

— CONTENTS —

Abbreviations	xii
Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary	xv

FOREWORD	xvii
-----------------------	------

PREFACE	1
----------------------	---

I. The Diaconate in the Second Vatican Council and the Post-Conciliar Period: A Historical Overview	1
II. The Diaconate in the United States of America	3
III. Subsequent Developments	6
IV. The Development of This National Directory	9
V. The Objective and Interpretation of This National Directory	12

CHAPTER ONE. DOCTRINAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIACONATE	14
--	----

I. Introduction	14
II. The Sacramental Nature of the Church	14
III. Ecclesial Communion and Mission	15
IV. The Reestablished Order of Deacons	18
V. The Church's Ministry of Word: The Deacon as Evangelizer and Teacher	20
VI. The Church's Ministry of Liturgy: The Deacon as Sanctifier	21
VII. The Church's Ministry of Charity: The Deacon as Witness and Guide	23
VIII. An Intrinsic Unity	25
IX. Concluding Reflection	26

CHAPTER TWO. THE MINISTRY AND LIFE OF DEACONS	27
--	----

I. The Relationships of the Deacon	27
II. Diaconal Spirituality	37
III. The Deacon in His State of Life	39

IV.	The Permanency of the Order of Deacons	44
V.	The Obligations and Rights of Deacons	44
	<i>Norms</i>	53

CHAPTER THREE. DIMENSIONS IN THE FORMATION OF DEACONS56

I.	Introduction	56
II.	Dimensions of Formation	56
III.	Additional Considerations	72
IV.	Assessment: Integrating the Four Dimensions in Formation Programming	81
	<i>Norms</i>	83

CHAPTER FOUR. VOCATION, DISCERNMENT, AND SELECTION85

I.	Promotion and Recruitment	85
II.	The Mystery of Vocation	87
III.	The Discernment of the Call	88
IV.	Admission and Selection Procedures	90
V.	Admission into the Aspirant Stage of Formation	94
	<i>Norms</i>	95

CHAPTER FIVE. ASPIRANT STAGE OF DIACONAL FORMATION96

I.	Introduction	96
II.	The Dimensions of Formation in the Aspirant Stage	98
III.	Assessment for Nomination into the Candidate Stage of Formation	102
IV.	The Rite of Admission to Candidacy	104
	<i>Norms</i>	105

CHAPTER SIX. CANDIDATE STAGE OF DIACONAL FORMATION107

I.	Introduction	107
II.	The Length of the Candidate Stage of Formation	107
III.	Formation Environments	108
IV.	The Dimensions of Formation in the Candidate Stage	110

V.	The Assessment of Candidates	114
VI.	Scrutinies for Institution into the Ministries of Lector and Acolyte and Ordination to the Diaconate	119
	<i>Norms</i>	124

CHAPTER SEVEN. POST-ORDINATION STAGE OF

	DIACONAL FORMATION	128
I.	Introduction	128
II.	The Dimensions of Formation in the Post-Ordination Stage	129
III.	Additional Considerations	134
IV.	Diocesan Organization for Post-Ordination Stage Formation	136
	<i>Norms</i>	138

CHAPTER EIGHT. ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND PERSONNEL

	FOR DIACONAL FORMATION	139
I.	Organization	139
II.	Structures	140
III.	The Role of the Diocesan Bishop in Diaconate Formation	143
IV.	Recruitment and Preparation of Formation Personnel	143
V.	Aspirant/Candidate Formation Personnel	144
VI.	Advisory Structures for Aspirant and Candidate Stages of Formation	151
VII.	Post-Ordination Formation Personnel	152
VIII.	Post-Ordination Advisory Structures	154
	<i>Norms</i>	155

	CONCLUSION	157
--	-------------------------	-----

	Index	158
	Scriptural Index	181