Deacons can, for example, train and roster people in leading the Prayers of the People, and lead the Prayers themselves on occasion. This leadership of these ministries can be expressed in the service by the deacon sitting (and standing) immediately to the right of the presider. I think the primary ministry of the deacon is community/world-facing; and the primary ministry of the priest is church-facing. Obviously, I don’t think that these are totally separate. Thanks Bosco. Your celebrating eucharist book online was one of the first places I checked out (and still refer too) when I was first asked to “read the liturgy” at church for the first time. I am enjoying the discernment process and learning a lot and growing a lot through it. Whatever happens, it is all good.

Chapter One: Liturgical Principles for Diaconal Ministry. Liturgical presence of the deacon. The deacon has a particular role in the liturgical action of the Church. Lumen Gentium states that “strengthened by sacramental grace, in communion with the bishop and his group of priests, deacons serve the People of God in the ministry of the liturgy, of the word, and of charity” (#29). When fulfilling his ministry within the Eucharistic Liturgy, the deacon should be appropriately vested. It is desirable that the color and design of the deacon’s vestments match the vestments of the presiding celebrant whenever possible, yet they are always distinguishable from the priest’s vestments by virtue of the dalmatic having sleeves. A handbook explaining the liturgical practices and customs of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, as they have been inherited in their Synodal form as part of the unique legacy of the Church Abroad. Organised in question-and-answer format, with practical guidance for priests, deacons and all servants of the Altar. This section contains instruction and guidance on all practices relating to the celebrations of the Divine Liturgies of St John Chrysostom and St Basil the Great (for the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, see the separate Lenten Services section of this Handbook).