

Exploring the Diaconate

Co-ordinator

The Right Reverend Peter Stuart, Assistant Bishop

Overall Aim

This Ministry Skills Stream aims to introduce participants to the ministry of Deacon within the Anglican Church of Australia exploring both distinctive and transitional expressions of Diaconate.

Learning Goals

On completion of this Ministry Skills Stream participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the diaconate from the Christian Scriptures and Tradition;
- Articulate an understanding of the ministry of deacon contained in the ordinals used by the Anglican Church of Australia;
- Understand the ministry of the of the Deacon in a Church in mission;
- Continue their discernment on their vocation and ministry.

Dates of Stream

Saturdays: 9th April, 30th July and 19th November at Bishop Tyrrell Anglican College. Please check the NSTM website for further information and the programme for each day at www.schooloftheology.net

Successfully Completing Your Ministry Skills Stream

In order to successfully complete this ministry skills stream, you will be required to:

- attend all sessions throughout the programme, or have received permission to be absent from one session only prior to the session taking place, and satisfied the stream leader that aspects covered in that session have been studied in another form;
- actively participate as required in sessions;
- submit the assessed task on the date on which it is due.

Topics

The following topics will be covered in the Ministry Skills Stream:

- Session 1 and 2: The Ministry of Deacon in Scripture and Tradition
- Session 3: The Deacon as Servant Leader
- Session 4 and 5: The Deacon in Liturgy
- Session 6: The Deacon in Welfare and Social Justice
- Session 7: The Deacon in Mission and Fresh Expressions
- Session 8 and 9: Presentations and exploration of the Diaconate in the Anglican Church of Australia and especially the Diocese of Newcastle.

Assessed Task

At the final session on you are to make a presentation to the whole group on the theme “What would my community of faith look like with a vibrant diaconal ministry?”

Bibliography

Participants will be provided with links to appropriate websites and other resources.