The 1662 Book of Common Prayer: The Original Manuscript

The Forme and Manner

Making, Ordaining,
and Consecrating
of
Bishops, Priests,
and
Deacons, according to the Order of
the Church
of
England

London

Printed by the Deputies to
Robert Barker, and the
Assigns of
Robert Barker, and John Bill, Anno Dom. 1662.

It is evident unto all men, diligently reading the Holy Scriptures, and ancient Authors, That from the Apostles time, there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church, Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. Which Offices since certaine troubles and wars crept in, have been disused, for lack of some fit Forme, or Order, to be ordered, and received in this Realme. Wherefore it is manifest, that it is meete, right, and expedient, that the same Orders, be restored, and reuested in the Church of England, and that the Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, be ordered, and consecrated, according to such Rites, and Ceremonies, as hereafter shall be declared, and appointed, by the Authoritie of Parliament, for the Ordering, Consecrating, and Reuesting of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, to be used in the Church of England.

And it is ordeined, that the Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, at their Ordeining, shall receiue the Holy Ghost, by the Imposition of Hands, in such Forme, as hereafter shall be declared, and appointed, to be used in the same.

And that no man shall be admitted a Deacon, except he be fifteene yeeres old, at the least, and such as shall bee Priests, shall bee twenty yeeres at the least, and such as shall bee ordeined Bishops, shall bee full thirtie yeeres old, and shall bee such, as hee, by the Lawes of this Realme, now present, may bee ordeined, or consecrated Bishop.

And that no man shall be ordeined, or consecrated, to any Office, or ministerie, aut ministrie, for a time of tolerance, continuance, and triall, but such as shall bee ordeined, or consecrated, to bee Bishops, Priests, or Deacons, in manner, and forme, hereafter mentioned, according to such Rites, and Ceremonies, as bee now ordeined, and appointed, by the Authoritie of Parliament, to bee used in the Church, and Realme of England, the Statutes, Canons, and Customes, heretofore made, and ordeined, touching the Ordeining, or Consecrating of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, bee not hereby ordeined, to bee any let, or hinderance, in the premisses.

The Forme and Manner
of ordeining of Deacons

Q When the day appointed by the Bishop is come, after Morning Prayer is ended, there shall bee a Sermon, or Exhortation, declaring the Office, and Order of such as come to be ordained.

Then shall the Bishop, with the Priests, and Deacons, assembled for this cause, go from the place where hee dwelleth, to the place where the Ordeining, or Consecration, is to be ordeined, and done, in such order, as hee, and they, shall bee ready to bee at the place, and time appointed.

Q First the Archdeacon, or the Deacon, shall present unto the Bishop, in the Chancel, or place where the Communion is to be ministred, the Deacons, or Priests, to be ordeined, saying, the Bishop being then ready, and standing in his place, with his Mitre on his head.

Reuerend Father in God, I present unto you these persons present, to be ordained Deacons.

B. Take, and receiue thou, thy Office of Deacon, in the Church of God, now committed vnto thee, whose Ministerie, if thou shalt discharge, as thou ought, thou shalt bee found, blameless, before the Tribunall of Christ, and shall receiue, what is ordeined, for such as doe well, and faithfully serue, in the Office of a Deacon.

Then shall the Bishop, with the Priests, and Deacons, laying their hands vpon the Ordeined, saying, Receiue the Holy Ghost, for the Office, and Worke of a Deacon, in the Church of God, now committed vnto thee, whose soeuer thou doest forgiue sinnes, they are forgiuen, whose soeuer thou doest retaine, they are retained, and be thou a faithfull seruant, and a diligent Worker, in thy Vocation, whereunto, in the name of the Lord, we doe receiue thee.

The Bishop shall say, or cause to be sung, or bee sung, the Letanie, with the Suffrages, as it is appointed, in the Morning Prayer, vnto the Collect, for Grace, inclusiuely.

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Q Then shall the Bishop, with the Priests, and Deacons, goe vnto the Vrnes, or place, where the Bread, and Wine, for the Holy Communion, is prepared, and vpon some conuenient place, before them, shall hee, and they, with him, say, or sing, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer, as followeth.

The Creed, and Lord's Prayer, shall be said, or sung, in the Quire, or place, where the Seruice is sung, or said, in such sort, as is ordeined, for Morning Prayer.

B. Beleeuest thou in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven, and Earth?

A. I beleeue it, and am therefore, baptized, and do beleeue, all the Articles of the Christian Faith, mentioned in the Creed, which I haue learned, and am ready, by Gods ayde, to bee, a Member, of Christ, and of his Church, and to bee, a Seruant, of God, all my dayes.

B. Beleeuest thou in Iesus Christ, his onely Sonne, our Lord, conceiued by the Holy Ghost, borne of the Virgin Mary, suffering vnder Pontius Pilate, crucified, dead, and buried, rising the third day, ascending into Heaven, and sitting at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence hee shall come, to iudge the quick, and the dead?

A. I beleeue it, and am therefore, baptized, and do beleeue, all the Articles of the Christian Faith, mentioned in the Creed, which I haue learned, and am ready, by Gods ayde, to bee, a Member, of Christ, and of his Church, and to bee, a Seruant, of God, all my dayes.

B. Beleeuest thou in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholick Church, the Communion of Saints, the Remission of sinnes, the Resurrection of the Flesh, and the life euerlasting

Then the Bishop shall deliver to every one of them Jewing, the Bible into his hand, saying:

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this Book. Be diligent in them that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine, continue in them: for in so doing thou shalt both save thy self and them that hear them. Be to the flock of Christ a Shepherd, not a wolf; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weake, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcasts, seek the lost. Be merciffull that ye be not too remisse, beare with the ignorant, and be ready to heare the poore. *The chief shepperd shall appear, so may receive the never fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Then the Archbishop shall proceed in the Communion service with whom the New consecrated Bishop (with others) shall also communicate.

And for the last Collect, immediately before the Benediction shall be said these Prayers.

Most merciffull Father, we beseech thee to send down upon this Bishop, thy servant, the heavenly gifts of thy benediction, and first the spirit, that he preaching thy word, may not only be sweete in repyeve, beseech, and rebuke with all patience, and doctrine, but also fruitfull in thy feare, that the sheepe committed unto his charge, in conversation, in love, in faith, in charitie, and in purity, that faithfully fulfilling his course, at the latter day he may receive the crowne of righteousnes, laid up by the Lord, the righteous Judge: who liveth and reigneth one God, with the Father, and the holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious inspiration, and continue us in thy holy worship, that we may all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee may glorifie thy holy Name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his sonne Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Sonne, and the holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

The Forms of Prayer for 1st of November, or xxx. of Januarie, & for 1st of May, are to be printed at 1st of End of this Book.

The Forme of
Ordeining or Consecrating
of an Arch-Bishop or Bishop which
is always to be performed upon
some Sunday, or Holy day.

When all things are duly prepared in the Church, and set in order, the Bishop being ready to begin the Holy Communion; one other Bishop appointed, shall begin the Communion service; in which this shall be

The Collect.

Almighty God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to thy holy Apostles, many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed thy flock: Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, unto the Bishops of thy Church, that they may diligently preach thy word, and duly administer the godly discipline thereof; and grant to the people, that they may obeyeth them, and submit themselves unto them, receive the crowne of everlasting glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

And another Bishop shall read.

The Epistle.

This is a true saying. If a man desire the office of a Bishop, he 1 Tim. 3.1.
desireth a good worke. A Bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach, Not given to wine, no Striker, not greedy of filthy lucre, but patient, not a brawler, not covetious; One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection, with all honesty. (For if a man know not how to rule his owne house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) Not a Novice, least being lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devill. Moreover, he must have a good report of them, which are without, least he fall into reproach, and the snare of the devil.

Or this for the Epistle.

From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus, and called the Elders of the Act. 20.17.
Church. And, when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you, at all seasons, Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many teares, and temptations which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jewes: How I kept back nothing, that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: save that the holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying, That bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myselfe, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus to testifie the Gospell of the grace of God. And now behold, I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to witnesse this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsell of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the holy Ghost hath made you Bishops, to feed the Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your owne selves shall men arise speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember that by the space of three years, I ceased not to warn every one night, and day, with teares. And now brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. I have coveted no mans silver or gold, or apparell. Yea, you your selves know, that these hands have ministred unto my necessitie, and to them that were with me. I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give, than to receive.

Then another Bishop shall read

The Gospell.

Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, Sonne of Jonas, lovest thou me Joh. 21. 15.
more then these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my Lambes. He saith unto him the second time, Simon, Son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheepe. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, Son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved, because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? and he said unto him, Lord thou knowest all things thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep

Or else this.

The same day at Evening, being the first day of the week, when Joh. 20. 19.
the doores were shut, where the disciples were assembled, for feare of the Jewes, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus unto them againe, Peace be unto you. As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the holy Ghost. Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

Or this.

Jesus came, and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto Mat. 28. 18.
me in heaven, and earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Sonne, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: And lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

After the Gospel, and the Nicene Creed, and the Sermon are ended, the Bishop Elect, being presented by two Bishops, unto the Bishop, two Bishops unto the Arch-Bishop of that Province (or to some other Bishop appointed by lawfull Commission) the Arch-Bishop sitting in his chair near the Holy Table, and the Bishops that present him, saying,

Most reverend Father in God, we present unto you this godly, and well learned man, to be ordeyned, and consecrated Bishop.

Then shall the Archbishop demand the Kings Mandate for the consecration, and cause it to be read. And the oath touching the Kings Supremacie, and the Archbishops Metropolitan power to be represented, as it is to be set down before the Forme of ordeining of Deacons. And then shall also be ministred unto them the Oath of due obedience to the Archbishop as followeth.

The Oath of due Obedience to the Archbishop.

In the Name of God, Amen. I, N. chosen Bishop of the church and See of N. do profess and promise all due reverence and obedience to the Archbishop, and to the Metropolitical church of N. and to their Successors. So help me God, through Jesus Christ.

This Oath shall not be made at the consecration of an Archbishop.

Then the Archbishop shall move the congregation present to pray; saying thus to them.

Brethren, it is written in the Gospel of S. Luke, That one Saviour Christ continued the whole night in prayer, before he did choose, and send forth his twelve Apostles. It is written also in the Acts of the Holy Apostles, that the Christian Church of Christ, did fast and pray before they laid hands on Paul and Barnabas, and sent them forth. Let us therefore following the example of our Saviour Christ and his holy Apostles, fast and pray, before we admit and send forth this person presented unto us: to the work, whereunto we trust the Holy Ghost hath called him.

And then shall he said the Litanie as before in the form of ordeining of Deacons. And when the Litanie is ended, and prayer made, that God would vouchsafe to illuminate all Bishops &c. the proper Suffrage then following, shall be omitted, and this inserted instead of it.

That it may please thee to bless this our brother elected, and to send thy grace upon him, that he may duly execute the office whereunto he is called, to the edifying of thy church and to the honour praise and glory of thy Name.

Answer.

We beseech thee to hear us good Lord.

Then shall he said this prayer following.

Almighty God, giver of all good things, who by thy holy Spirit hast appointed divers orders of Ministers in thy Church: mercifully behold this thy servant, N. elected unto the office and work of a Bishop; and replenish him so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn him with honesty of life, that both by word, and deed he may faithfully serve thee in this office to the glory of thy Name, and the edifying and well governing of thy church. Grant this, O merciffull Father, for thy dear sonne Jesus Christ our sonne, and our holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

Then the Archbishop sitting in his chair shall say to him that is to be consecrated.

Brother Foreasmuch as the holy Scripture, and the ancient Canons consaud that we should not be hasty in layes on hands, and admitting any person to Government in the church of Christ, which he hath purchased with so low price then the offtimes of his own blood: before I admit you to this Administration, I will examine you in certaine things, whereby I may perceive whether you have been a tryal, and have witnes, how you be minded to behave yourself in the church of God.

Are you perswaded that you be truly called to this Ministration, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the order of this Realme.

Answer.

I am so perswaded.

The Archbishop.

Are you perswaded that the holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrine, required of necessitie to eternall Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. And are you determined out of the same holy Scriptures, to instruct the people committed unto thy charge, and to teach or maintin nothing as required of necessitie to eternall salvation, but that which you shall be perswaded, may be concluded, and proved by the same.

Answer.

I am so perswaded, and determined by Gods grace.

The Archbishop.

Will you then faithfully exercise your selfe in the same holy Scriptures, and call upon God by prayer, for the true understanding of the same, so as you may be able by them to teach and exhort with wholesom doctrine, and to withstand and convince the Gainsayers.

Answer.

I will so do, by the help of God.

The Arch-Bishop.

Be you ready, with all faith fall diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine contrary to Gods word and to minister and openly to call upon, and encourage others to the same.

Answer.

I am ready, the Lord being my helper.

The Arch-Bishop.

Will you deny all ungodliness, and worldly lusts, and live soberly righteously and godly in this present world: that you may show your self in all things an example of good works unto others; that the Adversary may be ashamed, having no thing to say against you.

Answer.

I will so do, the Lord being my helper.

The Arch-Bishop.

Will you maintain, and set forward, as much as shall lie in you, quietnes, love and peace among all men: and such as be unquiet disobedient and crossness within your diocese, correct and punish, according to such authority as is first by Gods word, and as to you shall be committed by the ordinance of this Realme.

Answer.

I will so do, by the help of God.

The Archbishop.

Will you be faithfull in ordaining, sending, or laying hands upon others.

Answer.

I will so be, by the help of God.

The Archbishop.

Will you show your self gentle, and be merciffull for Christs sake to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help.

Answer.

I will so show my self, by Gods help.

Then the Archbishop standing up, shall say.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, who hath given you a good will to do all these things, Grant also unto you strength and power to perform the same; That he accomplishing in you the good work wherein you have begun, may be found perfect and blameless against the latter day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Bishop elect put on the rest of the Episcopall habit, and kneeling down (vnto Supplicat) shall be sung or said over him, the Archbishop beginning, and the Bishops, with others that are present, answering by turnes, as followeth.

Come holy Ghost, our soule inspire;
Lighten our darkenesse, Lord.
Thou the anointing spirit art,
Who dost thy seven fold gifts impart.
Thy blessed unction from on high
Litanie, and for of these
Enable with perpetual light
The dulness of our blinded sight.
Anoint, and chase our soiled face,
Light from our feeble eyes to chase.
Keep far our foes, Give peace at home;
Where thou art Guide, no ill can come.
Teach us to know the Father,
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, Sonne, and Holy Spirit.

Or this.

Come holy Ghost, Eternall God Ac.
as before in the forme of ordeining Priests.

That ended, the Archbishop shall say

Lord, heat our prayer.

Answer.

And let our cria come unto thee

Let us pray.

Almighty God, and most merciffull Father, who of thine infinite goodnes, hast given thy only, and dearly beloved son Jesus Christ, unto the redemption of the world, by his death, and rising to life: that he hath made perfect our Redemption by his death, and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some Apostles, some Prophets, some Evangelists, some Pastours and Doctors, to the edifying, and making perfect his Saintes, for the work of the Ministry, and the edifying of his Body: he may ever more be ready to assend abroad thy Gospell the glad tidings of Reconciliation with thee; and use the authoritie given unto him, to the Ministration of thy word, and Sacraments: Send thy Son as a wise, and faithfull servant, giving to thy Family their portion, in due season, he may at last be received into everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee, and the holy Ghost liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. Amen.

Then the Arch-Bishop, and Bishops present shall lay their hands upon the head of the elected Bishop, kneeling before them upon his knees: the Archbishop saying

Receive the holy Ghost, for the office and work of a Bishop in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands. In the Name of the Father, and of the Sonn, and of the holy Ghost, Amen. And remember that thou stir up the grace of God which is given thee, by this Imposition of our hands: For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and sobernes

Then the Archbishop shall deliver him the Bible; saying.

Give heed unto reading, exhortation, and doctrine. Think upon the things contained in this Book. Be diligent in them that the increase coming thereby may be manifest unto all men. Take heed unto thy self, and unto the doctrine, continue in them: for in so doing thou shalt both save thy self and them that hear them. Be to the flock of Christ a Shepperd, not a wolf; feed them, devour them not. Hold up the weake, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring again the outcasts, seek the lost. Be merciffull that ye be not too remisse, beare with the ignorant, and be ready to heare the poore. *The chief shepperd shall appear, so may receive the never fading crown of glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

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