

Ordination of Exorcists (Healers)

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

Instructions are in italics.

This service is intended to be used as part of another service – principally the Eucharist. It may however be used alone if desired – in which case Bible readings and prayers are introduced as necessary. A priest may conduct this service with faculty or express permission from the bishop. The people are seated. A priest or suitable person calls the ordinands forward.

Priest: Let those who are to be ordained to the Office of Exorcist come forward.

The ordinands rise from their seats and advance a few paces towards the bishop, holding lighted candles. They bow to him, the candles are taken from them and they are seated. The bishop charges them as follows:

Bishop: We learn from ancient tradition that it was the exorcist who was to heal by the casting out of demons and to pray blessings in the name of Christ to replace them. It now falls to priests to take authority over and cast out evil spirits but it is still of the essence of this office that exorcists pray for healing in people.

Bishop: Remember that you have no power of your own to do this; the power and authority to heal and cleanse people of evil spirits comes from Christ alone. You have been chosen and set apart to be a healer and to exorcise as a conduit of the Holy Spirit. Always be open to the guiding of the Spirit, do not seek recognition for healing that occurs, and always pray thankfulness for healings that Christ has done through the Holy Spirit.

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The charge being ended, the ordinands kneel before the bishop who rises and says:

Bishop: Let us pray

Bishop: O Lord Christ, who is ever ready to receive and to strengthen the earnest aspirations of your children, look down in love on these your servants who desire to become worthy to serve you as exorcists in your Holy Church. Sanctify + them, O Lord, with your heavenly grace that, growing continually in virtue, they may rightly practice the duties of their office and so be found acceptable in your sight, O great King of Love, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

The ordinand kneels before the bishop who places his right hand on their head and says:

Bishop: In the name of Christ our Lord, I admit you to the Order of Exorcist.

The bishop hands a sword to the ordinand, saying:

Bishop: Always be open to the Holy Spirit and engage in prayer and blessing to remove the curse of sin and evil. Take this symbol as a reminder of the Spiritual battle you fight on behalf of God's people. Always seek to save those who are burdened by unbelief or sin. Fight as one of Christ's soldiers to bring righteousness and light into people's lives.

*The service continues unless this is the only purpose today, in which case;
The bishop then blesses the new exorcists with the following words:*

Bishop: The blessing of God Almighty, the + Father, the + Son, and the Holy + Spirit come down upon you, that you may rightly fulfil that which today you have undertaken.

All: Amen.