

ROLE OF A DEACON

To serve the needs of the world and communities where they live.

To teach, encourage and support others as they serve.

To bring the needs and concerns of the world and local communities to the church as it worships.

To provide a sacramental focus to the ministry of service and prayer.

To be a part of the church visible order, taking their place along with lay people, priests and bishops.

To participate in worship by proclaiming the Gospel, setting the Table and dismissing the assembly.

To offer their ministry as a sacrificial gift. They do not seek to be paid by the Church.

COLLECT FOR DEACONS

○ GOD OF LOVE AND COMPASSION,
GUIDE AND DIRECT US IN
ALL THAT WE DO
THAT IT MAY BE DONE TO YOUR GLORY
AND HONOR.
MAY WE SEE CHRIST IN ALL WHOM WE
MEET AND BE IN THE WORLD AS ONE
WHO SERVES.
THIS PRAYER WE OFFER IN THE NAME OF
HIM WHO CAME TO SERVE,
JESUS THE CHRIST, OUR LORD AND
SAVIOR. AMEN.



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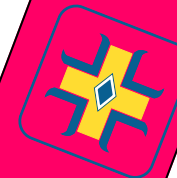
DEACONS

IN THE

DIOCESSE

OF

DELAWARE



WHO IS A DEACON?

Any Christian who has been through the discernment, training and ordination to the Order of Deacons.

WHAT DOES THE WORD 'DEACON' MEAN?

The word 'Deacon' derives from the Greek word *diakonos* meaning servant or minister.

CAN A DEACON BECOME A PRIEST?

The answer is 'Yes.' However, one cannot become a priest via this program. This program in the Diocese of Delaware is intended for those called to be "permanent" or "vocational" deacons.

HOW LONG HAS THE CHURCH HAD DEACONS?

Deacons have been in the Church since New Testament times. A few of the Most well-known deacons are Stephen, Vincent and Francis of Assisi. Early documents date to Rome, c.215, with early ordination prayers, recorded by Hippolytus.

The 1968 Lambeth Conference, Resolution 32 affirmed the Diaconate for the Anglican Communion and the 1970 General Convention of the Episcopal Church revitalized the diaconate for the Church in today's world. This role may be fulfilled by women and men.

WHAT IS A DEACON'S TITLE?

More recently, they are addressed as simply Deacon. They may be addressed also as The Reverend Mr. or Ms. (followed by name)

WHAT TRAINING IS REQUIRED TO BECOME A DEACON?

Anyone seeking ordination as a permanent deacon must first enter a period of discernment with the Pastor and congregation, designated person(s), and a diocesan discernment program. Training is diversified and tailored to each person's experiences and/or previous training. Competency examinations are given at the end of study and prior to ordination.

WHAT IS A DIACONAL CONGREGATION?

A diaconal congregation is one where the congregation has sought out and raised up a deacon who will identify opportunities for service in the community and lead the members of the congregation to serve others. The intention of this program in the Diocese of Delaware is to foster and encourage diaconal congregations to continue the ministry of Christ in the world.

Questions most frequently asked