



AN INVITATION TO OUR

Ordinations to the *Diaconate*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR ORDINANDS



Ian Vergel

At a silent retreat during his first year in seminary, Ian Vergel 'really felt the sense of God's calling' in his life. 'I wanted to give my life back to God,' he says. 'Whenever there's an opportunity to serve, say yes as much as you can,' he advises. 'Doesn't matter the cost, doesn't matter the benefit—just respond to God.'

11AM • SUN 20 OCT 2024
St Fidelis, Moreland



John Vespa

The years before John Vespa entered the seminary at 35 were enriching, he says, allowing him 'to grow in faith and also gain life experience'. The most important thing is to trust, he says. 'Listen to the voice of the Shepherd. It is only through that and prayer that you will be able to hear the voice of God.'

5.30PM • SAT 26 OCT 2024
St Bede's, North Balwyn



Tuong Nguyen

Tuong Nguyen puts his trust in the providence of God. 'As I look forward to my future as a priest, I am confident that God will continue to guide me and provide the necessary strength to fulfill my vocation,' he says. 'Through his grace, I hope to be a light to others, leading them closer to Christ and his Church.'

5PM • SUN 27 OCT 2024
St Gregory's, Doncaster



Joshua McDermid

Josh McDermid believes that at the heart of every vocation is the calling to lay down one's life for others, just like the Good Shepherd. He left a teaching career he loved to enter the seminary, he says, because he couldn't ignore an 'unshakeable desire to offer the Eucharistic sacrifice to God and to bring the Eucharist to God's people.'

5PM • SAT 16 NOV 2024
St Mary MacKillop, Keilor Downs

Ordinations will also be livestreamed at melbournecatholic.org/diaconate

ARTWORK: Acts 8:26–40 highlights St Philip's role as an early deacon, serving as both a herald of the Gospel and a servant to others. In this passage, St Philip evangelises and baptises the Ethiopian eunuch, exemplifying key diaconal functions such as proclaiming the Word and guiding others towards Christ. As one of the first deacons chosen by the apostles, St Philip serves as a model for those entering the diaconate. His faith, service and dedication to the poor and vulnerable embody the essence of diaconal ministry, leading others to Christ through both word and action. *Detail of the Icon of St Philip the Deacon (2008), by Ann Chapin (theholysface.wordpress.com). Used with permission.*



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