THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS AND PRIESTS
IN THE SAME LITURGICAL CELEBRATION

Prayer of Ordination of One Deacon
(Chapter IV, no. 318)

Draw near, we pray, almighty God, giver of every grace, who appor-
tion every order and assign every office. While remaining un-
changed, you make all things new and, setting all things in order with
everlasting providence, you make due provision for every age,
through your Word, your Power, and your Wisdom, Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Lord. You grant that your Church, his Body, adorned
with manifold heavenly graces, drawn together in the diversity of
her members, and united by a wondrous bond through the Holy
Spirit, should grow and spread forth to build up a new temple.

As once you chose the sons of Levi to minister in the former
tabernacle, so now you establish three ranks of ministers
in their sacred offices to serve your name. Thus, in the first days of
your Church, your Son’s Apostles, led by the Holy Spirit,
appointed seven men of good repute to help them in the daily
ministry, so that they might devote themselves more fully to
prayer and the preaching of the word. By prayer and the laying
on of hands they entrusted to these chosen men the ministry of
serving at table. Look favorably also on this your servant, we pray,
O Lord, whom we humbly dedicate to serve at your holy altars
in the office of the Diaconate.

Send forth the Holy Spirit upon him, O Lord, we pray, that he may
be strengthened by the gift of your seven-fold grace to carry out
faithfully the work of the ministry.

May every evangelical virtue abound in him: unfeigned love, con-
cern for the sick and the poor, assuming authority, the purity
of innocence, and the observance of spiritual discipline.
May your precepts shine forth in his conduct, that by the example of his manner of life he may inspire the imitation of your holy people. In offering the witness of a good conscience, may he remain firm and steadfast in Christ, so that, imitating your Son on earth, who came not to be served but to serve, he may be found worthy to reign with him in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.