

*The people remain standing. The ministers kneel. The celebrant extends his hands towards the ministers and says:*

Let us pray:  
Merciful Father,  
bless our brothers and sisters N and N called  
to this service among us.  
may they faithfully and reverently give to your people  
the bread of life and cup of salvation.  
strengthened by this wonderful sacrament of your love  
may we all come at last to share in the banquet of heaven.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:**           **Amen.**

*The celebrant may then greet individually the newly admitted ministers, and present them with a card to signify their authorisation to perform this ministry.*

# LAY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION RITE OF COMMISSIONING

## FORM A



## THE RITE

*This rite should take place within a parish celebration of the Eucharist.*

*This rite may be adapted for a periodic renewal of commitment.*

*Reference should be made to the significance of this ministry in the sermon, where this is appropriate.*

*The rite may follow the sermon. Alternatively, it may follow the intercessions, so that it leads up to the Peace.*

*The celebrant calls the ministers from their places in the congregation to stand before the people. The celebrant addresses the people in these or similar words:*

**Celebrant:** Dear friends in Christ, our brothers and sisters have been chosen and called to assist in administering holy communion at the Eucharist (and to take communion to the sick).

They come now formally to commit themselves to this service and to be affirmed in that commitment by you, among whom they will minister.

*The celebrant addresses the ministers using these or similar words:*

My brothers and sisters,  
you are privileged to have been called to this office.  
In undertaking this service, you must strive  
to set an example of Christian faith and conduct  
and to grow in holiness.

As you share in the one bread and one cup  
with your brothers and sisters,  
will you bear in mind that with them,  
you form one body?

**Ministers:** **By God's grace I will.**

**Celebrant:** Will you show a sincere love of God's holy people among whom you have been called to serve, especially for the weak and sick?

**Ministers:** **By God's grace, I will .**

**Celebrant:** Will you be obedient to the command which the Lord gave to his disciples at the Last Supper, when he said: "Love one another as I have loved you?"

**Ministers:** **By God's grace, I will .**

**Celebrant:** And will you be mindful that you distribute the sacramental food of the Lord's body and blood with reverence and care?

**Ministers:** **By God's grace, I will .**

**Celebrant:** Will you strive to perform this ministry of love, with humility, following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ who came not to be served but to serve?

**Ministers:** **By God's grace, I will .**

**Celebrant:** Do you now before God and this congregation commit yourselves to this ministry with a firm desire to build up the common life of the people of God?

**Ministers:** **Yes, I do.**

*The celebrant addresses the people using these or similar words:*

And you, dear friends, will you affirm these your brothers and sisters in this commitment; will you accept this service of love from their hands; and will you support them in it by your prayers and good will?

**People:** **Yes, we will, by God's grace.**

