

- E. That we will all grow in love for Jesus Christ, really present in the Eucharist.
- F. That the worthy celebration of the Sacred Liturgy in our Diocese may be developed, enriched and strengthened through the lives and work of all the Church's ministers.
- G.

If there is no other introduction and conclusion to the General Intercessions, the following may be used.

Introduction: Let us bring our intentions to the Father who gives his own Son in this sacrifice of peace and sacrament of love.

Conclusion: Loving God, grant the petitions of your people offering the saving sacrifice of your Son, one community in the mystery of his blessed body and blood.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rite of Commissioning
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Archdiocese of Perth

Introduction

1. After candidates have completed the basic requirements for commissioning as Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, they are commissioned according to the following Rite.
2. The commissioning takes place at Mass after the Gospel and the Homily.
3. If the commissioning takes place on a Ferial Day of Ordinary Time, the Scripture Readings provided in Vol. 111 of the Lectionary (cfr p 110 no 1) pp. 786ff (Votive Mass of the Holy Eucharist) may be used. At other times, the readings provided for the day's liturgy are followed.
4. It is desirable that the community be well informed about the role of Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion prior to the Commissioning Day.
5. Before Mass, the candidates for commissioning take their place among the assembly at the front of the church.
6. After the Rite of Commissioning, it is appropriate that intentions concerning Extraordinary Ministry be included in the General Intercessions. Sample intentions are at the end of this document.
7. It is fitting that the newly-commissioned Extraordinary Ministers receive Holy Communion under both species.
8. In conformity with the usual norms, it is fitting that some of the newly-commissioned Extraordinary Ministers assist the priest (s) in the distribution of Holy Communion at the Mass of Commissioning.

Rite of Commissioning

The commissioning takes place after the homily. The homily is an opportunity to speak briefly about the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (if that is the day of commissioning), and a little about the role of Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion in the life of the parish community.

(The celebrant presents those chosen to serve as Extraordinary Ministers to the assembly)

Dear friends in Christ,
Our brothers and sisters are to be entrusted with administering the Eucharist, with taking Communion to the sick, and with giving Viaticum to the dying.

(Then he addresses the candidates, who stand)

In this ministry, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct; you must grow in holiness through this Sacrament of unity and love. Remember that, though many, we are one body because we share the one Bread and one Cup.

As Ministers of Holy Communion be, therefore, especially observant of the Lord's commands to love your neighbour. For when he gave his Body as food to his disciples, he said to them: "this is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you".

Are you resolved to undertake the office of giving Body and Blood of the Lord to your brothers and sisters, and so serve to build up the church?

They reply: **I am.**

(the candidates kneel. The celebrant invites the assembly to stand and pray)

Dear friends in Christ,

Let us pray with confidence as we ask God to bestow His blessings on our brothers and sisters, chosen to be extraordinary ministers of the Holy Communion.

(Pause for silent prayer. The celebrant then continues)

Merciful Father,
Creator and guide of your family, bless + our brothers and sisters.
May they faithfully give the bread of Life to your people.
Strengthened by this Sacrament, may they come at last to the banquet of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

General Intercessions

The following sample petitions may be included among the intentions of the General Intercessions on the day of Commissioning. Choose one or two.

A. That the whole Church may be truly Eucharistic in praising God and bringing Christ to the world.

Response: Let us pray to the Lord.

B. That (N).....chosen to assist our priest(s), may give good example by their Christian lives.

Response: Let us pray to the Lord.

C. That they will be reverent and faithful in ministering the Body and Blood of Christ.

D. That the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion chosen and commissioned today to assist our priests may be reverent and faithful in ministering the Body and Blood of Christ and give good example by their Christian lives.