The Churchwardens’ Declarations

*(Churchwardens are invited to stand)*

**Archdeacon or Authorised member of the clergy:**

The churchwardens when admitted to their office are Lay Officers of the Bishop.

They shall discharge their duties as are by Law and Custom assigned to them.

They shall be foremost in their parish in representing the laity, and in co-operating with the Incumbent.

They shall use their best endeavours, both by their own personal example and by their teaching, to encourage in their parishioners the practice of true religion and to promote true unity and peace among them.

Will you, Churchwardens, now elected to this office in your own parish, gladly and willingly serve God in this way, and now make your declaration together?

*The Churchwardens respond together:*

**Yes, we will, and we ask God to help us.**

*The churchwardens say together*

**I** *(please say your name)*

**having been duly appointed and chosen Churchwarden of the Parish of** *(please state your church and parish)*

**Do solemnly and sincerely declare that I will faithfully and diligently perform the duties of the office of Churchwarden for the year ensuing.**

**Archdeacon or Authorised member of the clergy:**

In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

I now admit you to your office of Churchwarden, and commission you in His service.

May God who has called you to this work of Churchwarden give you also the strength and the enthusiasm to do it well, to his glory and for the wellbeing of all in your parish. And may his blessing be with you in all that you do for him. **Amen.**

*The congregation stand and pray for the Churchwardens*

**Heavenly Father, we thank you for calling your servants to this office and duty in the life of our congregations and parishes.**

**Help us to remember your work of grace in us and by your Holy Spirit empower us all to serve you and one another.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**AMEN.**