



Diocese of New Westminster  
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



## Acting for good, acting for God

Deacons help the Church live into its mission to know, love and serve our neighbours and our communities. They are committed not just to leadership within the Church, but to bringing the heart and hands of Christ to their workplaces, their charitable endeavours, and their advocacy for justice, reconciliation and healing.

Want to talk about it?

For more information, please visit:



[www.vancouver.anglican.ca/clergy-resources/deacons](http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/clergy-resources/deacons)



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# THE ORDER OF DEACONS

Is God calling you to ordained service in the church – and the world outside its doors?



# Calling the church to service

## Did you know?

**Before there were Christian priests, there were deacons! (Acts 6:1-6)**  
**Deacons have always served at the behest of their bishop, who counts on them to further the Church's ministry.**

Deacons and priests each have distinct vocational mandates. Together, they minister to the needs of the parish church and help parishioners serve the community around them.



Deacons proclaim the gospel, offer sermons, serve at the Eucharist and dismiss parishioners to “love and serve the Lord” as they leave church for the week ahead. The rest of the time, deacons serve in ways that are uniquely their own - in health care, in their jobs and professions, in food ministries, in family life, in Christian education - in short, they are called to bring a pastoral heart to all they do!



## Becoming a deacon

People who are feeling a tug towards ordination are invited into a discernment process that helps identify if their gifts are best offered through lay or ordained ministry, as deacon or as a priest.

Diaconal candidates also take part in training and coursework to enhance their biblical knowledge and pastoral skills.

To learn more, speak with your parish priest, visit the Deacons page on the diocesan website, or get in touch with the Archdeacon for Deacons.