest in public worship, especially in the administration of Holy Communion; to lead in public prayer; to read the Gospel, and to instruct both young and old in the Catechism; and at the direction of the Priest, to baptize and to preach. Furthermore, it is the Deacon's Office to work with the laity in searching for the sick, the poor, and the helpless, that they may be relieved.

*The Bishop examines the Ordinands as follows*

Will you do this gladly and willingly?

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

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

*Answer* I so trust.

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

*Answer* I so believe.

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

*Answer* I am so persuaded.

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

*Answer* I will.

*Bishop* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own *lives*, and the *lives* of your *families*, according to the Doctrine of Christ; and to make both *yourselves* and them, as much as in you lies, wholesome examples to the flock of Christ?

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

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

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

*The congregation shall pray silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Bishop shall pray*

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

*All may kneel.*

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

## The Ordination of the Deacons

*All now stand as witnesses, except the Ordinands, who kneel facing the Bishop.*

*The Bishop then prays the following prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

O God, most merciful Father, we praise you for sending your Son Jesus Christ, who took on himself the form of a servant, and humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death on a cross. We praise you that you have highly exalted him, and made him Lord of all; and that, through him, we know that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling *these* your *servants* to the Order of Deacons.

*Then the Bishop shall lay his hands upon the head of every one to be made Deacon, each one humbly kneeling before him, and he shall say*

Receive the Holy Spirit for the Office and Work of a Deacon in the Church of God, now committed to you by the Imposition of Hands; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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

*The People in a loud voice respond*

AMEN.

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

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

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

*As the Deacon is vested with the Stole, the Bishop says*

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

*As the Deacon is vested with the Dalmatic, the Bishop says*

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

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

Take the Authority to read the Gospel in the Church of God and to preach the same.

*The Bishop then says to the People*

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

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

*When the Communion is finished, after the Post-Communion Prayer, the Bishop shall pray the following collect*

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

*The Bishop shall then bless the People saying*

                  Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People*          The maker of heaven and earth.  
*Bishop*          Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

*People* From this time forth forevermore.  
*Bishop* The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you,  
and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

*The newly-ordained Deacon dismisses the People saying*

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals.*

*The People respond*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

# The Form and Manner of Ordaining a Priest

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

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

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

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

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

*In place of the above, on Ember days in the season of Lent*

*Bishop* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* His mercy endures forever.

*Bishop*

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

## The Presentation

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

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

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

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

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

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

*The Ordinand then declares*

I, *N.N.*, do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

*The Ordinand then declares the following Oath of Canonical Obedience as well, saying*

And I do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_, and his successors: So help me God.

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

*All stand. The Bishop says to the People*

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

*If no objection is made, the Bishop continues*

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

*People* It is.

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

*People* We will.

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

## The Litany for Ordinations

*All kneel. Then the Bishop or Litanist appointed shall, with the Clergy and People present, say or sing the Litany for Ordinations. The Ordinand shall either kneel or lie prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Bishop shall stand and pray the following collect, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Bishop* Let us pray.

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

## The Lessons

*Following are the readings appointed for the ordination of a Priest. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Bishop may select readings from the Proper of the Day.*

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 119:33-40

Ephesians 4:7-13 *or* Philippians 4:4-9

Luke 10:1-9 *or* John 10:1-16

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

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

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

*After each Reading, the Reader shall say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow. A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.*

## The Gospel

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or other Minister reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

## The Nicene Creed

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

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

*Bishop and People*

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

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

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

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\* The *filioque* [and the Son] is not in the original Greek text. Nevertheless, in the Western Church the *filioque* [and the Son] is customary at worship and is used for the explication of doctrine [39 *Articles of Religion*]. The operative resolution of the College of Bishops concerning use of the *filioque* is printed with the General Instructions at the end of the Holy Communion, Long Form.

## The Exhortation and Examination

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

*The Bishop addresses the Ordinand as follows*

You have heard, during the Church's discernment of your vocation and in the Holy Scriptures themselves how weighty is this Office to which you are called. I now exhort you, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to be a messenger, watchman, and steward of the Lord. You are to teach, to warn, to feed and to provide for the Lord's family; and to seek for Christ's sheep who are in the midst of this fallen world, that they may be saved through Christ forever.

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

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

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

And now, that this congregation of Christ's Church may know your intent in these things, and that your promise may inspire you to your duties; answer plainly these questions, which I, in the Name of God and his Church, now ask you.

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

*Answer* I so believe.

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

*Answer* I believe it, and have so determined, by God's grace.

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Bishop* Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your own life, and that of your family, according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourself and them, as much as you are able, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

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

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

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

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

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

*The congregation shall pray silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Bishop shall pray*

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

*All may kneel. The Ordinand shall kneel or lie prostrate, facing the Bishop. The Veni, Creator Spiritus shall be sung or said as a prayer for the renewal of the Church.*

## **Veni, Creator Spiritus**

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

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

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

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

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

## The Consecration of the Priest

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

*The Bishop then prays the following prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, and heavenly Father, who, in your infinite love and goodness towards us, has given to us your only and most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer, and the Author of everlasting life; who, after he had made perfect our redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, sent into the whole world his Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers; by whose labor and ministry he gathered together a great flock in all parts of the world, to set forth the eternal praise of your holy Name: For these great benefits of your eternal goodness, and because you have called *this* your *servant* here present to the same Office and ministry, appointed for the salvation of all people, we offer to you our most hearty thanks; we praise and worship you; and we humbly ask you, through your blessed Son, that we and all who call upon your holy Name, may continue to show ourselves thankful to you for these and all your other benefits; and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of you and your Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that as well by *this Minister*, as by those entrusted to *his* care, your holy Name may be forever glorified, and your blessed kingdom enlarged.

*The Bishop with the Priests present shall lay their hands upon the head of each one to receive the Order of Priesthood; the Ordinand humbly kneeling, and the Bishop saying*

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

*The Bishop shall then pray the following over the Ordinand.*

Send your heavenly blessing upon *this* your *servant*; that *he* may be clothed with righteousness, and that your Word, spoken by *his* mouth, may have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain.

Grant also, that we may have grace to hear and receive what *he* shall deliver out of your most holy Word as the means of our salvation; that in all our words and deeds we may seek your glory, and the increase of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end.

*The People in a loud voice respond*

AMEN.

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

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

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

*As the Priest is vested with the Chasuble, the Bishop says*

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

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

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

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

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

*The Bishop then says to the People*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

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

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

*When the Communion is finished, after the Post-Communion Prayer, the new Priest shall pray the following collect*

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

*The Bishop shall then bless the People saying*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*People* The maker of heaven and earth.

*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

*People* From this time forth forevermore.

*Bishop* The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you,  
and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

*Or, at his direction, the Bishop may ask the newly-ordained Priest to bless the People saying*

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

*The Deacon dismisses the People saying*

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals.*

*The People respond*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

# The Form and Manner of Ordaining and Consecrating a Bishop

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

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

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

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

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

*Archbishop* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*In place of the above, on Ember days in the season of Lent*

*Archbishop* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* His mercy endures forever.

*Archbishop*

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

## The Presentation

*The Archbishop and People sit.*

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

Most Reverend Father in God, we present to you N.N., a godly and well-learned man, to be Ordained and Consecrated Bishop.

*Then shall the Archbishop require Testimonials from the Secretary of the College of Bishops and the President of the Standing Committee regarding the person presented for Consecration, and shall cause them to be read.*

*The Archbishop shall then require the Bishop Elect to take the Oath of Conformity saying*

The Canons of this Church require that no Priest may be consecrated as a Bishop in the Church until he has subscribed without reservation to the Oath of Conformity. In the presence of this congregation, I now charge you to make your solemn declaration of the same.

*The Bishop Elect then declares*

I, N.N., do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and therefore I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.

*The Bishop Elect then declares the following Oath of Canonical Obedience as well, saying*

And I do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to the Archbishop of this Church, and to his successors: So help me God.

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

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

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

## **The Litany for Ordinations**

*All kneel. Then the Archbishop or Litanist appointed shall, with the Clergy and People present, say or sing the Litany for Ordinations. The Bishop Elect shall either kneel or lie prostrate during the Litany.*

*At the conclusion of the Litany for Ordinations, the Archbishop shall stand and pray the following collect, first saying*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Archbishop* Let us pray.

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

## **The Lessons**

*Following are the readings appointed for the ordination of a Bishop. On a Major Feast, or on a Sunday, the Archbishop may select readings from the Proper of the Day.*

Isaiah 61:1-11

Psalm 100

1 Timothy 3:1-7 *or* Acts 20:17-35

John 21:15-19 *or* John 20:19-23 *or* Matthew 28:18-20

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

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

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

*After each Reading, the Reader shall say*

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Silence may follow. A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.*

## **The Gospel**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or other Minister reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Sermon**

## **The Nicene Creed**

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

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

*Archbishop and People*

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

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

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

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\* The *filioque* [and the Son] is not in the original Greek text. Nevertheless, in the Western Church the *filioque* [and the Son] is customary at worship and is used for the explication of doctrine [39 *Articles of Religion*]. The operative resolution of the College of Bishops concerning use of the *filioque* is printed with the General Instructions at the end of the Holy Communion, Long Form.

## The Exhortation and Examination

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

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

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

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

*Answer* I am so persuaded.

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

*Question* Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all Doctrine required as necessary to eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the Holy Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge; and to teach or maintain nothing as necessary to eternal salvation, but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the same?

*Answer* I am so persuaded, and determined, by God's grace.

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

*Answer* I will do so by the help of God.

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Question* Will you be faithful in examining, ordaining, sending, and laying hands upon others?

*Answer* I will, by the help of God.

*Question* Will you show yourself gentle, and be merciful for the sake of Christ, to poor and needy people and to all those in need of help?

*Answer* I will with God's help.

*The congregation shall pray silently for the fulfillment of these purposes.*

*The Archbishop shall pray*

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

*All may kneel.*

*The Bishop Elect shall kneel or lie prostrate, facing the Archbishop. The Veni, Creator Spiritus shall be sung or said over him as follows*

### **Veni, Creator Spiritus**

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

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

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

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

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

### **The Consecration of the Bishop**

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

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

Lord, hear our prayer;  
*People* And let our cry come to you.

*Archbishop*

Almighty God, and most merciful Father, of your infinite goodness you have given your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Redeemer, and to be the author of everlasting life. After he had made perfect our redemption by his death and resurrection, and was ascended into heaven, he poured down his gifts abundantly upon his people, making some Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastors and Teachers, for edifying and perfecting his Church. Grant to this your servant such grace, that he may be ever ready to propagate your Gospel, the good news of our reconciliation with you; and use the authority given to him, not for destruction, but for salvation; not for hurt, but for help; so that, as a wise and faithful steward, he will give to your family their portion in due season, and so may at last be received into everlasting joy.

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

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

*The Archbishop then continues*

Most merciful Father, send down upon this your servant your heavenly blessing; so endue him with your Holy Spirit, that he, in preaching your holy Word, may not only be earnest to reprove, beseech, and rebuke,

with all patience and Doctrine; but may he also, to such as believe, present a wholesome example in word, in conversation, in love, in faith, in chastity, and in purity; that, faithfully fulfilling his course, at the Last Day he may receive the crown of righteousness, laid up by the Lord Jesus, our righteous Judge, who lives and reigns with you and the same Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

*The People in a loud voice respond*

AMEN.

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

*The Archbishop shall present the new Bishop with the Holy Scriptures, saying*

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

*The Archbishop presents him with a Pastoral Staff saying*

Take this Staff and watch over the flock of Christ.

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

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

*The Archbishop may give him a Pectoral Cross saying*

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

*The Archbishop may give him an Episcopal Ring saying*

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

*The Archbishop may give him the Miter saying*

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

*The Archbishop then says to the People*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with your spirit.

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

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

*When the Communion is finished, after the post-communion prayer, the new Bishop shall pray the following collect*

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

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

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

*People* The maker of heaven and earth.  
*Bishop* Blessed be the Name of the Lord;  
*People* From this time forth forevermore.  
*Bishop* The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you,  
and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

*The Deacon dismisses the People saying*

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

*From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals. The People respond*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## The Litany and Suffrages for Ordinations

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

O God the Father,  
*Have mercy on us.*

O God the Son,  
*Have mercy on us.*

O God the Holy Spirit  
*Have mercy on us.*

O holy Trinity, one God,  
*Have mercy on us.*

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

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

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

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

*Here at the Ordination of Deacons and of Priests shall be said*

That it may please you to bless *these* your *servants*, now to be admitted to the Order of Deacons (*or* Priests), and to pour your grace upon *them*; that *they* may duly execute *their* Office to the edification of your Church, and to the glory of your holy Name;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

*Here at the Consecration of a Bishop shall be said*

That it may please you to bless this our Brother selected, and to send your grace upon him, that he may duly execute the Office to which he is called, to the edification of your Church, and to the honor, praise, and glory of your Name;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please you to guide by your indwelling Spirit those whom you call to the ministry of your Church; that they may go forward with courage, and persevere to the end;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please you to increase the number of Ministers in your Church, that the Gospel may be preached to all people;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please you to grant us true repentance, amendment of life and the forgiveness of all our sins;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please you to hasten the fulfillment of your purpose, that your Church may be one;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please you to grant that we, with all your saints, may be partakers of your everlasting Kingdom;  
*We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.*

Lord, have mercy  
*Christ, have mercy.*  
Lord, have mercy.

Hear us, O Lord, when we cry out to you;  
*Have mercy upon us and hear us.*

O Lord, arise and help us;  
*And deliver us for your Name's sake.*

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;  
*And let your saints sing with joy.*

Lord, hear our prayer;  
*And let our cry come to you.*

# General Information on this Edition of the Ordinal

- Liturgies within this Ordinal are authorized for use without alterations to the text as given herein. Alterations to the Eucharistic liturgy may be made only if permitted within that rite.
- The language and Doctrine of this edition of the Ordinal is descended from the historic Anglican Ordinals of 1549, 1662, and the American 1928 and Canadian 1962. The primary source for this document was the American book of 1928 because it has removed references to the English Monarch and Government, which makes more sense in our North American context. The other editions are used in places where there has been a variance between the various editions. Additionally, Peter Toon's *An Anglican Prayer Book*, Preservation Press, 2008, was frequently consulted.
- The structure of this edition, however, does look to ecumenical and more recent Anglican Ordinals, especially the American BCP of 1979, the Church of England *Common Worship: Ordination Services*, Study Edition of 2007, and the Province of Southern Africa *An Anglican Prayer Book* of 1989. The Ordo for all three Orders has been given a common outline to make the Liturgies more parallel to one another, thus making them easier to follow.
- The *Veni, Creator Spiritus* remains in traditional language for its poetic qualities as an ancient hymn of the Church.
- Where appropriate, this edition seeks to reconcile the text of the Ordinal with the English Standard Version of the Bible.
- Since the historic Anglican Ordinals did not provide for an Old Testament reading or a Psalm, this edition consulted both the American BCP of 1979 and the Church of England, *Common Worship: Ordination Services*, Study Edition of 2007. The Epistle and Gospel readings are those found in the historic Ordinals.
- This edition restores a more accurate translation of “et cum spiritu tuo” as “and with your spirit.” For more information, please see Peter Toon's explanation of the phrase in, *An Anglican Prayerbook*, Preservation Press, 2008, pg. 44.
- When the word “Minister” is used in this document, it refers to someone in one of the three Holy Orders: Bishops, Priests, or Deacons.
- In some places, a black line along the left side of the page indicates that the material in that section may be used at the discretion of the Bishop or Archbishop presiding at that Liturgy.
- It is suggested that future drafts of this Ordinal include forms for the Consecration of a Church, for the Institution of Ministers, and for the Installation of an Archbishop.
- The ordination Liturgy may be re-cast from contemporary (you, your, yours) to traditional (thee, thine, they) idiom when desired.
- Throughout the entire ordinal, language referring to the number of ordinands (he/them) has been placed in italics. This is to aid the presider in shifting plural language to singular, and singular to plural. This is also the case when referring to the gender of the ordinand (in the liturgies for the ordination of Deacons and Priests).
- Rubric texts should be retained and should be altered only as necessary.
- A Maniple may be bestowed at the vesting of a Priest or a Bishop as it is at the vesting of a Deacon.