**REQUEST FOR DEPLOYMENT OF A DEACON**

***Diocese of New Jersey***

*The ministry of a deacon plays a vital and significant role in our desire to live into God's mission. A deacon is a bridge between the church and the world, bringing the concerns of the world to those in our churches, and encouraging and helping our congregation ioners join God's mission more boldly in the world. The deacon is a symbol of Christ's service to the world. Under the authority of the bishop, the deacon's principal ministry is to encourage and support the Church's response to those who are poor, weak, sick, and lonely with justice, compassion, advocacy, and humility. The deacon's gifts are expressed in a variety of ways, complementing the ministry of the laity, priests, and bishops.*

**Congregation Name:**

**Congregation Address:**

**Congregation Phone:**

**Convocation:**

**Priest’s Name:**

**Sr. Warden's Name:**

*Please answer the following questions in conjunction with the vestry:*

**1.** How have the priest and vestry discerned that a deacon is called by God to become part of this community?

In a short paragraph, please explain the vision shared by the priest and vestry on the role of the deacon, how a deacon will complement the existing ministries of the congregation , and how the congregation will support the deacon as they bridge the resources of the church to the needs of the world.

Explain how the congregation will care for the needs of the deacon and support them, especially in new ministries that have yet to be served. Identify any expectations of the role of the deacon in areas such as liturgy, outreach, charitable works, Christian formation, or any other specific areas important to the congregation .

**2.** Has a deacon previously served in your congregation ? If so, what was their time of service and what were their ministries and areas of responsibility?

**3.** Is your congregation willing to accept the deployment of any qualified deacon, or is it requesting the deployment of a certain deacon? If a particular deacon is being requested, who is it? What is his/her relationship to the congregation , and why is this person being sought?

**4.** Are you prepared to support the deacon financially for expenses incurred, including a stipend, an annual retreat, continuing education, travel on congregation business, and incidental expenses?

**5.** Are there any major changes or challenges currently taking place within the congregation that could impact the functioning of a deacon?

**6.** Are there other factors which the Bishop and Archdeacon should consider as they respond to your congregation 's request for the deployment of a deacon?

**E-mail the completed form to Carol Pepe, Archdeacon Deployment, at deaconcarol@icloud.com**

***Thank-you for your interest and support of the diaconate.***