

DIOCESE OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA
DEACON EVALUATION FORM

FORM C: DEACON SELF -- EVALUATION

Kindly assist us in evaluating your current diaconal assignment by responding to the following questions. Indicate any specific achievement you may have accomplished during your tenure or any concerns you have about this assignment.

Thank you for your kind assistance.

Name: _____

Section One - Ministry of the Word

A. Deacon as Evangelizer and Teacher: "The deacon participates as an evangelizer and teacher in the Church's mission of heralding the word. . . Because the deacon sacramentalizes service, he should proclaim the word in such a way that he first witnesses its empowerment in his own life."¹

-- How often do you preach?

-- Is there a schedule for preaching in the parish?

-- Are you regularly scheduled?

-- Do you attend weekday Mass?

-- If so, are you invited and/or scheduled to preach?

-- What are your strengths as a preacher?

-- What would make you a more effective preacher?

-- Do you exercise the ministry of teacher in the parish school or religious education programs? If not, why not?

-- Are you working with the RCIA Team? What about the parish Confirmation programs? If not, why not?

-- How would you evaluate your skills at teaching?

Section Two: Ministry of the Altar

*B. The Deacon as Sanctifier: "For the deacon, as for all members of the Church, the liturgy is 'the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all the Church's power flows.'"*²

-- Do you regularly assist at weekday and Sunday liturgies?

- Do you feel comfortable in your liturgical role?
- Do you work with the laity in helping them in their liturgical ministries? If so, how?

-- How often have you celebrated the following?

- Sacrament of Baptism _____
- Sacrament of Matrimony _____
- Wake Services at the Funeral Home _____
- Graveside committal service _____
- Benediction _____
- Communion Service _____
- Other _____

-- Do you have a Spiritual Director? Are you meeting regularly with him/her?

Section Three - Ministry of Charity

C. The Deacon as Witness and Guide: "The deacon's ministry, as Pope John Paul II has said, "is the Church's service sacramentalized." The deacon's service in the ministry of word and liturgy would be severely deficient if his exemplary witness and assistance in the Church ministry of charity and justice did not accompany it."⁶³

-- How would you evaluate your efforts to minister to the pastoral and spiritual needs of your parishioners?

-- Where do you feel most comfortable?

-- Are there any areas where you feel uneasy or that cause you worry or concern?

-- Briefly describe your ministry to the sick and shut-ins and those in the hospital and nursing homes on a regular basis?

-- Are you involved in your parish's various ministries to the poor and needy? If so, how?

-- What particular works of charity in the parish do you enjoy the most?

Section Four - Diaconal Ministry and the Laity

*D. The Deacon as facilitator of lay ministry: "Deacons should consider it an important part of their ministry of service to promote and inspire that participation in the life and activity of the Church, which the laity have as a right and duty by virtue of their baptism, confirmation and charisms. The Diaconate must never be seen or experienced as competitive or threatening to the lay apostolate or to lay ministry. . . for the whole Church is a communion of ministries and service. . ."*⁴

-- In what ways do you encourage the laity to exercise their opportunities for ministry in the parish?

-- How would you describe your ministry-relationship with your pastor and the pastoral staff?

-- Are there regular staff meetings?

-- Do you attend?

-- Are you a member of the various consultative groups in the parish -- Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Liturgy Committee? If not, why not?

-- With what other parish organizations are you involved?

-- Do you feel your gifts and talents are being put to good use? Why do you say so?

-- Are you under any stress or tension in your assignment? If so, please explain.

-- Are there any areas of serious conflict in your assignment?
If so, please explain.

-- Do you find your present assignment personally and
spiritually rewarding?

Section Five-- Conclusion

-- What do you like most about your assignment?

-- What do you most appreciate about the clergy and laity
with whom you share ministry?

-- What pastoral needs in your area are not being adequately
met?

-- What are your present duties and responsibilities in the
parish?

-- Would you welcome a new assignment? If so, what are your interests?

-- Do you have any additional comments and/or observations?

RETURN TO

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Endnotes

- ¹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States*, 2005, 18
- ² United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *National Directory*, 18
- ³ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *National Directory*, 20
- ⁴ National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Guidelines for Permanent Deacons in the United States*, 1984 Revision, 129.