

Diocese of Barbados



The Consecration and Ordination
to

**THE DISTINCTIVE
DIACONATE**

Diocese of Barbados



The Consecration and Ordination of

GRETA YEARWOOD

to

THE DISTINCTIVE DIACONATE

*The Feast of the Annunciation
Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.*

*The Church of St John the Baptist
with Jesus the Good Shepherd
Thorpes, St. James*

THE REVEREND CANON DR. SONIA S. J. HINDS

Preacher

THE RIGHT REVEREND MICHAEL B. ST. J. MAXWELL

Bishop of Barbados

ORDER OF PROCESSION

Thurifer

Acolyte | Crucifer | Acolyte

Choir

Altar Servers

Seminarians

Visiting Clergy

Diocesan Clergy

Server

The Gospeller

The Preacher

The Litanist

Server

The Rural Deans

The Dean & Cathedral Chapter

Server

Sponsor | Ordinand | Sponsor

The Diocesan Registrar

The Diocesan Chancellor

The Attending Ministers

The Examining Chaplains

MC

The Bishop's Chaplain

The Bishop

ORDER OF SERVICE

PROCESSIONAL HYMNS: 310, 361

HYMN: 310 – Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
with salvation's walls surrounded,
thou mayest smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage;
grace, which like the Lord the Giver,
never fails from age to age?

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear,
for a glory and a covering-
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which he gives them when they pray.

Saviour, since of Zion's city,
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy Name.

Fading is the world's best pleasure,
all its boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

HYMN: 361 – All People that on Earth

ALL people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his flock, he doth us feed
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good;
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom heav'n and earth adore,
from men and from the angel-host
be praise and glory evermore.



OPENING SENTENCE

BISHOP: Jesus said, I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you. A servant is not greater than his master, nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. *John 13:15 & 16*

THE INVOCATION & OPENING PRAYER

BISHOP: To God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be glory in the Church in Christ Jesus. Alleluia, Alleluia.

PEOPLE: **From generation to generation for ever. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

BISHOP: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, by your Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church that in their vocation and ministry they may truly serve you; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord:
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



THE COLLECTS

BISHOP: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

BISHOP: Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR ORDINATION

BISHOP: Eternal Father, through your Holy Spirit you have appointed many ministries in the Church: Bless your servant *Greta Diane*, now called to be deacon, maintain her in your truth, renew her in your holiness and make her your ever-faithful servant; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

We beseech you, O Lord, pour your grace into our hearts, that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and Passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

- 8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, *
and so I said, “Behold, I come.
- 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *
‘I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep
in my heart,’”
- 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord,
you know.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son;
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Hebrews 10:4-10
Mrs. Sandra Cumberbatch

READER: A reading from the Word of God written in the
Book of Hebrews, the tenth chapter, beginning at
the fourth verse.

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God” (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’ When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

READER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: 763 –Praise we the Lord this day

Praise we the Lord this day,
this day so long foretold,
whose promise shone with cheering ray
on waiting saints of old.

The prophet gave the sign
for faithful folk to read:
a virgin born of David's line
shall bear the promised seed.

Ask not how this should be,
but worship and adore,
like her whom heaven's Majesty
came down to shadow o'er.

She meekly bowed her head
to hear the gracious word,
Mary, the pure and lowly maid,
the favoured of the Lord.

Most blest shall be her name
in all the Church on earth,
through whom that wondrous mercy came,
the incarnate Saviour's birth

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38

The Reverend Deacon Sharon A. King

GOSPELLER: The Lord be with you

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

GOSPELLER: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke, the first chapter, beginning at the twenty-sixth verse.

PEOPLE: **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

GOSPELLER: The Gospel of Christ

PEOPLE: Praise to Christ our Lord.



The Reverend Canon Dr. Sonia S.J. Hinds

Rector, St. Leonard Church

Rural Dean of the St. Michael Deanery

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen or unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
one in Being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered, died and was buried.**

**On the third day He rose again
in fulfillment of the Scriptures;**

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN: 703 – The earth, O Lord, is one wide field

The earth, O Lord, is one wide field
of all thy chosen seed;
the crop prepared its fruit to yield;
the labourers few indeed.

We therefore come before thee now
with fasting, and with prayer,
beseeching of thy love that thou
wouldst send more labourers there.

Not for our land alone we pray,
though that above the rest;
the realms and islands far away,
O let them all be blest.

Endue the bishops of thy flock
with wisdom and with grace,
against false doctrine, like a rock,
to set the heart and face.

To all thy priests thy truth reveal,
and make thy judgments clear;
make thou thy deacons full of zeal,
and humble, and sincere:

and give their flocks a lowly mind
to hear and to obey;
that each and all may mercy find
at thine appearing-day.

THE PRESENTATION

EXAMINING CHAPLAINS:

- *The Venerable Dr. Von Watson*
Archdeacon of Barbados
- *The Reverend Canon Dr. Kirkley Sands*
Acting Principal of Codrington College
- *The Reverend Canon Dr. Monrelle T. Williams*
Priest in Charge, St. Barnabas Church

PRESENTERS:

- *The Reverend Wayne Kirton*
- *Mrs. Barbara Taylor*

These persons appointed, assembled before the Bishop, say together:

Right Reverend Father in God, we present *Greta Diane* to be ordained to the office of Deacon in the Church of God.

BISHOP: You understand that the person whom you present to be ordained must be suited spiritually, morally and by sound learning to exercise their ministry to the honour of God and the building up of His Church?

PRESENTERS: We have enquired of her and also examined her and believe her so to be.

The Bishop says to the person to be ordained

Do you believe that God has called you to the office and work of Deacon in His Church?

ANSWER: I believe that God has so called me.

The Bishop presents the candidate to the people, and says,

Those whose duty it is to inquire about this person and examine her have found her to be of godly life and sound learning, and believe her to be duly called to serve God in this ministry. Nevertheless, if any of you know any impediment or crime in her, on account of which she should not be ordained, come forward now, and make it known.

BISHOP: Is it therefore your will that she should be ordained?

PEOPLE: **It is.**

BISHOP: Will you uphold her in her ministry?

ANSWER: **We will.**

THE CHARGE

The people sit. The ordinand stands before the Bishop who says,

Greta Diane, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

A Deacon is called to serve the Church of God and work with its members in caring for the poor, the needy, the sick, and all who are in trouble. A Deacon is to strengthen the faithful, search out the careless and the indifferent, and to preach the word of God as duly authorized by the Bishop.

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. By your word and example, you are to make Christ and His redemptive love known to those among whom you live and work and worship; and to interpret to the Church their needs, concerns and hopes. You are to assist the Bishop and Priests in public worship and in the administration of God's Word and Sacraments, and in carrying 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 those in need, they are serving Christ Himself.

THE EXAMINATION

The Bishop says to those who are to be ordained.

In order that we may know your mind and purpose, and that you may be strengthened in your resolve to fulfill your ministry, you must answer the questions we now put to you.

BISHOP: Do you now in the presence of God and this congregation commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

ANSWER: I do.

BISHOP: Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as uniquely revealing the word of God and containing all things necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

ANSWER: I do so accept them.

BISHOP: Do you believe the Christian faith as taught in the holy Scriptures, held by the undivided Church and declared in the Catholic creeds; and in your ministry will you expound and teach it?

ANSWER: I believe it, and will so do.

BISHOP: Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may deepen your faith and make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ.

ANSWER: I will, by the help of God.

BISHOP: Will you accept the discipline of this Church, and reverently obey your Bishop and other ministers set over you in the Lord?

ANSWER: **I will, by the help of God.**

BISHOP: Will you do your best to pattern your life and that of your family or household in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to all people?

ANSWER: **I will, by the help of God.**

BISHOP: Will you look for Christ in all others and be ready to help and serve those in need?

ANSWER: **I will, by the help of God.**

BISHOP: Will you be diligent in prayer, both in public and private, in the recitation of Morning and Evening Prayer, and in such things as may increase your love for God?

ANSWER: **I will, by the help of God.**

BISHOP: Almighty God who has given you the will to do all these things, give you also the grace and power to perform them, that He may complete that work which He has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The people kneel as the ordinand prostrates.

The Bishop then says,

The Scriptures tell us that our Saviour Christ spent the whole night in prayer before He chose and sent forth His twelve apostles. Likewise, the apostles prayed before they appointed Matthias to be one of their number. Let us, therefore, follow their examples, and offer our prayers to Almighty God before we ordain **Greta Diane**, for the work to which we trust the Holy Spirit has called her.

THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

The Reverend Canon Beverley B. Sealy-Knight

Rector, St. James Parish Church

Rural Dean of the St. Peter Deanery

LITANIST: God the Father,

PEOPLE: **Have mercy on us.**

LITANIST: God the Son,

PEOPLE: **Have mercy on us.**

LITANIST: God the Holy Spirit,

PEOPLE: **Have mercy on us.**

LITANIST: Holy Trinity, one God,

PEOPLE: **Have mercy on us.**

LITANIST: We pray to you, Lord Christ,

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For **Philip**, our Archbishop, **Michael**, our Bishop, and for all bishops, priests and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For *Greta Diane*, chosen Deacon in your church, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: That *she* may faithfully, fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up Your Church, and glorify your name, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit *she* may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For ourselves: for the forgiveness of our sins and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: For all who have died in the communion of the Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have

rest in that place where there is no pain or grief,
but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

LITANIST: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed
Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist, and all
the saints, let us commend ourselves and one
another, and all our life to Christ our God.

PEOPLE: **To you, O Lord.**

The Bishop prays,

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and
earth, mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and
strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PEOPLE: Amen.

*The Bishop commends those who are to be ordained to the
prayers of the people and silence is kept.*

All still kneeling.

THE HYMN, “*Veni Creator Spiritus*”, is sung

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face
with the abundance of thy grace;
keep far our foes, give peace at home;
where thou art Guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one;

that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song.

‘Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.’ Amen.

THE CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION

The ordinand kneels before the Bishop, he stretches out his hands towards her, and says,

We praise and glorify you, most merciful Father, because in your great love you sent your only Son Jesus Christ to take the form of a servant; He came to serve and not to be served; and taught us that He who would be great among us must be servant of all; He humbled Himself for our sake, and in obedience accepted death, even death on a cross; therefore you highly exalted Him and gave Him the name which is above every name.

And now we give you thanks that you have called this your servant, whom we ordain in your Name, to share the ministry, entrusted to your Church.

Here the Bishop lays his hands on the head of the ordinand, and says,

Send down your Holy Spirit upon your servant **Greta** for the office and work of a Deacon in your Church.

The Bishop then continues,

Almighty Father, give *her* grace and power to fulfill *her* ministry. Make *her* faithful to serve, ready to teach, constant in advancing your gospel, and grant that, always having full assurance of faith, abounding in hope, and being rooted and grounded in love, *she* may continue strong and steadfast in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and your Holy Spirit, belong all glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever.

PEOPLE: Amen.

The Bishop addresses the newly ordained Deacon

Greta, receive authority for the office and work of a Deacon in the Church of God; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

THE VESTING OF THE DEACON

The newly ordained Deacon is vested according to custom by the attending ministers:

- ***The Reverend Audrey S. Griffith***
Priest in Charge, St. Thomas Parish Church
- ***The Reverend Myra M. LaPlante***
Priest in Charge, St. Anne Church
- ***The Reverend Canon Dr. Monrelle T. Williams***
Priest in Charge, St. Barnabas Church

The Bishop lays the Stole on the newly ordained Deacon's left shoulder to be arranged and fastened by the attending ministers.

BISHOP: Take this Stole as from the hand of God that you will fulfill your ministry for it is He who gives you the increase of grace.

The Bishop, assisted by the attending ministers, puts on the newly ordained Deacon the Dalmatic saying,

The Lord clothe you with the garment of salvation, the robe of joy and the Dalmatic of righteousness.

The Bishop gives to the newly ordained Deacon the New Testament, saying,

Receive this book and take authority to proclaim the Gospel and to assist in the administration of the Sacraments.

At the conclusion of the Vesting, the Bishop introduces the new Deacon and invites a congratulatory applause from the congregation.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

BISHOP: The Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

BISHOP: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

PEACE SONG: Let There Be Love Shared Among Us

Let there be love shared among us.
Let there be love in our eyes.
May now your love sweep this nation.
Cause us, Oh Lord to arise.
Give us a fresh understanding
of brotherly love that is real.
Let there be love shared among us
Let there be love.

Let there be peace shared among us.
Let there be peace in our eyes.
May now your peace sweep this nation.
Cause us, Oh Lord to arise.
Give us a fresh understanding
of brotherly peace that is real.
Let there be peace shared among us
Let there be peace.

Let there be joy shared among us
Let there be joy in our eyes.
May now your joy sweep this nation.
Cause us, Oh Lord to arise.
Give us a fresh understanding
of brotherly joy that is real.

Let there be joy shared among us
Let there be joy.

Let there be hope shared among us
Let there be hope in our eyes.
May now your hope sweep this nation.
Cause us, Oh Lord to arise.
Give us a fresh understanding
of brotherly hope that is real.
Let there be hope shared among us
Let there be hope.

THE NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY HYMNS: 704, 374

HYMN 704 – When Jesus came from Nazareth

When Jesus came from Nazareth
He walked beside the sea.
He talked to working fisher folk
and said, ‘Come follow me.
Come follow me and you will know
a love so strong it never ends.’
And they who came to trust His word
became his fisher friends.

And He and they as fisher friends,
when winter storms unfurled,
all left their homes and went with him
to teach and heal the world.
To teach and heal a hurting world,
to help where there was pain and need,
and to teach, not just by spoken word
but by each loving deed.
When Jesus died on Calvary
He suffered grievous pain;

his fisher friends could not believe
that He would rise again.
But He would rise, and joy would come,
and when the stone was rolled away,
then their nets again with fish were filled
and darkness turned to day.

By every loving deed today
and every day to be,
we witness we have heard His voice
say, ‘Come and follow me.
Come follow me to heal the world
till pain and hate and hurting ends;
and I will be your risen Lord
and you my fisher friends.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

BISHOP AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 374 – O Praise our Great and Gracious Lord

O praise our great and gracious Lord,
and call upon his name;
to strains of joy tune every chord,
his mighty acts proclaim;
tell how he led his chosen race
to Canaan’s promised land;
tell how His covenant of grace
unchanged shall ever stand.

He gave the shadowing cloud by day,
the moving fire by night;
to guide his Israel on their way,
he made their darkness light;
and have we not a sure retreat,
a Saviour ever nigh,
the same clear light to guide our feet,
the dayspring from on high?

We, too, have manna from above,
the bread that came from heaven;
to us the same kind hand of love
hath living waters given;
a rock we have, from whence the spring
in rich abundance flows;
that rock is Christ, our Priest, our King,
who life and health bestows.

O may we praise this blessed food,
and trust our heavenly Guide;
so shall we find death's fearful flood
serene as Jordan's tide,
and safely reach that happy shore,
the land of peace and rest,
where angels worship and adore
in God's own presence blest.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

BISHOP: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

BISHOP: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

BISHOP: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

BISHOP:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God:

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after His resurrection sent forth His apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

PEOPLE:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might;
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

BISHOP:

Holy and gracious Father,
all creation rightly gives you praise.
All life, all holiness, comes from you
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
whom you sent to share our human nature,
to live and die as one of us,
to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

We therefore bring you these gifts,
and we ask you to make them holy
by the power of your Spirit,
that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who offered Himself in obedience to your will,
the Perfect Sacrifice for all mankind.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
He broke it and gave it to his disciples and said:
"Take this and eat it:
"This is my Body which is given for you.
"Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine
and when he had given thanks
He gave it to them and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
"This is my Blood of the New Covenant,
"Which is shed for you and for many
"for the forgiveness of sins.
"Do this, whenever you drink it,
"For the remembrance of me."

PEOPLE:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

BISHOP:
Father, calling to mind the death your Son
endured for our salvation;
His Glorious Resurrection and Ascension;
His continual intercession for us in heaven;
and looking for His coming again in glory,
we offer you, in thanksgiving,
this holy and life-giving sacrifice.

Look with favour on your Church's offering,
and grant that we who eat and drink these holy gifts
may be filled with your Holy Spirit
and become one body in Christ,
and serve you in unity, constancy and peace.

May He make us a perpetual offering to you
and enable us, in communion with
blessed Mary and the whole company of heaven,
to share in the inheritance of your saints.
With Him, and in Him, and through Him,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father Almighty,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven
in songs of everlasting praise:

PEOPLE:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
Be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BISHOP:

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

PEOPLE:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BISHOP:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

PEOPLE:

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all
share in one bread.**

THE AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

THE COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

BISHOP:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

PEOPLE:

**Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad
songs of praise to Him.**

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION: 569, 504, 416

HYMN 569 – Alleluia, Sing to Jesus!

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,

when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia, Bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the Eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
alleluia, alleluia
to the Triune Majesty.

HYMN 504– Just As I Am Without One Plea

JUST as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears, within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind:
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down),
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

HYMN 416 – I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BISHOP: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

BISHOP: Let us pray.

PEOPLE: **Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the holy body and blood of your Son, and for uniting us through Him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your word and sacraments. We pray that *Greta Diane* may be to us a godly example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with her may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE EPISCOPAL BLESSING

The Bishop blesses the people, first saying,

BISHOP: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **The maker of heaven and earth.**

BISHOP: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **From this time forth for evermore.**

BISHOP: Almighty God, who for the salvation of humankind gives to His people many gifts and ministries to the advancement of His glory, stir up in you the gifts of His grace, sustain each one of you in your own ministry; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

PEOPLE: **Amen.**

HYMN FOR THE RECESSION: 332

HYMN 332– Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Lord, you give the great commission:
Heal the sick and preach the word.”
Lest the Church neglect its mission,
and the Gospel go unheard,
help us witness to Your purpose
with renewed integrity.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to Your service:
“In my name baptize and teach.”
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us
closer in community.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy:
“This my body, this my blood.”
Let us all, for earth’s true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children’s liberty.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love’s true measure;
“Father, what they do, forgive.”
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:
“I am with you to the end.”
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity.
With the Spirit’s gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

THE DISMISSAL *The Reverend Deacon Greta Yearwood*

DEACON: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

PEOPLE: In the name of Christ. Amen.



ORGAN POSTLUDE

**PLEASE KEEP OUR NEW DISTINCTIVE DEACON
IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

THE REVEREND GRETA DIANE YEARWOOD



The Reverend Greta Diane Yearwood's journey of faith began at St. John the Baptist Church, where she was shaped by the sacrament of baptism and nurtured in the life of the parish. As a teenager, she actively participated in the Church Girls' Brigade and Sunday School, guided by the late Rev. Kenneth Hassell and Fr. McPhearson. Even during her time spent in the pews, she keenly observed parish life, which cultivated her desire to serve.

A location decision led Greta to St. Christopher Church, where she became an usher and joined the Women's Auxiliary under the stewardship of the Rector William Dixon. In 2009, while enrolled in the Diploma in Theology program at Codrington College, she was sponsored into the Barbados Cursillo Movement. This experience deepened her sense of Christian service and sparked a call toward ordained ministry. Her sense of calling became clearer with guidance from Dr Ian Rock, who was the Principal of Codrington College. This encouragement led her to enrol in the BA in Theology program at the University of the West Indies, from which she graduated with honours in 2015. Greta is a former student of St. Leonards Girls' Secondary School and is 65 years old.

Greta began exploring vocational ministry before completing her degree. She became a Licensed Lay Eucharistic Minister in 2012 and assisted with adult Bible study. Additionally, she has served on the Parochial Church Council for several years and as an Alternate Synod Representative. Her passion for outreach led her to the

Church Army, where she currently serves as the Captain of the St. John the Baptist Church Army and Treasurer of the Diocesan Arm. Professionally, she has worked in informatics, aviation, and the healthcare sector, and for the past fifteen years has been with the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Barbados and is currently their Chief Executive Officer. She is qualified in Human Resources, NGO and Administrative Management from the University of the West Indies.

Beyond parish and professional life, Greta serves as President of the Healing Voices Toastmasters Club, a member of the MAC3 Dance Club, and enjoys playing the classical guitar. She is married to Anthony Yearwood and the proud mother of a 38-year-old son.

Greta's calling to the Diaconate is the culmination of a lifetime of faithful service; she desires to embody Christ's servant heart, bringing God's love into the parish, the community, and the lives of all she encounters.

THE DISTINCTIVE (VOCATIONAL) DIACONATE

The Diocese of Barbados is answering the call to provide what has come to be called the Vocational/Perpetual Diaconate, but our preferred term will be the Distinctive Diaconate. Unlike the Transitional Diaconate where the deacon goes through a period of training primarily to become a priest in the near future, within the Distinctive Diaconate, the deacon is focused, not on preparing for the priesthood, but on evangelism, outreach and community engagement, that of taking the Church to the community and bringing the needs of the community to the Church. Our Diocese has over the years only followed the transitional model, but today we move toward the phase of having Distinctive Deacons; and this gives the true value to this high calling of the Deacon who was essentially, within the early Church, the Bishop's agent, ambassador, and messenger such that the people of God might be better served.

Within the Lambeth Conference in 1958, the following Resolution [88] was offered to restore the Office of Deacon to its rightful place:

The Conference recommends that each province of the Anglican Communion shall consider whether the office of deacon shall be restored to its primitive place as a distinctive order in the Church, instead of being regarded as a probationary period for the priesthood.

Then at the next Lambeth Conference of 1968, this Resolution [32] on the Diaconate was proffered:

The Conference recommends:

(a) That the diaconate, combining service of others with liturgical functions, be open to

- 1. Men and women remaining in secular occupations,*
- 2. Full-time church workers,*
- 3. Those selected for priesthood.*

(b) That Ordinals should, where necessary, be revised:

- 1. To take account of the new role envisaged for the diaconate;*
- 2. By the removal of reference to the diaconate as 'an inferior office';*
- 3. By emphasis upon the continuing element of diakonia in the ministry of bishops and priests.*

It is important to note then the call and the appropriate instruments which were put in place at the prominent level to ensure that the Order of Deacon be returned to its primitive pristine state which

became sullied sometime around the fourth century. We too in the Province of the West Indies were not inattentive as can be seen in our Constitution and Canons: Article 5: RELATING TO DEACONS where it is stated:

1. *The Order of Deacons shall be maintained within the Church in the Province of the West Indies as a distinct Order of ministry, within the threefold Order of the historic ministry of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. The Diaconate as the ancient Order, symbolic of the servant element in ministry, has an inherent dignity which is preserved in the other Orders of ministry.*
2. *The specific functions of members of the Order shall include:*
 - a. *Preparing the Table and assisting with the Chalice.*
 - b. *Reading of the Gospel at the Eucharist.*
 - c. *Baptising in the absence of the Priest.*
 - d. *Preaching by the Bishop's Licence.*
 - e. *Visiting the sick and disabled.*
 - f. *Reporting to the Incumbent those who are in need.*
 - g. *Generally assisting the Incumbent in the pastoral work of the Parish.*
3. *Members of the Order may be required to undergo a process of suitable internship in the ministry of the pastorate.*

The Church in the Province of the West Indies properly understands and therefore has enunciated its position that the Order of Deacons is a full and distinct Order with full integrity; and at the time of Ordination as reflected in our service, the person(s) to be ordained is(are) made aware of the expectations of the Church as expressed in The Charge. Here too, in the Book of Common Prayer, our Province made the necessary adjustment to underscore the fact of the fullness and distinctiveness of the Order of Deacons.

Our newly ordained Distinctive Deacons will ensure that the Servant Church is always present, active, and visible. These types of Deacons “have a strong call to an outward-looking and community-minded ministry.”



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