

# THE COMMISSIONING OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

*At the end of the Offertory, the churchwardens and members of the PCC come forward. Those newly elected stand in the centre, surrounded by existing members.*

**Priest:** The Parochial Church Council comprises elected members of the congregation who serve the community of this parish. Together with the churchwardens they are responsible for the management of many of the parochial affairs and work in close co-operation with the Rector in respect of worship and pastoral needs. They are, of course, also responsible for St. Agnes. They are required to attend meetings of the Council whenever these are called.

Members are expected to take a leading role in the life of the church and, by their example, be a source of encouragement to others. They should seek to be present at the special services and events that are, from time to time, organized.

And so I ask those who, this year, have been elected to serve and all those who are continuing in this ministry:

*The priest then addresses the members:*

**Do you commit yourselves to this work 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 our Parochial Church Council.

*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