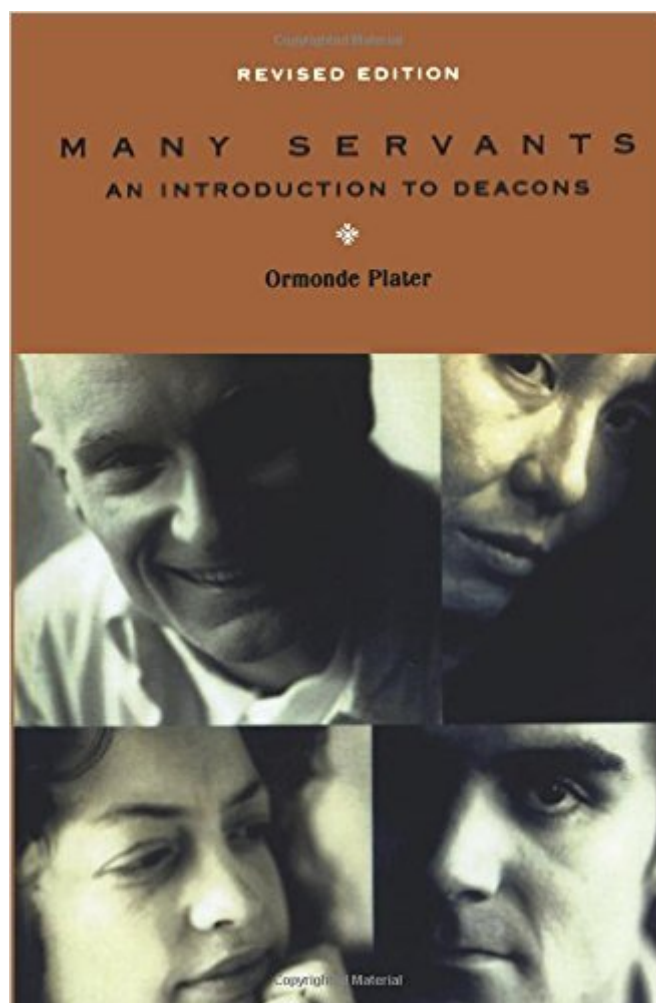


The book was found

Many Servants: An Introduction To Deacons



Synopsis

A basic, essential text for discernment committees and commissions on ministry, and a comprehensive look at the vital ministry of the permanent diaconate in the church today.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Cowley Publications; Revised ed. edition (April 28, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 156101270X

ISBN-13: 978-1561012701

Product Dimensions: 5.6 x 0.5 x 8.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Mr. Plater brilliantly reveals the true mission of the Church and of this specialized order of ministry known as the diaconate. Through explorations of the evolving meaning and application of "diakonia" in the Church throughout history, and the essential considerations in recruitment/selection, formation, deployment, and supervision/support of modern deacons he illuminates and untangles the misconceptions or misunderstandings surrounding the "servant ministry" of the diaconate and its relationship to the laity, the priesthood and to bishops. Upon completing the book in its entirety and stepping back one can see that the story of each deacon, told throughout the book, serves as a point of colored light creating an impressionistic representation of the body of deacons serving in the world today, yesterday, and in years to come. Mr. Plater's explanation of the challenges facing the Church to effectively restore and utilize the Order of Deacons amidst the pressures of clericalism and a world of self-interest should serve to motivate those who are currently ordained to the diaconate and those who may be called to this ministry of service in the future. This book has been a valuable tool for me in my own discernment process and I have recommended it to others who are also in the process of discernment.

If considering a call or if attempting to understand the call of another to the Diaconate, this little book is a great starting point from which to build an understanding of what such a call means. Historical and chronological perspectives are interesting, in understanding how the role of a deacon has developed within the Catholic and Anglican traditions; what it meant in the past, and how it has evolved into today's role in the American Episcopal Church. This is complemented perfectly by a significant number of personal accounts by deacons from around the country, who share their stories of how they were called and where that call has led them. One can't help but come away changed from reading and sharing in their journeys.

I recommend this book highly to anyone interested in the Diaconate. You will gain a wonderful historical perspective on the Order and learn of the many ministries that Deacons are currently engaged in.

This is a very concise and descriptive overview of the present and past Diaconate programs. It gives a lot of information as to what one can expect when going through the process. Must read for anyone who is considering going into the Diaconate program. For members of the Congregation to better understand the roles and responsibilities of a Deacon. For Vestry members who may be considering a Deacon in their Parish. It is written in an easy to read format that does not fill you with unexplainable words, that would leave the reader bored or disinterested.

Callings are tricky things. While struggling to understand what God has been saying to me all these years, my parish priest spoke with my Bishop who recommended this book. The chapter of deacons stories affirmed my own story and I am grateful.

We find the writing very wordy for deacon beginners. We are returning them soon, and change it to something we find suitable for our group. Can we exchange them, if you have the title/s we may like to use instead?

Many Servants provides a great overview of the role and place of deacons in the church today, focusing on the Episcopal Church. Plater leads the reader through a history of the diaconate, the ordination process for deacons, the meaning of diaconate vows at ordination, and an overview of the many and diverse ministries in which deacons are involved. This is a very well written and informative book.

This is an excellent resource for anyone in the process of discernment for the diaconate. The best part is the individual stories from deacons working in all walks of life. It gives a much clearer picture what a deacon in the Anglican church actually does as well as what deacons represent. In addition, there is an excellent history of the diaconate through the centuries and a summary of how this significant ordained ministry continues to evolve.

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