

THE ORDINATION OF PRIESTS

Prayer of Ordination of One Priest

(Chapter II, no. 159)

Draw near, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eter - nal God, au -
thor of human dignity and bestower of all grac-es, through whom
all things progress, through whom everything is made firm, who,
by the power of the Holy Spirit, in order to form a priestly people,
establish among them ministers of Christ your Son in var - i - ous
or-ders. Al - ready in the earlier covenant there arose offices insti-
tuted by mys - ti - cal rites: so that when you had set Moses and
Aaron over your people to govern and sanc - ti - fy them, you chose
men next in or - der and dig - ni - ty to join them and assist them
in their work. Thus in the desert, you instilled the spirit of Moses
in the minds of seventy wise men; with them as helpers he more
easily governed your peo-ple. So too, over the sons of Aaron

you poured an abundant share of their father's fullness, that the num-
 ber of priests prescribed by the Law might be sufficient for the sacri-
 fices of the tab-er-nac-le, which were a shadow of the good things
 to come. But in these last days, holy Father, you sent your Son in-
 to the world, Jesus, the A-pos-tle and High Priest of our con-
 fession. Through the Holy Spirit, he offered himself unblemished
 to you and made his Apostles, who were consecrated in the truth,
 sharers in his mission; to them you add-ed com-pan-ions to pro-
 claim and carry out the work of sal-va-tion through all the world.
 Now, we pray, O Lord, provide also for our weakness this helper
 whom we need for the exercise of the Apos-tol-ic Priesthood.

Grant, we pray, almighty Father, to this your servant the dignity
of the Priesthood; re - new deep within him the Spir - it of
ho - li - ness; may he hold the office second in order, received from
you, O God, and by the example of his man - ner of life may he in -
spire right conduct.

May he be a trustworthy co-worker with our Or - der, so that by his
preaching and through the grace of the Ho - ly Spir - it, the words of
the Gospel may bear fruit in human hearts and reach even to the ends
of the earth. To - gether with us, may he be a faithful steward of your
myster - ies, so that your people may be renewed through the cleans -
ing waters of rebirth and refreshed from your al - tar, so that sinners
may be rec - on - ciled and the sick raised up. May he be joined to
us, Lord, in imploring your mercy for the peo - ple entrusted to him

and for the whole world. Thus, may the full number of the nations,
gathered togeth-er in Christ, become your one peo-ple, brought to
perfection in your Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Ho-ly Spir-it,
All:
God, for ev-er and ev - er. A - men.

The English translation and chants of *Ordination of a Bishop, of Priests, and of Deacons*
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