

... you are a priest forever.

PSALM 110: 4b

HOLY ORDERS

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HOLY ORDERS

I. INTRODUCTION

Through sacred Ordination certain of the Christian faithful are appointed in the name of Christ and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to shepherd the Church with the word and Grace of God (see *LG*, 11).

For “Christ, whom the Father has hallowed and sent into the world (see John 10:36), has through his apostles, made their successors, the bishops, namely, Bishops, sharers in his consecration and mission.” They in turn have lawfully handed on the office of their ministry in several grades to different individuals in the Church. “Thus the divinely instituted ecclesiastical ministry is exercised in different degrees by those who even from ancient times have been called bishops, priests, and deacons.” (*LG*, 28)

Sacred Ordination is conferred by the Bishop’s laying hands and the Prayer of Ordination by which the Bishop blesses God and calls upon the gift of the Holy Spirit for the fulfillment of ministry (*CIC*, c. 1009, §2).

II. POLICY

HO 1. After completion of their preparation for and a call to Orders by the Archbishop, candidates for Sacred Orders are to be ordained according to the revised Rites of Ordination in the vernacular typical edition approved by the Apostolic See on February 4, 2003.

HO 2. Ordination will be celebrated within the rites of Mass, one altar at which the Bishop presides, surrounded by his presbyterate and ministers.” Ordination of all candidates to Sacred Orders will take place at Saint James Cathedral at a time appointed by the Archbishop. Preparation of the celebration of Ordination will be coordinated by the archdiocesan Liturgy Office.

III. PREPARATION OF CANDIDATES

HO 3. Policies regarding the preparation of candidates for the priesthood are located among the pastoral policies under “Seminar Formation.”

HO 4. Policies regarding the preparation of candidates for the diaconate are located among the pastoral policies under “Diaconal Formation.”

IV. VOCATIONS

HO 4. Parishes are to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

V. DOCUMENTATION

See archdiocesan *Sacramental Records*: SR, V, “Holy Orders.”