

THE DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER
A CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY
IN THE PARISH OF N
WITH THE LICENSING
OF N AS PARISH PRIEST

¶ **The Gathering**

Hymn or Song

All stand to sing this hymn/song as the ministers enter

All [Text to be inserted]

Greeting and Welcome

The Bishop greets the people

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

All **and also with you.**

The Bishop welcomes the people and introduces the service.

Presentation

*The patron (or, where the Bishop is the patron, the Parish Representatives)
present the new parish priest to the Bishop.*

Reverend Father in God,
I/we present to you N
to be licensed as parish priest of N.

The Bishop replies

I thank you for your presentation.
I welcome N and will gladly license him/her.

Opening Prayer

The Bishop invites the people to pray for the new priest and for the ministry of the whole Church. All stand for a while in silent prayer, after which the Bishop says the Collect.

God our Father, Lord of all the world,
through your Son you have called us
into the fellowship of your universal Church:
hear our prayer for your faithful people
that in their vocation and ministry
each may be an instrument of your love,
and give to your servant N the needful gifts of grace;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

¶ **The Liturgy of the Word**

Sit

First Reading

*The Deanery Lay Chair reads the First Reading (insert reference). At the end
the Reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept for a short time after the reading.

Psalm, Song or Chant

*Psalm 121 or a seasonal psalm is sung or said or another song or chant may
be used.*

This version of Psalm 121 may be used.

*(Remove psalm text if it not to be used and insert text to be used and posture
instruction.)*

On God alone my soul in stillness waits;
From him comes my salvation.

All **On God alone my soul in stillness waits;
from him comes my salvation.**

I lift my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not suffer your foot to stumble;
he who watches over you will not sleep.
Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

All **On God alone my soul in stillness waits;
from him comes my salvation.**

The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
so that the sun shall not strike you by day,
neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall keep you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep your soul.
The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in,
from time forth for evermore.

All **On God alone my soul in stillness waits;
from him comes my salvation.**

Gospel Reading

Stand

The Area Dean reads the Gospel Reading (insert reference)

At the beginning

Alleluia, alleluia.
I chose you and appointed you, says the Lord,
that you should go and bear fruit that shall last.

All **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to N.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

All This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Sit

Hymn, Song, Chant or Anthem

(Insert text and posture instruction)

¶ The Licensing

Declarations

The people are seated.

The new minister stands before the Bishop, who puts these questions to him/her

N, do you believe that God has called you to share the ministry of the people of God in this community as their priest and pastor?

The new minister replies

I do so believe.

Will you lead Christ's people in this place in proclaiming his glorious gospel, so that the good news of salvation may be heard?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you share your ministry with (*ecumenical partners, clergy colleagues, readers, members of the Local Ministry Team, lay leaders in the parish, as appropriate*) and with all who follow the way of Christ in this community?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you be diligent in prayer, in teaching Holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith, and fit you to bear witness to the truth of the gospel?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you, to make Christ known among all whom you serve?

By the help of God, I will.

Declaration of Assent

The Bishop addresses the new minister

N, you are a priest of the Church of God and called to serve at this time in the ministry of the Church of England.

The Church of England is part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making him known to those in your care?

The minister says

I, N, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

Oath of Allegiance

The new minister turns to face the people and, with the Bible in the right hand, says

I, N, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her heirs and successors according to law. So help me God.

Or the minister may make a Solemn Affirmation in the form prescribed in the canons.

Oath of Canonical Obedience

Turning to face the Bishop, the minister, with the Bible in the right hand, says

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

The Bishop and new minister sign the Declaration and the Oaths

Licensing

The new minister stands before the Bishop who reads the Licence. The Bishop, taking the new minister by the hand, gives him/her the Licence as he says

N, receive this cure of souls,
which is both yours and mine,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Receive it confidently.
Serve Christ joyfully.
Put your trust in God.
He is faithful.

¶ *The Blessing of the New Ministry*

Bidding

The Bishop says

My brothers and sisters,
let us ask God to bless N,
to give him/her joy (in his/her home and family life and)
in his/her ministry,
and to renew within him/her the gifts of his Spirit.

The congregation stands. The new minister kneels.

Hymn, Song or Chant

A brief Hymn, Song or Chant of the Holy Spirit is sung. (Insert text)

Prayer

The entire community prays in silence for the new minister.

After a time of silence, designated members of the parish may pray for the new minister in their own words or either the first or both of these texts may be used.

Holy God,
fill this your servant N with your grace;
make him/her alive to your Spirit and ready to do your will;
may he/she lead your people boldly,
walk with them lovingly,
share with them imaginatively
and send them forth joyfully
to proclaim the good news of the kingdom
of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest and Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gracious Father, giver of all good things,
may your blessing rest upon N and
(*add here if appropriate the name of the priest's spouse and children*)
in their home.

Where there is much coming and going,
may your peace be known;
in Christian service may your joy be found,
and at all times may your love bring unity and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Anointing

The Bishop may anoint the new minister with the oil of Chrism, saying

N, remember your baptism into Christ.
Remember your ordination in the Church of God.
May God who anointed Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit
anoint and empower you for the blessing of God's people.

All **Amen.**

Blessing of the New Minister

Taking his pastoral staff, the Bishop blesses the new minister

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you peace.
N, may the Lord bless you.

All **Amen.**

¶ **The Installation**

The new minister stands. The congregation sits. The Bishop says to the Archdeacon

Archdeacon, I have licensed N to the cure of souls in this parish.
I now charge you to install him/her.

The Archdeacon replies

I will do so gladly.

Installation

The Archdeacon leads the new minister to the stall. The minister sits in the stall and the Archdeacon says

N, I place you in *(one of)* the stall(s) assigned to the priest of this *(these)* parish(es). May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with all joy and peace that you may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The new minister, still kneeling in the stall, invites the congregation (to kneel) to pray. He/she leads the congregation in prayer for the church and the world, the local community and the shared ministry of the local congregation. This response may be used

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,
and so in faith and trust we pray

All **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.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Another authorised version of this prayer may be used in place of this text.

¶ **The Welcome by the Community**

Welcome

The new minister stands in an open space (and may be joined by his/her family). The congregation sits. Representatives of the Deanery, the wider community and the church family gather around the minister and say, one after another

N, in the name of N, I welcome you.

When all have spoken, the entire congregation stands and, led by the Area Dean, says

**N, in the fellowship of Christ,
we welcome you
as a servant, fellow-worker and leader
of the people of God.
May the Lord richly bless you
and make you a blessing among us.**

All greet the new minister (and his/her family) with applause.

Peace

The Bishop introduces the Peace with a seasonal sentence or these words

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all things together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

The new minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All greet one another in the peace of Christ. The new minister greets first those who gathered around him/her.

The new minister may express thanks for the welcome and gives out any brief notices.

Hymn or Song

During which the collection is taken

All *(Insert text)*

¶ ***The Dedication of the People and their Priest***

Representatives of the church community gather around the new minister to present symbols of ministry (or, where space permits, the minister may move with churchwardens to different parts of the church where the appropriate gift is presented)

The new minister says

Gracious God, we praise and glorify you, because in your infinite love you have formed throughout the world a holy people for your own possession, a royal priesthood, a universal Church, that, sharing in the ministry of our Saviour Christ, we might be witnesses of what he has done for us.

All **Gracious God, we praise and glorify you.**

Presenting Water for Baptism, one says

N, be among as a man/woman who rejoices to bring new Christians to Baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will grow in our faith and discipleship.**

Presenting the Oil of Healing, one says

Be among us as a man/woman of reconciliation,
showing God's forgiveness and healing.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will be a Christ-like community of love.**

Presenting a large Bible, one says

Be among us as a man/woman who studies the Scriptures,
proclaims the Word and explores the faith.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will tell the good news of Christ to the world.**

Presenting a copy of the Book of Common Prayer or of Common Worship, one says

Be among us as a man/woman of prayer,
offering the Church's liturgy and interceding for God's people.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will worship him in spirit and in truth.**

Presenting Bread and Wine, one says

Be among us as a man/woman of the Eucharist,
presiding among us when we celebrate the Lord's death and
resurrection.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will seek to be the living body of Christ.**

*The new minister places each of the symbols on the holy table or, if they have
been presented in different parts of the church, in the appropriate place.*

When all the symbols have been given, the new minister responds

I pledge myself to care for the community that gathers here, to
share with them the Word of God and the work of ministry, to
celebrate with them the sacraments of the new covenant, and to

encourage them in their discipleship. Together may we make this a place where Christian people are equipped for their life and witness in God's world.

All **Amen.**

Doxology

All **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

¶ **The Sending Out**

Blessing

The Bishop gives this or a seasonal blessing

Our help is in the name of the Lord
All **who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord
All **now and forever. Amen.**

God keep you in the fellowship of the saints.
Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels.
The Spirit make you holy in God's service;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Hymn or Song

during which the ministers move to the principal door of the church.

Between two verses of the hymn or song, or at the end of it, the new minister may ring the church bell to make known to the community that he/she has begun his/her new ministry

All (insert text)

Dismissal

The congregation turns towards the door.

At the door the Archdeacon lays the hand of the new minister upon the key or handle of the door and says

The cure of souls is a ministry alongside all those who live or work in this community. This church must be open to God's world and to all who seek him. N, you are called to help the people who are refreshed here by their worship and fellowship to live out their faith in this community, so that God's love may be known.

All **Together, by God's grace,
We will be Christ's people at work in the world.**

All The Lord preserve your going out and your coming in
All **from this time forward and for evermore.**

The new minister opens wide the door and, turning to the congregation, says

All Go in the power of Christ.
All **We have a gospel to proclaim!**

All Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God!**

The ministers leave through the open door.