
Admission of Children to Holy Communion Ordinance 1990

WHEREAS

- A. The General Synod has by Canon permitted dioceses to admit children to Holy Communion notwithstanding that they have not been episcopally confirmed.
- B. The said General Synod Canon has been duly adopted by this Diocese.
- C. The Bishop has made regulations pursuant to the said Canon and Ordinance.
- D. It is expedient that the Synod join with the Bishop in approving the said regulations.

NOW THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF BATHURST ORDAINS as follows:-

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the "Admission of Children to Holy Communion Ordinance 1990".
2. The Synod hereby approves and enacts the regulations contained in the First Schedule hereto.

FIRST SCHEDULE

REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO COMMUNION

1. A child who has been baptised but who has not been confirmed is eligible to be admitted to the Holy Communion if the parish priest or other priest with the approval of the Bishop is satisfied that the child has been adequately instructed, gives evidence of appropriate understanding of the nature and meaning of Holy Communion and has fulfilled the conditions of repentance and faith.
2. Children admitted to Holy Communion are to be prepared by a form of instruction given or supervised by the Priest, Parents and Godparents are to be encouraged to take part in this instruction.
3. A child must be a worshipping member of the congregation before he/she is admitted to communion.
4. The form of admission of children to communion authorised for use is the form of the Second Schedule of this Ordinance unless from time to time the Bishop authorises some other form.
5. The Priest shall notify the Bishop of the names, dates of birth and addresses of those children admitted to Holy Communion using the form supplied by the Bishop.
6. It is expected that children admitted to Communion under this Ordinance will be presented to the Bishop for confirmation at the appropriate time, and certainly by the time of adulthood.

SECOND SCHEDULE

A FORM OF SERVICE FOR THE ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO HOLY COMMUNION AUTHORISED FOR USE IN THE DIOCESE OF BATHURST

(The Admission shall take place after the Greeting at Section 2 (AAPB p.114 or p.134). Those to be admitted, accompanied by parent/s and/or sponsor/s, are brought to the chancel step by one or more of the churchwardens for presentation to the Rector or Priest-in-Charge.

CHURCHWARDEN/S: We present to you this/these child/children for admission to Holy Communion.

PRIEST: *(To each child in turn)* N...., do you wish to be admitted to Holy Communion.

CHILD: I do.

PRIEST: *(Taking the child by the right hand)* N..., I admit you to Holy Communion in the name of Jesus Christ our Master, our Saviour and our Friend.

CONGREGATION: We welcome you to Holy Communion.

PRIEST: *(To the congregation)* Will you support and encourage by your friendship and example this/these child/children whom we have now admitted to Holy Communion?

CONGREGATION: With God's help, we will!

PRIEST: *(To those newly admitted)* At your baptism we welcomed you into the Church of God, the family of Christ. Now, we will share with you the spiritual food of the body and blood of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We look forward to that day when you are presented to the Bishop for Confirmation.

(All return to their places)