

Ceremonial for  
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. The novice(s) kneel, and the priest asks:*

**Priest:** What do you seek?

**Novice:** 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;*

*The priest gives the 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:  
infirma nostri corporis  
virtute firmans perpeti.

Kindle our senses from above,  
and make our hearts o'erflow with love;  
with patience firm and virtue high  
the weakness of our flesh supply.

Hostem repellas longius,  
pacemque dones protinus:

Far from us drive the foe we dread  
and grant to us Thy peace instead;

In honour of Our Lady.

Ant.  
I.  
S

al-ve, Re-gi-na, ma-ter mi-se-ri-

córdi-æ: Vi-ta, dul-cé-do, et spes

nostra, sal-ve. Ad te clamá-mus éxsul-es

fi-li-i He-væ. Ad te suspi-ra-mus, geméntes et

flen-tes In hac lacrimá-rum val-le. E-ia, ergo,

advo-cá-ta nostra, il-los tu-os mi-se-ri-cór-

des ócu-los ad nos conver-te; Et Je-sum,

bene-dic-tum fructum ventris tu-i, No-bis post

hoc ex-si-li-um os-ténde. O cle-mens, O

pi-a, O dulcis Virgo Ma-ri-a-TP.

Al-le-lu-ia.

ductore sic te praevio  
vitæ omne noxium.

Per te sciamus da Patrem,  
noscamus atque Filium;  
Teque utriusque Spiritum  
credamus omni tempore.  
Sit laus Patri cum Filio,  
Sancto simul Paracito,  
nobisque mitat Filius  
charisma Sancti Spiritus.  
Amen.

V. Emitte Spiritum tuum et

R. Et renovabis faciem terræ.  
V. Ora pro nobis, beate Pater  
Domine.

R. Ut digni efficiamur  
promissionibus Christi.  
V. Laetamini in Domino et  
exultate, justi.

R. Et gloriamini, 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.

V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with thy spirit.  
Let us pray.  
Deus, qui corda fidelium Sancti  
Spiritus illustratione docuisti: da  
nobis in eodem Spiritu recta  
sapere; et de eius semper  
consolatione gaudere.

and so shall we, with Thee for guide,  
avoid all harm our path beside.

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.

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. Send forth Thy Spirit, and they

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.

Let us pray.  
O God, Who didst instruct the  
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.

*For the novice(s).*

Concede, quaesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut *famuli tui* qui peccatorum suorum pondere premittur, 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.

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

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.

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.

1. In honour of our holy father Saint Dominic.

Ant.  
6.

O lu-men Ecclé-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 jungere be-  
á-tis. T. P. Alle-lú-ia.

Christ, our Lord. 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.

*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. 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).*

*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

O GOD, we praise Thee: we

confitemur.

acknowledge Thee as Lord.

Everlasting Father, all the earth doth worship Thee.

Te aeternum Patrem omnis terra  
tibi omnes Angeli; tibi Caeli et

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

universae Potestates;

All the Cherubim and Seraphim,  
unceasingly proclaim:

Tibi Cherubim et Seraphim

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of

Deus Sabaoth.

Hosts!

Pleni sunt caeli et terra maiestatis

Heaven and earth are full of the

gloriae tuae.

Majesty of Thy glory.

Te gloriosus Apostolorum chorus,

The glorious choir of the Apostles,

Te Prophetarum laudabilis numerus,

the wonderful company of Prophets,

Te Martyrum candidatus laudat

The white-robed army of Martyrs,

exercitus.

praise Thee.

Te per orbem terrarum sancta

Holy Church throughout the world

confiteatur Ecclesia,

doth acknowledge Thee:

Patrem immensae maiestatis:

The Father of infinite Majesty:

Venerandum tuum verum et unicum

Thy adorable, true and only Son;

Filium;

Sanctum quoque Paracletum

And the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

Spiritum.

Tu Rex gloriae, Christe.

O Christ, Thou art the King of

Tu Patris sempiternus es Filius.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the

glory!

Thou ad liberandum suscepturus

Thou, having taken it upon Thyself

hominem, non horruiisti Virginitis

to deliver man, didst not disdain the

uterum.

Virgin's womb.

Tu, devicto mortis aculeo, aperuisti

Thou hast overcome the sting of

credentibus regna caelorum.

death and opened to believers the

## way of life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Order of Penance of Saint Dominic, until death.

Tu ad dexteram Dei sedes, in gloria Patris.  
 Iudex crederis esse venturus.  
*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

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 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

fortitudinis.  
 R. A facie inimici.

V. Dominus vobiscum.  
 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 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.

strength.  
 R. From the face of the enemy.

V. The Lord be with you.  
 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 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