

For the Ordination of Deacons

344 The Ritual Mass “For the Conferral of Holy Orders” may be used except on Solemnities, the Sundays of Advent, Lent, and Easter, and on days within the octave of Easter. On these days the Mass of the day is said, with its proper readings.

Nevertheless, if on other days the Ritual Mass is not said, one of the readings for this Ritual Mass provided in the *Lectionary for Mass* may be chosen.

When only one deacon is ordained, the prayers are said in the singular.

Entrance Antiphon John 12:26

**Whoever serves me, must follow me, says the Lord:
and where I am, my servant will also be.**

Opening Prayer

**O God, who taught the ministers of your Church
to desire not to be served but to serve their brothers and sisters,
grant, we beg, to these servants of yours,
whom you graciously choose today for the office of deacon
skill in their work, gentleness in their ministry,
and constancy in prayer.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.**

Prayer over the Gifts

**Holy Father, whose Son deigned to wash the feet of his disciples
that he might give us an example,
accept, we pray, the gifts of our service,
and grant that in offering ourselves as a spiritual sacrifice
we may be filled with a spirit of humility and zeal.
Through Christ our Lord.**

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The priesthood of Christ and the ministry of priests

**It is truly fitting and right, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,**

Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

**By the anointing of the Holy Spirit you made your only-begotten Son
High Priest of the new and eternal covenant,
and by your ineffable plan you were pleased to ordain
that many ministries should be carried out within the Church.
For Christ not only accords the dignity of a royal priesthood
to the people he has made his own,
but he also chooses men with a brother's care
to receive a share in his sacred ministry by the laying on of hands.
He appoints them to lead your holy people in charity,
to nourish them with your word,
and to renew them through the sacraments.
As they offer their lives to you and for the salvation of their brothers and sisters,
they are to strive to be conformed to the image of Christ himself,
and to offer you their constant witness of faith and love.
And so, Lord, we join all the Angels and Saints
in the joyous hymn of your praise:
Holy, holy, holy . . .**

The intercessions to be inserted into the eucharistic prayer are given in nos. 214 and 242.

**Communion Antiphon Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:20
Go out to all the world, and preach the Gospel:
I am with you always, says the Lord.**

**Prayer after Communion
Grant, O Lord, to your servants,
whom you have nourished with heavenly food and drink,
that for the sake of your glory and the salvation of believers
they may be found faithful
as ministers of the Gospel, of the sacraments and of charity.
Through Christ our Lord.**