

At the commissioning of a Parish Safeguarding Officer

This liturgy can replace the intercessions in a service of Holy Communion (in which case the Lord's Prayer as printed below should be omitted) or used in a Service of the Word such as all age worship or Morning Prayer.

It is fitting that the first thing a Parish Safeguarding Officer is asked to do when they are commissioned is to pray for the church, its leaders and those we need to safeguard. The role is not just a bureaucratic function but it is a spiritually demanding ministry of service to the church.

Minister:

N, you have been appointed as safeguarding co-ordinator in this [church / parish / benefice / ...].

We welcome your willingness to serve the church as safeguarding co-ordinator. Hold before us always the need to be faithful to God's love. I now invite you to lead us in prayer, praying especially for the safe keeping and well-being of all.

Safeguarding co-ordinator:

Let us pray.

Lord God we come together to acknowledge
your deep and everlasting love for each and every one of us.
We come to you this day,
recognizing the challenges before us,
the brokenness of ourselves and
brokenness of our world.

Lord, come to bless us,

All: and make us more like Jesus

God you know that our leaders of
[Scouts, Guides, Sunday clubs, youth group etc]
have agreed to take on special responsibilities.
Keep them vigilant, but with your loving heart
and abundant grace.
Help them and us to see with your eyes
the struggles of those around us.

Lord, come to bless us,

All: and make us more like Jesus

Creator God,
you set us among family and friends and neighbours.
Here we see who our true selves are
often poorly reflecting the depth of your love.
Protect us, guard us and guide us
in our homes,
in our work and our play.

Lord, come to bless us,

All: and make us more like Jesus

Lord God, you know how we carry pain,
physically, emotionally and mentally.
You know how deeply we need your healing love, mercy
and forgiveness to dispel the darkness.
Help us to be honest with ourselves
so that we can let your love work.

Bring wholeness, healing and lightness of spirit
into all our lives.

We hold before you those who need your healing touch
at this time..... (silence)

Lord, come to bless us,
All: and make us more like Jesus

We are all your children.
May our lives and hearts
find your life-giving love, your delight in life,
with fun and laughter which overflows,
bringing fullness and grace to all.

Lord, come to bless us,
All: and make us more like Jesus

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake our your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Either,

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

**All:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

(or)

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

**All:
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Minister:

God, pour upon N your life giving Spirit
to guide and bring your wisdom,
healing, forgiveness and love.
May he/she delight in being able to work
alongside you bringing
your kingdom to life.
Amen