

HOLY ORDERS

15 June 2016

Holy Orders is that institution in the Church by which the Church chooses men and women to perform particular tasks. Considered by some in the Anglican tradition a Sacrament and by others not, it is nevertheless an important way in which the Church continues to ensure that particular ministries continue to be performed for the edification of God's people. The ritual which brings about Holy Orders, ordination, is carried out by a bishop with the laying on of hands and anointing. Only those ordained may celebrate the Sacraments, although anyone may baptise in the case of emergency.

Those ordained make up the clergy, and there are three distinct ordained ministries which constitute that group. Firstly we have BISHOPS. Bishops are overseers — the chief pastors of God's flock. Traditionally they are seen as successors to the Apostles, whom Jesus called to exercise a particular ministry of Spirit-filled leadership.

Our bishop is The Right Reverend Doctor Bishop Robert Innes, Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe. Since the Diocese in Europe is so vast, it also has a suffragan (assistant) bishop, The Right Reverend Doctor David Hamid. The responsibilities in the diocese are divided so that particular areas have a lead bishop.



*The Right Reverend Robert Innes,
Bishop of the Diocese in Europe.*



The Right Reverend David Hamid.

Bishop Robert has just assumed the position of our lead bishop as the one who provides oversight for France.

PRIESTS are those who assist the bishop in ministry, and carry out ministry in his or her name. Commonly called vicars in the Church of England, they perform sacramental duties such as baptism and eucharist, pastoral duties such as celebrating weddings and funerals, being ministers of reconciliation, and ministering to the

sick and dying. Over time and with the profusion of the Church's goods, they were also called upon to assist the bishop in the

rightful administration of the communities they are called to serve. Priests cannot just serve at their own will and leisure, but do so only with the authorisation and approval of a bishop. In The Book of Common Prayer, it is the clergy during Holy curates (instead of the more deacons"), driving home the hence the use of the word

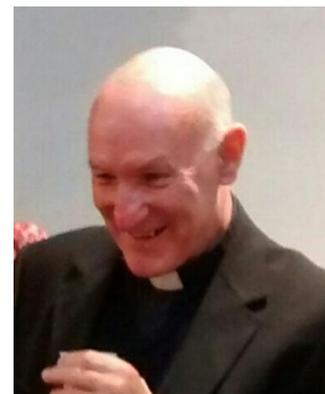
church see as an assistant. In a his or her bishop. Some bishop to be special ADVISORS CANON. Other priests may be ADMINISTRATORS of areas of ARCHDEACON.



*The Reverend Canon David
Greenwood, our priest.*

interesting to note that the prayer for Communion is for all bishops and modern "bishops, priests and point that all priests assist the bishop, curate, which many in the modern

sense every priest is an assistant — to priests are formally appointed by the and they may receive the title of appointed by the bishop to be special SUPERIOR the diocese and they may receive the title of



*The Venerable Ian Naylor,
Archdeacon in France.*

DEACONS are those who have a special ministry of service which manifests itself in many ways. Established very early in the Church's history, deacons first filled the need to care for the poor, the sick and the marginalised. Modern deacons still fulfil this role, but to it are added some liturgical roles as well: reading the Gospel, preaching, preparing the altar, helping with communion and giving the dismissal. There are two kinds of deacons: transitional and permanent. Transitional deacons are those men and women who are ordained to serve as deacon for a period before being priested; permanent deacons are those whom God has called to serve in that particular ministry for life.

In this early summer season in which ordinations traditionally happen, let us all fervently pray for our bishops, priests and deacons, that they be diligent in serving God's people, and that we support them in their ministry.