

OCCASIONAL SERVICES – RITE OF WELCOME AND ADMITTANCE TO HOLY COMMUNION

Preamble

This Diocese admits children to Holy Communion before Confirmation (G.S. Canon 6, 1985 Admission of Children to Holy Communion). This can be extended to Adults who are desirous of being Confirmed and have made a commitment to be prepared.

The rite is deliberately simple as children can be quite young when welcomed.

The norm is parents are very much part of preparing their own children within their own home. The priest's role is to recommend suitable material and to ensure the preparation is appropriate and adequate.

Those being welcomed should have their Godparents as sponsors. Others may stand in.

The Rite of Welcome to Holy Communion

Immediately before the greeting of peace the candidates come to the Altar rail, and face the congregation.

Priest

People of God in the Church of , I present to you (names of those being welcomed) who have been baptised and who wish to be welcomed to Holy Communion.

They have learned about this service and what it means (by lessons with , by the use of the Eucharist book and by activities at home).

We look forward to the future, when they will be confirmed by the Bishop, and commissioned for Christian witness and service as adults.

The Priest addresses the children collectively.

Priest: Do you love and trust our Lord Jesus Christ?

Children: We Do.

Priest: Do you wish to be welcomed to Holy Communion?

Children: We do.

The congregation repeats each line after the priest for each admittance.

Priest and N..... We welcome you

People: To Receive with us
The Body and Blood of our Lord
And Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Priest adds over each.

Priest: Our God encourages you to glorify Him and to be faithful, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Greeting of Peace follows.

At the actual communion, parents, sponsors and friends
Come together with the children to the Altar