Theological Education – The Journey

The Director of Network 1:28 interviews people who may be invited to attend Year of Discernment at which point we refer to them as Aspirants.

Year of Discernment: 7 sessions. All must be attended before being referred to Examining Chaplains.

Interviews with Examining Chaplains, at least two, who advise whether or not the Aspirant be recommended to a Selection Conference.

The Selection Conference recommends Candidature and if so, whether regarding a vocation as a Priest, or a vocation as a Deacon called to the specialized diaconate.

After a successful recommendation from a Selection Conference, the Aspirant is now referred to as a Diocesan Candidate.

The Diocesan Candidate undertakes theological training at either Ridley or Trinity Theological Colleges and at the same time is linked with an Examining Chaplain. The Examining Chaplain interviews each Candidate twice a year and forwards reports to the Director of Network 1:28.

Whilst in College they are required to have Supervised Theological Field Education (STFE) placements and undertake a Clinical Pastoral Education unit. STFE placements are supervised by each College.

Towards the end of theological training the Director of Network 1:28 receives reports from the Theological College and STFE Committee about the Candidates readiness for Ordination.

These reports are sent to the Examining Chaplains who interview each Candidate and make recommendations to the Archbishop about the readiness of Diocesan Candidates for Ordination.

If the person is recommended for Ordination and the Archbishop accepts that recommendation the persons moves from being a Diocesan Candidate to an Ordinand.

Ordination

Assistant Curates in Training.

After Ordination the person is referred to as a Deacon.

Ordination

It is Jesus whom we proclaim, warning and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Colossians 1:28

Year One

All Deacons attend the Archbishop's Year: 5 sessions and a three day residential conference.

For administrative reasons, those called to and ordained for specialised diaconal ministry are called Distinctive Deacons, and those preparing for ordination as priests Transitional Deacons.

At the end of their first year as Deacons, reports are sent to The Director of Network 1:28 and the Examining Chaplains from Vicars, Supervisors and Field Committees concerning the Deacon's progress. The Transitional Deacons are interviewed by the Examining Chaplains who make recommendation to the Archbishop concerning their readiness for Priesting. (Transitional Deacons Interviews)

After Ordination they are referred to as Priests.

2nd, 3rd and 4th year Curates, whether they are Distinctive Deacons or Priests attend the Ministry Development Program: 5 Sessions and a three day residential conference each year.

At the end of 4th year, Curates usually become Priests In Charge under the Direction of the Regional Bishop and are invited by the Archbishop to attend EPIC (Equipping Priests In Charge) 2 years, 12 sessions. One 3 day residential conference