

The Commission on Liturgy and Music has prepared this booklet to help you prepare for your diaconal ordination service. Diaconal ordinations are held at a host church predetermined by the Bishop.

Deacons are called to a special ministry of servanthood directly under the bishop. Therefore, the diaconal ordination service celebrates the ministry of the Bishop and the mission of the Diocese. The liturgy and participants express the breadth and work of our common life together.

The Commission on Liturgy and Music is responsible for planning the service. Your liaison is the Chair of the Commission, who will contact you and other ordinands to make an appointment to discuss the service. This is the protocol that we follow.

Liturgical Roles

Preacher: The Bishop selects the preacher for the service. The preacher chooses which of the ordination readings that will be used.

Invitations, service bulletin: Jane Jubilee, Coordinator of Diocesan Resources and Events, coordinates the printing of invitations and the service booklet.

Master of Ceremonies: This role is filled by the Chair or other member of the Commission on Liturgy and Music.

Deacon of the Word: An Archdeacon will appoint a deacon for the service. The Deacon of the host church may also be present.

Ushers, Verger, Altar Guild, and Thurifer: The host church guilds graciously fulfill these roles. The flowers on the altar will be the host church's flowers for the coming Sunday. Incense is ordinarily used in services.

Hymnody and Service Music: The Commission on Liturgy and Music selects the Eucharistic Prayer, hymns and service music. The Bishop sings the liturgy and the psalm is sung by the congregation.

Musician: The host church's musician plays for the service. please note that any costs incurred for music beyond the service itself will be borne by the ordinand(s) and must be discussed and approved by the Liturgy & Music Commission and host church at the beginning of the planning process; e.g., additional organist rehearsal fees, soloist, security, extra sexton fees which will be incurred for time in the host church other than the morning of the ordination.

Ordinands: Please invite people who have been an important part of your discernment and ordination process to serve in liturgical roles.

Individually choose:

Presenters: It is customary for up to 6 presenters per ordinand. Presenters are people who have been part of your process, including leaders in field placement and home congregations, the COM, and your family.

Vestors: Choose one or two people, either lay or ordained to help you with your stole. The Bishop will bless stoles in the chapel before the service begins. The liturgical color is red. Ordinands vest in an alb and cincture.

Banners: Banners are not used at the service since the host church is seen as a site. They are appropriate for priestly ordinations done in local parishes.

As a group, please choose:

Readers : Two readers are needed. They must read well and be well rehearsed. The psalm is sung by the congregation.

Bishop's Chaplain: Normally filled by a lay person. Chaplains vest in their own vestments. A separate Bishop's Chaplain reference booklet will be provided.

Eucharistic Ministers: There are two stations at the rail (standing). All EMs vest and process. Choose: two people to bear the wine, 1 for grape juice, and 2 for gluten-free bread. The Bishop and the Canon or rector of the host church distributes the bread.

Intercessor : The litany for ordination is said or sung. The Intercessor vests and processes.

Acolytes: One cross and two torches are needed, and an experienced thurifer, if you have one. Acolytes vest in their usual vestments. They must rehearse at the host church prior to the service, usually an hour before the ordination begins.

Oblation bearers: Two people are needed to bring the gifts to the altar after the offering is gathered.

All names need to be submitted the Chair as soon as possible for review.

Other Information

Seating: We do reserve one to two pews per ordinand in the front of the host church for family seating. Pews are marked with the ordinand's name. Please let us know of any special needs; accommodations will be made as the Host church space permits.

Rehearsal: In consultation with the host church liturgist or the rector of the host church, a rehearsal time will be set in the week before the ordination. Please bring to this rehearsal at least one presenter, the intercessor, element bearers, banner bearers, the Bishop's chaplain, readers, and a vestor. Oblation bearers should speak to a host church ushers when they arrive for the service for instruction.

Vesting: ushers will guide participants to the appropriate place to vest.

A Prayer for those to be ordained:

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church: Give your grace, we humbly pray, to all who are [now] called to any office and ministry for your people; and so fill them with the truth of your doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great Name and for the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* BCP 1979

The Diocese of Newark

Commission on Liturgy and Music



Planning your Diaconal Ordination