

**GENERAL SYNOD 2003**

**BILL NO 2**  
**SCHEDULE**

THE ORDER FOR  
**CONFIRMATION**  
OR LAYING ON OF HANDS UPON THOSE THAT ARE BAPTIZED AND COME TO YEARS  
OF DISCRETION

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THE PREFACE

*The Bishop (or some other Minister appointed) says*

To the end that Confirmation may be ministered to the more edifying of such as shall receive it, the Church hath thought good to order, That none hereafter shall be Confirmed, but such as can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have been further instructed in the Church Catechism, set forth for that purpose: Which order is very fitting to be observed; to the end that children being now come to the years of discretion, and having learned what their Godfathers and Godmothers promised for them in Baptism, they may themselves, with their own mouth and consent, openly before the Church, ratify and confirm the same; and also promise, that by the grace of God they will evermore endeavour faithfully to observe such things, as they by their own confession, have assented unto.

*The Bishop may address the candidates.*

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

*The Bishop*

Do you here, in the presence of God, and of this Congregation, renew and confirm the solemn promise and vow of your Baptism?

**I do.**

Do you 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?

**I renounce them all.**

Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord? And that he was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; that he descended into hell, and the third day rose again from the dead; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come to judge the quick and the dead?

And do you 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?

**All this I steadfastly believe.**

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

**I will, by God's help.**

*The Congregation stands, and the Bishop says*

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

**Who hath made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the Name of the Lord;

**Henceforth world without end.**

Lord, hear our prayer;

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

#### CONFIRMATION PRAYER AND THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

*All kneel. The Bishop, still standing, says*

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 spiritual strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Those to be confirmed kneel before the Bishop, who shall lay his hand upon the head of each one, saying,*  
Defend, O Lord, this thy Child [*or this thy servant*] 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. **Amen.**

*The Bishop may address the newly confirmed.*

#### PRAYERS

*Then the Bishop says*

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

*All kneeling down, the Bishop continues,*

Let us pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, .....**

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 Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*And also this, or some other Collect.*

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil, and make us the sons of God, and heirs of eternal life; Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; that when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, he liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

#### THE BLESSING

*The Bishop says*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you, and remain with you, for ever. **Amen.**

*When Confirmation is ministered only to those baptized in riper years, the Preface shall be omitted.*

*Every person ought to present himself for Confirmation (unless prevented by some urgent reason) before he partakes of the Lord's Supper.*