

**A Celebration of Ministry**

**in the**

**Parish/Team/Benefice of Name**

The Licensing of

N.

as

Team Vicar/Priest in Charge/whatever

by

The Right Reverend whoever

Bishop of wherever

and

Installation by

The Venerable whoever

Archdeacon of wherever

DATE and TIME

WHERE

***The Gathering***

###### The Rural Dean welcomes the people

##### Processional Hymn

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

[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 introduces the service with these or other suitable words*

Bishop We have come together to worship God and to celebrate the ministry of the whole people of God in this place. God blesses his people with a rich variety of gifts and it is our duty and our joy to use those gifts to build up God’s kingdom in the world. Today we welcome N (and his/her family) to this benefice and to the mission community as it begins to take shape, and licence him/her at the beginning of his/her ministry among us. Together we dedicate ourselves to the service of God in this community/these communities and listen afresh to God’s call to each one of us.

So let us wait humbly upon God as our worship begins, giving thanks for all that God has done to bring us to this moment (*a silence is kept).*

Mindful of God’s blessings let us now ask forgiveness for those times we have neglected God’s call or failed in our service of one another and our communities:

*Sit or Kneel*

Bishop Christ came in humility to share our lives;  
forgive our pride.   
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

Bishop Christ came to proclaim good news for all people; forgive our silence.   
Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

Bishop Christ came in love to a world of suffering:

forgive our self-centredness.  
Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

**All** **Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

Presentation of the New Minister

#### *The congregation sits and the Archdeacon or patron leads the new minister to stand before the bishop and says*

Bishop, after due consultation and prayerful consideration, NN has been appointed to be … of this parish/benefice/mission community. I now present her/him to you to be licensed.

Bishop I thank you and all those who with prayer have been involved in the appointment of N to this parish/benefice. Churchwardens and people of this parish / benefice / team and mission community, do you welcome N….. ?

**All We do.**

Bishop Will you support and uphold N…. ?

**All We will.**

Bishop Will you share with him/her in worship and witness, mission and pastoral care?

**All With the help of God, we will.**

Bishop N, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart that God has called you to serve here?

Minister I believe that God has called me.

Bishop Will you commit yourself to the mission and ministry of the people in this place to further the kingdom of God?

Minister With the help of God, I will.

**The Collect**

Bishop 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  
now to be licensed  
the needful gifts of grace;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,

**All** **Amen.**

***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Scripture Reading:**

**Hymn** [or Choir/Music Group item]

*INSERT TEXT*

**The Address**

**Hymn** [or Choir/Music Group item]

*INSERT TEXT*

***The Licensing***

**The Declaration of Assent**

Bishop N ..... , you are a priest in the Church of God, and called to serve 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?

Minister 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.

**The Oath Of Allegiance**

The minister faces the congregation

I, N, 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.

**The Oath Of Canonical Obedience**

The minister faces the bishop

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

**Licensing**

The Bishop reads the Licence and hands it to the new minister, saying

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**

**The Blessing of the New Ministry**

The Bishop commends the new minister to the prayers of the people, saying

Let us ask God to bless N, to give her/him  
joy in her/him home and family life and in her/him  
ministry, and to renew within her/him the gifts of his Spirit.

The people pray in silence for the new minister, after which designated members of the congregation may pray for he/r using these or similar words:

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 creatively  
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.**

The Bishop may then 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**

The Bishop blesses the new minister with these or similar words

God who has called you is faithful.  
The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,   
cleanse you by his holiness  
and send you to proclaim his word.  
Christ, who has ascended to the heights,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.  
The Holy Spirit, the comforter, equip and strengthen you  
in your ministry. And the blessing…

**Installation**

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

Archdeacon, having licensed N to ministry in this benefice/parish and mission community, I ask you now to install him/her, and to support her in his/her ministry here.

The Archdeacon conducts him/her to the minister’s stall, saying

I install you as …... of this benefice and mission community. Love and pray for your people, lead them in worship and service, and encourage them in their witness to the gospel of Christ.

**Prayers of Intercession**

The new minister leads the congregation in prayer, using the form below, and concluding with the Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray.

Sit or Kneel

Lord God, today you bring us to a new stage of our journey with you. In thanksgiving for your faithfulness and constancy, we bring our prayers before you.

When we gather in fellowship and service

**All Fashion us with your love**

When we pray and study the scriptures

**All Fill us with your joy**

When we preach and proclaim the gospel

**All Fire us with faith**

When we lead and take on responsibility

**All Form us with humility.**

When we share the good things you give us

**All Free us with your generosity**

When we sense the sufferings of the world

**All Fortify us with your peace**

Grant us, Lord, the gifts of your Spirit, so to share our lives that we are filled with your love; and so to love the world that it is filled with your life; and hear us now as we pray for the coming of your kingdom, as Jesus himself taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

***The Welcome***

*The bishop presents the new minister to the people, saying*

People of this parish/benefice and mission community, I present to you your new *…*, now duly licensed and installed, and I invite you to greet her/him [and her/his family] in the name of Christ. I commend her/him/them to your love and to your prayers.

**All**  **We welcome you!  
 May the Lord richly bless you  
 and make you a blessing among us.**

*The congregation greets the new minister with a warm round of applause.*

*The Rural Dean invites members of the Deanery and the wider community to greet the new minister [and his/her family].*

*The minister gives out any brief notices.*

**The Peace**

*The congregation stands for the peace which is led by the new minister.*

We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All****and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.  
A hymn is sung.   
The collection – for the Diocesan Growth Fund – may be taken at this point.*

**Hymn**

*INSERT TEXT*

***The Call to Ministry***

*Representatives of the church community gather around the new minister to present symbols of ministry.*

*Presenting Water for Baptism, one says*

N, be among as one 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 (where appropriate) one says*

Be among us as one 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 Bible, one says*

Be among us as one 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 other 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.**

**Shared Ministry**Other Clergy and Readers who serve in the benefice and mission community stand alongside the Priest at the chancel steps. A layperson says:

The Body of Christ is made up of many parts and many ministries so that the Church may proclaim the Good News of salvation to all. N., God has called N, N, and N to serve alongside you in this place. Will you collaborate with your colleagues in the service of Christ and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, affirm, celebrate and encourage their ministries/ministry?

Minister With the help of God I will.

N, N, and N, will you support N? Will you work with each other, learning from each other’s special skills, and be ready to share your own?

Colleagues With the help of God, we will.

The other ministers return to their place.

**Commitment to work together with**

**God for All**

The Bishop addresses all the people of the Christian Communities of the area

Bishop N… and all the people of this benefice and mission community, will you with the help of the Holy Spirit pray and work to enable the good news that God is for All to reach the people of this parish and beyond?

All the people of the parish and mission community respond…

**All Together by God’s grace we will proclaim in word and deed that God is for all.**

N… invites everyone to join in the God for All prayer

**Living Lord,**

**as we offer to you our common life,**

**refresh our vision**

**that we may know your will**

**and seek to follow in all your ways.**

**May we follow daily as your disciples,**

**care deeply for one another in community,**

**speak boldly your gospel words of love,**

**and tread gently as faithful stewards of your goodness.**

**We ask this in the power of your holy name,**

**as Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of our lives,**

**today and for ever. Amen**

***The Blessing and Dismissal***

Bishop Almighty God,  
who for the salvation of the world  
gives to his people many gifts and ministries  
to the advancement of his glory,  
stir up in you the gifts of his grace,  
and sustain each one of you in your own ministry;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

**Hymn**

*During which the Bishop’s procession moves to the principal door of the church.*

*INSERT TEXT*

*The congregation turn to face 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 these communities. 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(these) community(ies), 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.**

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.*

*The new minister then turns to the congregation and says*

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

Go in the peace of Christ. *(In Eastertide add Alleluia, Alleluia)*

**All Thanks be to God!** *(In Eastertide add Alleluia, Alleluia)*

*The Choir and other ministers leave in procession.*