



Archdeacon and Deacon Director's Conference Spring 2013 Open Space Notes

Deacon Councils

Mar. 16/13

What is the mission?

Committee of deacons, priests and laity to oversee deacons at the diocesan level. Commission of ministry oversees formation process. Could it help promote diaconate?

Ohio: has a council. set out rules for council; plans deacon retreats, post ordination retreats, develop policies for diaconal ministry in diocese, oversee and promote diaconate in diocese. Cont education is done at the retreat.

Some bishops want more control over clergy than to leave it to a council; discussion around whether bishop should provide greater direction or not - Ohio: input comes from community of deacons to the council who will ask for onput on what they develop

-Louisiana doesn't have a council but is looking at one

Huron and Pennsylvania doesn't have one

7 members on council in Ohio and at this point are all deacons - set terms with rotation-appointments from community and bishop

Council helps provide direction and guidance on what deacons are doing and promoting in diocese Educating the diocese on the diaconate biggest job at this time in Ohio. Meet 3 or 4 times per year.

Some councils have members with portfolios (specific tasks).

May be useful to educate priests that deacons do more than pastoral work.

- discussion followed on a variety of issues, including commission on ministry, duties of archdeacons