



Diocese of Durham

The Ordination of Priests

at Michaelmas

**The Minster Church of St. Michael and All Angels
and St. Benedict Biscop, Sunderland**

*Friday 25 September 2020
7.00pm*

Barnard Castle, St Mary

*Saturday 26 September 2020
11.00am*

Durham, St Nicholas

*Saturday 26 September
4.00pm*

President: The Bishop of Durham

Preacher: The Venerable David Picken

Welcome to the Ordination of Priests

We extend a particular welcome to the families, friends, colleagues and churches of those who are to be ordained today.

The Church of England has inherited the three ancient forms of ordained ministry in the Church: deacons, priests and bishops. Today the candidates are ordained into the second order as priests.

Priests or Presbyters (elders) share in the oversight of the Church, teaching the faith and leading the Church in mission. They are given authority to preside at Holy Communion, to bless the people and declare the forgiveness of sins in God's name.

The newly-ordained priests will continue to serve in their parishes as assistant curates.

At the heart of the ordination service, we ask the Holy Spirit to come upon the candidates, as first the Spirit came upon the Church in tongues as of fire, to equip and strengthen them for the service of the gospel.

The service begins on page 8.

The Service has five main sections:

The Gathering and Presentation

in which we unite in worshipping God. The candidates are formally presented to the Bishop during this opening part of the service. It concludes with the collect, the opening prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

in which we hear readings from the Bible. The preacher then brings God's message to the candidates and congregation, helping us understand the nature of ministry in the Church. We stand for the Gospel reading to honour the words and deeds of Jesus himself.

The Liturgy of Ordination

in which the Bishop sets out the calling and duties of the priests, who answer searching questions. Priests are ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands by the bishop and their fellow priests. The prayer includes silence, the great hymn *Come, Holy Ghost*, translated by John Cosin, a 17th-century Bishop of Durham. The act of ordination is the climax of this prayer; as we pray for the candidates, the Bishop lays hands on each of them, assisted by other clergy. The newly-ordained priests are vested and are anointed with chrism (olive oil mixed with balsam), a sign of the gift of the Spirit, of God's call, and of their self-offering to God. They are welcomed by an Archdeacon of the Diocese.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

in which we celebrate the great memorial of Christ's death in consecrated bread and wine.

The Sending Out

in which the candidates and congregation are sent out to minister and live the Christian life in our parishes, communities and places of work. Finally, the newly-ordained priests are given a Bible as a sign of their call to proclaim and live the Gospel and administer the sacraments.

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If you require a gluten-free communion wafer, please indicate this to the Bishop of Durham during communion.

Members of the congregation who use a hearing aid should be aware that a loop system is fitted throughout the church. If you have problems hearing, use the 'T' switch on the aid.

As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment during the service.

For everyone's health and safety, it is mandatory for everyone to wear a face covering during the service.

Today's offering is a retiring collection for the Diocesan Ordination Candidates' Fund.

If you are giving a donation and would like to enhance your gift so that we can reclaim the tax you have paid on it, please use a Gift Aid envelope (available in the pews or at the main doors of the church).

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To be ordained to the Priesthood

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The Minster Church of St. Michael and All Angels and St. Benedict Biscop, Sunderland

Rory John Balfour *Hillside, Lobley Hill and Marley Hill*

Richard Penman *The Group of the Annunciation, Sunderland
The Parish Church of St Mary and St Peter, Springwell*

Anthony James Smith *Spennymoor and Whitworth
(Spennymoor Group Ministry)*

Christopher Ian Watson *The Minster Church of St. Michael and All Angels
and St. Benedict Biscop, Sunderland*

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Barnard Castle, St Mary

Daniel Thomas Ackerley *Stockton-on-Tees, St Peter
and Elton, St John*

Sarah Jane Cliff *Barnard Castle St Mary
and Whorlton St Mary*

Jane Louise Easterby *Norton St Mary the Virgin
and Norton St Michael and All Angels*

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Durham, St Nicholas

Claire Siobhan Elwood *Durham St Nicholas*

Elizabeth Jane Hollis *Belmont St Mary Magdalene
Pittington St Laurence*

Abigail Patricia Hughes *Durham, St Giles, Shadforth St Cuthbert
and Sherburn St Mary*

Before the service the candidates took, as is required by law, the Declaration and Oaths set out below. They are taken by all Church of England clergy before they undertake a new ministry in the Church.

The Preface and Declaration set out the Church of England's self-understanding as a part of the historic, world-wide Christian Church, teaching the faith that has been handed down to us in faithfulness to the Scriptures and the ancient creeds.

The oath of allegiance to The Sovereign reflects the calling of the Church of England as a national and established Church under The Queen to serve all the people of England.

The oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop affirms the candidates' readiness to be faithful to the laws (canons) and disciplines of the Church of England as ordained and licensed ministers holding public office in the Church.

Preface

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?

Declaration of Assent

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

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

The Oath of Canonical Obedience

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

The service of Ordination is led by the Bishop of Durham.

We welcome our preacher, the Venerable David Picken, Archdeacon of Lancaster in the Diocese of Blackburn, who also led the ordination retreat.

The candidates for ordination are seated before the start of the service.

The Incumbent welcomes the congregation.

The Gathering and Presentation

Please stand as Bishop Paul processes into the church and greets the congregation with an informal welcome.

The Greeting

Bishop Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one spirit.
There is one hope to which we were called;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all.

Peace be with you
and also with you.

The Bishop introduces the service

Bishop God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The Church is the Body of Christ, the people of God and the dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit. In baptism the whole Church is summoned to witness to God's love and to work for the coming of his kingdom.

To serve this royal priesthood, God has given particular ministries. Priests are ordained to lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the Gospel. They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being.

They are to set the example of the Good Shepherd always before them as the pattern of their calling. With the Bishop and their fellow presbyters, they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that we all may grow into the fullness of Christ and be a living sacrifice acceptable to God.

Prayers of Penitence

Bishop Paul As we stand together before God, and trusting in his grace alone, let us join with these candidates in confessing our sins.

Lord Jesus, you said to your disciples:
'You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.'

All Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, we know that the harvest is plentiful
but the labourers are few.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you appointed us to go
and bear fruit that will last.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Bishop May almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Sit

The Presentation

Archdeacon Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to be ordained to the office of Priest in the Church of God.

The Archdeacon of Auckland, Sunderland or Durham reads the names of the candidates and the places where they are to serve.

Those to be ordained stand before the Bishop.

The Bishop addresses the Director of Initial Ministry Education

Have those whose duty it is to know these ordinands and examine them found them to be of godly life and sound learning?

Director They have.

Do they believe them to be duly called to serve God in this ministry?

Director They do.

The Bishop addresses the ordinands, saying

Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?

Ordinands I do so believe.

Bishop I invite the Registrar to confirm that these ordinands have taken the necessary oaths and made the Declaration of Assent.

Registrar They have duly taken the Oath of Allegiance to The Sovereign and the Oath of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop. They have affirmed and declared their 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'.

The Collect

Bishop Let us join with these candidates that we may be one in faith with Christ, the Son of the living God.

Silence is kept

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 servants now to be ordained
the needful gifts of grace;
through your Son 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

First Reading

Psalm 31: 1-5

read by a guest of an ordinand

- 1 In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;
do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.
- 2 Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily.
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me.
- 3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress;
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,
- 4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.
- 5 Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

All Your word is a lantern to our feet:
and a light upon our path.

Stand

The Gospel

Luke 23: 44-49
read by the Incumbent

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

All Alleluia!

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' ⁴⁸ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

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

Sit after the pulpit prayer

Sermon

The Venerable David Picken

We observe a moment of silence following the sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Bishop Let us affirm, together with these who are to be ordained,
our common faith in God.

Stand

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The congregation sits

The Liturgy of Ordination

The Declarations

The ordinands stand before the Bishop. The Bishop of Jarrow addresses the congregation.

Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent. With their bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord, and to watch for the signs of God's new creation. They are to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; they are to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for his family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever. Formed by the word, they are to call their hearers to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins.

With all God's people they are to tell the story of God's love. They are to baptize new disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith. They are to unfold the scriptures, to preach the word in season and out of season, and to declare the mighty acts of God. They are to preside at the Lord's table and lead his people in worship, offering with them a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. They are to bless the people in God's name. They are to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need. They are to minister to the sick and prepare the dying for their death. Guided by the Spirit, they are to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole Church may be built up in unity and faith.

The Bishop addresses the ordinands directly.

We trust that long ago you began to weigh and ponder all this, and that you are fully determined, by the grace of God, to devote yourself wholly to his service, so that as you daily

follow the rule and teaching of our Lord and grow into his likeness, God may sanctify the lives of all with whom you have to do.

And now, in order that we may know your mind and purpose, you must make the declarations we put to you.

Do you accept the holy Scriptures as revealing all things necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

Ordinands

I do so accept them.

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

By the help of God, I will.

Will you faithfully minister the doctrine and sacraments of Christ as the Church of England has received them, so that the people committed to your charge may be defended against error and flourish in the faith?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you, knowing yourself to be reconciled to God in Christ, strive to be an instrument of God's peace in the Church and in the world?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you endeavour to fashion your own life and that of your household according to the way of Christ, that you may be a pattern and example to Christ's people?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you work with your fellow servants in the Gospel for the sake of the kingdom of God?

By the help of God, I will.

Will you accept and minister the discipline of this Church,
and respect authority duly exercised within it?
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.

Members of the congregation stand and the ordinands turn and face them

Bishop Brothers and sisters, you have heard how great is the charge
that these ordinands are ready to undertake, and you have
heard their declarations. Is it now your will that they
should be ordained?

All **It is.**

Will you continually pray for them?
We will.

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?
We will.

The ordinands turn back to face the Bishop, who continues addressing them

In the name of our Lord we bid you remember the
greatness of the trust that is now to be committed to your
charge. Remember always with thanksgiving that the
treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock,
bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross. It is to
him that you will render account for your stewardship of
his people.

You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own
strength, but only by the grace and power of God. Pray
therefore that your heart may daily be enlarged and your
understanding of the Scriptures enlightened.

Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Kneel or sit. Silence is kept

Organ or Cantor *Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire*

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. Amen.

John Cosin
(based on *Veni, creator Spiritus*)

mode viii

The Archdeacon and first Training Incumbent participating in the laying on of hands gather near the Bishop.

The ordinands stand before the Bishop, who also stands to pray

The Ordination Prayer

Bishop We praise and glorify you, almighty Father, because in your infinite love you have formed throughout the world a holy people for your own possession, a royal priesthood, a universal Church.

We praise and glorify you because you have given us your only Son Jesus Christ, the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn of all creation and head of the Church.

We praise and glorify you that by his death he has overcome death; and that, having ascended into heaven, he has given his gifts abundantly, to equip your holy people for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ. And now we give you thanks that you have called these your servants, whom we ordain in your name, to share as a priest in the ministry of the gospel of Christ, the Apostle and High Priest of our faith, and the Shepherd of our souls.

Therefore, Father, through Christ our Lord we pray:

Here the Bishop lays hands on the head of each ordinand. Training Incumbent and Archdeacon lay their hands on the shoulder of each ordinand, and the Bishop says

Send down the Holy Spirit on your servant *N*,
for the office and work of a priest in your Church.

When the Bishop has laid hands on all of the ordinands, the prayer continues

Through your Spirit, heavenly Father, give these your servants grace and power to proclaim the gospel of your salvation and minister the sacraments of the new covenant. Renew them in holiness, and give them wisdom and discipline to work faithfully with those committed to their charge. In union with their fellow-servants in Christ, may they reconcile what is divided, heal what is wounded and restore what is lost.

May they declare your blessings to your people; may they proclaim Christ's victory over the powers of darkness, and absolve in Christ's name those who turn to Christ in faith; so shall a people made whole in Christ offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you, our God and Father, to whom,

with the Son and the Holy Spirit, belong glory and honour,
worship and praise, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Anointing and Vesting

*The Bishop of Jarrow anoints the palms of each newly-ordained priests' hands,
saying*

Bishop of Jarrow May God, who anointed the Christ with the Holy Spirit
 at his baptism, anoint and empower you to reconcile and
 bless his people.

The newly-ordained priests vest themselves.

The Welcome

Stand. The newly-ordained priests turn to face the congregation

Archdeacon God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, and has
 given us the ministry of reconciliation.

All **We welcome you as ambassadors for Christ: let the word
 of Christ dwell in you richly.**

We greet the newly-ordained priests with applause.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

Bishop God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us,
 and as a pledge of what is to come has given the Spirit to
 dwell in our hearts.

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

The altar is prepared.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Bishop Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, and by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise through your Son Jesus Christ, our great high priest. He was lifted up for us on the cross that he might reveal your glory and draw all people to himself.

You exalted him to your right hand on high and through your Holy Spirit you sent upon your people a rich diversity of gifts. From this royal priestly people you raise up ministers to proclaim your word, to care for your people and to be the stewards of your holy mysteries. You call them to serve the world your Son redeemed and build up his body the Church to be his bride.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the Highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes,
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Bishop

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All

**Dying, you destroyed our death,
rising, you restored our life,
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Bishop

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

All kneel or sit

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Bishop We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Bishop God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Please follow directions to receive Holy Communion, which will be administered standing and in one kind only. If you require a gluten-free host please make this known to the Bishop of Durham. Communicant members of other Christian churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this service. If you would like to receive a blessing, please hold this order of service as an indication to the Bishop.

Prayer after Communion

Bishop Let us pray.

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

We thank you, gracious Father, for welcoming your children to feast in your kingdom; by your love unite us and with your Spirit send us, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stand

The Sending Out

The Bishop leads the newly-ordained priests towards the entrance of the church. We turn towards it as the procession moves through the Nave.

The Giving of the Bible

The Bishop gives the Bible to each of the newly-ordained priests.

Bishop Receive this book, as a sign of the authority which God has given you this day to preach the gospel of Christ and to minister his holy sacraments.

The Blessing of our Communities

Bishop Let us pray for God's blessing on our communities.

All **God's blessing on our parishes.**
God's blessing on our chaplaincies.
God's blessing on our deaneries.

Men God's blessing on our families.
God's blessing on our children.
God's blessing on our neighbours.

- Women God's blessing on our places of learning.
 God's blessing on our civic life.
 God's blessing on our health carers.
- All God's blessing on our land.
 God's blessing on our sea.
 God's blessing on our work.**
- Women God's blessing on our factories.
 God's blessing on our offices.
 God's blessing on our shops.
- Men God's blessing on our prisoners.
 God's blessing on our sick.
 God's blessing on our sorrowful.
- Bishop The blessing of the Father who loves us.
 The blessing of the Son who died for us.
 The blessing of the Spirit who comforts and leads us.
- All The blessing of the One God
 be on our communities this day and always. Amen.**

Members of the congregation may greet the newly-ordained priests outside the church.

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