



Ceremonial for Reception and Profession

In the Third Order of Penance of Saint Dominic



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The priest, dressed in the Cappa and white stole (or surplice and stole, if he be a secular priest), goes to the altar with a server carrying a candle and holy water. Two candles should be lighted on the altar, and the scapular to be blessed should be placed on the Epistle Side. The postulant(s) and novice(s) kneel, and the priest asks:

Priest: What do you seek?

Novice and Postulant: God's mercy and yours.

Now the priest may, if he wishes, give a short exhortation on the excellence or the duties of the Third Order; then, returning to the Epistle side of the altar, he blesses the habit as follows:

V. Ostende nobis, Domine,
misericordiam tuam.
R. Et salutare tuum da nobis.
V. Dominus vobiscum.
R. Et cum spiritu tuo.
OREMUS.
Domine Jesu Christe, qui
tegimen mortalitatis nostrae
induere dignatus es, obsecramus
immensae largitatis tuae
abundantiam, ut hoc genus
vestimentorum, quod sancti
Patres ad innocentiae et
humilitatis indicium ferre
sanxerunt, ita benedicere
digneris, ut qui⁽¹⁾ hoc usus fuerit
te induere mereatur, Christum
Dominum Nostrum.
R. Amen.

V. Show us thy mercy, O Lord.
R. And grant us thy salvation.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.
O Lord Jesus Christ, who hast
deigned to put on the garment of
our mortality, we beseech that in
the abundance of Thy immense
generosity Thou wouldst deign to
bless this kind of garment, which
the holy Fathers adopted to be worn
as a sign of innocence and humility,
so that he/she who wears it may be
made worthy to put on Thee, Our
Lord Christ.
R. Amen.

¹ Italicised words and endings may be altered for masculine or feminine, singular or plural.

The priest here sprinkles the habit(s), and then the postulants, with holy water, saying:

Aspergat etiam te Dominus,
nostris jam nunc vestibus
induendum hyssopo, et
munderis(*emini*); quatenus
mundatus et super nivem in
mentibus dealbatus, sic nostra
forinsecus gerere valeas
indumenta; ut bonorum tuorum
operum exemplo, fias omnibus
quibuscum conversaberis, odor
vitae in vitam, ne forte, per mala
opera tua, vitperetur
ministerium nostrum.
R. Amen.

May the Lord also sprinkle you
with hyssop, who are about to be
clothed with our garments, and may
you be so cleansed that, clean and
whiter than snow in mind, you may
so avail in the outward bearing of
our garb as to be, by the example of
your good works, the odour of life
unto life to all with whom you will
hold converse, lest perhaps, by your
evil works, our ministry be blamed.

R. Amen.

The priest gives the postulant and/or novice a lighted candle. Then, kneeling on the last step of the altar, he intones the Veni Creator; he rises (together with everyone else) after the first stanza. The chant may be sung by alternating choirs.

VENI, Creator Spiritus,
mentes tuorum visita,
imple superna gratia
quae tu creasti pectora.

COME, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
and in our souls take up Thy rest;
come with Thy grace and heavenly aid
to fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

Qui Paraclitus diceris,
donum Dei altissimi,
fons vivus, ignis, caritas,
et spiritalis unctio.

O comforter, to Thee we cry,
O heavenly gift of God Most High,
O fount of life and fire of love,
and sweet anointing from above.

Tu, septiformis munere,
dextrae Dei tu digitus,
Tu rite promissum Patris,
sermone ditans guttura.

Thou in Thy sevenfold gifts art known;
Thou, finger of God's hand we own;
The promise of the Father, Thou
Who dost the tongue with power imbue.

Accende lumen sensibus:
infunde amorem cordibus:

Kindle our senses from above,
and make our hearts o'erflow with love;

infirmi nostri corporis
virtute firmans perpeti.

with patience firm and virtue high
the weakness of our flesh supply.

Hostem repellas longius,
pacemque dones protinus:
ductore sic te praevio
vitemus omne noxium.

Far from us drive the foe we dread
and grant to us Thy peace instead;
and so shall we, with Thee for guide,
avoid all harm our path beside.

Per te sciamus da Patrem,
noscamus atque Filium;
Teque utriusque Spiritum
credamus omni tempore.

Oh, may Thy grace on us bestow
the Father and the Son to know;
and Thee, through endless times
confessed,
of both the eternal Spirit blest.

Sit laus Patri cum Filio,
Sancto simul Paraclito,
nobisque mittat Filium
charisma Sancti Spiritus.
Amen.

Now to the Father and the Son,
Who rose from death, be glory given,
with Thou, O Holy Comforter,
henceforth by all in earth and heaven.
Amen.

V. Emítte Spíritum túum et
creabúntur.
R. Et renovábis fáciem térrae.
V. Ora pro nobis, beate Pater
Dominice.
R. Ut digni efficiamur
promissionibus Christi.
V. Laetamini in Domino et
exultate, justi.
R. Et gloriámini, omnes recti
corde.
V. *Salvum fac servum tuum*
[*ancilla tua/servos tuos*].
R. Deus meus, sperantem in te
V. Dominus vobiscum.
R. Et cum spiritu tuo.
Oremus.
Deus, qui corda fidelium Sancti
Spiritus illustratione docuisti: da

V. Send forth Thy Spirit, and they
shall be created.
R. And Thou shalt renew the face
of the earth.
V. Pray for us, O holy Father
Dominic.
R. That we may be made worthy of
the promises of Christ.
V. Rejoice in the Lord and exult, o
ye just.
R. And glory, all ye of upright
heart.
V. Save your servant (handmaid/-s)
R. O my God, who put their trust in
Thee.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.
O God, Who didst instruct the

nobis in eodem Spiritu recta sapere; et de eius semper consolatione gaudere.

For the postulant(s).

Concede, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut *famuli tui qui peccatorum suorum pondere premitur*, his indutus poenitentiae vestimentis beati Dominici Confessoris tui Patris nostri patrocinium subleventur.

Concede, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut ad meliorem vitam Sanctorum Ordinis nostri exempla *hunc famulum tuum* succurrant et provocent, quatenus, quorum sacram poenitentiae vestem gerere cupit etiam virtutum actiones imitetur.

For the novice(s).

Concede, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut *famuli tui qui peccatorum suorum pondere premitur*, hanc poenitentiae Regulam professurus beati Dominici Confessoris tui Patris nostri patrocinium subleventur.

Concede, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut ad meliorem vitam Sanctorum Ordinis nostri exempla *hunc famulum tuum* succurrant et provocent, quatenus poenitentiae regulam quam professurus est valeat eorum meritis et intercessionibus adimplere.

hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant us in the same Spirit to relish what is right and ever to rejoice in His consolation.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that thy servant(s) who is (are) weighed down by the burden of (his) sins may, being clothed in these garments of penance, be lifted up by the patronage of blessed Dominic, our Father, thy Confessor.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the example of the Saints of our Order may help and inspire this thy servant (handmaid) to a better life, so that (he) who desires to wear their sacred habit of penance may also imitate their virtuous actions.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that thy servant(s) who is (are) weighed down by the burden of (his) sins may, being about to profess this rule of penance, be lifted up by the patronage of blessed Dominic, our Father, thy Confessor.

Grant, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the example of the Saints of our Order may help and inspire this thy servant (handmaid) to a better life, so that (he) who is about to profess their rule of penance may be able to fulfil it by their merits and intercession.

Praetende Domine *famulo* tuo
dexteram caelestis auxilii, ut te
toto corde perquirat et quae
digne postulat assequatur.
Per Christum Dominum
nostrum.
R. Amen.

Stretch forth, O Lord, to thy
servant(s) the right hand of
heavenly assistance, so that (he)
may seek Thee with his whole heart
and obtain what (he) worthily asks
for, through Christ, our Lord.
R. Amen.

At the end of the prayers, priest gives to the postulant (to each separately, if there be several), the scapular, saying:

Accipe sancti Ordinis nostri
Scapulare, potissimam
praedicatoriae nostrae vestis partem,
maternum de caelo Beatissimae
Virginis Mariae in nos amoris
pignus; sub cujus pennis et scapula
erit *tibi* umbraculum ab aestu, et ab
omnibus tam corporis quam animae
periculis in morte propugnaculum et
munimen.
R. Amen.

Receive the Scapular of our holy
Order, the principal part of our
preaching habit, a maternal pledge
from heaven of the Most Blessed
Virgin Mary's love for us. Under
her wings and shoulders you will
find shade from the heat and from
all dangers of body as well as of
soul, in the hour of death, a bulwark
and defence.
R. Amen.

The novice, on his knees and holding the lit candle in one hand and the book of the Rule in the other, pronounces distinctly the formula of his profession:

To the honour of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and of Saint Dominic, I, Brother (Sister) _____, in your presence, Father _____, profess and declare that I wish henceforth to live according to the constitutions and way of life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Order of Penance of Saint Dominic, until death.

Afterwards, the priest gives the newly professed the kiss of peace (for Sisters, he gives them the hem of his scapular or stole to kiss); then, turning towards the Altar, he intones the Te Deum, which is sung or recited by alternating choirs.

TE DEUM laudamus: te Dominum
confitemur.

Te aeternum Patrem omnis terra
veneratur.

Tibi omnes Angeli; tibi Caeli et
universae Potestates;

Tibi Cherubim et Seraphim
incessabili voce proclamant:
Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus
Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra maiestatis
gloriae tuae.

Te gloriosus Apostolorum chorus,
Te Prophetarum laudabilis numerus,
Te Martyrum candidatus laudat
exercitus.

Te per orbem terrarum sancta
confitetur Ecclesia,
Patrem immensae maiestatis:
Venerandum tuum verum et unicum
Filiium;

Sanctum quoque Paraclitum
Spiritum.

Tu Rex gloriae, Christe.

Tu Patris sempiternus es Filius.

Tu ad liberandum suscepturus
hominem, non horruisti Virginis
uterum.

Tu, devicto mortis aculeo, aperuisti
credentibus regna caelorum.

Tu ad dexteram Dei sedes, in gloria
Patris.

Iudex crederis esse venturus.

O GOD, we praise Thee: we
acknowledge Thee as Lord.

Everlasting Father, all the earth doth
worship Thee.

To Thee all the Angels, the Heavens
and all the Powers,

All the Cherubim and Seraphim,
unceasingly proclaim:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of
Hosts!

Heaven and earth are full of the
Majesty of Thy glory.

The glorious choir of the Apostles,
the wonderful company of Prophets,
The white-robed army of Martyrs,
praise Thee.

Holy Church throughout the world
doth acknowledge Thee:

The Father of infinite Majesty;
Thy adorable, true and only Son;

And the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.
O Christ, Thou art the King of
glory!

Thou art the everlasting Son of the
Father.

Thou, having taken it upon Thyself
to deliver man, didst not disdain the
Virgin's womb.

Thou hast overcome the sting of
death and opened to believers the
Kingdom of Heaven.

Thou dost sit at the right hand of
God, in the glory of the Father.

We believe that Thou shalt come to

All kneel for the following verse:

Te ergo quaesumus, tuis famulis
subveni: quos pretioso sanguine
redemisti.

Aeterna fac cum sanctis tuis in
gloria numerari.

Salvum fac populum tuum, Domine,
et benedic hereditati tuae.

Et rege eos, et extolle illos usque in
aeternum.

Per singulos dies benedicimus te.

Et laudamus nomen tuum in
saeculum, et in saeculum saeculi.

Dignare, Domine, die isto sine
peccato nos custodire.

Miserere nostri, Domine, miserere
nostri.

Fiat misericordia tua, Domine, super
nos, quemadmodum speravimus in
te.

In te, Domine, speravi: non
confundar in aeternum.

At the end of the Te Deum:

V. Benedicamus Patrem, et Filium,
cum Sancto Spiritu.

R. Laudemus et superexaltemus in
saecula.

V. Ora pro nobis, beate Pater
Dominice.

R. Ut digni efficiamur
promissionibus Christi.

V. Esto ei Domine, turris
fortitudinis.

R. A facie inimici.

V. Dominus vobiscum.

be our Judge.

*We beseech Thee, therefore, to help
Thy servants whom Thou hast
redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.*

Make them to be numbered with
Thy Saints in everlasting glory.

Save Thy people, O Lord, and bless
Thine inheritance!

Govern them, and raise them up
forever.

Every day we thank Thee.

And we praise Thy Name forever,
yea, forever and ever.

O Lord, deign to keep us from sin
this day.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have
mercy on us.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us,
for we have hoped in Thee.

O Lord, in Thee I have hoped; let
me never be put to shame.

At the end of the Te Deum:

V. Let us bless the Father, and the
Son, and the Holy Ghost.

R. Let us praise and exalt Him
above all forever.

V. Pray for us, o holy Father
Dominic.

R. That we may be made worthy of
the promises of Christ.

V. Be to him, O Lord, a tower of
strength.

R. From the face of the enemy.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

Oremus.

Deus, cujus misericordiae non est numerus, et bonitatis infinitus est thesaurus, tuae piissimae majestati pro collatis poenitentiae donis famulo tuo gratias agimus, tuam semper clementiam exorantes, ut qui petentibus postulata concedes, eosdem famulos tuos non deserens, ad majora obsequia tibi deferenda disponas.

For the new novice:

Deus qui *famulum tuum* a saeculi vanitate conversum ad bravium supernae vocationis accendis, gratiam ei qua in te perseveret infunde, ut intercedente Beato Dominico Patre nostro, cujus hodierna die poenitentiae Regulam animose amplexus est, sic ejusdem assiduus fiat aemulator ut quod, te donante, nunc incepit, te eodem auxilianter jugiter in sequentibus valeat adimplere.

Domine Jesu Christe, qui pro salute nostra humanam naturam suscipiens, te vestimento carnis induere dignatus es, infunde, quaesumus, benedictionem tuam sanctam in hunc *famulum tuum quem* indumentis poenitentiae vestivimus, ut tirociniis ejusdem poenitentialis Regulae feliciter expletis, te promovente, in mensuram aetatis plenitudinis tuae gaudens occurrat. Qui vivis et regnas per omnia saecula

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies are without number, and the treasure of whose goodness is infinite, we give thanks to thy most gracious Majesty for the gifts of penance bestowed on thy servant, ever beseeching thy clemency that Thou who grantest the requests of those who ask Thee wilt never forsake this thy servant, but wilt dispose him to render Thee more perfect service.

For the new novice:

O God, who dost inflame Thy servant, converted from the vanity of the world, to strive for the prize of a heavenly vocation, pour into (him) grace in which (he) may persevere, so that by the intercession of our Blessed Father Saint Dominic, whose Rule of penance he has today willingly embraced, he may follow it so zealously as to fulfil, by Thy help, what by Thy grace he has today begun.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who hast deigned to take on human nature, clothing thyself in a garment of flesh for our salvation, we beg Thee to pour Thy holy blessing upon this Thy servant whom we have clothed in the garments of penance, so that having happily completed the cadetship of this Rule of penance, he may, by Thy promotion, joyfully arrive at the measure of the age of thy fullness. Who livest and reignest...

saeculorum.

R. Amen.

For the newly professed.

Odorem suavitatis sacrificii cordis cum gratiarum actionibus suscipe, quaesumus, Domine: et praesta, ut *quem* per novitiatum exaudire et incolumem servare dignatus es, ab omni in posterum animae et corporis adversitate custodias, ut in tuo servitio perseverans, in tuo amore concreseat.

For both :

Deus, qui renuntiantibus saeculo mansiones paras in caelo, dilata cor famuli tui caelestibus bonis, ut intercedente beato Dominico Patre nostro, sic concordat vita *illius* cum Poenitentiae nomine, ut professio *illius* semper sentiatur in opere. Per Christum Dominum nostrum.

R. Amen.

The priest then sprinkles the novice(s) and newly professed with holy water, saying:

Benedictio Dei omnipotentis, Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti descendat super te et maneat semper.

R. Amen.

Then, he gives to the novice(s) a new name, and gives to each the badge of the Order to wear.

At baptism, you received the name of N.; in the Order, you will be known as N.

Finally, after giving the novices some further words of encouragement, if he wishes, he turns towards the altar and says:

V. Adjutorium nostrum in nomine Domini.

R. Amen.

For the newly professed.

Receive, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the sweet odour of our heart's sacrifice and thanksgiving, and vouchsafe to guard henceforward from all evil of soul and body him whom Thou hast kept safe throughout his novitiate, that persevering in Thy service he may grow in Thy love.

For both :

O God, who dost prepare mansions in heaven for those who forsake the world, dilate the heart of Thy servant with heavenly blessings, that, by the intercession of blessed Dominic, our Father, his life may so agree with the name of penance that his profession may always be manifest in his works. Through Christ, our Lord. R. Amen.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Qui fecit caelum et terram.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

The names of the newly professed, together with the names given them in the Order, as well as the place and date of Profession, should be entered in a book destined for this purpose, and a certificate of Profession should be given to the newly-professed.

Ad libitum, after the ceremony: (two antiphons from the Liturgy of the Friars Preachers).

1. In honour of our holy father Saint Dominic.

Ant.
6.



O lu-men Ec-clé- si- æ, Do-ctor ve-ri-
tá- tis, Ro- sa pa-ti- én-ti- æ, E- bur casti-
tá-tis, A- quam sa-pi- énti- æ pro-pi-násti gra- tis :
Prædi-cá-tor grá- ti- æ, nos junge be-á- tis. T.P. Alle-
lú- ia.

2. In honour of Our Lady.

Sal- ve Re- gí- na, Ma-ter mi-se-ri-córdi- æ,
Vi- ta dul- cé- do et spes nostra, sal- ve. Ad
te clamá-mus éxsu-les fí-li- i He- væ. Ad te suspi-rá-
mus, geméntes et flen-tes in hac lacrimá-rum val- le.
E-ja ergo advo-cá- ta nostra, il-los tu- os mi-se-ri-
cór- des ócu-los ad nos convér- te. Et Je-sum
bene-dí- ctum fructum ventris tu- i no-bis post hoc ex-
sí- li- um o- sténde. O cle- mens, o pi- a, o
dulcis Virgo Ma-rí- a. *T. P.* Alle- lú- ia.