

Archdeacon Robert Presland,  
Director of Theological Education,  
states that the process leading to  
ordination is a rigorous one.

“We are looking for candidates  
who have people skills and  
communication skills, and who  
integrate Christianity into every  
facet of life and work,” he said.

The journey from sense of vocation  
to ordained ministry

- Interview with Director of  
Theological Education
- Participation in Year of  
Discernment
- Interview with 2 Examining  
Chaplains
- Selection Conference
- Theological Studies
- Final Interviews



#### ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

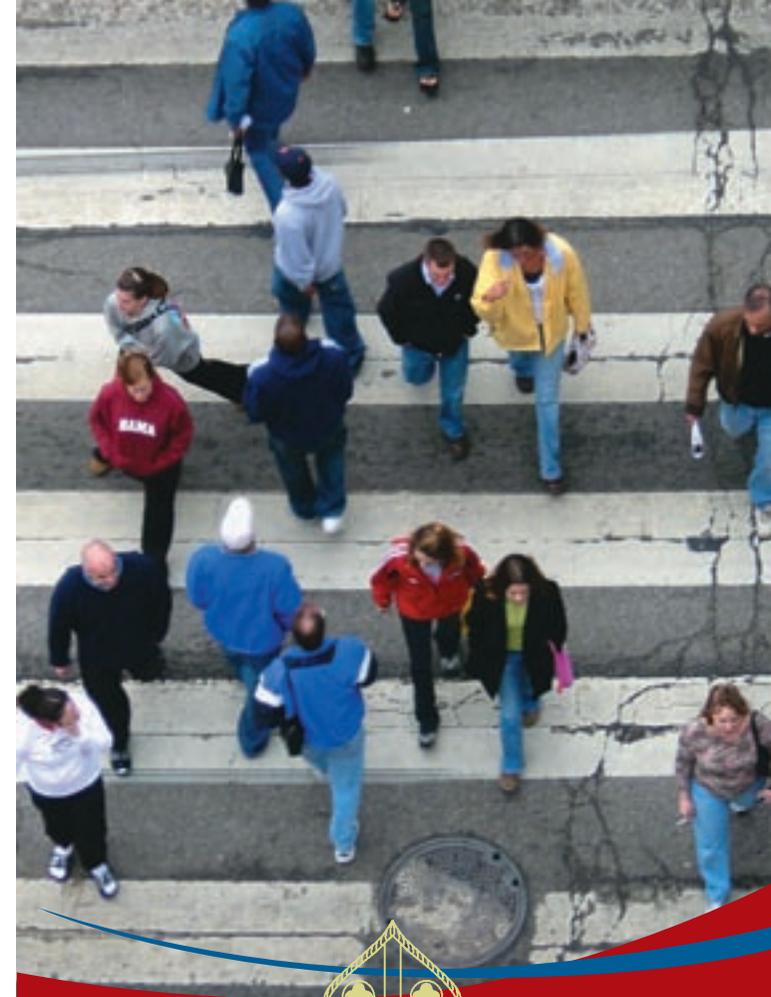
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Anglican Diocese of  
Melbourne

**The Diaconate**

# The Diaconate

***“Let the deacons be entrusted with the ministry of Jesus Christ who was with the Father from eternity and appeared at the end.”***

Ignatius of Antioch

## **The diaconate of the Anglican Church has its roots in the early church.**

Deacons are ordained into the threefold ministry of bishops, priests and deacons and take part in the liturgy of the church as well as serving in ministries at the intersection of church and world.

### **Words from the Ordinal**

“Christ has called you to the office of deacon. You are to be an ambassador of Christ, serving God as you serve others in Jesus’ name.

Proclaim the good news of God’s love, so that many may be moved to faith and repentance, and hearts be opened to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly in the presence of God.

Let the transforming love of Jesus be known to all among whom you live and work.

Strengthen the faithful, teach the young, search out the careless and indifferent.

Encourage the members of Christ’s body by word and example, ministering among the sick, the needy and all who are oppressed or in trouble.”



### **Deacons minister in parishes through**

- Pastoral care
- Community work
- Education
- Marriage
- Baptism
- Confirmation preparation
- Youth and childrens’ ministry

### **Deacons minister in community through**

- Chaplaincies in schools, hospitals, prisons and industry
- Social work agencies and family services
- Outreach ministries to Refugees, the elderly and the vulnerable in society

## **Some of our deacons...**

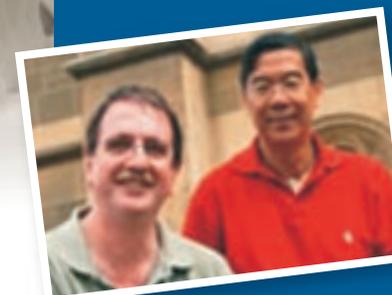
### **Christine Barren**

...has brought her training as a musician and teacher to her diaconal “ministry to the scattered”, working in six parish centres on the Mornington Peninsula, conducting “Music and Story-telling” playgroups for young families, as well as working at a local kindergarten and primary school. Christine is also interested in the place of music in ministry to the aged.



### **Rowan Fairbairn and Victor Yu**

For Rowan, ordained to the diaconate in 2007, and Victor, ordained three years ago, their mentoring relationship has been a good fit. While both have part time parish ministries, their other employment has been in secular



work and not sector ministry. “...You have to figure out what it means to be a deacon in the workplace, how to honour the call to help the needy and troubled,” Rowan says. “After I was ordained, people were more confident in coming and talking about their faith, or lack of faith,” Victor says. “It’s an opportunity for them to share their journey and concerns, and it’s easier for them to open up.”

### **Cheryl Holmes**

...was ordained Deacon in 1995. Cheryl has ministered as Chaplain Coordinator to Peninsula Health, and as Coordinator for Health Chaplaincy for the Diocese of Melbourne. She is CEO of the Healthcare Chaplaincy Council of Victoria Inc, President of AHWCA nationally and an Examining Chaplain in the Diocese of Melbourne.

