

# The Anglican Priest's Manual

## Forward

The offices for the sick and dying are the forgotten child of the Book of Common Prayer. The rubric has not been updated since 1549, but much has changed since then. People go to hospitals and nursing home instead of taking to their bed. With longer life spans and modern medicine, people are living longer and often experience more and longer hospitalizations. Other jurisdictions updated their books in the 1960's, but the results were mixed and difficult to use.

This book in PDF has the following modules:

- Visitation of the Sick, Emergency Baptism, Conditional Baptism, and Adoption
  
- Communion from the Reserved Sacrament and Unction
  
- Private Communion Service (short form)
  
- Communion Service (long form for nursing and assisted living homes)
  
- Service at a Funeral Home
  
- Graveside Service
  
- Burial of a Child
  
- Psalter

Visitation of the Sick has been shortened to reflect use in a hospital or nursing home instead of at home.

The Reserved Sacrament is usually preferable when ministering to the sick.

Private communions were favored by the revisers in 1549 and, although these are rare today, there are still some occasions when this is appropriate.

The longer Communion Service is designed for chaplains. The shorter version is intended for use by parish clergy when they visit nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Orthodox and Roman Catholic clergy have provided unofficial help in preparing this Liturgy short, but valid. Where there were questions, the Sarum Missal was used as a reference, since the whole Church considers it valid. This Liturgy is also acceptable to some Protestant chaplains, as was the 1928 BCP.

The longer Communion Service could be used in church by deleting the prayers for the sick and using the official lectionary for the Epistle and Gospel Lessons. Episcopal approval for this would, of course, have to be obtained, since the 1549 rubric only applies to the sick.

Due to copyright considerations, a lightly modernized KJV has been used. Chaplains have found that many of those who are dying like to have the Psalms read to them, so the Psalter has been included (except for Ps 23, which is KJV).

This book is in PDF format to facilitate printing. It is in modules so that only the required portions need be printed. A spiral binding is suggested so that the book can be laid flat.

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