

keys, so you may shut the invisible house of God, namely, the hearts of the faithful, to the devil, by your words and examples, and open them to God; that they may retain in their hearts, and fulfil by their deeds, the heavenly words which they hear: which may God fulfil in you through His mercy.

Then the Bishop takes the keys of the Church, and gives them to all of them, who one by one touch them with their right hands successively, whilst the Bishop says,

So act as about to give an account to God of those things which are opened by these keys.

Then the Archdeacon conducts them to the door of the Church, and makes them open and shut it; he gives them also the rope of the bell, and makes them ring the bell; afterwards he brings them back to the Bishop; turning towards whom whilst they are kneeling before him, the Bishop standing up with his mitre on, says,

Dearly beloved brethren, let us humbly entreat God the Father Almighty, that He will deign to bless these His servants, whom he hath deigned to choose for the office of Door-keepers: that their care may be most faithful in the house of God day and night, distinguishing certain hours to call on the name of the Lord, with the assistance 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 taken off his mitre, the Bishop standing up, and turning towards the Altar, says,

Let us pray.

The assistants add,

Let us bend the knee.

R. Arise.

Immediately, turning towards them as they kneel, and standing without his mitre, he says,

Holy Lord, Father Almighty, eternal God, deign to bless these Thy servants for the office of Door-keepers: that amongst the door-keepers of the Church, they may obey with readiness, and may deserve to have a part of Thy reward amongst Thine elect. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who, with Thee, liveth and reigneth in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. R. Amen.

Then, those ordained, directed by the Archdeacon, return to their places.

OF THE ORDINATION OF LECTORS.

The Door-keepers being ordained, the Bishop, having resumed his mitre, goes to his throne, or to the faldstool on the Epistle side. In the mean time is sung the first Gradual, or the first Alleluia in the state of Penitency; and the Bishop, sitting with his mitre on, when the book and candle are brought to him, reads the said Gradual and Alleluia. Then he rises and putting off his mitre and turning towards the altar, sings the second Collect. Then he sits, resumes his mitre, and the second lesson is sung. Meanwhile two chaplains draw near with book and candle before the Bishop, who, sitting with his mitre on, reads the lesson. Then the Bishop returns to the faldstool placed before the middle of the altar, where he sits with his mitre on, and the Lectors are called by the Archdeacon in this manner,

Let them who are to be ordained to the office of Lector draw near.

Then they are called by name by the Notary as above.—When they kneel down before the Bishop with candles in their hands, he admonishes them, saying,

Dearly beloved children, ye who are chosen to be Lectors in the house of God, acknowledge your office and fulfil it. For God is powerful to increase in you the grace of eternal perfection. Truly it behoveth the Lector to read what he preaches, and to sing the lessons, and to bless bread and all the new fruits. Endeavour, therefore, to set forth the words of God, namely, the sacred lessons, distinctly and openly, to be understood by, and for the edification of, the faithful, without any lying or deceit, and take care lest through your carelessness the truth of the Divine lessons for the instruction of the hearers be corrupted. But what you read with your lips, believe in your hearts, and fulfil in your deeds; so that you may teach your hearers by word, and likewise by your example. And, therefore, while you read, stand in a high place in the church, that you may be heard by all, and may appear by your bodily position to represent, that you ought to move in a high grade of virtues; so that you may show forth to all those by whom you are heard and seen, the form of a heavenly life. Which may God fulfil in you by His grace.

Then the Bishop takes and gives to all the book from which they are to read, which they touch with their right hands, while he says,

Receive, and be the rehearsers of the word of God; to have, if you faithfully and usefully fulfil your office, a part with them who have administered the word of God from the beginning.

After which, whilst they are on their knees, the Bishop, standing towards them with his mitre on, says,

Dearly beloved brethren, let us pray God the Father Almighty, that He may graciously pour out His blessing on these His servants, whom he hath deigned to receive into the order of Lectors; that they may read distinctly what things are to be read in the Church of God, and accomplish the same by their deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ His Son, Who liveth and reigneth with Him in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. R. Amen.

Then the Bishop having put away his mitre, and standing turned towards the Altar, says,

Let us pray.

The assistants add,

Let us bend the knee.

R. Arise.

Then, turning to the ordained as they are on their knees, without having his mitre on, he says,

Holy Lord, Almighty Father, everlasting God, deign to bless these Thy servants for the office