

The Church of England  
Guild of Vergers

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# Admission of New Members

*(when the National or Branch Chaplain is unable to be in attendance)*



*Leading the way since 1932*

*Presidents: The Archbishops of Canterbury and York*

This Ceremony of Admission may be used by the Incumbent/Priest-in-Charge\* and the new member's Church in times when it is not possible for a local Branch Chaplain or the National Chaplain to be in attendance.

The Incumbent/Priest-in-Charge, having sought permission from the National Guild Chaplain, should be presented with the Candidate by an appropriate person of the Congregation — for instance a Church Warden.

This Ceremony of Admission should take place during the main worship of the Parish on a Sunday and may be inserted just before the Peace at a Eucharist Service or other appropriate place

This order may be produced for all members of the Congregation.

### CEREMONY OF ADMISSION

*Church Warden* Reverend Father\* in God, I present to you \_\_\_\_\_ of this Parish Church\* in the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_ to be admitted into Full/Associate\* Membership of the Church of England Guild of Vergers.

*Incumbent\** In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
*All* **Amen.**

*Incumbent* Will you support the Aims and Objectives of the Church of England Guild of Vergers?

*Candidate* **I will**

*Incumbent* Will you care for the House of God, for the people who worship and the people who visit there?

*Candidate* **I will**

*Incumbent* Will you endeavour to follow the example of Christ in your daily life?

*Candidate* **I will**

### THE COMMITMENT

*Incumbent* You have been called to the office and work of a Verger, will you exercise that ministry with diligence and devotion?

*Candidate* **I will, the Lord being my helper.**

*Incumbent* God being our help, let us now renew the vows made at Baptism.

*Incumbent* Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

*Candidate* **I believe and trust in him.**

*Incumbent* Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who took our human nature, died for us, and rose again?

*Candidate* **I believe and trust in him.**

*Incumbent* Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God, and makes Christ known in the world?

*Candidate* **I believe and trust in him.**

*Incumbent* This is the faith of the Church

*Candidate* **This is my faith. I believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

(Here the Incumbent may give the Candidate their Badge and Constitution Book)

*Incumbent* I admit you as a Full/Associate\*\* Member of the Church of England Guild of Vergers; may the Lord bless your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore

*All say the Verger's Prayer:*

**Almighty Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named, who has called us into the fellowship of your Church; grant we pray, that in all our churches we may fulfill the duties and enjoy the privileges of our spiritual home. And on those who offer themselves for service as Vergers in the House of God, bestow the fullness of your grace, that united in love to you and to one another, we may show forth your glory and hasten the coming of your kingdom: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* Adjust as local custom dictates

\*\* Adjust as determined by the Branch

## THE GUILD'S AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Church of England Guild of Vergers (“the Guild”) is a **Fellowship** in Christ within the Anglican Communion to which all who serve in the office of Verger may belong, whether salaried or not, full or part-time, honorary, voluntary or retired. The Guild also welcomes applications from all those who perform similar duties with another (or no) title, who give their services and talents in the ordering of worship and the care of church buildings.

The Guild seeks to make effective the ministry of Vergers through the following key **objectives**, by :

- ◆ Promoting the spiritual nature of the **Vergers’ Vocation** through Christian Fellowship and spiritual guidance for all its Members;
- ◆ Encouraging the advancement of knowledge by **education**, through maintaining standards of good practice, and by equipping Members for Ministry as vergers in all its aspects, through the provision of advice, training, resources, and by organizing and promoting training courses and conferences;
- ◆ Providing the means and opportunity for **communication** and discussion of ideas and proposals of common interest to Members;
- ◆ Providing **support** and encouragement to the Membership in all aspects of their duties whatever they may be and wherever performed;
- ◆ **advising**, upon request, and making recommendations as to terms of employment and welfare of any Member;
- ◆ **recording** the gamut of work undertaken by Vergers; in addition noting each Member’s training, experience and qualifications.

The Church of England Guild of Vergers is committed to providing a safe environment for all, and promotes Safeguarding.  
If you would like to talk about Safeguarding issues please contact the Chaplain or the Welfare Officer.