

**INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES
DIACONAL STUDIES
YEAR ONE**

Course: The Order and Ministry of the Deacon

Instructor: The Rev. Linda A. Kromhout
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Course Objectives: To better understand the theology of the diaconate as servant ministry, and to evaluate the possible experience of a call to the diaconate.

Course experience: The theological and biblical foundations of the order of deacon and the ministry will be explored. You will be encouraged to wrestle with your understanding of and call to ministry. We will address the question of how the Church and the deacon minister in a secular world. A large part of this latter concern will involve identifying our own gifts and talents for ministry.

Required reading:

- 1) Brown, Rosalind, **Being a Deacon Today: Exploring a Distinctive Ministry in the Church and in the World**, Morehouse Publishing, 2005
- 2) Plater, Ormonde, **Many Servants: An Introduction, rev. ed.: An Introduction to Deacons**, Cowley Publications 2004.
- 3) Scripture: Acts 6 (the beginning of the diaconate)
- 4) Liturgy: Ordination of a Deacon in the **Book of Common Prayer**

Pre-class assignment: (Brought to class with COPIES to be shared)

Please come to class having finished the required reading and having written a brief paper of personal reflections on servanthood, service to the Church and the world, and your own call to ministry (3-5 pages typewritten and double-spaced)

Post-class assignment: A paper considering questions raised in class.