



## ASSOCIATION FOR EPISCOPAL DEACONS ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

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### **Recognition of Diaconal Ministry in the Tradition of St. Stephen**

Since 1995 AED (then NAAD) has been honoring deacons whose ministries are outstanding examples of diaconal ministry in the name of Christ. Since that time 187 deacons and their ministries have been so recognized. You are invited to put forth the name of a deacon in your diocese who will be honored at the upcoming AED Diaconal Assembly in June.

**Who may recommend deacons?** Deacons may be recommended from any Diocese by the Bishop, Archdeacon, Deacon Program Director, Council of Deacons or a comparable authority, with the Bishop's approval. One deacon may be recommended by a diocese in each Assembly year. If a single ministry is the project of more than one deacon, then all deacons involved in that project will be recognized.

**What are the criteria for recognition?** The fundamental criteria are stated by the Bishop at the ordination of a deacon:

*My brother/sister, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood directly under your bishop. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely.*

As a deacon in the Church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the bishop and priests in public worship and in the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself.

*Book of Common Prayer, page 543*

The deacons recommended for recognition should exemplify this charge in their lives and ministry.

**How is a recommendation made?** Please fill out the recommendation form and return it to Dn. Pam Nesbit by email. [PamelaMNesbit@gmail.com](mailto:PamelaMNesbit@gmail.com) Please provide a brief description of the deacon's ministry and why you are making this recommendation. This year we are also asking you to send photos of the deacon and of the ministry. We are asking for a signature of the person making the recommendation and the endorsement of the bishop – signatures can be typed.

**Is there a deadline for recommendations?** Yes. Please return your recommendation by April 15<sup>th</sup>. If this is a problem please call or email me.

**How will the Recognition be made?** There will be a ceremony at the Diaconal Assembly recognizing each of these deacons and their ministries. This year we will offer a movie made of the photos of all the deacons and ministries which are being honored. Each honoree will receive a certificate of recognition. All recipients are encouraged to be present at the Assembly. If they are not the certificate will be sent to their bishop.

## 2019 Recommendation for Recognition of Diaconal Ministry

I/we representing the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_  
designate the following deacon for Recognition of Diaconal Ministry in the tradition of  
St. Stephen:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Ordination date \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Diaconal Ministry [short description]: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a paragraph characterizing the ministry(ies). Examples of specific activities may be appropriate.

Please give us a brief statement of why you selected this deacon for your recommendation:

**Please attach photos – a headshot of the deacon and, if possible, several photos of the ministry.**

This recommendation submitted by

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Your position \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature

Bishop's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Deacon Pam Nesbit, [PamelaMNesbit@gmail.com](mailto:PamelaMNesbit@gmail.com) 267-374-6952