



Ordination of Priests

Saturday 24 June 2023, 11.30am

Reading Minster St Mary the Virgin

The Declaration of Assent

(made by the candidates before the service)

The Declaration of Assent is made by deacons, priests and bishops of the Church of England when they are ordained and on each occasion when they take up a new appointment (Canon C 15).

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 Oaths

(made by the candidates before the service)

The Oath of Allegiance

I N, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, his 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 Oxford, and his successors and, through his delegation, to the Bishop of Reading in all things lawful and honest: So help me God.

Welcome to this ordination service, whether you are joining us in church or online. Today we give thanks for those committing their lives in service of God as they are ordained priests in the Church of England.

Please pray for all those deacons being ordained priest across the diocese this Pentecost. Pray too for their families and all who support them, for their parishes, training incumbents and all with whom they serve.

Carol Atkins, Benefice of Reading St Agnes with St Paul and St Barnabas

Catherine Radcliffe, Benefice of Caversham Thameside and Mapledurham

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No other photography or filming is permitted during the service. For any questions or concerns relating to photography taking place today please email **communications@oxford.anglican.org**

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The Gathering

Organ music before the service:

A Fantasy - Harold Dareke (1888-1976)

Rhapsody in Db - Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Hymn – ‘All Creatures of our God and King’

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Swift rushing wind so wild and strong,
white clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!**

**New rising dawn in praise rejoice,
you lights of evening find a voice;
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**People and nations, take your part,
love and forgive with all your heart;
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who long pain and sorrow bear,
trust God and cast on him your care;
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless
and worship him in lowliness,
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*after Francis of Assisi and sung at ‘The Big One’ 2023 climate justice service
W. H. Draper © in this version Jubilate Hymns CCL 2870*

The Greeting

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

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

Bishop one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All **one God and Father of all.**

Bishop Peace be with you
All **and also with you.**

The Bishop welcomes the congregation gathered in church and online and 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.

The Presentation

The Archdeacon presents those to be ordained and each candidate stands.

Archdeacon Bishop N, I present
NN
to serve in the benefice of NN
to be ordained to the office of priest in the Church of God.

When the candidates have been presented, the Bishop asks these questions of the Director of Ordinands and any involved with their training, who all stand.

Bishop Have those whose duty it is to know these deacons and
examine them found them to be of godly life and sound learning?
DDO **They have.**

Bishop Do they believe them to be duly called to serve God
in this ministry?
DDO **They do.**

The Bishop turns to the ordinands and says

Bishop Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?
Ordinands **I do so believe.**

Bishop I invite the Archdeacon to confirm that the candidates have taken
the necessary oaths and made the Declaration of Assent.

Archdeacon 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 pray.

A time of silent prayer is kept.

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 servants now to be ordained
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

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NRSV)

Reader A reading from book of the prophet Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem: 'To This Temple'
Ian Hillier

New Testament Reading

Galatians 3:23-end (NRSV)

Reader A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn – ‘God the All Holy’

God, the All-Holy,
Maker and Mother,
gladly we gather, bringing in prayer –
old hurts for healing,
new hopes for holding,
giving, receiving
loving and care.

Spirit, All-Seeing,
knitting and blending
joy in desiring, friendship and ease,
make our belonging
loyal and lasting,
so that our pledging
freshens and frees.

Christ, All-Completing,
Nature enfolding,
evil exhausting in love's embrace,
weaving and mending,
make every ending
God's new beginning
glowing with grace.

Brian Wren - words
© 1989 Hope Publishing Company
Tune: Buensan (*Morning has broken*)

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:57-66, 80 (NRSV)

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

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of

them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*The Revd Sally Lodge
Team Rector, Benefice of New Windsor*

The Liturgy of Ordination

The Declarations

The ordinands stand before the Bishop, who 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 candidates directly.

Bishop 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.

- Bishop* 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.**
- Bishop* 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?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* Will you lead Christ's people in proclaiming his glorious gospel, so that the good news of salvation may be heard in every place?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* 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?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* 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?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* 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?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* Will you work with your fellow servants in the gospel for the sake of the kingdom of God?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* Will you accept and minister the discipline of this Church, and respect authority duly exercised within it?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**
- Bishop* 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?
- Ordinands* **By the help of God, I will.**

The congregation stands.
The ordinands turn and face the people.

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.**

Bishop Will you continually pray for them?

All **We will.**

Bishop Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All **We will.**

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

Bishop 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.

The congregation and the ordinands kneel.

The Prayers

A time of silent prayer is kept and then the Veni Creator is sung in the form below as a prayer for those to be ordained.

The first verse is sung by the choir.

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart;

**Thy blessèd unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.**

**Anoint and cheer our soilèd 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.**

*WORDS: Veni Creator Spiritus, Latin 8th or 9th century
trans. John Cosin (1594–1692)*

Intercessions are led for the ordinands and for the ministry of the whole Church.

All In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord, have mercy.

All For the peace of the whole world,
for the welfare of the Holy Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For all the members of the Church
in their vocation and ministry,
that they may serve him in truth and love,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For our bishops, Steven, Alan, Olivia, and Gavin,
and for all bishops, presbyters and deacons,
that they may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For N & N, called to be priests in his Church,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness we may proclaim the gospel of reconciliation
to the ends of the earth,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the unity of the Church,
that we may be one in Christ, according to his will,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who do not yet believe,
that they may receive the light of the gospel,
and for those whose faith has grown cold,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and suffering,
for the aged and infirm,
for the lonely and neglected,
and for all who remember and care for them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the hungry,
for the homeless and the oppressed,
for all prisoners and captives,
and for our brothers and sisters
who are persecuted for their faith,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Charles our King,
for the leaders of the nations,
and for all in authority,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves,
for grace to repent and amend our lives,
that we may be pardoned
and absolved from all our sins,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith,
and in communion with Frideswide, Birinus and all the saints,
we commit ourselves, one another,
and our whole life to Christ our God;

All **to you, O Lord.**

The Ordination Prayer

The Bishop stands to pray, while others remain kneeling.

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 your servants,
whom we ordain in your name,
to share as priests 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:

The ordinands come forward in turn.

The Bishop and assisting priests lay their hands on the head of each candidate.

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

After hands have been laid on all the candidates, the Bishop continues the ordination prayer.

Bishop Through your Spirit, heavenly Father,
give 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 him 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 candidates, still kneeling, hold their hands, palms up, towards the Bishop who anoints them with oil of chrism.

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

The Giving of the Bible

The newly ordained priests stand and the Bishop gives the Bible to each one saying

Bishop N, receive this book

After all have received their Bibles, the Bishop continues

Bishop 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 Welcome

The newly ordained priests turn to face the congregation. On behalf of the clergy of the diocese, one of the home clergy welcomes them, saying

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

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

The congregation greet the newly ordained priests.

The newly ordained priests turn back to face the Bishop.

The Peace

The congregation stands.

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 us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

All may greet those around them with a suitable sign of peace and say, 'Peace be with you.'

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared.

Hymn – ‘As the Deer Pants for Water’

**As the deer pants for the water
so my soul longs after you
You alone are my heart’s desire
and I long to worship you**

***You alone are my strength, my shield
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire
and I long to worship you.***

**You’re my friend and you are my brother
even though you are a king
I love You more than any other
so much more than anything**

You alone are my strength and shield...

**I want you more than gold or silver
only you can satisfy
you alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye**

You alone are my strength and shield...

Martin Nystrom, based on Psalm 42:1-2

The Bishop takes the bread and wine.

Bishop Pour upon the poverty of our love,
and the weakness of our praise,
the transforming fire of your presence.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Bishop 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.

All Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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 Frideswide, Birinus and 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop As our Saviour taught us, so we pray,
All **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated 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.**

Giving of Communion

The Bishop invites the people 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.**

The Bishop and people receive communion.

If you normally receive communion in your own church, you are most welcome to receive it here. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please ask the minister when you come forward. All others are most warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing: please bring this order of service with you so that the ministers know that you want a blessing.

Choir Anthems during Communion

'I sat down under his shadow', Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

'Holy Eucharist', William Harris (1883-1973)

'View me' - Richard Lloyd (1933-2021)

Hymn – 'Eat the Bread, Drink this Cup'

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to him and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in him and you will not thirst.*

**Eat his flesh, and drink his blood,
and Christ will raise you up on the last day.**

Eat this bread, drink this cup....

**Anyone who eats this bread
will live for ever.**

Eat this bread, drink this cup...

**If we believe and eat this bread
we will have eternal life.**

Eat this bread, drink this cup...

Taizé Community

The Sending Out

Prayer after Communion

Bishop Let us pray

A moment of silence is kept.

Bishop Lord God, heavenly Father,
grant to your Church today
the faith of her apostles,
the hope of her martyrs
and the love of her Lord,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Hymn – ‘I, the Lord of Sea and Sky’

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord...

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Blessing and Dismissal

All stand.

Bishop Our help is in the name of the Lord,
All **who has made heaven and earth.**
Bishop Blessed be the name of the Lord,
All **now and for ever. Amen.**

Bishop God who has called you is faithful.
May the Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.
All **Amen.**

Bishop May Christ, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
All **Amen.**

Bishop May the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.
All **Amen.**

Bishop And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

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

The Bishop leads the newly ordained priests to the main door

Organ Music

Toccata - Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

A retiring collection will be made for the Bishop of Oxford's Outreach Fund.

Alternatively, donations can be made online via this webpage:
oxford.anglican.org/outreach-fund.php



The Outreach Fund is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Church nationally and internationally and is generated by offerings across the diocese, particularly at ordinations, confirmations, collations, institutions and licensing.

Through the fund, the Bishop of Oxford is able to respond to a wide range of requests for help, in areas such as humanitarian need, Christian education, training and mission.

In 2022, the fund received gifts totalling £20,000 and made a total of £25,000 in donations. These donations have supported 15 projects, groups and charities. Within the diocese, grants were made amongst others to support the Young People's Taizé Retreat, The Discovering Prayer App, and The Winter Night Shelter.

Nationally, grants were made to A Rocha, and the Anglican Centre in Rome, and guided by the diocesan Partnership in World Mission team, our support for projects overseas included Congo Church Association, Christian Aid, CMS, MANNA, Embrace the Middle East, Tearfund and USPG.

Come, Holy Ghost, Our souls inspire



DIOCESE of OXFORD

A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world