



INSTALLATION OF A PRINCIPAL WITHIN MASS (ADAPTED FROM THE *BOOK OF BLESSINGS* 9/08; REV 7/13, 6/14)

HOMILY:

The superintendent (if a priest or deacon) or the pastor of a parish school in the homily based on the sacred text and pertinent to the particular place and the people involved, explains the meaning of the celebration.

PRESENTATION OF THE PRINCIPAL:

After the homily, the principal stands before the superintendent or pastor of a parish school, who addresses the people in these or similar words:

My dear friends because I am aware of your pastoral needs and am confident of (Fr./Sr./Br./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss N.'s) qualifications for the office of principal, I now commend N. to you as your new principal.

[For a **private school** the following words are used:

My dear friends, I now commend (Fr./Sr./Br./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss N.) to you as your new principal.]

WELCOME BY THE PEOPLE:

The superintendent or pastor may then invite the people to express their support of their new principal.

PRESENTATIONS:

The superintendent or pastor introduces the principal to various groups of the school.

PRESENTATION OF THE FACULTY AND STAFF:

The faculty and staff are presented to the new principal by the superintendent or pastor. N., my brother/sister, this faculty and staff will assist you in the care of the young people of this school. Share this ministry in a spirit of mutual trust, common prayer, and genuine concern.

PRESENTATION OF THE PARENT AND STUDENT COUNCILS:

The councils stand and are presented separately to the principal by the superintendent or pastor.

N., this is the (parent, student) council of N. School. It is the voice of your people and will assist and counsel you as you minister to the community of this school. Be attentive to the needs they express.

[PRESENTATION OF THE CONSULTATIVE BOARD]

If there is a consultative board present, they come forward and the superintendent or pastor presents them to the new principal.

N., these are members of the consultative board of this school. They will assist and counsel you as you minister to the community of this school. Be attentive to the needs they express.



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PROFESSION OF FAITH AND OATH

Next the superintendent or pastor addresses the new principal, who stands facing him:

Remember, my brother/sister N., always be a wise teacher of your people, so that you may lead them to Christ who will strengthen all that you do. As a teacher of that faith, I ask you now to profess your faith.

The principal then faces the people.

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

At the words that follow, up to and including *and became man*, all bow.

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**



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**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

At the conclusion of the profession of faith, the principal faces the superintendent or pastor and recites the following oath:

**With firm faith I also believe everything contained in God's Word,
written or handed down in tradition
and proposed by the Church,
whether in solemn judgment
or in ordinary and universal magisterium,
as divinely revealed and calling for faith.**

**I also firmly accept and hold each and every thing
that is proposed by the Church definitively
regarding teaching on faith and morals.**

**Moreover, I adhere with religious submission of will and intellect
to the teachings which either the Roman Pontiff
or the college of bishops enunciates
when they exercise the authentic magisterium
even if they proclaim those teachings in an act that is not definitive.**

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS:

Main celebrant:

Let us now pray for the Church and its leaders, especially the new principal of this school, and for the needs of all people. Our response is: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader(s):

For Francis, our pope, for Jose, our archbishop, and all the other bishops of the Church, that they may lead us to a more faithful living of the gospel, we pray to the Lord. R.

For N., our new principal, that he/she may always show us leadership, love and compassion, we pray to the Lord. R.

For all who contribute their time and talent to this school, that their service to the Church may help us to know the message of Christ, we pray to the Lord. R.

For peace and justice in the world and for the conversion of those who have hardened their hearts to the needs of their brothers and sisters, we pray to the Lord. R.



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For the poor of our community and throughout the world, that we may be responsive to their needs and share with them from our bounty, we pray to the Lord. R.

For an increase in vocations to the [Priesthood and] Religious Life among our students and graduates, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For students, (as they begin this new school year) that the Spirit of God may grant them the gifts of wisdom and understanding, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For teachers, that they may share their knowledge with gentleness, patience, and concern for their students, let us pray to the Lord. R.

For the parents and other family members who make so many sacrifices on behalf of these students to receive a Catholic education, that they may be blessed by God in return, let us pray to the Lord. R.

Let us present our own petitions in the silence of our hearts.

PRAYER OF BLESSING:

The main celebrant says the prayer of blessing with hands outstretched over the students and teachers, a lay minister says the prayer with hands joined.

Lord our God,
in your wisdom and love you surround us
with the mysteries of the universe.
In times long past you sent us your prophets
to teach your laws and to bear witness to your undying love.
You sent us your Son to teach us by word and example
that true wisdom comes from you alone.

Send your Spirit upon these students, their families,
their new principal and their teachers
and fill them with your wisdom and blessings.
Grant that during this academic year
they may devote themselves to their studies
and share what they have learned from others.
Grant this through Christ Our Lord.

R. AMEN