

## **The Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade**

### **A Form of Commissioning of the Commanding Officer of a Diocesan Formation**

It is recommended that the Commanding Officer should be commissioned by the Bishop of the diocese or a person appointed to act for him. The Commissioning should take place during a service of worship at which all the officers of the formation are present.

If the act of worship is the Eucharist or one of the normal services of the Church the lessons should be those prescribed for that day in the Lectionary. In cases where the service is specially constructed for the occasion the following lessons may be appropriate:

Old Testament	Proverbs 15: 28 - end
	Isaiah 35: 3 - 6
	1 Samuel 3: 1 - 9
New Testament	1 Corinthians 12: 27 - end
	Ephesians 6: 10 - 20
	John 15: 9 - 17

## **A FORM OF COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF A DIOCESAN FORMATION**

### **The Bishop or his Commissary:**

God has called you to be Commanding Officer of the ..... Diocesan Regiment/Battalion of The Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade. The Object of the Brigade is to extend the Kingdom of Christ among Lads and Girls and to encourage faithful membership of the Church of England. We shall ask you to declare, before God and this congregation, that you accept the responsibility of this ministry on behalf of His Church.

As a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of His Church will you promise:

- to obey and serve Christ in your daily life?

### **The Commanding Officer:**

I will by God's help.

### **The Bishop or his Commissary:**

- to be responsible for ensuring that the work of the Brigade in this diocese is run and developed to the highest standard.

### **The Commanding Officer:**

I will by God's help.

### **The Bishop or his Commissary:**

- to show care and concern for the individual officers and members and to pray regularly for them.

### **The Commanding Officer:**

I will by God's help.

### **The Bishop or his Commissary: (addressing all the officers present)**

Do you, as officers and members of this diocesan formation, promise to accept the authority of this your Commanding Officer as the representative of your Bishop and of the Brigade Council?

### **All the officers present shall say:**

We do so promise.

### **The Bishop or his Commissary:**

Will you work together in Christian fellowship to further the Object of the Brigade and so extend the Kingdom of Christ?

**All the officers present shall say:**

That is our duty which we gladly accept.

**The Bishop or his Commissary:**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Holy Spirit equips the Church with a rich variety of gifts; grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love. Make us ready to live his gospel and eager to do his will, that we may share with all your Church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN**

**All shall say:**

Heavenly Father,  
Bless and guide with your Spirit the work of The Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade;  
Help us never to be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified;  
To fight valiantly under His banner against sin, the world and the devil;  
And to continue His faithful soldiers and servants to the end of our lives.

**AMEN**

Eternal God,  
You have declared in Christ the completion of your purpose of love.  
May we live by faith, walk in hope, and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory, and you are all in all.  
Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

**AMEN**

**The Bishop or his Commissary delivers the Commission to the Commanding Officer with these words:**

Receive this certificate of your authority within this diocese.  
May God the Father support you by His presence;  
May our Lord Jesus Christ sustain you with His love;  
May the Holy Spirit guide you by His word;  
And may the fellowship of the Brigade assist and encourage your efforts.

**ALMIGHTY GOD,**

Who has given you the will to do His work, give you the strength also to perform your duties;  
That He may complete that work which He has begun in you;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN**