

## **Celebration of a New Ministry — B**

The installation of a new leader of ministry is a significant moment in the life of a community of faith. The new minister, whether priest, deacon, or lay person, has been chosen to teach and proclaim God's word, to lead in prayer and worship, and to guide in living according to the Gospel — in short, to equip the people to live out their baptismal ministry as God's royal priesthood.

The local community has a particular reference to specific people and concerns. It has its own traditions and customs which ought to be considered when planning the celebration. Usually the celebration marks a new phase in a ministry of many years, and therefore ought to acknowledge the work which has gone on before.

The local community does not stand in isolation, but is linked to the ministry of the whole church. It is therefore desirable that, if possible, the bishop be the officiant. Together, the local community and new minister, with the bishop and the whole church, continue the ministry of the people of God.

### **Concerning the Service**

*This service is intended for use at the installation of a person who has been given responsibility for leadership within a community of faith.*

*It should take place as close in time as possible to the beginning date of the new ministry, and should occur at a time when the members of the community directly involved may conveniently attend.*

*The officiant is the bishop or the bishop's appointee. The bishop, when present, presides at the eucharist; otherwise, the new minister should preside, when that person is a priest.*

*Provision for involvement of the whole parish should be made when the ministry being celebrated is in a multi-point setting.*

*Due caution should be exercised in the use of the space available, e.g., in processions.*

*Psalms, canticles, and hymns may be sung at some of the following points: at the beginning of the service, between the readings, during the preparation of the gifts, and at the conclusion of the service.*

*If the eucharist is not to be celebrated, the service may conclude with the Peace and a blessing or dismissal.*

# Celebration of a New Ministry — B

## The Gathering of the Community

*All stand. The officiant greets the community.*

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Or from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost,*

*Officiant* Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Officiant* May his grace and peace be with you.

*People* **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

*The officiant may, in the following or similar words, introduce the theme of this celebration as that of the ministry of the whole people of God.*

*Officiant* My brothers and sisters in Christ,

NN has been chosen to be pastor\* of  
this parish of N.

After prayerful consideration,  
and according to the practice of this diocese,  
I have (or the bishop has) appointed N  
to this position of leadership  
in our common ministry.

This ministry continues the good work  
done through the years in this community,  
and is part of the work and witness  
of the whole church.

It is a new beginning  
because N brings particular gifts  
to our ministry together.

As we stand in God's presence  
let us pray that grace will be given to N,  
and to all of us in this ministry,  
that we may fulfil the responsibilities  
which are ours.

*\*Another title may be substituted, as appropriate.*

*Silence is kept.*

*The prayers, readings, and preface are normally those of the day. If the  
provers are inappropriate, the following prayers may be used, and a  
selection may be made from the list of readings on p. 98.*

*The officiant sings or says either the collect of the day or the following:*

Almighty God,  
by your grace alone

we are accepted and called to your service.

Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit

and make us worthy of our calling;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

### The Readings

*A first reading as appointed.*

*Reader* A reading from . . .

*At the conclusion of the passage, the reader says:*

The word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may be kept. Then shall follow a psalm as appointed.*

*On Sundays and major festivals a second reading as appointed is read.*

*Reader* A reading from . . .

*At the conclusion of the passage, the reader says:*

The word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may be kept. A psalm, canticle, hymn, or anthem may follow.*

*All stand for the Gospel.*

*Reader* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

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

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

*At the end of the Gospel, the reader says,*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Sermon**

*A silence for reflection may follow.*

### **Covenant in Ministry**

*The officiant, standing with the new minister and the churchwardens before the congregation, may then describe the process by which the new minister has been chosen.*

*The new minister may read any required oaths and declarations.*

Or

*a churchwarden, or other official, may say,*

I (we) certify  
that the required oaths and declarations  
have been made,  
and the letters of appointment and licence  
have been read in my (our) presence.

*Officiant* Do you,  
in the presence of this congregation,  
commit yourself to the responsibility  
entrusted to you?

*The new minister replies,*  
I do.

*The officiant asks the people of the parish to stand and says,*  
Do you, the people of the parish of N,  
commit yourselves to share with N  
in the ministry of this parish?  
**We do.**

*People*  
*The officiant asks visitors to stand, and says,*

As brothers and sisters in the body of Christ,  
will you support N and the parish of N  
in their ministry together?

*People* **We will.**

*Officiant* Let us affirm the ministry of our baptism.

*All* **We are the household of God.**

**We confess the faith of Christ crucified,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we share in his eternal priesthood.**

*A hymn may be sung.*

### **The Prayers of the People**

*The Prayers of the People may be led by a number of members of the congregation. The following prayers may be adapted as required. The fourth suffrage may be offered by the new minister. The litany of the Holy Spirit, p. 123 in The Book of Alternative Services, may be used instead of this form of prayer.*

Sisters and brothers in Christ,  
we are called to proclaim  
the story of God's love and mercy  
and, above all, the Gospel of our Saviour Christ:  
I ask your prayers for N who has come among us  
to preach the word of God and to teach the faith.

*Silence*

*Leader* Lord in your mercy,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

We are called to be a sign and witness  
of God's purpose for all the human family:  
I ask your prayers for N who has come among us  
to share our joys and sorrows,  
to counsel, reconcile, and comfort;  
to nurture this community of faith.

*Silence*

*Leader* Lord in your mercy,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for the committees and organizations of our church and community, and for N, that in wisdom and humility, in discernment and good humour *he/she* may join with us in working for the building up of Christ's Church.  
Silence

*Leader* Lord in your mercy,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

I ask your prayers for us all, that together we may learn the ways of the kingdom, patterned in worship and practised in love. Together may we welcome strangers, stand with outcasts, and support those who are broken, in the pattern of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Silence

*Leader* Lord in your mercy,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Other petitions for the world, the Church, the local community, the sick, friends and family of those present, and the departed, may be offered.*

Silence

*Leader* Lord in your mercy,  
*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*The officiant may conclude in these or similar words.*

Almighty God,  
you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you are good and loving,

and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*The new minister says,*

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

*The members of the community, ministers and people, may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The service may continue with the preparation of the gifts for the eucharist.*

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## Readings and Psalms Suitable for the Celebration of a New Ministry

*The readings are those of the day, or may be chosen from the following list. This list is intended to be helpful, but not restrictive.*

### Old Testament Readings

Numbers 11.16-17,24-25a (*Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel*)  
Jeremiah 1.4-9 (*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you*)

### Psalms and Suitable Refrains

84 (*Happy are the people whose strength is in you*)  
119.33-40 (*Give me life in your ways*)  
146 (*God keeps his promise for ever or Alleluiah*)

### New Testament Readings

Romans 12.1-18 (*We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us*)  
2 Corinthians 4.1-6 (*We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord*)  
Ephesians 4.7,11-16 (*To equip the saints for the work of ministry*)

### Gospel Readings

Luke 10.1-2 (*The Lord appointed seventy others*)  
John 14.11-15 (*If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it*)  
John 15.9-16 (*Love one another*)