



Ordained Ministry in the Diocese of Bendigo

November 2022

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From the Bishop

*Bishop Matt Brain
Bishop of Bendigo*



The Diocese of Bendigo welcomes your interest in ministry in this Diocese. Ministry is undertaken by all God's people in both lay and ordained roles within the Church and wider community.

There are many steps to fulfilling a call to ordained ministry, the first of which is to listen to the discerning wisdom of others.

God's call to ordained ministry is serious business. Ordained ministers have a particular responsibility to ensure that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is modeled, passed on, explained and lived out. This is their vocation or calling.

Those who are ready present themselves to a rigorous process – a process that can take some years – even then it is not done. When you embark on the journey of ordained ministry, the learning is lifelong.

The Anglican Diocese of Bendigo is part of the Anglican Church of Australia and covers a large part of central and north-western Victoria. The diocese includes some 40 parishes, non-geographic congregations, agencies and community-based ministries. Parishes are organized under three archdeaconries, Bendigo, St. Arnaud and Goldfields, and six deaneries: Bendigo East, Bendigo West, Campaspe, Loddon, Mallee and Mount Alexander.

All enquiries about candidature and ordination should initially be directed to the Ministry Development Officer of the Diocese by phone on 03 5443 4711 or email at mdo@bendigoanglican.org.au .

Your servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt".

A message from the Archbishop of Canterbury

Archbishop Justin Welby

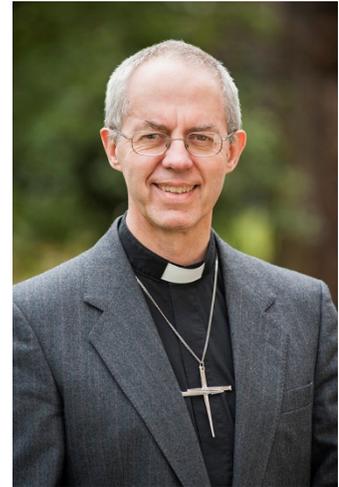
All who are baptised are called to ministry, whether that is lay or ordained. The Church needs a wide variety of ministers in order to serve all people. God calls young people and older ones, wealthy and poorer. The Church's ministers come from all walks of life, social classes, ethnic backgrounds and educational abilities.

You may be feeling excited, anxious, uncertain or inadequate but the Holy Spirit will lead, prepare and equip you as you move forward in faith and obedience. Above all be open to God's surprises!

Do you have a calling?

The good news is Yes! You have! Our first calling is to live life in all its fullness and to represent Christ in the world. This is our common calling as Christians.

But there is a further calling, a particular calling, sometimes called a 'vocation' which is not for everyone but may be for you. This particular calling is to serve God and all people through one of the Church's authorised lay or ordained ministries. For this particular calling you have to allow your sense of vocation to be tested by the Church through its discernment processes.



Discernment: Is God calling you?

“As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, ‘Follow me’ And he got up and followed him” (Matthew 9.9)

The call of Jesus to Matthew was clear and unambiguous. Matthew’s response to it was immediate. For most of us, discerning a call to follow Jesus in the context of the ordained ministries of the church will be much more complex. Our response may be years, possibly many years in the making and arising out of long and sustained prayer and reflection.

This booklet has been created as a resource for you in your questioning and discernment of vocation. Take your time to read, pray and consider what is provided in this document.

Where do I begin?

Those who sense or experience a call to ordained ministry in the Anglican Church will normally be members of a parish church, or another Anglican worshipping community and well known to the rector or chaplain in that place. Begin by talking with your rector or chaplain about your sense of calling. Read the information in these pages and use the resources to think, to pray and to talk with others about this. Importantly include those with whom you share your life. This impacts them as well.

Please take careful note of the criteria outlined by the Bishop of Bendigo regarding the qualities he is seeking in potential candidates for the ordained ministries of the Church.

The Bishop's criteria for Ordination Candidates

Personal

- Most basic of all is Christian faith and character. A candidate must be able to give a clear explanation of his/her faith journey and understanding of Christian faith and be prayerfully committed to Christ and to growing in both Christian maturity and character;
- There should be evidence of a spiritual discipline, involving individual and corporate prayer and worship, including a developing pattern of disciplined daily prayer, Bible study and regular receiving of Holy Communion;
- There must be evidence that Christian character is held as a high priority;
- The person must exhibit strengths of character and courage and be able to resist person, peer and community pressures;
- They must possess physical and psychological fitness.

Vocational

- A person must exhibit a passion for Christ and his Church and show evidence of a desire to talk about Jesus to others;
- There must be a record of, or a demonstrated potential for service and leadership in the Christian community, the Anglican Church and society at large;
- The person will need to possess people and community life skills and sensitivities;
- The person will be aware that simply to have a desire to be a Priest or Deacon are not necessarily a call to ordained ministry. God's call must be tested by the Church.

Professional

- The person will need to have the intellectual capacity to study and reflect on scripture and theology and to have a high regard for these sources;
- It will be important to have an ability to communicate the Christian faith in a way that is attractive to contemporary Australians;
- It will be important to have the generosity and flexibility to honour the diversity of Anglican expression in the Diocese and be prepared to listen respectfully and learn from others;
- Any potential ordinand will need to a good understanding of the essence of Anglicanism: the Bible, the Creeds, church polity and liturgy;
- Candidates should come from a background of strong parish involvement and have some knowledge of the Diocese of Bendigo.

Canon Law

The Diocese of Bendigo has adopted the Canon concerning Holy Orders 2004 which sets out some fundamental criteria around ordination that should be carefully noted by all prospective candidates. It is not possible for any provision of Canon Law to be altered or waived, nor considered negotiable or flexible in any way.

Deacon

A person cannot be ordained a Deacon unless:

- They have attained the age of 23 years
- Has been baptized and confirmed or received into communicant membership of the Anglican Church of Australia;
- Has been an active member of the Anglican Church for a period of at least twelve months;
- Has completed or is completing an appropriate course of training in theological and ministerial formation;
- Has a sufficient knowledge of Holy Scripture;
- Has a sufficient knowledge of and accepts the doctrine, discipline and principles of worship of the Anglican Church of Australia;
- Has sufficient knowledge of the forms of worship of the Anglican Church of Australia.

Priest

A person cannot be ordained Priest unless:

- They have attained the age of 24 years;
- They have been ordained Deacon;
- They will normally have ministered satisfactorily as a Deacon for at least nine months.

Ministry in the Anglican Church

As you try to discern what it is that God may be calling you to, it's important to consider all the possible options in the diocese.

Ordained Ministry

The Anglican Church of Australia affirms the three-fold ministry of Deacon, Priest and Bishop. This booklet considers the first two of these orders, of which there are three expressions of being deacon or priest in the Diocese of Bendigo:

- Stipendiary (Paid)
- Ordained Local Minister (OLM)
- Ordained Pioneer Minister (OPM)

Let us begin with an introduction to the ordained ministries of Deacon and Priest.

Most ordained ministers are priests (also known as presbyters). Their work is to build up the Body of Christ in the Church and in the world through the celebration of the sacraments, teaching, preaching and pastoral care. It is a ministry of leadership and mission, enabling all Christian people to realise their potential as they witness to Christ in the world.

Priesthood is also about who a person is: their life experience. Through the lives they lead, priests point to the life of Christ crucified and risen, encouraging all God's people to show love, care and compassion and to strive for justice and peace. As they do this, priests share in people's sorrows and joys as they walk with them on their individual journeys. For some, this ministry is exercised full-time, for others it is exercised as they continue in their on-going occupations, as OLMs or OPMs.

The ministry of a deacon is to be a servant and ambassador, both within the Church and in the wider community. A person who is accepted for ordination as a priest is first ordained as a deacon. Then, after a period of normally a year, he or she is ordained to the priesthood. This reminds us that humble service and reaching out to others are at the heart of priestly ministry.

Some are called to be life-long, distinctive deacons. These are people who are called to ordained ministry but not as priests. Their ministry encapsulates the ambassadorial and servant nature of all Christian ministry.

The Ordinal sets out the particular call and ministry of both priest and deacon. The extract below provides a way to reflect on both offices and understand the distinctives of each.

Expressions of Ordained Ministry

In the Diocese of Bendigo persons enquiring about ordained ministry should also consider its three expressions:

Deacons

called to the office of deacon...
to be an ambassador of Christ...
serving God as you serve others...
proclaim the good news...
love mercy, and walk humbly...
Strengthen the faithful, teach the young ...
ministering among the sick, needy...
pray and work for peace and justice...

From the Ordination of Deacons

APBA p. 785

Priests

called of God and the Church to live and work
as a priest, a pastor and teacher...
proclaim the gospel...
seek the lost, announce God's justice...
preaching the word of God...
declaring God's forgiveness and blessing...
faithfully ministering the sacraments...
be a pastor...be a teacher...
lead the people of God...
love and serve the people...

From the Ordination of Priests

APBA p. 793

1. Stipendiary Ordained Ministry:

This expression is the most common in the Diocese and includes most parish-based stipendiary (paid) clergy. It assumes clergy in this category:

- Have undertaken a tertiary qualification in theology;
- Believe they are called to ministerial leadership within the established parochial system of the Church;
- Recognise that their gifts for ministry will combine evangelism with pastoral care, preaching, teaching and leading worship.

This expression of ordained ministry will aim to develop the life of the People of God in a parish context for the service of God in the Church and wider community. Sometimes in this Diocese this expression can also have chaplaincy responsibilities added to it in a hospital, prison or with the Police, Fire Brigade/CFA etc.

2. Ordained Local Ministry (OLM)

OLM Ministry in the Diocese of Bendigo is seen primarily as an assisting ministry to the stipendiary clergy. However, those ordained as priest or deacon in this category are fully priest and fully deacon wherever they are licensed to minister. OLMs can operate in all parishes across the diocese as assistant clergy.

Vocation:

For OLM the call is primarily seen as coming from the Church rather than the candidate. The experience so far in this diocese has been of the Bishop “tapping possible candidates on the shoulder”, or from a process of discernment where in local congregations candidates are nominated by the congregation. The call here is a recognition of the ministerial leadership and qualities that the candidate has already demonstrated.

Contextual:

It is a rediscovery of the local or contextual dimensions of ministry. OLM ministry is arising in this diocese out of a situation that can best be described as “local church – locally grown”. As stipendiary ministry has a greater element of oversight in it, OLM offers an ordained ministry that is deeply embedded in the local community.

Collaborative Learning:

One of the strengths of OLM is its emphasis on learning in a team situation. In many ways it emulates the apprenticeship model of learning: the learner is placed with an experienced practitioner who from day one imparts their experience, wisdom and learning to the OLM priest or deacon. The Diocese of Bendigo offers an OLM training programme.

Flexibility:

Those in OLM are not fully stipendiary, but most will be paid some stipend and allowances in recognition of the ministry they are undertaking. The Bishop sees the development of OLM ministry across the diocese as making a significant contribution to under-girding stipendiary ministry and at the same time allowing for a new and exciting expression of ministry in its own right.

Most people who become OLMs will stay in a particular area, but the Bishop holds the view that OLM describes a style of ministry rather than a geographically defined unit. In other words, the term ‘local’ is seen as referring to the locally originating call, not the locus of deployment.

In this diocese, OLMs may minister across deaneries or clusters.

3. Ordained Pioneer Ministry (OPM)

The term Pioneer Ministry recognises the ministry of people who:

- Are starting or sustaining a 'fresh expression' of church, a form of church for our changing culture established primarily for the benefit of people not yet members of any church.
- Are already ministering in a context outside of church structures. This may include street ministry, youth work, and social justice, ministry in a secular workplace or place of recreation. It can be anywhere people gather.

The Diocese of Bendigo recognises the call of persons to Pioneer Ministry and is seeking to establish this expression of ordained ministry. An Ordained Pioneer Minister might be ordained as priest or deacon, although it particularly embodies the deacon's call to be an ambassador of Christ in the wider world. The Bishop has established the following list of qualities for those considering Ordained Pioneer Ministry:

- Authentic, integrated understanding of this ministry;
- Capacity to innovate and initiate;
- Mature and developed devotional life;
- Well-developed abilities to initiate change and enable others to face it in a flexible and balanced way;
- Demonstrated maturity and robustness in the face of the demands of pioneering ministry;
- Self-motivation;
- A good understanding of the interaction between the Gospel and Culture;
- A clear vision of how pioneer ministry fits with the Church's wider mission;
- An ability and desire to work collaboratively;
- A commitment to the diocese and its mission, vision and values.

Some will engage in this ministry full time, while others will combine it with existing occupations. In the Diocese of Bendigo it will be non-stipendiary.

Have you got what it takes? If you feel called to ordained ministry or accredited lay ministry, you will have to let your sense of vocation be tested by The Board of Ministry appointed by the Bishop to exercise discernment on behalf of the Church.

The Journey to Ordination

Towards selection as a Candidate for Ordained ministry

The first step in this journey is to speak with your Rector. With your Rector's encouragement, you then speak with the Bishop and with his encouragement complete an *Application Form for Registration as a Candidate for Holy Orders*.

As part of that application process, you will provide the names and address of at least three referees. These references will provide helpful information to assist the members of the Board of Ministry in their discernment. A confidential reference from your Rector will also be sought. Additionally, you will also be required to write two short papers, of no more than one typed A4 page each, on subjects relating to your sense of vocation and ordination. The two short papers also provide valuable information for the members of the Board conducting the Discernment Conference.

You will be asked to make an appointment for a psychological assessment. This is a comprehensive assessment of psychological functioning and suitability for ministry. It involves compiling a life history document for the psychologist, completing questionnaires and an interview resulting in a report which is sent to the Bishop's office as part of the discernment process.

When the Bishop considers the time is right to test your vocation further, he will ask the Board of Ministry to convene a Discernment Conference and invite you and other candidates to attend it. Discernment Conferences are held from time to time as required.

A Discernment Conference is usually held in Bendigo over the period of half a day. At it you will meet other men and women who are also further testing their vocation. You will also meet and spend time with members of the Board of Ministry – both lay and ordained.

At the Discernment Conference

The aim of the Discernment Conference is to discern God's will for you and the other candidates attending with you. The Board of Ministry members will have been praying for you as well as about their important responsibilities. Those trying to discern your vocation will be asking themselves *two* fundamental questions:

*Do you believe, so far as you know your own heart, that you are being called by God to ordained ministry?
Do you believe, so far as you know your own heart, that you have the necessary gifts and potential to fulfill your sense of vocation?*

You will be greeted and welcomed by a member of the Board of Ministry who will introduce you to the members of the Panel with whom you will be meeting and answer any questions you may have. You will meet six Panel members in groups of two over three meetings and converse with them in these meetings. The meetings usually cover three particular areas:

- Character, Relationships and Quality of mind
- Faith and Spirituality
- Vocation, Anglican Ethos, Leadership and Mission

At the Discernment Conference, you should be able to articulate:

- Whether you believe your calling is to the distinctive diaconate or priesthood;
- Whether you believe your calling is to parish-based ministry, chaplaincy or another area of ministry;
- Whether you are seeking to be stipendiary (paid) or non-stipendiary (honorary);
- Your willingness to be deployed anywhere in the Diocese of Bendigo.

What happens in these meetings will help the members of the Board of Ministry to get to know you as a person and help them discern your vocation. There will be an opportunity following the three meetings to ask any questions that may have arisen for you.

After the Discernment Conference

Following a Discernment Conference, and several days of prayer and reflection, the Board of Ministry members will prepare their recommendation for each candidate to the Bishop. This recommendation is advice to the Bishop and the decision about your future rests with him. The advice to the Bishop will take one of the following three forms:

1. Recommended for training and ordination

This means the way is open for you to embark on training and prepare for ordination.

2. Conditionally recommended for training and ordination

This means that your recommendation is dependent upon certain conditions being fulfilled, perhaps supplying further information, undertaking some preparatory study or serving in a parish for a period of time as a testing of your vocation.

3. Not recommended for training and ordination

It is important to emphasise that this is not a denial of your vocation to Christian service and witness, but rather a call to fulfill it in ways other than ordained ministry. The Board of Ministry will help you explore other ways of responding to your sense of calling to serve God.

On receiving the recommendation from the discernment conference, the Bishop will write or speak with you in order to inform you of his decision. If the recommendation is for you to proceed further for training and ordination you will be required to:

- Undertake a National Police Check
- Undertake a Working with Children Check
- Undertake a Safe Ministry Check
- Commit to fulfilling Safe Ministry training within your first year.

What about Training?

Stipendiary Ministry:

The norm for those seeking ordination in this category is that they should have begun or completed a recognised tertiary qualification in theology and/or ministry. They may have done this at a theological college, university or training college.

Ordained Local Ministry (OLM)

Those seeking ordination as OLMs undertake the diocesan-based ministry training and formation program based on the Australis Certificate in Ministry.

Ordained Pioneer Ministry (OPM)

For the time being, OPM candidates will be managed depending upon each individual candidate's training and formation requirements. All candidates in each category of ordained ministry in the Diocese of Bendigo will have to satisfy the Board of Ministry's requirements prior to ordination.

Ongoing Ministry Development and Training

All newly ordained clergy in the Diocese of Bendigo are mentored by a senior priest for the first three years. The context for this might be in a team ministry or as deacon or priest in charge of a small parish.

Professional supervision is required after the first three years in ordained ministry. Bishop in Council has determined a policy for professional supervision. This is available on the diocesan website.

All ordinands will be expected to attend and participate in the Training in Ministry (TIM) program for five years. TIM normally meets at least six times a year.

All clergy are encouraged to have a spiritual director.

In addition to the above, all clergy holding the Bishop's Licence will be required to attend:

- The Annual Clergy Conference
- The Annual Clergy Retreat
- The Diocesan Synod
- Rural Deanery Meetings
- Other Diocesan events and training initiatives, as presented from time to time

Oaths and Declarations

If an invitation to become a diocesan candidate for ordination is extended by the Bishop, certain formalities will need to be completed. A candidate in training for ordained ministry will be asked to sign the following declaration.

Form of declaration and assent to doctrine and formularies

"I.....firmly and sincerely believe the Catholic Faith and I give my assent to the doctrine of The Anglican Church of Australia as expressed in the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons and the Articles of Religion, as acknowledged in section 4 of the Constitution, and I believe that doctrine to be agreeable to the word of God.

I declare my assent to the Fundamental Declarations of The Anglican Church of Australia as set out in sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Constitution:

In public prayer and administration of the sacraments I will use the form prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, An Australian Prayer Book and A Prayer Book for Australia or a form authorized by lawful authority and none other.

Form of Assent to Constitutions and Laws

"I.....do solemnly and sincerely declare my assent to be bound by the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia and the Constitution of the province of Victoria and of this diocese and by the canons, statutes, ordinances and rules, however described, from time to time of the synod of this diocese and of the General Synod and the provincial council which have force in this diocese."

Oath of Oath of Obedience

"I..... do swear that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of Bendigo and the successors of that Bishop in all things lawful and honest. So help me God."

The fundamental declarations are...

The Anglican Church of Australia, being a part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ, holds the Christian Faith as professed by the Church from primitive times and in particular as set forth in the creeds known as the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed.

This Church receives all the canonical scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as being the ultimate rule and standard of faith given by inspiration of God and containing all things necessary for salvation. This Church will ever obey the commands of Christ, teach His doctrine, administer His sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, follow and uphold His discipline and preserve the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons in the sacred ministry.

Safe Ministry

All Clergy must abide by *Faithfulness in Service* and the policies and protocols in place within the Diocese. A copy of Faithfulness in Service can be downloaded from the Diocese of Bendigo website www.bendigoanglican.org.au

Resources

All candidates for the ordained ministry in the Anglican Church should read and be familiar with the contents of A Prayer Book for Australia 1995. Aspirants and persons pursuing ordination in the Anglican Church should be especially familiar with:

- 'The Ordinal: The Making, Ordaining and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons,' pp. 780-809.
- The Apostles' Creed (p. 12) and Nicene Creed (p.123).
- The 39 Articles of Religion (pp. 825-834).

Note: You will need the full (red) version of A Prayer Book for Australia 1995 in order to locate The Ordinal (pp. 780-809).

Aspirants should also be familiar with The Book of Common Prayer 1662

All Clergy in the Diocese of Bendigo are provided with:

- A Diocesan Directory and Prayer Diary
- *A Pastoral Handbook for Anglicans, 2018*
- A Diocesan Clergy Manual

When made a deacon, candidates are provided with a copy of the New Testament, and when ordained priest with a copy of the Bible. For ordinations in the Diocese of Bendigo the liturgical colour is red and candidates will be required to wear a red stole and white alb.

All Clergy in the Diocese of Bendigo must hold the Bishop's License. This allows them to operate in the particular ministry and category to which they are appointed.

For Further Information *or to talk to someone about vocation*

Contact: Ministry Development Officer – Archdeacon George Hemmings
Phone: 03 5443 4711 Email: MDO@bendigoanglican.org.au
Address: PO Box 2
BENDIGO VIC 3552

Recommended Reading List

Ordained Ministry

Rosalind Brown, *Being a Deacon today: exploring a distinctive ministry in the church and in the world* (Canterbury Press, 2005).

Steven Croft, *Ministry in three dimensions: ordination and leadership in the local church* (Darton Longman & Todd, 2008).

Richard Giles, *Here I am: Reflections on ordained ministry* (Canterbury Press, 2006).

Emma Percy. *What clergy do: Especially when it looks like nothing* (London: SPCK, 2014).

John Pritchard, *The life and work of a priest* (SPCK, 2007).

Christopher Cocksworth & Rosalind Brown, *On being a priest today* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2004).

Stephen Cottrell, *On Priesthood* (Hodder & Stoughton, 2020)

Anne Ranse, Peter Rose & Graham Lindsay, *The servant ministry of Jesus: Twenty years of a renewed diaconal ministry* (St Mark's NTC Publishing, 2017)

The Anglican Church

Paul Avis, *The Anglican understanding of the church: an introduction* (SPCK, 2013).

Mark Chapman, *Anglicanism: a very short introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2006).

Martin Davie, *A Guide to the Church of England* (Continuum, 2008).

Richard Giles, *How to be an Anglican* (Canterbury Press, 2006).

Bruce Kaye, *A church without walls: being Anglican in Australia* (Dove, 1995).

Stephen Spencer. *Anglicanism* (SCM, 2010).

Christopher Webber, *Welcome to the Episcopal church: an introduction to its history, faith and worship* (Church Publishing, 1999).

Rowan Williams, *Anglican identities* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003)

Some Prayers and Readings for your reflection

In the Bible there are many examples of people being called in different ways. You might like to read some of the following passages and use them as a way of reflecting upon your own sense of call and the range of different ways in which God calls.

The Call of Moses:	Exodus 3
The Call of Samuel:	I Samuel 3.1-10
The Call of David:	I Samuel 16.4-13
The Call of Isaiah:	Isaiah 6.1-8
The Call of Jeremiah:	Jeremiah 1.4-9
The Call of Mary:	Luke 1.26-38
The Call of Peter:	Luke 5.1-11
The Call of the First Disciples:	John 1.35-46
The Call of Mary Magdalene:	John 20.1-18
The Call of Paul:	Acts 9.1-22
The Call of Lydia:	Acts 16.14-15

Father,
I know you love me and have plans for me.
But sometimes I am overwhelmed by the thought of my future.
Show me how to walk forward one day at a time.
May I take heart while I search openly,
 learn all about the choices,
 listen to others for advice,
 and pay attention to my own feelings.
By doing these things, may I hear your call to live a life
 that will let me love as only I can,
 and allow me to serve others
 with the special gifts you have given me.
I ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

All Highest and Glorious God,
Cast your light into the darkness of my heart,
Grant me right faith, firm hope, perfect charity, profound humility,
With wisdom and perception, O Lord, so that I may always and everywhere seek to know and do what
is truly your holy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen *St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)*

Call to discipleship

Christ, whose insistent call
disturbs our settled lives:
give us discernment to hear your word,
grace to relinquish our tasks,
and courage to follow empty-handed
wherever you may lead,
so that the voice of your gospel
may reach to the ends of the earth. **Amen**

Janet Morley, A Prayer Book for Australia, p.210

Ministry

God our Shepherd,
in every generation you call
ministers of your word and sacraments.
Equip them to preach the gospel,
to care for your people
and to show forth the fruit of the Spirit in their lives;
in the name of Jesus our Saviour. **Amen**

A Prayer Book for Australia, p.211

Those to be ordained deacon

Lord Jesus Christ,
though you are rich, for our sake you became poor.
Taking the form of a servant, you humbled yourself, and gave your life a ransom for many.
Send your blessing on those called to be deacons,
that they may have grace and power to serve as your ambassadors,
to stand beside the poor and raise up the needy,
and so proclaim your gospel of salvation in word and deed.
May they be patient and loving, strong and steadfast, running to the end the race set before them,
to receive your promised crown of glory. **Amen.**

A Prayer Book for Australia, p.211

Those to be ordained priest

Great Shepherd of your people,
bless those called to priesthood in your Church.
Fire their hearts with passion for your word and care for your people,
that they may joyfully proclaim your gospel, and faithfully minister your sacraments.
Guide them in their prayer and study, that they may be discerning and loving pastors,
enabling all to minister to the glory of your name and the benefit of your people and world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer Book for Australia, p.211

