

# Lay Catechist Training and The Ordination of Deacons and Priests

Forms, Guidelines and Training for Lay Catechists and those seeking Holy Orders  
(Updated January 2017)



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## WELCOME!

The Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes welcomes your interest in exploring a possible call to training as a Lay Catechist or for the ordained ministry in the Diaconate or Priesthood. We are thankful for those in our Church with a desire to serve God and to grow in obedience to His will.

God's call on an individual is confirmed through His body, the Church, through which Jesus Christ strengthens, confirms, and grows the various gifts among us, including those of leadership. The Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes' Lay Catechist Certification and Ordination Processes are designed to help you, your rector, your parish, and the Diocese discern if indeed you are called to be a Catechist, vocational Deacon or a Priest. This process will also help identify your gifts, strengths, issues to address, and a further need for training, education, and direction for ministry.

Included in this document is an overview of our discernment process and **several of the forms you will need to complete your application**. Be sure to review these steps thoroughly and complete them along with the help and supervision of your parish priest.

May the Lord bless you as you seek His good and perfect will, and may you sense His love for you wherever the path may lead.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Ronald W Jackson  
Bishop  
Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes



## FAQ: Lay Catechists

### 1. What Do You Mean by the Term *Catechist*?

The term is employed in many expanding churches in Africa. A Lay Catechist (or Lay Pastor) is a confirmed Anglican layperson charged with the task of leading a congregation and/or starting a new congregation under the direct supervision of an ordained minister. Often a Catechist will have a job outside of the Church. The primary gifts needed by a Catechist are leadership, loyalty and the desire to gather and see that people are discipled (fully catechized) through the formation and growth of new works.

### 2. What Does a Catechist Do?

Essentially, a Catechist is the point-person for a congregation. He or she oversees the vision, mission, and direction of the ministry, and ensures that the day-to-day functions of a congregation are completed. The primary ministry gifts of Catechists vary according to various ministry contexts. The Catechist is charged with raising up lay people into ministry according to their gifting.

### 3. Why are Catechists Needed?

Catechists are needed for the spontaneous expansion of God's Church. Releasing Catechists enables gifted leaders to raise up congregations from within their own cultural situation. Catechists can start congregations to enable more rapid, organic Church growth—and more flexibility in the amount and types of congregations possible.

### 4. Who Provides Oversight for Catechists?

Regional leaders and ordained parish clergy meet regularly (often monthly) to provide training, oversight and support for Catechists. This oversight could take two different forms:

- A home or “mother” church sends out Catechists to plant new congregations. These Catechists receive oversight from their rectors (or other clergy in the congregation). The hope is to create a network of individual congregations based in different areas or cultures in a region, all of whom are in relationship with each other through the mother/hub congregation.
- Another option is for a Deanery or Diocesan leader to raise, equip, send, and oversee Catechists who are starting new works.

### 5. How Does Holy Communion Work in a Catechist-led Congregation?

Catechists are not ordained and cannot celebrate the sacraments. Three different options are available in Catechist-led congregations:

- The first is to have priests that preside over the service and administer the sacraments.
- Another option is to have a Catechist-run service. The Catechist presides over a liturgy without communion, based primarily on the Morning Prayer service in the BCP. In addition, the hope is to have a communion service with a priest about once a month.
- A third option is for the Catechist to distribute the consecrated elements. This is at the discretion of the Bishop, and it is recommended within a network of Churches, in which the mother Church consecrates elements for the Catechist-led congregation on the same days as the Catechist service. The communion comes directly from the Rector who has oversight of the Catechist and congregations. The Catechist functions as a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

### 6. Is the Position of Lay Catechist a Stepping-Stone to Ordination?

No and yes. Being a Lay Catechist is not a stepping-stone to ordination in that this ministry should not be limited to those who want to be ordained. One can be an effective Catechist throughout life without seeking ordination. Instilling this notion will open the door for many people who are called to start congregations and minister, yet feel called to remain in lay ministry. However, many of the ordained clergy will emerge from the pool of Catechists and Lay Evangelists. Churches in parts of Africa often ask their aspirants for Holy Orders to

serve as Catechists for at least five years. Ordination becomes the fruit of *proven* ministry as the people of God bear witness to the fruit of the Catechist.

### **7. How Does One Become a Catechist?**

Clergy help identify potential Catechists from their congregations by taking notice of men and women who are growing into maturity, who effectively gather people, and who have a vision of seeing the Church expand into new groups of people.

### **8. What Training Does a Catechist Need?**

Training for a catechist is informal, contextualized, individualized, “on-the-job” and mentor-based. The Catechist works personally with a mentor (rather than enrolling in a course) to develop an individualized set of learning goals that encompass head (knowledge), heart (character and devotion), and hands (skills). The set of learning goals for each Catechist will take into account the skills needed to lead a culturally-specific congregation. For example, a Lay Catechist leading a congregation reaching people in recovery will need to know a great deal about the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions. A Lay Catechist leading a congregation of Spanish-speaking immigrants will need to speak Spanish and understand the special needs of people living in a new culture. A Lay Catechist seeking to plant a congregation among sophisticated skeptics will need to know how to handle reasoned objections to the Christian faith. In all of these cases, the role of the mentor is to assist the Catechist in identifying both learning needs and resources.

#### **4 Key Skills to be developed:**

1. Preaching
  - Able to plan and deliver a simple Biblical homily with practical application.
  - Able to plan and lead an effective Bible study
2. Disciple Maker
  - Plant a group, not just with church members, that multiplies
  - Able to plan and lead inductive/orality Bible study.
  - Able to pray and disciples with others
3. Lead people to Christ
  - Able to share their story of faith
  - Able to share Jesus’ story
  - Able to pray with others
4. Leadership
  - Healthy home life
  - Establish a daily devotional life
  - Know their primary and secondary gifting for ministry.
  - Able to function well under authority
  - Able to establish and work together with teams.
  - Has a vision for developing and empowering others in ministry.
  - Able to embrace loving but honest feedback.

## **LAY CATECHIST APPLICATION AND DISCERNMENT PROCESS**

### **The ADGL Discernment Process**

Canonical authority for certification of Lay Catechists in the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes rests with the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes. The ADGL Vocations Committee, along with the local parish, help the Bishop in selecting, preparing, and evaluating those called to this vital ministry. All parish and diocesan leaders recognize certain markers that serve as good indications of an individual’s call to and readiness to lead others in the body of Christ. These include, but are not limited to, a person who has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and strongly desires to serve His Church through a teaching and evangelistic ministry, has begun to live a fruitful Christian life of discipleship, displays strong moral character and a good reputation in his or her community, and has an appreciation for and general knowledge of the Anglican tradition.

## FIRST STEP: INQUIRER

This person is discerning whether formally to apply to be a Lay Catechist. Discernment begins with a sense of call within the context of the local parish (based in part on the person's demonstrated service and ministry that is already happening in the local parish); the Inquirer talks to the local priest and begins a process at the local level, during which the local priest:

- Affirms that the person has been Baptized and Confirmed (or Received) into the Anglican Church.
- Calls the Parish Discernment Committee when the local priest confirms the Call. The Discernment Committee meets with the Inquirer at least three times. If married, there is also a meeting with the Inquirer and his or her spouse, together, and another separate meeting with the spouse alone.
- Shares with the Inquirer an introductory letter which explains the process and gently but clearly reminds the person that "This is a discernment process and entry into it does not guarantee the result." etc.
- Discusses with the Inquirer his or her written material which includes:
  - Waiver
  - Release of Information Agreement for Background Check
  - Spiritual Auto-biography
  - Spousal Statement (if applicable)
  - Family History
  - Clarifying God's Call
  - Resume
- Connects (in consultation with the Bishop's office if need be) the Inquirer to an ADGL-approved Spiritual Director/Mentor, with whom the Inquirer begins regular meetings.
- Helps, along with a Spiritual Director/Mentor, develop a relevant and personal Rule of Life.
- If the Inquirer is married, the local priest meets with the Inquirer and his or her spouse, both together and individually, to discuss the sense of call, etc.

If and when the Parish Discernment Committee (PDC) is satisfied, they recommend the Inquirer to the Vestry. The Vestry votes whether to send the Inquirer to the Bishop. If that vote is positive, the local priest formally notifies the Bishop in writing (which letter includes a discussion of the Inquirer's ministry experience), talks with the Bishop to share the overall story and clarify any questions, and sends the Inquirer's written responses, a signed Release of Information Agreement, a copy of The ADGL Lay Catechist Discernment Process Checklist, and copies of any relevant notes and details from the PDC to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard at the Bishop's office. The vote of the local Vestry moves the person from Inquirer to Aspirant, who will be notified by the Bishop through a letter of his or her entry into aspirancy.

## FIRST STEP TRAINING

1. The Inquirer is asked to develop and write a relevant and personal rule of life as a foundation for their life as a disciple and possible future ordained ministry. Goal: to identify a healthy and good spirituality and way of living. What kind of life and practice brings union with Christ and growth in holiness, peace with God and neighbor? How does a rule of life highlight the struggle against sin and death? How does a rule of life relate to Christian freedom and the new humanity of Christ?

A helpful book to aid in exploring the power and writing a rule of life is:

**Crafting A Rule of Life** by Stephen Macchia

2. It is also expected that the inquirer will commit to using the Daily Offices (Morning & Evening Prayer) and Lectionary for a devotional pattern throughout their training and preparation. (There is an app that can be used on your iphone and smartphone called Pocket Common Worship.)

## SECOND STEP: LAY CATECHIST ASPIRANT

The discernment process now moves from the sphere of the parish/mission to that of the diocese. During this phase, the Bishop reviews the applicants written submissions and any other documentation from the local parish. Having reviewed those materials, the Bishop will have any other pertinent forms sent to the Aspirant to fill out, so that he or she may complete the ADGL application, the whole of which is made up of the following formal pieces:

- Signed and affirmed “ACNA Core Purpose, Vision and Values”
- Signed and affirmed “ACNA Theological Statement”
- Two recommendation letters:
  - Ministry
  - Personal
- \$100 application fee (check payable to ADGL)
- Signed Hold Harmless Release for Psychological Evaluation Report
- Any Undergraduate or Postgraduate transcript(s)
- Ministry Safe Certification (a request for certification must be sent via email to [tinafisher1002@gmail.com](mailto:tinafisher1002@gmail.com) and a link to certification training will be sent to the applicant.)

Upon successful submission of the above, the Aspirant is invited (with spouse, if married) to an Interview with the Bishop. If the Bishop approves, the candidate is recommended to the Vocations Committee to advance the Aspirant to the stage of Lay Catechist Postulant (training and mentoring stage) and notifies the person in a letter.

The aspirant is asked to read: *The Anglican Way* by Thomas McKenzie. This will help deepen and broaden the Aspirants understanding of the Anglican tradition. The aspirant should be prepared to discuss their understanding of Anglicanism as it relates to their potential call to be a Lay Catechist.

### Lay Catechist Postulant Training

#### Core Reading List

Since we are blessed with so many excellent resources for study in English, each of the books listed below is given as an example of the kind of book we recommend for each area/level. This list is meant to point people who are in training or being mentored towards resources that will allow all leaders in the Diocese to have a common base of knowledge. We also recognize that there are other ways of gaining knowledge (such as seminars, online courses, and courses on tape) that will accomplish the goal of building a strong foundation of clear thinking for a lifetime of fruitful ministry. **Required Reading: See Level One: Lay Catechist**

	Level One: Lay Catechist	Level Two: Deacon	Level Three: Priest
<b>Biblical Studies</b>	<b>How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth</b> , Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart <b>Epic of Eden</b> , Sandra Richter <b>Understanding the Bible</b> , John Stott	<b>New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors</b> , Gordon Fee <b>Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors</b> , Douglas Stuart <b>A Survey of the New Testament</b> , Gundry <b>A Survey of the Old Testament: The Bible Jesus Used</b> , John Stevenson	<b>The Moral Vision of the New Testament</b> , Richard Hays <b>Methodical Bible Study</b> , Robert Traina

<b>Doctrine</b>	ACNA Catechism and the Jerusalem Declaration <b>Mere Christianity</b> , C.S. Lewis and/or <b>Simply Christian</b> , N.T. Wright <b>*Basic Christianity</b> , John Stott <b>Know the Creeds and Councils</b> , Justin Holcomb	<b>On the Incarnation</b> , Athanasius <b>The Cross of Christ</b> , John Stott <b>Classic Christianity</b> , Thomas Oden <b>The Reason for God</b> , Timothy Keller	<b>Christian Theology: An Introduction</b> , Alister McGrath (along with his <b>The Christian Theology Reader</b> )
<b>Anglicanism</b>	<b>*The Anglican Way</b> , Thomas McKenzie	<b>The Faith We Confess: An Exposition of the Thirty-Nine Articles</b> , Gerald Bray <b>Exploring the Church's Past</b> , Leslie Fairfield, Christian Foundations Program, Trinity School for Ministry  <b>History of the Church of England</b> , John R.H. Moorman <b>The 39 Articles: Buried Alive?</b> , Sam Pascoe	<b>Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Church of North America and the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes</b> , These can be found on the ACNA and ADGL websites. <b>Richard Hooker: Prophet of Anglicanism</b> , Phillip Secor <b>The Wisdom of Richard Hooker</b> , Selections from Hooker's writings with Topical Index <b>*Essential Truths for Christians</b> , John Rodgers
<b>Ascetical Theology</b>	<b>*Celebration of Discipline</b> and <b>*Prayer</b> , Richard Foster <b>*Practicing the Presence of God</b> , Brother Lawrence <b>*Praying</b> , J.I. Packer <b>*The Art of Listening Prayer</b> , Seth Barnes	<b>Streams of Living Water</b> , Richard Foster <b>Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life</b> , Simon Chan	<b>Conferences</b> , John Cassian <b>Abandonment to Divine Providence</b> , Jean-Pierre de Caussade
<b>Church History</b>	<b>Church History in Plain Language</b> , Bruce Shelley or <b>Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity</b> , Mark Noll	<b>The Story of Christianity</b> , Justo Gonzalez or <b>A History of the Christian Church</b> , Williston Walker or <b>A History of Christianity</b> , Paul Johnson	<b>The Rise of Christianity</b> , W.H.C. Frend <b>The First 1000 Years</b> , Robert Louis Wilken <b>History of Christian Missions</b> , Stephen Neill <b>Truly Divine &amp; Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils</b> , Stephen W. Need
<b>Pastoral Theology</b>	<b>Working the Angles</b> , Eugene Peterson <b>*Life Together</b> , Dietrich Bonhoeffer	<b>Calling and Character: Virtues of the Ordained Life</b> , William Willimon <b>5 Smooth Stones for Pastoral Care</b> , Eugene Peterson <b>Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry</b> , William Willimon <b>On Being a Deacon Today</b> , Rosalind Brown	<b>Pastoral Rule</b> , St. Gregory <b>Reformed Pastor</b> , Richard Baxter <b>Pastoral Theology: Essentials of Ministry</b> , Thomas Oden <b>On Being A Priest Today</b> , Cocksworth & Brown
<b>Mission of the Church</b>	<b>AND</b> , Hugh Slaughter and Matt Smay ( <b>Tangible Kingdom</b> recommended for background)	<b>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</b> , Leslie Newbigin (also <b>Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture</b> )	<b>Center Church</b> , Timothy Keller <b>Perspectives</b> , Ralph Winter and Steve Hawthorne (eds.)
<b>Moral Theology and Ethics</b>	<b>*To Be A Christian: An Anglican Catechism</b> , ACNA <b>*Jerusalem Declaration</b> <b>*Cost of Discipleship</b> , Dietrich Bonhoeffer		<b>Moral Vision of the New Testament</b> , Richard Hays



<b>Liturgics</b>	ACNA liturgies and supporting documents <b>“Worship: Intimacy with God,”</b> John and Carol Wimber <b>Worship for Today’s Church,</b> Rosalind Brown & Mimi Farr, Christian Foundations Program, Trinity School for Ministry <b>In the Breaking of the Bread,</b> Leander Harding	<b>Our Common Prayer,</b> Winfield Bevins  <b>Deacons in the Liturgy,</b> Ormand Platter	<b>Liturgical Theology,</b> Simon Chan <b>The Liturgy Explained,</b> Howard Strong, <b>Loving and Wise: Presiding at the Eucharist,</b> Robert Hovda <b>Celebrating the Eucharist,</b> Malloy
<b>Homiletics</b>	<b>From Pew to Pulpit – A Beginner’s Guide to Preaching,</b> Clifton F. Guthrie <b>Between Two Worlds,</b> John Stott	<b>Biblical Preaching,</b> Robinson <b>Preaching- Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism –</b> Timothy Keller	<b>360-Degree Preaching: Hearing, Speaking and Living the Word,</b> Michael Quick
<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>Evangelism in the Small Membership Church –</b> Royal Speidel <b>The Master Plan of Evangelism –</b> Robert Coleman <b>Becoming A Contagious Christian –</b> Bill Hybels		
<b>Small Groups</b>	<b>Starting Small –</b> Ben Reed <b>Small Groups With a Purpose –</b> Steve Gladden <b>Real Life Discipleship -</b> Jim Putnam <b>Leading Missional Communities –</b> Mike Breen <b>Missional Small Groups –</b> M. Scott Boren		

**Also Recommended:** The Christian Foundations Program (CFP)– Trinity School for Ministry CFP is a multi-module training program designed for those who already have a Christian worldview but desire accessible and reliable spiritual formation in study that is biblically sound and theologically orthodox. CFP covers numbers of the above areas of study. This training can be done individually or in a small group setting. Cost is \$33 per module. The titles available in workbook format are:

- *Looking at the Old Testament*, by Stephen F. Noll
- *New Testament Writers and Writings*, by Leslie P. and Lynn J. Fairfield
- *Confessing the Faith*, by Ray Smith
  - *Exploring the Church's Past*, by Leslie P. Fairfield
- *The Episcopal Ethos*, by Leslie P. Fairfield
  - *Worship for Today's Church*, by Rosalind Brown and Mimi Farr

**Reference Books:**

**The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church**, F.L.Cross and E.A.Livingstone (eds.)  
**Handbook to the Bible**, Eerdmans

## Suggestions for Further Reading

	Level One: Lay Catechist	Level Two: Deacon	Level Three: Priest
<b>Biblical Studies</b>			
<b>Doctrine</b>		<b>Dogmatics in Outline</b> , Karl Barth <b>Daughters of the Church: Women and Ministry from New Testament Times to the Present</b> , Ruth Tucker & Walter Liefield <b>The Catholic Religion: A Manual of Instruction for Members of the Anglican Church</b> , Vernon Staley	<b>Evangelical Theology: An Introduction</b> , Karl Barth <b>Institutes of the Christian Religion</b> , John Calvin <b>Orthodoxy</b> , G. K. Chesterton <b>Pensées</b> , Blaise Pascal
<b>Anglicanism</b>		Ancient-Future Series (Faith, Worship, Evangelism), Robert Weber	<b>English Reformers</b> , T.H.L. Parker <b>Celtic Threads</b> , Padraigin Clancy
<b>Ascetical Theology</b>	<b>*Divine Conspiracy</b> , Dallas Willard <b>*Purpose Driven Life</b> , Rick Warren	<b>A Testament of Devotion</b> , Thomas R. Kelly <b>The Prayer Life</b> , Andrew Murray <b>Christian Proficiency</b> , Martin Thornton <b>Desiring God</b> , John Piper	<b>The Sayings of the Desert Fathers</b> , Benedicta Ward <b>The Rule of St. Benedict</b> <b>Cloud of Unknowing</b> <b>Revelations of Divine Love (Showings)</b> , Julian of Norwich <b>The Imitation of Christ</b> , Thomas à Kempis <b>The Interior Castle</b> , St. Teresa of Avila <b>Dark Night of the Soul</b> , St. John of the Cross <b>The Pilgrim's Progress</b> , John Bunyan <b>A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life</b> , William Law <b>The Way of a Pilgrim</b> <b>The Art of Prayer: An Orthodox Anthology</b> , Igumen Chariton
<b>Church History</b>		<b>The Lost History of Christianity</b> , Philip Jenkins	<b>History of the Christian Church</b> , Philip Schaff <a href="http://www.ccel.org/s/schaff/history/About.htm">http://www.ccel.org/s/schaff/history/About.htm</a>
<b>Pastoral Theology</b>	<b>*In the Name of Jesus</b> , Henri Nouwen <b>*The Living Church</b> , John Stott <b>*Forgotten Ways</b> , Alan Hirsch <b>*When Helping Hurts</b> , Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert	<b>Activate: An Entirely New Approach to Small Groups</b> , Nelson Searcy <b>Real Life Discipleship &amp; Training Manual</b> , Putman <b>Community: Taking Your Small Group Off Life Support</b> , Brad House	<b>Confessions</b> , St. Augustine <b>The Brothers Karamazov</b> , Fyodor Dostoevsky <b>The Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins</b> <b>The Poetry of George Herbert</b> <b>The Seven Story Mountain</b> , Thomas Merton <b>The Return of the Prodigal Son</b> , Henri J. M. Nouwen <b>The Divine Comedy</b> , Dante Alighieri

<b>Mission of the Church</b>	<p><b>*The Next Evangelism</b>, Soong-Chan Rah</p> <p><b>*Evangelism Outside the Box</b>, Rick Richardson</p> <p><b>*Viral Churches</b>, Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird</p>	<p><b>*Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?</b>, Roland Allen</p> <p><b>Celtic Evangelism</b>, George Hunter</p>	<p><b>*The Spontaneous Expansion of the Church</b>, Roland Allen</p>
<b>Moral Theology and Ethics</b>			
<b>Liturgics</b>			<p><b>The Christian Priest Today</b>, Michael Ramsey</p>
<b>Homiletics</b>			



## ORDINATION TRACK

### What is Ordination?

Ordination is the sacramental ceremony in which a person becomes a Deacon, Priest or Bishop and is enabled to minister in Christ's name and that of the Church.

### DIACONAL ORDINATION

#### WHAT DOES A DEACON DO?

The terms “Deacon” and “Diaconate” derive from the Greek word *diakonia* which means “service” or “ministry.” A deacon, then, is ordained by the Church for service. But what kind of service?

The Church traditionally speaks of three areas of diaconal service: Ministry of Charity, Ministry of the Word, and Ministry of Liturgy.

#### Ministry of Charity

The deacon is ordained to be a witness to the Gospel through a life of service. A deacon serves through his/her person-to-person encounters: he/she ministers to the poor, the aged, the sick, prisoners. He/she participates in programs dealing with community problems like substance or child abuse. The deacon works with youth and young adults in various parish and/or community programs. The deacon is obliged to be a positive influence for change in the world...so that society may be renewed by Christ and transformed into the family of God.

#### Ministry of the Word

The deacon proclaims the Gospel. He/she is an agent of evangelization, that is, of announcing the Good News of Christ in society. He/she also preaches at liturgical gatherings and in religious education programs, sacramental preparation programs, i.e. baptism, marriage, confirmation.

#### Ministry of Liturgy

The deacon assists at the Eucharistic Celebration, administers baptism, officiates at wakes and funerals, presides at prayer services, (i.e. the appropriate parts of communion services and morning and evening prayer.)

The deacon of today has the flexibility to dedicate their special talents under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and through the Church, to contribute to the mission of the Church within his/her own world of community activity. The diaconate broadens the concept of ministry and makes it possible for others to share their talents in varying ways.

The summons of his/her bishop, the needs of the community, the deacon's own specific competence and the guidance of the Church's pastor will help him/her decide how to use their resources and spiritual gifts wisely and effectively.

A person can be ordained to the Vocational Diaconate or, if they have been approved to pursue training for the Priesthood, to the Transitional Diaconate. Service in the transitional Diaconate generally lasts one year in length, though the Bishop retains the right to shorten or lengthen that time and make individualized arrangements. A transitional Deacon must submit all required materials for ordination to the Priesthood. When the Bishop is assured that he or she has a church or ministry in which to exercise the Priesthood, the Bishop will then ordain the Deacon as a Priest upon successful completion of their training and preparation.

## **PRIESTLY ORDINATION**

**A CALLING** The priesthood is a calling, not simply one occupation among many that a person might choose. The priestly calling is holy, (Philippians 3:14), heavenly (Hebrews 3:1), and therefore, the ways of carrying it out are different from any other occupation.

The essence of the priestly life is providing spiritual leadership to the church and helping people discover God. The celebration of the sacraments is a main focus of the priesthood. The sacraments touch every stage of life from birth to death and priests have the privilege of sharing in these significant occasions with the people of God. As a result, priests have an intimate connection with those whom they serve whether it be at the celebration of marriage, the funeral of a loved one or in the other sacramental celebrations. Supremely, we know the presence of Christ in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Priests are, in Saint Paul's words, "ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God" (I Corinthians 4:1).

Priests serve in other capacities as well. Priests are anointers, confessors, comforters, consolers. They are leaders, instructors, counselors, preachers and friends. They are companions on a journey of faith. They are individuals with whom we are united in belief and prayer in the mission of Christ and his kingdom. The life of a priest is a life of service lived out with a particular goal - that of making Jesus Christ present in our world.

### **The ADGL Discernment Process for the Diaconate and Priesthood**

Canonical authority for all ordinations in the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes rests with the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes. The ADGL Vocations Committee, along with the local parish, help the Bishop in selecting, preparing, and evaluating those called to ordained ministry. All parish and diocesan leaders recognize certain markers that serve as good indications of an individual's call to and readiness for ordained ministry. These include, but are not limited to, a person who has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and strongly desires to serve His Church through ordained ministry, has begun to live a fruitful Christian life of discipleship, displays strong moral character and a good reputation in his or her community, and has an appreciation for and general knowledge of the Anglican tradition.

There are four steps on the road to Holy Orders in the ADGL Ordination Process. There is no fixed period of time to complete them, and circumstances will vary among individuals. This may be your first step in exploring ordained ministry, or you may have done a discernment process elsewhere, have theological training, or are already ordained in another denomination. Those who may have extraordinary circumstances, or who are coming onto the road mid-way from another denomination, should consult with his or her local priest.

#### **FIRST STEP: INQUIRER**

This person is discerning whether formally to enter the ADGL application process. Discernment begins with a sense of call within the context of the local parish (based in part on the person's demonstrated service and ministry that is already happening in the local parish); the Inquirer talks to the local priest and begins a process at the local level, during which the local priest:

- Affirms that the person has been Baptized and Confirmed (or Received) into the Anglican Church.
- Shares with the Inquirer an introductory letter which explains the process and gently but clearly reminds the person that "This is a discernment process and entry into it does not guarantee the result," or etc.

- Discusses with the Inquirer his or her written material known as Exploring a Call to Holy Orders (**ECHO**), which includes:
  - Waiver
  - Release of Information Agreement for Background Check
  - Spiritual Auto-biography
  - Spousal Statement (if applicable)
  - Family History
  - Clarifying God's Call
  - Resume
- Connects (in consultation with the Bishop's office if need be) the Inquirer to an ADGL-approved Spiritual Director/Mentor, with whom the Inquirer begins regular meetings.
- Helps, along with a Spiritual Director/Mentor, develop a relevant and personal Rule of Life.
- If the Inquirer is married, the local priest meets with the Inquirer and his or her spouse, both together and individually, to discuss the sense of call, etc.
- Calls the Parish Discernment Committee (If and when the local priest sees fit to move the process forward), which meets with the Inquirer at least three times. If married, there is also a meeting with the Inquirer and his or her spouse, together, and another separate meeting with the spouse alone.
- The Inquirer is asked to develop and write a relevant and personal rule of life as a foundation for their life as a disciple and possible future ordained ministry. Goal: to identify a healthy and good spirituality and way of living. What kind of life and practice brings union with Christ and growth in holiness, peace with God and neighbor? How does a rule of life highlight the struggle against sin and death? How does a rule of life relate to Christian freedom and the new humanity of Christ?
  - A helpful book to aid in exploring the power and writing a rule of life is:
    - Crafting A Rule of Life** by Stephen Macchia
- It is also expected that the inquirer will commit to using the Daily Offices (Morning, Evening & Noonday) and Lectionary for a devotional pattern throughout their ordination preparation. (There is a app that can be used on your iPhone and smartphone called Pocket Common Worship.)

If and when the Parish Discernment Committee (PDC) is satisfied, they recommend the Inquirer to the Vestry. The Vestry votes whether to send the Inquirer to the Bishop. If that vote is positive, the local priest formally notifies the Bishop in writing (which letter includes a discussion of the Inquirer's ministry experience), talks with the Bishop to share the overall story and clarify any questions, and sends the Inquirer's written ECHO responses, a signed Release of Information Agreement, a copy of The ADGL Discernment Process Checklist, and copies of any relevant notes and details from the PDC to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard at the Bishop's office. The vote of the local Vestry moves the person from Inquirer to Aspirant, who will be notified by the Bishop through a letter of his or her entry into aspirancy.

## **SECOND STEP: ASPIRANT**

The discernment process now moves from the sphere of the parish/mission to that of the diocese. During this phase, the Bishop reviews ECHO and any other documentation from the local parish. Having reviewed those materials, the Bishop will have any other pertinent forms sent to the Aspirant to fill out, so that he or she may complete the ADGL application, the whole of which is made up of the following formal pieces:

- Exploring a Call to Holy Orders
- ADGL Discernment Process Checklist
- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Core Purpose, Vision and Values"
- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Theological Statement"
- Three recommendation letters:
  - Ministry
  - Academic
  - Personal
- \$100 application fee (check payable to ADGL)

- Financial Statement (a written summary of personal financial health or struggle; indebtedness, etc.)
- Physical Exam Report
- Signed Hold Harmless Release for Psychological Evaluation Report
- Completion of the on-line Prepare and Enrich Assessment, for those Aspirants who are married/soon to be married with review of portions relevant to vocation. \*
- Any Undergraduate, Postgraduate, or Seminary degree transcript(s)
- Ministry Safe Certification (a request for certification must be sent via email to [tinafisher1002@gmail.com](mailto:tinafisher1002@gmail.com) and a link to certification training will be sent to the applicant.)

Upon successful submission of the above, the Aspirant is invited (with spouse, if married) to Postulancy Interviews with the Bishop or the Diocesan Vocations Committee, who then decide whether to advance the Aspirant to the stage of Postulant and notifies the person in a letter.

The aspirant is asked to read: *The Anglican Way* by Thomas McKenzie. This will help deepen and broaden the Aspirants understanding of the Anglican tradition. The aspirant should be prepared to discuss their understanding of Anglicanism as it relates to their potential call to ordained ministry.

\*The Diocese has trained facilitators who will review the Prepare and Enrich Assessment with the Aspirant. There is no fee for this service.

### **THIRD STEP: POSTULANT**

The candidate is now being formed for the ordained ministry under the direction and supervision of the Bishop and those to whom he delegates this task. Formation may include, but not be limited to, coursework, ministry experience, and specific areas of spiritual formation or disciplines. During this step, the Postulant is expected to:

- Write Ember Day Letters to the Bishop (these are reflective, personal letters, written quarterly, that keep the Bishop informed of the Aspirants' progress and spiritual and overall life health). Ember Days are the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday after:
  - The Third Sunday of Advent
  - The First Sunday in Lent
  - Pentecost
  - Holy Cross Day (September 14)
- Face to face conversation on vocation between the postulant and spouse with a licensed counselor in the diocesan clergy.
- Accept opportunities, provided locally by his or her parish priest, for ministry leadership in a variety of contexts, such as:
  - Participating in the leading of public worship
  - Evangelism
  - Leading in Discipleship
  - Leading small groups
  - Attending Vestry meetings
- Receives written release from Sponsoring Priest to meet with an Examining Chaplain.
- After the postulant's studies are completed, he/she will meet with the Board of Examining Chaplains (BOEC) at the conclusion of this time to determine whether the necessary competency requirements have been met for the level of ordination they are pursuing. There will be both written and oral exams for the postulant to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of holy scripture, doctrine, discipline and worship in the Church, and any other qualities the Bishop deems necessary for the office of deacon or presbyter. The BOEC will assess the Postulant's competency in cognitive skills and theological knowledge and in certain verbal skills like preaching and teaching. The BOEC will not review the Postulant's vocation or matters dealt with in Steps I and II unless some deficiency in skill bears on the validity of the Postulant's vocation.

## FOURTH STEP: CANDIDATE FOR HOLY ORDERS

Based on the BOEC's final recommendation, the Bishop may approve the Postulant to become a Candidate for ordination to the Vocational Diaconate, or if proceeding on to the Priesthood, the Transitional Diaconate. After serving as a Transitional Deacon and upon successful completion of their priestly studies and examinations the Aspirant will be approved as a candidate for the Priesthood. The Bishop will notify all aspirants who have been approved as candidates in a letter.

- Plans, along with any other Candidates and in consultation with the Bishop or those to whom he delegates this piece, the Service of Ordination.
- Submits \$200 Ordination Fee – check made payable to ADGL (to cover ordination materials)

### The Canons and Constitutions of the Church

The ordination process is governed by the [Constitution and Canons of The Anglican Church in North America](#) and the [Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes](#). All applicants must read and understand these documents, and all ordinands must take vows to uphold the Canons and Constitutions of both the diocese and the province at their ordination.



## DIACONAL AND PRIESTLY TRAINING:

Training can be accomplished in a variety of ways – Reading for Orders, studying at an approved Seminary, On-line classes, or a combination of the above. An appropriate strategy for training and formation will be established by the aspirant in consultation with the Vocations Committee and with the approval of the Bishop.

### Core Reading List

Since we are blessed with so many excellent resources for study in English, each of the books listed below is given as an example of the kind of book we recommend for each area/level. This list is meant to point people who are in training or being mentored towards resources that will allow all leaders in the Diocese to have a common base of knowledge. We also recognize that there are other ways of gaining knowledge (such as seminars, online courses, and courses on tape) that will accomplish the goal of building a strong foundation of clear thinking for a lifetime of fruitful ministry

	Level One: Lay Catechist	Level Two: Deacon	Level Three: Priest
<b>Biblical Studies</b>	<b>How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth</b> , Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart <b>Epic of Eden</b> , Sandra Richter <b>Understanding the Bible</b> , John Stott	<b>New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors</b> , Gordon Fee <b>Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors</b> , Douglas Stuart <b>A Survey of the New Testament</b> , Gundry	<b>The Moral Vision of the New Testament</b> , Richard Hays <b>Methodical Bible Study</b> , Robert Traina



		<b>A Survey of the Old Testament: The Bible Jesus Used</b> , John Stevenson	
<b>Doctrine</b>	ACNA Catechism and the Jerusalem Declaration <b>Mere Christianity</b> , C.S. Lewis and/or <b>Simply Christian</b> , N.T. Wright <b>*Basic Christianity</b> , John Stott <b>Know the Creeds and Councils</b> , Justin Holcomb	<b>On the Incarnation</b> , Athanasius <b>The Cross of Christ</b> , John Stott <b>Classic Christianity</b> , Thomas Oden <b>The Reason for God</b> , Timothy Keller	<b>Christian Theology: An Introduction</b> , Alister McGrath (along with his <b>The Christian Theology Reader</b> )
<b>Anglicanism</b>	<b>*The Anglican Way</b> , Thomas McKenzie	<b>The Faith We Confess: An Exposition of the Thirty-Nine Articles</b> , Gerald Bray <b>Exploring the Church's Past</b> , Leslie Fairfield, Christian Foundations Program, Trinity School for Ministry  <b>History of the Church of England</b> , John R.H. Moorman <b>The 39 Articles: Buried Alive?</b> , Sam Pascoe	<b>Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Church of North America and the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes</b> , (ACNA and ADGL websites.) <b>Richard Hooker: Prophet of Anglicanism</b> , Phillip Secor <b>The Wisdom of Richard Hooker</b> , Selections from Hooker's writings with Topical Index <b>*Essential Truths for Christians</b> , John Rodgers
<b>Ascetical Theology</b>	<b>*Celebration of Discipline</b> and <b>*Prayer</b> , Richard Foster <b>*Practicing the Presence of God</b> , Brother Lawrence <b>*Praying</b> , J.I. Packer <b>*The Art of Listening Prayer</b> , Seth Barnes	<b>Streams of Living Water</b> , Richard Foster <b>Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life</b> , Simon Chan	<b>Conferences</b> , John Cassian <b>Abandonment to Divine Providence</b> , Jean-Pierre de Caussade
<b>Church History</b>	<b>Church History in Plain Language</b> , Bruce Shelley or <b>Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity</b> , Mark Noll	<b>The Story of Christianity</b> , Justo Gonzalez or <b>A History of the Christian Church</b> , Williston Walker or <b>A History of Christianity</b> , Paul Johnson	<b>The Rise of Christianity</b> , W.H.C. Frend <b>The First 1000 Years</b> , Robert Louis Wilken <b>History of Christian Missions</b> , Stephen Neill <b>Truly Divine &amp; Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils</b> , Stephen W. Need
<b>Pastoral Theology</b>	<b>Working the Angles</b> , Eugene Peterson <b>*Life Together</b> , Dietrich Bonhoeffer	<b>Calling and Character: Virtues of the Ordained Life</b> , William Willimon <b>5 Smooth Stones for Pastoral Care</b> , Eugene Peterson <b>Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry</b> , William Willimon <b>On Being a Deacon Today</b> , Rosalind Brown	<b>Pastoral Rule</b> , St. Gregory <b>Reformed Pastor</b> , Richard Baxter <b>Pastoral Theology: Essentials of Ministry</b> , Thomas Oden <b>On Being A Priest Today</b> , Cocksworth & Brown
<b>Mission of the Church</b>	<b>AND</b> , Hugh Halter and Matt Smay (Tangible Kingdom recommended for background)	<b>The Gospel in a Pluralist Society</b> , Leslie Newbigin (also <b>Foolishness to the Greeks: The Gospel and Western Culture</b> )	<b>Center Church</b> , Timothy Keller <b>Perspectives</b> , Ralph Winter and Steve Hawthorne (eds.)
<b>Moral Theology and Ethics</b>	<b>*To Be A Christian: An Anglican Catechism</b> , ACNA <b>*Jerusalem Declaration</b>		<b>Moral Vision of the New Testament</b> , Richard Hays

	<b>*Cost of Discipleship</b> , Dietrich Bonhoeffer		
<b>Liturgics</b>	ACNA liturgies and supporting documents <b>“Worship: Intimacy with God,”</b> John and Carol Wimber <b>Worship for Today’s Church</b> , Rosalind Brown & Mimi Farr, Christian Foundations Program, Trinity School for Ministry <b>In the Breaking of the Bread</b> , Leander Harding	<b>Our Common Prayer</b> , Winfield Bevins  <b>Deacons in the Liturgy</b> , Ormand Platter	<b>Liturgical Theology</b> , Simon Chan <b>The Liturgy Explained</b> , Howard Strong, <b>Loving and Wise: Presiding at the Eucharist</b> , Robert Hovda <b>Celebrating the Eucharist</b> , Malloy
<b>Homiletics</b>	<b>From Pew to Pulpit – A Beginner’s Guide to Preaching</b> , Clifton F. Guthrie <b>Between Two Worlds</b> , John Stott	<b>Biblical Preaching</b> , Robinson <b>Preaching- Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism –</b> Timothy Keller	<b>360-Degree Preaching: Hearing, Speaking and Living the Word</b> , Michael Quick
<b>Evangelism</b>	<b>Evangelism in the Small Membership Church –</b> Royal Speidel <b>The Master Plan of Evangelism –</b> Robert Coleman <b>Becoming A Contagious Christian –</b> Bill Hybels		
<b>Small Groups</b>	<b>Starting Small –</b> Ben Reed <b>Small Groups With a Purpose –</b> Steve Gladden <b>Real Life Discipleship -</b> Jim Putnam <b>Leading Missional Communities –</b> Mike Breen <b>Missoinal Small Groups –</b> M. Scott Boren		

**Also Recommended:** The Christian Foundations Program (CFP) – Trinity School for Ministry

**Reference Books:**

**The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church**, F.L.Cross and E.A.Livingstone (eds.)

**Handbook to the Bible**, Eerdmans

## Suggestions for Further Reading

	Level One: Lay Catechist	Level Two: Deacon	Level Three: Priest
<b>Biblical Studies</b>			
<b>Doctrine</b>		<b>Dogmatics in Outline</b> , Karl Barth <b>Daughters of the Church: Women and Ministry from New Testament Times to the Present</b> , Ruth Tucker & Walter Liefeld <b>The Catholic Religion: A Manual of Instruction for Members of the Anglican Church</b> , Vernon Staley	<b>Evangelical Theology: An Introduction</b> , Karl Barth <b>Institutes of the Christian Religion</b> , John Calvin <b>Orthodoxy</b> , G. K. Chesterton <b>Pensées</b> , Blaise Pascal

<b>Anglicanism</b>		Ancient-Future Series (Faith, Worship, Evangelism), Robert Weber	<b>English Reformers</b> , T.H.L. Parker <b>Celtic Threads</b> , Padraigin Clancy
<b>Ascetical Theology</b>	<b>Divine Conspiracy</b> , Dallas Willard <b>Purpose Driven Life</b> , Rick Warren	<b>A Testament of Devotion</b> , Thomas R. Kelly <b>The Prayer Life</b> , Andrew Murray <b>Christian Proficiency</b> , Martin Thornton <b>Desiring God</b> , John Piper	<b>The Sayings of the Desert Fathers</b> , Benedicta Ward <b>The Rule of St. Benedict</b> <b>Cloud of Unknowing</b> <b>Revelations of Divine Love (Showings)</b> , Julian of Norwich <b>The Imitation of Christ</b> , Thomas à Kempis <b>The Interior Castle</b> , St. Teresa of Avila <b>Dark Night of the Soul</b> , St. John of the Cross <b>The Pilgrim's Progress</b> , John Bunyan <b>A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life</b> , William Law <b>The Way of a Pilgrim</b> <b>The Art of Prayer: An Orthodox Anthology</b> , Igumen Chariton
<b>Church History</b>		<b>The Lost History of Christianity</b> , Philip Jenkins	<b>History of the Christian Church</b> , Philip Schaff ( <a href="http://www.ccel.org/s/schaff/history/About.htm">http://www.ccel.org/s/schaff/history/About.htm</a> )
<b>Pastoral Theology</b>	<b>In the Name of Jesus</b> , Henri Nouwen <b>The Living Church</b> , John Stott <b>Forgotten Ways</b> , Alan Hirsch <b>When Helping Hurts</b> , Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert	<b>Activate: An Entirely New Approach to Small Groups</b> , Nelson Searcy <b>Real Life Discipleship &amp; Training Manual</b> , Putman <b>Community: Taking Your Small Group Off Life Support</b> , Brad House	<b>Confessions</b> , St. Augustine <b>The Brothers Karamazov</b> , Fyodor Dostoevsky The Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins The Poetry of George Herbert <b>The Seven Story Mountain</b> , Thomas Merton <b>The Return of the Prodigal Son</b> , Henri J. M. Nouwen <b>The Divine Comedy</b> , Dante Alighieri
<b>Mission of the Church</b>	<b>The Next Evangelism</b> , Soong-Chan Rah <b>Evangelism Outside the Box</b> , Rick Richardson <b>Viral Churches</b> , Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird	<b>*Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?</b> , Roland Allen <b>Celtic Evangelism</b> , George Hunter	<b>*The Spontaneous Expansion of the Church</b> , Roland Allen
<b>Moral Theology and Ethics</b>			
<b>Liturgics</b>			<b>The Christian Priest Today</b> , Michael Ramsey

Homiletics			

**Reading List for Clergy Seeking Anglican Orders Coming from Other Traditions:**

	Anglican Studies
<b>Biblical Studies</b>	<b>Methodical Bible Study</b> , Robert Traina
<b>Doctrine</b>	<b>Christian Theology: An Introduction</b> , Alister McGrath (along with his <b>The Christian Theology Reader</b> ) <b>To Be A Christian: An Anglican Catechism</b> , ACNA <b>Jerusalem Declaration</b> <b>Cost of Discipleship</b> , Dietrich Bonhoeffer
<b>Anglicanism</b>	<b>The Anglican Way</b> , Thomas McKenzie <b>The Anglican Tradition</b> , by Evans & N.T. Wright <b>Essential Truths for Christians</b> , John Rodgers <b>The Faith We Confess: An Exposition of the Thirty-Nine Articles</b> , Gerald Bray <b>Exploring the Church's Past</b> , Leslie Fairfield, Christian Foundations Program, Trinity School for Ministry <b>History of the Church of England</b> , John R.H. Moorman <b>Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Church of North America and the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes</b> , These can be found on the ACNA and ADGL websites. <b>Richard Hooker: Prophet of Anglicanism</b> , Phillip Secor <b>The Wisdom of Richard Hooker</b> , Selections from Hooker's writings with Topical Index
<b>Ascetical Theology</b>	<b>Streams of Living Water</b> , Richard Foster <b>Spiritual Theology: A Systematic Study of the Christian Life</b> , Simon Chan <b>The Art of Listening Prayer</b> , Seth Barnes
<b>Church History</b>	<b>The Rise of Christianity</b> , W.H.C. Frend

	<p><b>The First 1000 Years</b>, Robert Louis Wilken</p> <p><b>History of Christian Missions</b>, Stephen Neill</p> <p><b>Truly Divine &amp; Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils</b>, Stephen W. Need</p>
<b>Pastoral Theology</b>	<p><b>Calling and Character: Virtues of the Ordained Life</b>, William Willimon</p> <p><b>5 Smooth Stones for Pastoral Care</b>, Eugene Peterson</p> <p><b>Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry</b>, William Willimon</p> <p><b>Pastoral Theology: Essentials of Ministry</b>, Thomas Oden</p> <p><b>Forgiveness Is Healing</b> by Russ Parker</p> <p><b>Healing Wounded History: Reconciling People and Healing Places</b> by Russ Parker</p> <p><b>Rediscovering the Ministry of Blessing</b> by Russ Parker</p>
<b>Mission of the Church</b>	<p><b>Center Church</b>, Timothy Keller</p> <p><b>Perspectives</b>, Ralph Winter and Steve Hawthorne (eds.)</p> <p><b>Celtic Way of Evangelism</b></p>
<b>Moral Theology and Ethics</b>	<p><b>Moral Vision of the New Testament</b>, Richard Hays</p>
<b>Liturgics</b>	<p><b>Liturgical Theology</b>, Simon Chan</p> <p><b>The Liturgy Explained</b>, Howard Strong,</p> <p><b>Loving and Wise: Presiding at the Eucharist</b>, Robert Hovda</p> <p><b>Celebrating the Eucharist</b>, Malloy</p> <p><b>In the Breaking of the Bread</b> by Leander Harding</p> <p><b>On Being a Deacon Today</b>, Rosalind Brown</p> <p><b>On Being A Priest Today</b>, Cocksworth &amp; Brown</p>
<b>Homiletics</b>	<p><b>360-Degree Preaching: Hearing, Speaking and Living the Word</b>, Michael Quick</p> <p><b>Preaching- Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism</b> – Timothy Keller</p>

### **Ordination Examination Writing Projects**

These projects are to be submitted to the Board of Examining Chaplains as part of the evaluation process for ordination.

1. Write out an Instructed Eucharist, as if you were teaching the parts of the Liturgy to people who had not experienced Liturgical worship. Goal: to thoroughly embody the theological and biblical basis for Anglican worship, sacramental understanding, and ecclesiology.
2. After reviewing several of the special liturgical services in the Prayer Book (Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Burial service, Baptism), select one and write a homily to be given in that setting. Goal: to help aspirants and postulants trained in other preaching traditions to adapt their preaching to fit inside a new liturgical format. Focus on length of homilies, working from sources other than scriptural exegesis (but not excluding it), and synthetic transitions from worship leader to preacher.
3. Write a paper reflecting on the priestly ministry of hearing confession. How would you introduce this practice to your parish? What are the means and the goal of confession? What makes Anglican practices of confession and reconciliation distinct from other Christian churches?
4. Write a theological reflection on the Nicene Creed, in preparation for teaching it to a catechumenate class, annotating each clause of the creed with pertinent insights and scriptures.
5. Design a bulletin for the fourth week in Lent.
6. Submit recordings/video or your best sermon and best teaching on any subject in a lay class.



## REVIEW AND CHECKLIST FOR THE LAY CATECHIST PROCESS

At the conclusion of each step, completed documents should be sent to the ADGL Office  
**Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard 3810 Ridgewood Rd. Copley, OH 44321**

### INQUIRER

- Contact your local Priest
- Ascertain Baptism and Confirmation/Reception in the Anglican Church
- Waiver
- Release of Information Agreement for Background Check
- Complete application for Lay Catechist
- Spiritual Autobiography
- Family History
- Clarifying God's Call
- Spousal Letter of Agreement (if applicable)
- Resume
- Meet regularly with local Priest – include inquirer's spouse if applicable
- If applicable, the local Priest to send all documents thus far to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard.

### ASPIRANT

- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Core Purpose, Vision and Values"
- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Fundamental Declarations of the Province"
- Two recommendation letters
  - o Ministry
  - o Personal
- \$100 Application fee (check payable to ADGL – "Lay Catechist Training" in memo line – sent to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard)
- Signed Hold Harmless Release for Psychological Exam Report
- Any Undergraduate, Post Graduate, or Seminary degree transcripts.
- Contact [tinafisher1002@gmail.com](mailto:tinafisher1002@gmail.com) to receive a link for Ministry Safe Certification – complete training.



## REVIEW AND CHECKLIST FOR THE ORDINATION PROCESS

At the conclusion of each step, completed documents should be sent to the ADGL Office  
**Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard 3810 Ridgewood Rd. Copley, OH 44321**

### INQUIRER

- Contact your local Priest
- Ascertain Baptism and Confirmation/Reception in the Anglican Church
- Waiver
- Release of Information Agreement for Background Check
- Complete application for Holy Orders
- Spiritual Autobiography
- Family History
- Clarifying God's Call
- Spousal Letter of Agreement (if applicable)
- Resume
- Meet regularly with local Priest – include inquirer's spouse if applicable
- Parish Discernment Committee recommends (by letter) Inquirer (if applicable) to the Vestry for Holy Orders.
- Vestry votes (by letter to Priest) to move forward to Aspirant
- If applicable, the local Priest to send all documents thus far to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard.

### ASPIRANT

- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Core Purpose, Vision and Values"
- Signed and affirmed "ACNA Fundamental Declarations of the Province"
- Three recommendation letters
  - Ministry
  - Academic
  - Personal
- \$100 Application fee (check payable to ADGL – "ECHO" in memo line – sent to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard)
- Written financial statement (a summary of personal financial health or struggle; indebtedness, etc.)
- Physical Exam Report
- Signed Hold Harmless Release for Psychological Exam Report
- Complete on-line Prepare and Enrich Assessment and counseling for married/soon to be married couples
- Any Undergraduate, Post Graduate, or Seminary degree transcripts.
- Contact [tinafisher1002@gmail.com](mailto:tinafisher1002@gmail.com) to receive a link for Ministry Safe Certification – complete training.
- Postulancy interviews with the Bishop
- Bishop's Notification of advancement by letter

### POSTULANT

- Write Ember Day Letters to the Bishop
- Participate in leadership opportunities
- Meet with the Board of Examining Chaplains
- The Postulant will continue directed readings, liturgical training and meeting with your local Priest.

### CANDIDATE

- Ordination Retreat
- \$200 Ordination Fee – (check made payable to ADGL – Ordination fee, and sent to Rev. Canon Andrea Orchard)