

Ad Clerum 3a.2

Reception of Roman Catholics into the Church of England

Those who have been baptised and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church may be received into the Church of England by the parish priest after due instruction, at any public service in the Church. Reception during the main act of worship on a Sunday has much to commend it, but it may not necessarily be appropriate for everyone. It could, for example, take place at a mid-week communion service with a small number of church members and friends present.

There is a form of 'Reception into the Communion of the Church of England' in Common Worship Initiation Services and it is also available on the Common Worship website www.commonworship.co.uk

If you wish to receive someone from the Roman Catholic Church into the Church of England at a confirmation service (perhaps because they have shared in the same course as those to be confirmed) then please contact the bishop who is officiating beforehand about this. An alternative would be for the parish priest to receive them on a previous occasion, and for the bishop to offer a blessing or the right hand of fellowship at the end of the administration of confirmation.

Reception does not require the consent of the diocesan bishop, but Abbey Gate House should be informed of the names and addresses of all such persons received. A record should also be made in the Confirmation Register of the parish.

Revised April 2015.