



FORMATION PROGRAMME

Diocese of Fredericton

Unit Description

TITLE: The Ministry of Deacons
INSTRUCTORS: Members of the Bishops Commission on the Diaconate
(Fran Bedell, Neville Cheeseman, Joyce Perry, Thomas Nisbett)

DAY-LONG LEARNING EVENT

DATE: Saturday, September 26, 2015
LOCATION: Threshold Ministries, 105 Mountain View Drive, Saint John, N.B.
E2J 5B5

OVERVIEW:

This unit examines the biblical nature of the Ministry of Deacons, with an emphasis on understanding its history, nature and formation in the Anglican context. Participants will be challenged to examine their own ministry situations with a view to identifying how the ministry of deacons might serve to support and enhance the Church's ministry at the local level, and support the mission of the Diocese of Fredericton: "To Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the Making of Disciples."

REQUIRED READING:

- Anglican-Lutheran International Commission (ALIC III), *To Love & Serve the Lord: diakonia in the life of the church; the Jerusalem report of the...* - http://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/102228/OEA-ALIC_report-EN.pdf
- The Anglican Communion, *Deacons Grids - Theological Education for the Anglican Communion (TEAC)*:
- Vocational Deacons - <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/108795/DeaconsGrid110406.pdf>
- Priests & Transitional Deacons - <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/108798/PriestsGrid110406.pdf>
- Brown, Rosalind. *Being a Deacon Today : Exploring a Distinctive Ministry in the Church and in the World*. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse Pub., 2005.
- Barnett, James Monroe. *The Diaconate--a Full and Equal Order: A Comprehensive and Critical Study of the Origin, Development, and Decline of the Diaconate in the Context of the Church's Total Ministry and the Renewal of the Diaconate Today with Reflections for the Twenty-first Century*. Rev. ed. Valley Forge, Pa.: Trinity Press International, 1995.
- Zagano, Phyllis. *Called to Serve: A Spirituality for Deacons*. Liguori, Mo: Liguori, 2004.
- Diocese of Fredericton Resources:
 - *The Ministry of Deacons (vocational)*, Information Pamphlet - http://anglican.nb.ca/legislation/directives/deacons/0902_ministry_of_deacons.pdf
 - The Deacon in the Parish, Episcopal Directive 8.3 - http://anglican.nb.ca/legislation/directives/8-3_the_deacon_in_the_parish.pdf
 - Liturgical Ministry of Deacons, Episcopal Directive 1.9 - http://anglican.nb.ca/legislation/directives/1-9_liturgical_ministry_of_deacons.pdf

SUGGESTED RESOURCES:

- Book of Common Prayer Canada, *Making of Deacons*, Pg. 638 – 44.
- Canadian Book of Alternative Services, *The Ordination of a Deacon*, Pg. 652 – 58.
- Video: *Ordination of Deacons with sermon by the Bishop of London - St Paul's Cathedral* - <https://youtu.be/76d1C0KY9GQ>

WRITTEN SUBMISSION:

In 1000 to 1250 words, please discuss the following:

Explore the nature, history and role of the ministry of deacons in the Church, with emphasis on “mission” in the changing Church of today, and its potential influence on the community in which it lives and serves.

July 16, 2015