PREFACE FOR THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS
PREFACE FOR THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS AND PRIESTS

Christ, source of all ministry in the Church

V. The Lord be with you. R. And with your spir-it.

V. Lift up your hearts. R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. R. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our sal-va-tion, al-ways and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and e-ter-nal God. For by the anointing of the Holy Spir-it you made your Only Begotten Son High Priest of the new and e-ter-nal cov-e-nant, and by your wondrous design were pleased to de-cree that many min-is-tries be exer-cised in the Church. For Christ not only adorns with a royal priesthood the people he has made his own, but with a brother's kindness he also chooses men to become sharers
in his sacred ministry through the laying on of hands. He chooses them to lead your holy people in charity, to nourish them with the word, and strengthen them with the Sacraments. As they give up their lives for you and for the salvation of their brothers and sisters, they strive to be conformed to the image of Christ himself and offer you a constant witness of faith and love. And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints, we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim: