

brethren, that He may pour His blessing and grace on these His servants, whom He hath been pleased to call to the office of the Subdiaconate, that, serving faithfully in His sight, they may obtain the rewards predestined to the Saints, with the aid of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Him in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. R. Amen.

Then, having put away his mitre and turning to the Altar, the Bishop says,

Let us pray.

The assistants add,

Let us bend the knee.

R. Arise.

Then the Bishop, turning towards them who are to be ordained, and who are kneeling, without his mitre, says,

Holy Lord, Father Almighty, eternal God, vouchsafe to bless these Thy servants whom Thou hast deigned to choose for the office of the Subdiaconate: That Thou mayest make them strong and anxious sentinels of an heavenly warfare in Thy holy Sanctuary, that they may faithfully attend upon Thy Altars, and that on them may rest the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and fortitude, the Spirit of knowledge and godliness; and fill them with the Spirit of Thy fear; that Thou mayest confirm them in Thy divine ministry, and that obeying in deed, and listening to Thy word, they may obtain Thy grace, Through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth in the unity of the same Spirit, God, world without end. R. Amen.

Then the Bishop sitting, and putting on his mitre, places the Amice which lies on the neck of those to be ordained over the head of each of them, saying,

Receive the Amice, by which is meant the correction of the tongue: in the name of the Father and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. R. Amen.

Then he places the Maniple on the left arm of each, saying,

Receive the Maniple, by which is meant the fruit of good works: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. R. Amen.

After this he puts on each of them the Tunic, saying,

May the Lord clothe thee with the Tunic of gladness and the vesture of joy: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. R. Amen.

Afterwards, he takes and gives to all of them the book of the Epistles, saying, whilst they each of them touch it with their right hands,

Receive the book of Epistles, and have power to read them in the holy Church of God, as well for the living as for the dead: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. R. Amen.

All being ended, directed by the Archdeacon, the ordained return to their places; but one of the newly ordained vested in his Tunic, reads the Epistle at its proper time.

OF THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS.

The Subdeacons being ordained, the Bishop having put on his mitre, goes to his throne, or to the foldstool on the Epistle side, where, sitting with his mitre, when the book and candle are presented to him, he reads the hymn Benedictus es, or Alleluia, with the verse Benedictus es, if it be within the Octave of Pentecost. In the mean time the said hymn is sung by the Choir, or the Alleluia with the verse, as above. Which ended, the Bishop rises, puts away his mitre, and turning towards the Altar, says in the proper tone, Gloria in excelsis Deo, Glory be to God on high, if it be within the Octave of Pentecost, and until it is ended he sits down with his mitre. Which done, he lays aside his mitre, he rises turns to the people, and says Pax vobis, peace to you, or Dominus vobiscum, if the Gloria in excelsis be not said, and turning to the Altar he sings the prayer of the Mass of the day, with a prayer for those ordained, with one Per Dominum nostrum, Through our Lord, as follows,

Hear, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the prayers of Thy suppliants, and protect them who serve Thee with a devout breast by Thy continued defence: that, hindered by no troubles, we may always display a free service in Thy offices. Through Jesus Christ our Lord Thy Son, Who liveth and reigneth, &c.

When the prayer is ended, the Bishop sits down, and having resumed his mitre, when the book and candle are presented to him, he reads the Epistle. In the meantime the Epistle is sung by one of the newly ordained Subdeacons. Which ended, the Bishop rises and goes to the foldstool before the Altar with his mitre, and there sits. They who are to be promoted to the order of Deacon, are called by the Archdeacon, saying,

Let them draw near who are to be ordained to the Diaconate.

Then they are called severally by name by the Notary, but no mention is made of title. When, therefore, they are ready with Amice, Alb, Girdle, and Maniple, and having a Stole in their left hands, a candle in their right, and a Dalmatic on their arms, and are kneeling in a circle in front of the Bishop, the Archdeacon presenting them to him, says,

Right Reverend Father, holy Mother the Catholic Church, demands that you should ordain these Subdeacons present to the charge of the Deaconship.

The Bishop interrogates him, saying,

Knowest thou that they are worthy?

The Archdeacon replies,

As far as human frailty alloweth me to know, I both know and bear witness that they be worthy for the charge of such a duty.

The Bishop says,

Thanks be to God.

He proceeds to their ordination. First, the Bishop sitting with his mitre, addresses the clergy and people, saying,

With the grace of our Lord God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ we choose these Subdeacons present for the order of the Deaconship. If any person hath any thing against them, for God's sake, and on God's account, let him come forth with confidence and speak: howbeit let him be mindful of his own estate.

After a little delay, the Bishop, turning his discourse to those who are to be ordained, admonishes them, saying,