



DIOCESE OF HURON

DISCERNMENT PROCESS

For a Person Discerning a Call to become a Deacon

Initial stage

- Begin to discern a call to diaconal ministry
- Conversations with Rector
- Meet with Diocesan Executive Archdeacon

Applicant:

- Provide the following documentation to the Executive Archdeacon
 - Application to Diaconal Process
 - Letter of Support from Rector
 - Copy of supporting Vestry Motion
 - Copy of Baptism Certificate
 - Copy of Confirmation Certificate
 - Police Records Check
- Applicant meets with the Deacons' Board who makes a determination as to whether or not the applicant should proceed to the next step.
- Applicant has an interview with the bishop who determines whether or not applicant is admitted to the diaconal process.
- At any point in this process, the applicant may be asked to undergo specific testing to determine his/her aptitude for ordained ministry.

Postulant:

- The postulant is assigned an Examining Chaplain. The chaplain helps guide the postulant through the process and reports the postulant's progress to the Deacons' Board. It is the postulant's responsibility to ensure that he/she is in regular contact with his/her chaplain.
- Form a Parish Lay Committee.
- During his/her postulancy, a postulant is required to:
 - Successfully complete the academic requirements
 - There are eight courses in compulsory areas:
 - Old Testament
 - New Testament

- Church History
- Moral / Systematic Theology
- Introduction to Counselling
- Homiletics
- Liturgical Theology and Practice
- Spiritual Formation
- There is an additional requirement of a CPE unit or four courses which should be selected in consultation with the Chaplain.
- Attend the Fall Deacons' Board event.
- Meet regularly with a spiritual director.
- Complete a minimum three month internship in another parish.

Ordinand:

- When postulant has completed the above requirements a second interview is held with the Deacons' Board.
- A vestry motion recommending the person be ordained a deacon is received from the parish.
- Upon recommendation of the Deacons' Board, the postulant meets for another interview with the bishop.
- A postulant must have been Confirmed, Received, or been a regular Communicant in the Anglican Communion for at least three years prior to being considered for ordination.
- Being raised to ordinand status does not guarantee ordination which is always the prerogative of the Diocesan Bishop.

Deacon:

- The diocesan Bishop, at his/her sole discretion decides whether and when to ordain an Ordinand to the Diaconate.
- Attendance at the pre-ordination retreat is mandatory.