

RECOGNITION OF YEARS OF SERVICE

At this time, the presider recognizes those who have been in the field of public service between one and five years, between six and ten years, eleven to twenty years, twenty-one to thirty years, thirty-one to forty years. Groups stand as they are called.

The acclamation, “May the Lord” is sung twice after everyone is standing. Those who are seated extend their hands in blessing. After the acclamation, all applaud. The blessing follows.

Standing, the deacon/priest says:

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served between one and five years,
please stand.

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served between six and ten years,
please stand.

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served between eleven and 20 years,
please stand.

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served between 21 and 30 years,
please stand.

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served between 31 and 40 years,
please stand.

DEACON/PRIEST: Those who have served more than 40 years,
please stand.



Text: Adapted from Numbers 6:24-26; unknown
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Acclamation is sung twice.

BLESSING

With outstretched hands, the priest, in these or similar words, blesses the women and men gathered.

BISHOP: Blessed are you, Lord, God of mercy,
 who through your Son
 gave us a marvelous example of charity
 and the great commandment of love for one another.
Send down your blessings on these your servants,
who so generously devote themselves to helping others.
When they are called on in times of need,
protect them from all harm,
and let them faithfully serve you in their neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.

ASSEMBLY: Amen.

The acclamation is sung one final time.