

THE BLESSING OF A MINISTRY

Priest: We (are gathered here to) welcome and bless *N and M*, who have been chosen to serve as

The priest then addresses the candidate:

Priest: *N and M* in the presence of this congregation, do you commit yourselves to this trust and responsibility?

N and M: I do.

Priest: Will you seek to fulfil your responsibilities with generosity and faithfulness?

N and M: With the help of God, I will.

The priest then addresses the congregation:

Priest: *Brothers and sisters*, will you support *N and M* in this ministry amongst us?

Congregation: We will.

The candidates kneel before the Priest

Priest: Let us silently offer our prayers to God and ask a blessing on *N and M* in this ministry for the church.

A period of silence is observed. The Priest stretches out his hands over the candidates and says:

Priest: May our blessed Lady pray for you.
May S. Andrew, Apostle and Martyr, pray for you.
May S. Agnes, Child Martyr of Rome, pray for you.
May all the saints of God, pray for you.
May the holy angels befriend you
and watch around you to protect you.
May the Lord bless you † and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace.
N and M, the Lord bless you