

Discernment Leading to Ordination to the (vocational) Diaconate Checklist

Approximate
Year 1

Inquirer to Aspirant

- Initial meeting with parish incumbent
- Parish discernment process
 - Incumbent initiates Parish Discernment Committee (PDC)
 - PDC meets with territorial archdeacon
 - PDC meets in sessions with the inquirer
 - PDC meets and prepares report
 - PDC meets with the inquirer to review report
- PDC makes request for Parish Commendation and Nomination
- Inquirer submits to the Bishop "Application for Status as Aspirant," PDC report and Parish Commendation
- Inquirer meets with the Bishop
- Bishop gives permission by letter for status as aspirant

Aspirant to Postulant

- Representatives of Commission on the Diaconate may meet with Aspirant
- Aspirant meets with incumbent in preparation of parish proposal
- Incumbent facilitates the creation of the parish proposal for diaconal ministry
- Aspirant submits "Authorization and Release" with the parish proposal to the Chair of the Commission on the Diaconate
- Commission appoints a "Chaplain to the aspirant" and assures that the aspirant has necessary forms and outlines for required documentation
- Aspirant begins to prepare and collect necessary required documents
 - Resumé (according to prescribed format)
 - Essay outlining the aspirant's sense of call, devotional life, current ministry and financial plans for educational requirements
 - Security and background check
 - Medical examination with "Medical Declaration and Report"
 - Credit check or bureau
- Interview with the Commission on the Diaconate
- Aspirant meets with Bishop to review the report of the Commission
- Bishop confirms advice re education and next steps by letter
- Aspirant completes psychological examination and report
- Aspirant makes "Application for Postulancy" to Bishop
- Aspirant attends diocesan discernment day for the vocational diaconate when offered
- Aspirant receives confirmation of status as postulant from the Bishop (or direction or advice on re-application for postulancy)

Postulant to Candidate

- Year 2**
- Ministry studies requirements as outlined including 4 course credits in four areas of study:
Biblical Studies | Theology | Church History, Mission, Ministry | Pastoral Care
- PLUS
- Formation studies/experiences required as directed by the Bishop and Diocese, including at least six credits in:

- Year 3**
- The Diaconate
 - Liturgical Studies
 - Canon Law
 - History/Theology of Church and Ministry
 - Spirituality and Prayer
 - Sacramental Theology
 - Anglican Polity
 - Pastoral Care
 - Christian Education and Youth Ministry
 - Liturgy and the Liturgical Year

One credit in each of the following are strongly recommended:

- Preaching
- Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

and may be required institutionally for program completion.

- Postulant meets with the Commission to confirm educational requirements and prepare "Application for Candidacy"
- Postulant submits application for candidacy to the Bishop
- Bishop meets with postulant to discuss future ministry and grants candidacy status if possible

Candidate to "Vocational" Deacon

- Year 4**
- "Si Quis" read and completed by parish and submitted
 - "Letters Testimonial" (three) are completed and submitted
 - Appointment is arranged including first covenant with parish and supervisor
 - Details of ordination arranged by the Bishop's Office and ordination host

Post-ordination Training

- Completion of components of post-ordination training as set by the Diocese.

29 June 2010