

# General Order of Blessing

**Homily** focused in universal (or generic) way on some specific aspect of our Christian life which this particular ministry or group to be affirmed deals with.

**Prayers of the Faithful** led by appropriate person(s)

#1 & #2 – General prayer needs

#3 Today we are affirming the \_\_\_\_\_. We thank God for these people and for having provided us with people in the past who have served us as \_\_\_\_\_

#4 Ask God to help these people with two or three specific things involved in their work.

#5 Thank God for these people's willingness to give their time, talents and wisdom to do this work for the community

#6 For guidance of the Holy Spirit to help put aside personal differences to work together.

#7 For the prayers in the petition books.

**Affirmation of the** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presentation of** \_\_\_\_\_

New and continuing members are presented to the community by an appropriate person who tells briefly that they have been elected, selected, etc. for this work. (Members of small groups are called by name and come up at this time, standing in line in front of altar. Large groups stand at places.)

**Pledges of Commitment** led by an appropriate person

*Leader of Ministers:* Do you commit yourselves to the work of the \_\_\_\_\_ with its responsibilities, its joys, and its limitations?

*Ministers:* I do (or we do)

*Leaders of Assembly:* Will you pray for, encourage, and support \_\_\_\_\_ in this work of service?

*Assembly:* We will

**Blessing by the Community**

Presider gestures to ministers to kneel (in case of large groups, they will kneel at their places and cues may need to be more verbal).

*Presider to Assembly:* The words of our blessing are...  
Please stand and raise your right arm.

(Presider moves to place within the assembly)

All: We bless you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit for this work . Amen.

Ministers stand (Presider gestures)

**Final Blessing and Dismissal**

**Recessional** – Ministers who are up front walk out in the procession.