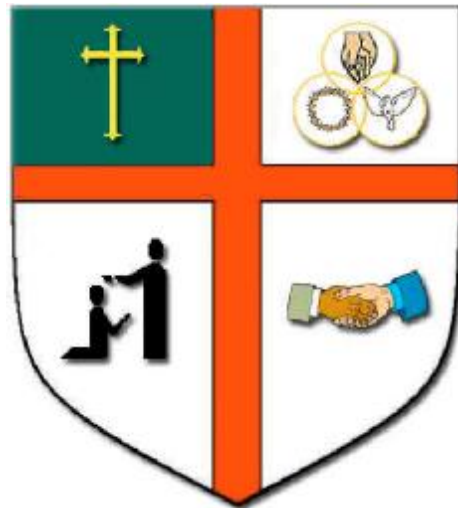


THE APOSTOLIC RITE OF
Ecumenical Apostolic Church Diocese



®™

THE HOLY ORDER
OF THE **PRIESTHOOD** / **OFFICE OF BISHOP**

FORM OF ORDINATION OR CONSECRATION

CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

FOR **CANDIDATE** either **Priest** / **Bishop**

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USA

Archbishop and Founder

The Most Reverend John P. Johnston

Welcoming the congregation by **Bishop**

Opening Prayer by Deacon

Hymn chosen:

All stand and recites:

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

Bishop Reading:

Luke: 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

Acts 28:31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

All remain standing and recite:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Office of a **Bishop** (Read if Consecration of a Bishop)

Reading: **1 Timothy 3:1-7**

3:1: This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

3:2: A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

3:3: Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;

3:4: One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

3:5: (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

3:6: Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.
3:7: Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

THE PRESENTATION

All people are seated. The **Bishop** present the **Candidate**, saying:

I _____, **Bishop** of **Parish Church Name** in the **city/county** of **state**, on behalf of the clergy members and congregation of the Ecumenical Apostolic Church Diocese and its Presiding Archbishop, I do hereby present to you **Candidate Name**, to be **Ordained** / **Consecrated** as a **Priest** / **Bishop** in Christ's One Holy, catholic and Apostolic Church of the Apostolic Rite Priesthood.

Candidate Name, He has been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church, And believe his manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

I certify to you that **Candidate Name**, has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe him to be qualified for this holy order of the **Priesthood** / **Office of Bishop**.

The **Bishop** then sits in his chair and gives the **Candidate Ordination** / **Consecration** examination...

The **Bishop** says to the **Candidate**:

Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ, as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your **Bishop** and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

Answer: I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Church and of this Diocese of the Apostolic Rite. As Christ Apostles followed him, I am also an Apostle of Christ and shall always follow in the footsteps.

The **Candidate Priest/ Bishop** then signs the priesthood vows and in sight of all present as witnesses.

THE EXAMINATION

All are seated except the **Candidate**, whom stands before the **Bishop**.

The **Bishop** addresses the **Candidate** as follows:

Candidate Name:

My brother, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit.

All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the renewing of his world.

Now you are called to work as a Pastor, **Priest/ Bishop**, and Teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a **Priest/ Bishop**, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

(Candidate name), do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this **Priesthood / Office of Bishop**?

Answer: I believe I am so called.

Bishop: Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Answer: I Do

Bishop: Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your Bishop?

Answer: I Shall

Bishop: Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Answer: I Shall.

Bishop: Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Answer: I Shall

Bishop: Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Answer: I Shall

Bishop: Will you do your best to pattern your life [and that of your family, or household, or community] in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Answer: I Shall

Bishop: Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Answer: I Shall

Bishop: May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

Answer: **Philippians 4:13:**

I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me.

Bishop: All things are Possible through Christ and Nothing is Impossible with God. Amen

The **People** in a loud voice said: **AMEN!**

The Ordination of the **Priest/Bishop**

All now stand except the **Candidate**, who kneels facing the **Bishop** and the presbyters who stand to the right and left of the **Bishop**.

The **Bishop** then says this Prayer of Ordination:

God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church.

We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body. Amen

Lines of Apostolic Succession Ordination is Past Down:

The **Candidate** then kneels in front of the **Bishop**

Here the **Bishop** lays hands upon the head of the **Candidate**,

At the same time the **Bishop** prays:

Therefore, Father through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to (**Candidate Name**); fill him with grace and power, and make him a **Priest/Bishop** in your Church.

May (Candidate Name) exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; Offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant. Make (Candidate Name) a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise counselor. Grant that in all things may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, whom with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. Amen

The People in a loud voice said: **AMEN!**

Bishop Reading:

Romans 1:5-6 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:

2 Corinthians 4:6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The **Bishop** says: I light this candle to shine the light of Jesus Christ and his word. Let your light shine before men of your work of the Father. The light of Jesus Christ forever shine upon you and bless you in your ministry. Amen

The **Bishop** then touches each shoulder of the **Newly Ordained Priest / Bishop** with the Holy Bible and says:

May the living word rest upon your shoulders and guide you in your ministry as a **Priest/ Bishop**, May the Holy Spirit be with you.

The **New Priest/ Bishop** is now vested according to the order of priests with a stole over both shoulders then **Bishop** says:

May this stole around your neck hold the truth within you that you wear it with honor as one of Christ Apostles within the priesthood.

The **Bishop** Blesses the Holy Bible then touches each shoulder of the **Newly Ordained Priest/ Bishop** and say:

Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments.

Do not forget the trust committed to you as a **Priest/ Bishop** of the Church of God.

The **Bishop** bestows a Pictorial Cross to the **Newly Ordained Priest/ Bishop** and say:

Wear this Cross, with honor to Jesus Christ as a sign of bearing your own cross and walking in his footsteps and a sign of your Christian faith.

The **Bishop** anoints the **Newly Ordained Priest/ Bishop** with oil on forehead with (Sign of the cross) May the Lord guide you in wisdom and in peace.

Both palms of the hands (rub in oil) May Jesus give you the healing power of faith. Amen.

Bishop Reading:

Matthew 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

This **Ordination / Consecration** of **Candidates Name**, IS APPROVED UNTO THE FATHER...AMEN!

All the **People** in loud voice say Amen. **AMEN!**

(First Communion of **Candidate**)

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Deacon lights the altar candles then Ringing of the bell to call to order.

Standing at the Lord's Table, with the **Bishop**, then the Deacon cleanse their hands of the ministers with blessed Holy Water of **Bishop** and the **New Priest/ Bishop** before the Holy Eucharist. (Deacon then returns to their seat.)

New Priest/ Bishop says prayer over the Sacraments:

Heavenly Father, We come to your table to give Thanks and ask for your blessings upon these holy sacraments of the bread and wine to be taken in remembrance of Salvation for the Remission of sin, May we partake of the sacraments in faith of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ of the Living Body and Blood of your Son. In partaking of these sacraments my we be one in his Holy Name. Amen

Standing at the Lord's Table, with the **Bishop**, the **New Priest/ Bishop** reading of the Holy Eucharist.

In the same night that which Jesus was betrayed, He gathered his disciples to dine at his table. Then took the bread, he blesses it and gave thanks and brake it and gave to his disciples, saying, Take eat this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying. Drink ye all of this, For this is my Blood of the New Testament. which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; Do this as oft as ye shall drink it in remembrance of me.

Administers of the Holy Sacraments

The congregation is then given an invitation to come to the altar to receive the sacraments, or either the clergy will go to each person in congregation and administer the sacraments with the **Bishop**, The **New Priest** / **Bishop** administers the Holy Sacraments by Intinction to the congregation first by giving of bread then of the cup which all will dip their bread in and do eat. After all others have taken the Sacraments then the clergy give to each other the sacraments. *This is done to show that we the priest of Christ are not above the congregation, but we are His Shepherds of the flock and we are one with him.*
The Body of Christ and the Blood of Salvation.

After Communion **Bishop** prayer says:

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us, faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that **Candidate Name** may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with him, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The **New Priest/Bishop** to bless the people.

The **New Priest/Bishop** says:

While making the sign of the Cross say:

The blessing of God Almighty, the +Father, the +Son, and the +Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Go in peace, love and harmony of each other and serve the Lord. Amen.

The **New Priest/ Bishop** dismisses the people:

The Mass has ended go in peace and Praise God. Amen and Amen

Deacon rings bell and puts out the altar candles

Congregation then meets the **New Priest/ Bishop**.