

## COMMISSIONING OF AUTHORISED PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

*Incumbent* Brothers and sisters, we are all baptised by the one Spirit into one body and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Today our purpose is to recognise the particular gifts God has given to *our new Authorised Pastoral Assistants* and to commission them in the name of Christ Jesus and this congregation to the special ministry to which they have been called.

*Question to individual sponsors for each candidate:*

*Incumbent* Is this person you are to present prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship and by the knowledge of his/her duties, to exercise his/her ministry to the honour of God, and the well-being of this congregation?

*Sponsor* **We believe he/she is.**

*Incumbent* *Name....*, you have been called to a ministry of Authorised Pastoral Assistant within this congregation and community. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with care and diligence?

*APA* **With the help of God. I will.**

*Incumbent* Will you faithfully execute the duties of your ministry to the honour of God, in collaboration with our Ministry Team, and for benefit of the members of this church and the parish it serves?

*APA* **With the help of God. I will.**

*Sponsors* **We present to you *N, N and N* recognised by this congregation for the gifts and graces God has given them, to be commissioned as Authorised Pastoral Assistants.**

*Incumbent* There are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of service but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working but it is the same God who inspires them in everyone.

Let us pray

Almighty God, graciously hear our prayers and confirm with your heavenly blessing your servants *N, N and N* whom we commission to minister in your Church, that with sincere devotion of heart and mind and body they may offer acceptable service to you and to the congregations of this Benefice; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*Incumbent* In the name of God and this congregation, I commission you, *N*, as an Authorised Pastoral Assistant in this parish. May the Lord bless your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for ever more.

Each candidate is presented with their Letter of Authorisation.