

Celebrant: Do you now before God and this congregation
commit yourself to this ministry?

Ministers: **Yes, I do.**

The celebrant addresses the people using these or similar words:

And you, dear friends,
how do you respond to these undertakings
given by our brothers and sisters?

People: **By God's grace
we affirm them in the commitment,
we will accept this service of love from their hands,
and we will support them in it by our prayers
and good will.**

*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 B



THE RITE

The elements of this rite of admission are identical in content to those in Form A. It differs only in that the celebrant's part is abbreviated and the ministers; responses are correspondingly fuller. It is offered for use in those places where such a style would be preferred.

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 what spirit do you accept this call?

The ministers respond using these or similar words:

**In undertaking this service,
I will strive by God's grace
to set an example of Christian faith and life,
and to grow in holiness.**

Celebrant: And how will you regard the community among whom you are called to minister?

Ministers: By God's grace, I will be obedient to the Lord's new commandment given to his disciples at the Last Supper, when he said, "Love one another as I have loved you".

Therefore, I will seek always to show a sincere love for God's holy people, especially for the weak and the sick.

And as I share the one bread and one cup with my brothers and sisters, I will bear in mind that together we form one body in Christ.

Celebrant: How will you regard this ministry and your performance of it?

Ministers: By God's grace, I will exercise this ministry in all humility, as a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ who came not to be served but to serve, and with a firm desire to build up the common life of the people of God.

And I will always be mindful that I distributed the sacramental food of the Lord's body and blood with reverence and care.

