

The Church of India - CIPBC

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER - 1960

The Order of Confirmation

Or Laying on of Hands upon Those That Are Baptized and Come to Years of Discretion.

At the time of the Confirmation, when the Bishop is seated in his chair, the Priests in order shall cause their candidates to stand and shall present them before the Bishop, saying:

Reverend Father in God, I present unto you these persons to receive the laying on of hands.

The Bishop: Take heed that the persons whom you present be duly prepared, and meet to receive the laying on of hands.

Priest: I have instructed them, and enquired of them, and believe them so to be.

Then the Bishop, or some Minister appointed by him, shall say,

You that are to be confirmed shall remember that the Lord Jesus Christ, before he ascended up into heaven, promised to his first disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit, saying, Ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

At our Baptism we were signed with the Cross on our foreheads, in token that we too should not be ashamed to confess before all the world the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully continue his faithful soldiers and servants unto our lives' end.

We trust you are come here with an understanding of the obligations you are now publicly to acknowledge, and with an humble and steadfast belief that the power of the Holy Spirit will enable you to be faithful witnesses to Christ, wherever you may be: and therefore we call upon you in the presence of God and of this congregation to pledge yourselves to

his service by the renewal of your Baptismal vows.

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Then shall the Bishop ask the following Questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God, and of this congregation, renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that you will not follow, nor be led by them?

Answer. I renounce them all.

Do you believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

Answer. I believe.

Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of your life?

Answer. I will, by God's help.

At your Baptism you were signed with the cross on your foreheads. Do you acknowledge yourselves bound by this token to confess the faith of Christ crucified, to fight manfully under his banner, and to continue his faithful soldiers and servants unto your lives' end, bearing witness to him both in word and in deed?

Answer. I acknowledge myself bound so to do.

Or else the Bishop shall say,

Do you here, in the presence of God, and of this congregation, renew the solemn promise and vow that was made at your Baptism; acknowledging yourselves bound to confess the faith of Christ crucified, to fight manfully under his banner, and to continue his faithful soldiers and servants unto your lives' end, bearing witness to him both in word and in deed?

And every one shall audibly answer

I do.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Then, the people kneeling, the Bishop shall say,

The Bishop: Our help is in the name
of the Lord;

**Answer: Who hath made heaven
and earth.**

The Bishop: Blessed be the name of
the Lord;

**Answer: Henceforth, world
without end.**

The Bishop: Lord, hear our prayers;

**Answer. And let our cry come
unto thee.**

*Then shall the Bishop say this prayer; and
while reciting it,
he may stretch out his hands of the candidates.*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who
hast vouchsafed to regenerate these thy
servants by water and the Holy Spirit,

and hast given unto them forgiveness of all their sins: Strengthen them, we beseech thee, O Lord, with the Holy Spirit the Comforter, and daily increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Then all of them in order kneeling before the Bishop; he shall lay his hand upon the head of every one severally, anointing them with Sacred Oil and saying

DEFEND, O Lord, this thy Child with thy heavenly grace, that he may continue thine for ever; and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until he come unto thy everlasting kingdom.

All: Amen.

Then shall the Bishop say,

The Peace of the Lord abide with you;

Answer: And with Thy Spirit.

Let us pray.

**OUR Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name; Thy kingdom
come; Thy will be done; In earth as it
is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. And forgive us our
trespasses, As we forgive them that
trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation; But deliver us from
evil; For thine is the kingdom, The
power, and the glory, For ever and
ever. Amen.**

Then shall the Bishop add these Prayers.

**ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who
makest us both to will and to do those
things that be good and acceptable unto
thy divine Majesty; We make our
humble supplications unto thee for
these thy servants, upon whom (after
the example of thy holy Apostles) we
have now laid our hands, to certify
them (by this sign) of thy favour and
gracious goodness towards them. Let
thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever**

be over them, let thy Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that in the end they may obtain everlasting life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the SAME SPIRIT liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

All: Amen.

THE CONCLUSION

O ALMIGHTY Lord, and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify, and govern, both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that, through thy most mighty protection both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

Then the Bishop may deliver the following charge,

GO FORTH into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

After which he shall bless them saying,

THE BLESSING of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

ALL: Amen