

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

RCIA - St. Mary and Newman Center, Iowa City, Iowa

Presenter: Deacon Joe Welter

11 November 2018, Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Holy Orders

- ▶ Three distinct orders:
 - ▶ Episcopate (Bishops)
 - ▶ Presbyterate (Priests)
 - ▶ Diaconate (Deacons)
- ▶ **Holy Orders** is the **sacrament** through which the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time: thus it is the sacrament of apostolic ministry.
- ▶ CCC 1536

Early History of the Sacrament

The background of the slide is white with abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue (light blue, medium blue, and dark blue) on the right side, creating a modern, dynamic look.

New Testament Understandings

- ▶ “The Twelve”
 - ▶ No evidence in the New Testament that they appointed successors
- ▶ “Apostles”
 - ▶ May refer to the 12 (witnesses of the resurrection)
 - ▶ Not always
 - ▶ Paul, Barnabas - Acts 14:14
- ▶ “Disciples”
 - ▶ Only found in Gospels and Acts
- ▶ Other appointments
 - ▶ 70 in Luke 10:1-17
 - ▶ 7 in Acts 6:1-6



Episkopos (Bishops)

bishop | 3 of 5

Php 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the **bishops** and deacons:

1 Ti 3:2 Now a **bishop** must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher,

Tt 1:7 For a **bishop**, as God's steward, must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain;



Presbyteros (Priests)

🔍 Christian elder 18 of 66

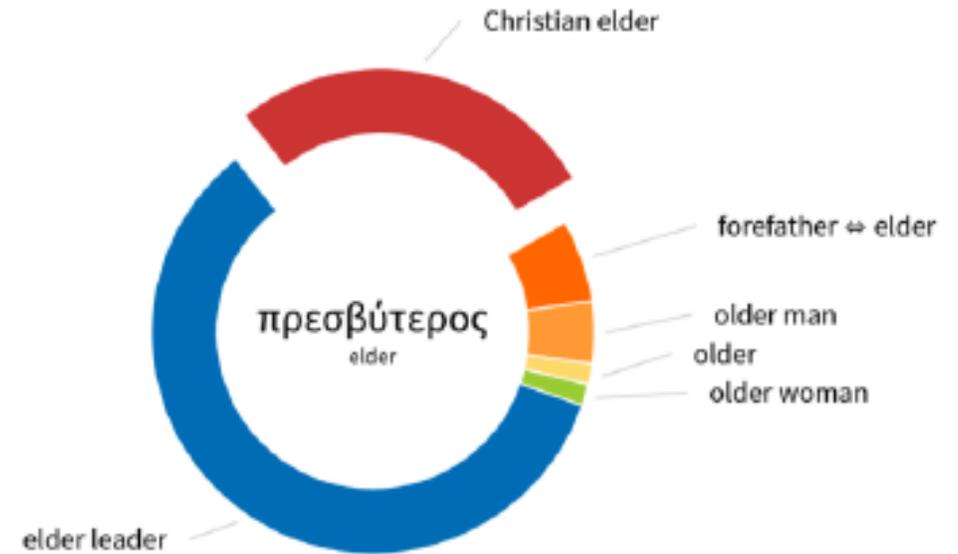
18 / 18

noun. an elder over an assembly of Christian believers (as an appointed or elected position).

🔍 πρεσβύτερος ⇄ presbyteros

- Ac 11:30** This they did, sending it to the presbyters in care of Barnabas and Saul.
- Ac 14:23** They appointed presbyters for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith.
- Ac 15:2** Because there arose no little dissension and debate by Paul and Barnabas with them, it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and presbyters about this question.
- Ac 15:4** When they arrived in Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church, as well as by the apostles and the presbyters, and they reported what God had done with them.
- Ac 15:6** The apostles and the presbyters met together to see about this matter.
- Ac 15:22** Then the apostles and presbyters, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers.
- Ac 15:23** This is the letter delivered by them: "The apostles and the presbyters, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings.
- Ac 16:4** As they traveled from city to city, they handed on to the people for observance the decisions reached by the apostles and presbyters in Jerusalem.
- Ac 20:17** From Miletus he had the presbyters of the church at Ephesus summoned.
- Ac 21:18** The next day, Paul accompanied us on a visit to James, and all the presbyters were present.
- 1 Ti 5:17** Presbyters who preside well deserve double honor, especially those who toil in preaching and teaching.
- 1 Ti 5:19** Do not accept an accusation against a presbyter unless it is supported by two or three witnesses.
- Tt 1:5** For this reason I left you in Crete so that you might set right what remains to be done and appoint presbyters in every town, as I directed you,
- Jas 5:14** Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint (him) with oil in the name of the Lord,
- 1 Pe 5:1** So I exhort the presbyters among you, as a fellow presbyter and witness to the sufferings of Christ and one who has a share in the glory to be revealed.
- 1 Pe 5:5** Likewise, you younger members, be subject to the presbyters. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for: "God opposes the proud but bestows favor on the humble."
- 2 Jn 1** The Presbyter to the chosen Lady and to her children whom I love in truth—and not only I but also all who know the truth—
- 3 Jn 1** The Presbyter to the beloved Gaius whom I love in truth.

+ Notes



Presbyteros (Priests)

NABRE

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord,

NAB

2.9% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint (him) with oil in the name of the Lord,

NRSV

39.4% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon call for the presbyters of the church ;and they should have them pray over him and anoint him, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.;

RSVCE

31.3% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon Let him call for the presbyters of the church, and they should let them pray over him and anoint, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.;

NJB

47.8% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He who is ill should summon send for the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and must anoint him the sick person with oil in the name of the Lord ;and pray over him.

NIV

30.2% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon Let them call the presbyters of the church ; and they should to pray over him them and anoint him them with oil in the name of the Lord.;

NLT

42.4% difference

Jas 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? He should summon call for the presbyters of the church ;to come and they should pray over him and anoint him you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord.;

Diakonos (Deacons)

deacon | 4 of 29

Ro 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a **deacon** of the church at Cenchreae,

Php 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and **deacons**:

1 Ti 3:8 **Deacons** likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money;

1 Ti 3:12 Let **deacons** be married only once, and let them manage their children and their households well;

[+ Notes](#)



Diakonos (Deacons)

NABRE

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is also a minister of the church at Cenchreae,

NAB

5% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is (also) a minister of the church at Cenchreae,

NRSV

20% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phœbeour sister Phoebe, who is also a ministerdeacon of the church at Cenchreae,

RSVCE

29.7% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phœbeour sister Phoebe, who is also a ministerdeaconess of the church at CenchreaeCenchreae; Cenchreae,

NJB

25.7% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phœbeour sister Phoebe, who is also a ministerdeaconess of the church at Cenchreae;

NIV

33.3% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phœbeour sister Phoebe, who is also a ministerdeacon, of the church atin Cenchreae;.

NLT

35.1% difference

Ro 16:1 I commend to you Phœbeour sister Phoebe, who is also a minister ofdeacon in the church at Cenchreae;in Cenchreae.

Ordination

- ▶ *Ordinatio* means incorporation into an *ordo* (order)
 - ▶ The word order in Roman antiquity designated an established **civil body**, especially a **governing body**.
 - ▶ In the Church there are established bodies which **Tradition**, not without a basis in Sacred Scripture, has since ancient times called *taxeis* (Greek) or *ordines*.
 - ▶ And so the liturgy speaks of the *ordo episcoporum*, the *ordo presbyterorum*, the *ordo diaconorum*.
 - ▶ Other groups also receive this name of *ordo*: catechumens, virgins, spouses, widows
- ▶ CCC 1537 - 1538

Ordination

- ▶ Integration into one of these bodies in the Church was accomplished by a rite called *ordinatio*, a religious and liturgical act which was a consecration, a blessing or a sacrament.
- ▶ Today the word "ordination" is reserved for the sacramental act which integrates a man into the order of bishops, presbyters, or deacons
- ▶ CCC 1538

Ordination

- ▶ Beyond a simple election, designation, delegation, or institution by the community
- ▶ Confers a gift of the Holy Spirit that permits the exercise of a "sacred power" (*sacra potestas*) which can come *only from Christ himself through his Church*.
- ▶ Ordination is also called *consecration*
 - ▶ A setting apart and an investiture by Christ himself for his Church.
 - ▶ The laying on of hands by the bishop, with the consecratory prayer, constitutes the visible sign of this ordination.
- ▶ CCC 1538

The Rites

The background features a complex, abstract design of overlapping, semi-transparent blue triangles and polygons. The colors range from a very light, pale blue to a deep, dark navy blue. The shapes are layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall composition is modern and clean, typical of a corporate or professional presentation.

Matter and Form

▶ MATTER

- ▶ Laying on of hands by the bishop
- ▶ Visible sign of ordination
 - ▶ Acts 6:3-6
 - ▶ Acts 13:1-3
 - ▶ 1 Timothy 4:14
 - ▶ 2 Timothy 1:6
 - ▶ Borrowed from Judaism
 - ▶ Gesture is ambiguous in New Testament

▶ FORM

- ▶ Consecratory prayer
- ▶ Audible sign of ordination
 - ▶ Mark 3:14
 - ▶ Acts 1:26
 - ▶ Cannot say the gesture is from the New Testament

Additional Rites within the Celebration of Holy Orders

- ▶ Anointing with the Sacred Chrism is used for bishops and priests
- ▶ Giving the book of the Gospels, the ring, the miter, and the crosier to the bishop
- ▶ Presentation to the priest of the paten and chalice
- ▶ Giving the book of the Gospels to the deacon

Minister of the Sacrament

- ▶ Bishop, who has the fullness of orders
 - ▶ Trace apostolic succession backwards
- ▶ Christ himself chose the apostles and gave them a share in his mission and authority. Raised to the Father's right hand, he has not forsaken his flock but he keeps it under his constant protection through the apostles, and guides it still through these same pastors who continue his work today. Thus, it is Christ whose gift it is that some be apostles, others pastors. He continues to act through the bishops.
- ▶ Since the sacrament of Holy Orders is the sacrament of the apostolic ministry, it is for the **bishops** as the successors of the apostles to hand on the "gift of the Spirit," the "apostolic line." Validly ordained bishops, i.e., those who are in the line of apostolic succession, validly confer the three degrees of the sacrament of Holy Orders.
- ▶ CCC 1575-1576

Who can Receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders?

- ▶ Only a baptized man validly receives sacred ordination.
 - ▶ The Lord Jesus chose men to form the college of the twelve apostles, and the apostles did the same when they chose collaborators to succeed them in their ministry.
 - ▶ CCC 1577
- ▶ No one has a right to receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
 - ▶ Indeed no one claims this office for himself; he is called to it by God.
 - ▶ Anyone who thinks he recognizes the signs of God's call to the ordained ministry must humbly submit his desire to the authority of the Church, who has the responsibility and right to call someone to receive orders. Like every grace this sacrament can be received only as an unmerited gift.
 - ▶ CCC 1578

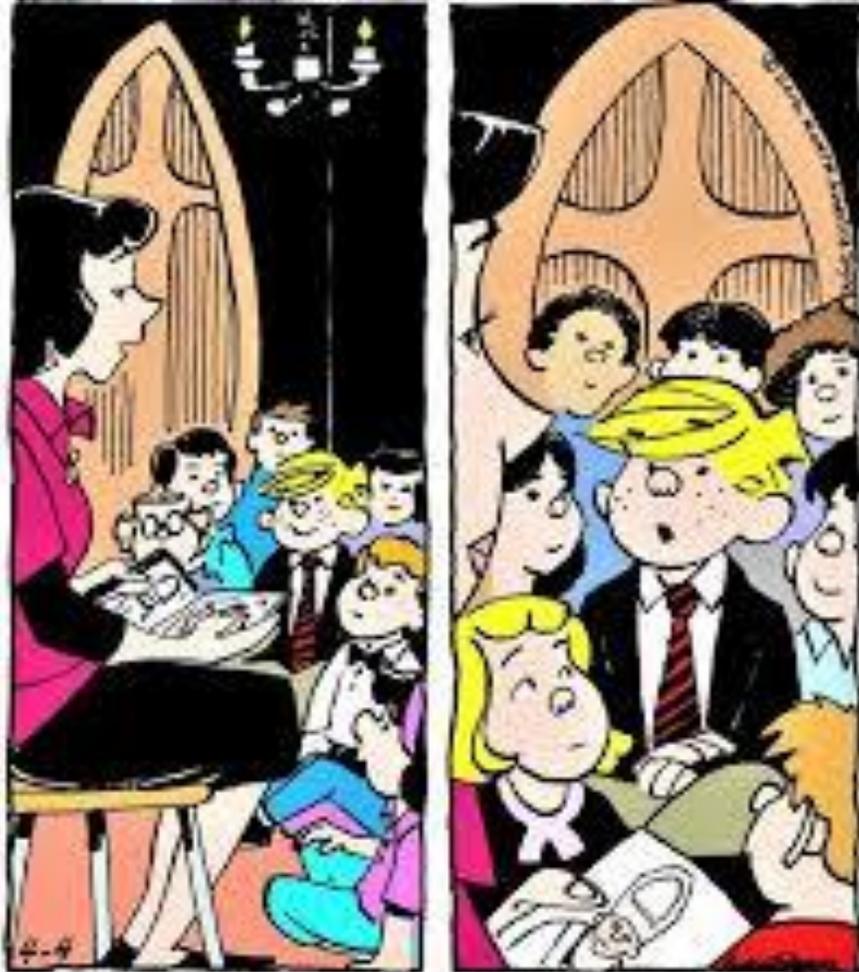
What does the Sacrament Do?

- ▶ It confers a gift of the Holy Spirit that permits the exercise of a "sacred power" (*sacra potestas*) which can come only from Christ himself through his Church
- ▶ This sacrament configures the recipient to Christ by a special grace of the Holy Spirit, so that he may serve as Christ's instrument for his Church.
- ▶ By ordination one is enabled to act as a representative of Christ, Head of the Church, in his triple office of priest, prophet, and king.
- ▶ As in the case of Baptism and Confirmation this share in Christ's office is granted once for all. The sacrament of Holy Orders, like the other two, confers an indelible spiritual character and cannot be repeated or conferred temporarily.
- ▶ CCC 1581-1582

One Priesthood of Jesus Christ, the High Priest

- ▶ ALL the Baptized share in the priestly mission of Christ
- ▶ Bishops and Priests part of the one priesthood
 - ▶ Act as a person of Christ
- ▶ Ordained ministers *within* a priestly people versus ordained ministry exercised *on behalf* of the laity

Who are Bishops, Priests, and Deacons?



"ANYONE KNOW WHAT
A BISHOP DOES?"

"I THINK HE MOVES
DIAGONALLY."

Who are Bishops, Priests, and Deacons?

▶ Bishop

- ▶ In an eminent and visible manner, take the place of Christ himself
- ▶ **Teach**, Proclamation of the Gospel
- ▶ **Govern**, Leadership, shepherd
- ▶ **Sanctify**, Priesthood/Sacraments
- ▶ Act as Christ's Representative
- ▶ In communion with the other Bishops

Who are Bishops, Priests, and Deacons?

▶ Priest

- ▶ Co-worker of the Bishop
- ▶ Service of the People
- ▶ Represent the Bishop, in communion with Bishop
 - ▶ Teach, **Preach**, and Proclamation of the Gospel
 - ▶ **Celebrate**, Priesthood/Sacraments
 - ▶ **Pastoral Guidance**, Leadership

Who are Bishops, Priests, and Deacons?

▶ Deacon

▶ Co-worker of the Bishop

- ▶ Assist the priests

▶ Servant of all

- ▶ At a lower level of the hierarchy are to be found deacons, who receive the imposition of hands 'not unto the priesthood, but unto the ministry'. At an ordination to the diaconate only the bishop lays hands on the candidate, thus signifying the deacon's special attachment to the bishop in the tasks of his "*diakonia*".

▶ Threefold ministry: liturgy, service, and word