

Diocese of Charlotte

Formation Path for the Permanent Diaconate

PHASE 1

INQUIRY PHASE (INITIAL DISCERNMENT)

- Learn About Diaconate
- Share & Listen with Significant Others
- Live Your Faith
- Grow Your Faith
- Reflect/Listen
- Study Church Norms for Formation
- Examine & Evaluate Diocesan Formation Norms
- Complete Certification Program for Catholic Educators (Phase 1 and 2)

1 to 3 Years

PHASE 2

ADMISSION / ASPIRANCY PHASE

- Complete & verify application
- Check adherence to USCCB & DOC Norms
- Assess Intellectual, Pastoral, Spiritual, and Human Dimensions
- Psychological Evaluations
- Background checks
- Pastor recommendation
- Church Discernment of Aspirant

2 Years

PHASE 3

FORMATION PHASE

- Rite of Candidacy
- Rites of Lector and Acolyte
- Formation
 - Support and Grow Intellectual, Pastoral, Spiritual, and Human Dimensions
- Apprenticeship Model
- Yearly Retreat
- Preordination Retreat
- Church Discernment of Candidate each year

3 to 4 Years



***** Sacrament of Holy Orders *****

PHASE 4 - POST ORDINATION FORMATION

- Experience Words of Ordination
- Experience Ministries of Word, Altar, Charity
- Ongoing Dimensions of Formation

3 Years

ONGOING DEACON FORMATION

Annual

Permanent Deacon Formation

Be Active in Assuring Formation Needs of Deacons and Wives

Continuing Education – Every 1st Saturday of February and August

- February 2017 - New Marriage Rite - LTP - Remote Link
- August 2017 - Spiritual Direction - Diocesan Certified Directors
- February 2018 - Immigration / Being Advocate - Catholic Charities
- August 2018 - Sacramental Identity - Deacon/Wife - Father Kauth
- February 2019 - Abuse Crisis and Human Trafficking - David Haines / Terri Wilhelm / Catholic Charities
- August 2019 - Hispanic Ministry - Sister Joan Pearson / Deacon/Wives panel / Catholic Charities
- February 2020 - African American Ministry - Authentically African American and Truly Catholic - Rosheene Adams / Deacon Pickett / OLC Choir / Panel
- August 2020 - Campus Ministry - Mary Wright and her team including Deacon Newsome
- February 2021 - Catholic Social Teaching (Fratelli Tutti) / Campaign For Human Development (National and Local Grant Recipients) - Deacon Cochran / Joe Purello
- August 2021 - Prison Ministry – Deacon Witulski and Working Team
- February 2022 - Town Hall With Monsignor Winslow / Deacon Target On Your Back: Liability, Practical Side, Insights, Being Vigilant - Monsignor Winslow / Joe Dodge

Annual Retreat – Second Weekend of October (Friday to Sunday)

- 2017 Retreat Master: Very Reverend Father James Garneau
 - Theme: “To Serve Him, We Need to Know and Love Him”
- 2018 Retreat Master: Father Dennis Dorner
 - Theme: “Intentional Discipleship - Our Relationship with Our God”
- 2019 Retreat Master: Father Benjamin Roberts
 - Theme: “The Deacon Couple - Friends of the Bridegroom”
- 2020 Retreat Master: Father John Michalowski
 - Theme: “Finding God in All Things, Including Each Other”
- 2021 Retreat Master: Father Richard Sutter – Confirmed October 2020
 - Theme: TBD (“Beatitudes - Ministry and Life of Deacon, Wife, and Family”)