



The EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of ATLANTA
Serving Middle and North Georgia

A Process to Request the Ministry of a Deacon

To refine the assignment of deacons in our diocese, we are introducing a new process. If your parish or ministry desires that a deacon (non-transitional) be assigned, please send a written request to Bishop Wright (using the form provided [here](#)) and to include the following information:

- **Your goals for the deacon's leadership in your parish or ministry.** Please keep in mind that a deacon's tenure is no more than three years. A fourth year may be granted only if it is mission- critical. Your goal for this period may include a type of ministry (prison, food pantry, etc.) you want started or supported. Or it may be related to more general parish support (re-invigorating outreach, increased ties to surrounding community, etc.). Goals that clearly reflect the call described in the Examination of a Deacon (BCP 543) will rate higher consideration.
- **Your support for the deacon.** While deacons are non-stipendiary, continuing education, mileage and other expenses are typically provided.
- **Your own and your parish/ministry's histories with deacons.**
- **Weekly time expectation from the deacon.** Please keep in mind that many deacons have full-

time positions in the world that inform their ministry in the church.

Please submit your request on the form provided by March 1st. All requests will be evaluated by the archdeacons and other members of the bishop's staff and will be filled as talent and geographical availability allows. Keep in mind that there is a limited pool of deacons from which to draw. If you have any questions, please contact the Archdeacon for Deployment, The Venerable [Juan Sandoval](#).

How to Request a Speaker on the Diaconate

In order to provide greater support and education about the diaconate in the Diocese of Atlanta, one of our archdeacons, Carole Maddux, is available to you as a guest speaker. If your parish does not currently have a deacon assigned to it, this may be a helpful way to find out if a deacon is what your parish might need. Her visit would also be an opportunity for any parishioners in whom you may discern a possible call to the diaconate to meet with her.

If you and your parish have already determined that you want a deacon assigned there at some point in the future, she can help you and your parish set expectations for a successful partnership.

Carole is happy to speak at any gathering you find appropriate and is able to attend your Sunday services. Please feel free to contact her via e-mail dcmaddux@bellsouth.net to get on her visiting calendar.