

SERVICES OF THE ORDER

Service for Instituting a Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross

The Service for instituting a chapter should ideally take place during a church service.

Representative of the Order to Priest: The vision of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross is to gather Anglican women and girls into a nurturing and empowering community called to be servants of Jesus as He unites and builds up his body, the Church.

We believe the company of like-minded sisters provides encouragement and accountability as each one strives to keep her vow. Being in community gives many occasions where each one can deny herself and in humility consider the other better than herself (Phil. 2:3) and thereby grow in Christlikeness.

The relationship between a Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross and its clergy is one of mutual support as together they discover and accomplish the good works the Lord has prepared in advance for them to do. Will you support the members of the Order in their ministry and allow them to support you in yours?

Priest: I will with God's help.

Representative of the Order to Priest: As there are three or more women who have completed their period of study and discernment and have been admitted to the Order, and there is a priest who also desires a Chapter of the Order in this place, a Chapter may now be formed. I present to you the Charter of the *[Name of]* Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross. Please bless it and then formally proclaim the institution of the *[Name of]* Chapter.

Priest: *[turning to the altar and using the following or other appropriate blessing]*

Holy Father, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who stretched out his arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: bless now this Charter, symbolic of the *[Name of]* Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross, that all Daughters in this Chapter may dwell together in unity, grow in wisdom and grace, and do all such good works as you have prepared for them to walk in that you may be glorified and your Kingdom come.

Priest (facing congregation):

In accordance with Article III of the Bylaws of The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross and by the grace of God, I now proclaim the *[Name of]* Chapter of the Order to be duly instituted. To God alone be the glory. Amen.