

# Reaffirmation of Vows

*The diocesan clergy stand as the congregation remains seated.*

*Bishop*

Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders of ministers to your Church: Give your grace, we humbly pray, to all who are called to any office and ministry in your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church; and so fill them with the truth of your doctrine, and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great Name and for the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen

*The Bishop address the diocesan clergy.*

Dear fellow clergy, the ministry we share is none other than the sacrificial ministry of Christ, who gave himself up to death on the cross for the salvation of those he has predestined to eternal life. By his glorious resurrection he was raised for our justification. By the gift of the Holy Spirit he shares with us the riches of his grace. We are called to proclaim his death and resurrection, to administer the Sacraments of the New Covenant which he sealed with his blood on the cross, and to care for his people in the power of the Spirit.

Do you here, in the presence of Christ and his Church, renew your commitment to your ministry, under the pastoral direction of your Bishop?

*I do.*

Do you reaffirm your promise to give yourself to prayer and study?

*I do.*

Do you reaffirm your promise so to preach the inerrant Word of God and administer the Sacraments of the New Covenant so that the reconciling death of Christ may be proclaimed and received?

*I do.*

Do you reaffirm your promise to be a faithful servant of all those committed to your care, patterning your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

*I do.*

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 bishops and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

*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 inerrant Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and I do solemnly engage to conform and subscribe to the Fundamental Declarations of the Diocese, and the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.*

And as your bishops, we too, before God and you, do solemnly declare that we do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the inerrant Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and we consequently hold ourselves bound to conform our lives and ministries thereto, and we do solemnly engage to conform and subscribe to the Fundamental Declarations of the Diocese, and the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them. We ask your prayers.