



ProDiaconiaChristi  
IDZ | IDC | CID

## International Symposium on the Theology of the Diaconate March 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

In the Academy of the Diocese of Rottenburg  
Stuttgart, Conference Centre Hohenheim, Germany

Cooperation partners:



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF  
GALVESTON-HOUSTON



DEUTSCHE  
BISCHOFSKONFERENZ



Akademie der Diözese  
Rottenburg-Stuttgart

### The Countenance of the Church in the Everyday Life of People?

#### *The significance of the diaconate for a diaconal Church*

50 years after its reintroduction by the Second Vatican Council the diaconate has become, in many parts of the world, a firm component of the local Churches. At the same time, this ministry, so very necessary to the life of the Church (LG 29) is still seeking its adequate place in a diaconal Church.

Why does the Church need a sacramental diaconate? Despite the intense efforts which have been made – does the ministry have sufficient identity? How can one describe the unity and diversity within the sacramental *ordo*? Is any specific task assigned to this ministry?

In the African and Asian Churches, the diaconate hasn't taken roots up to now. – what are the conditions which could make that happen?

In addition, the debate about the diaconate about the diaconate for women in the Church has not quieted down.

The above questions show that the discussion on the place of the diaconate – from the point of view of its ecclesiological significance, of systematic theology and of pastoral practice – has been going on since its reestablishment. The International Symposium approaches these questions from an international - ecclesial perspective and tries to grasp the significance of the diaconate for a diaconal Church.



## Schedule

<b>March 18th</b>	7:00 PM	Opening, welcome, greetings <b>Gerald DuPont, IDC President,</b> <b>Bishop Fürst, IDC Protector</b>
	7:20 PM	"The country needs deacons" - The introduction of the Diaconate in Russia <b>Bishop Pickel</b> , Diocese of Saratov, Russia (tentatively accepted)
	7:40 PM	Does a diaconal Church need the diaconate? <b>Antonio Cardinal Tagle</b> , Archdiocese of Manila, Philippines (tentatively accepted)
	8:15 PM	Dinner, Dinner Speech <b>Bishop Fürst</b>
<b>March 19th</b>	7:00 AM	Holy Mass ( <b>Bishop Fürst</b> )
	8:00 AM	Breakfast
	9:00 AM	Why is there a Sacrament of Holy Orders? What is its purpose? <b>Michael Theobald</b> , Germany
	10:00 AM	The tasks of the deacons before the heyday of the ministry <b>Esko Ryökäs</b> , Lahti, Finland
	10:30 AM	Coffee break
	11:00 AM	Questions, discussion
	11:30 AM	Why does the Church need a Sacrament of Holy Orders? <b>Joaquin Silva-Soler</b> , Santiago de Chile, Chile
	12:30 PM	Lunch
	2:30 PM	Why does the Church need a sacrament of the diaconate?? <b>Shawn McKnight</b> , Diocese of Jefferson City, USA
	3:30 PM	Coffee break
	4:00 PM	Unity and diversity within the same <i>Ordo</i> <b>Johanna Rahner</b> , Tübingen, Germany
	5:00 PM	Discussion by language groups
	6:00 PM	Dinner
	7:00 PM	Panel discussion (with fishbowl) <b>Speakers of the day</b> (possibly also bishops)
9:00 PM	Compline	
<b>March 20th</b>	7:00 AM	Holy Mass (English)
	8:00 AM	Breakfast
	9:00 AM	Universal and particular priesthood: where is the deacon? <b>Santiago del Cura Elena</b> , Burgos, Spain
	10:00 AM	<b>Valburga Schmiedt Streck</b> , Brazil

- 10:30 AM Coffee break  
 11:00 AM Discussion  
 11:30 AM Young and fresh - The Diaconate in Lithuania;  
 and Eastern Europe?  
**Algirdas Jurevicius**, Diocese of Kaunas, Lithuania  
 12:30 PM Lunch  
 2:30 PM What deacons do and perhaps should not do -  
 the specialist for the unspecific?  
**Norbert Hark**, Diocese of Limburg, Germany  
**Gerald DuPont**, Diocese of Galveston-Houston,  
 USA  
 3:30 PM Coffee break  
 4:00 PM The diversity of the diaconate across the world  
 (World Café)  
**IDC Delegates and other deacons**  
 5:30 PM The Diaconate in the Orthodox Church  
**Petros Vassiliadis**, Thessaloniki, Greece  
 6:00 PM Dinner  
 7:00 PM The debate about the diaconate for women  
**N.N.**  
 9:00 PM Compline

**March 21st**

- 7:00 AM Holy Mass  
 8:00 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Does a diaconal church in Africa need the  
 diaconate??  
**Charles Palmer-Buckle**, Archdiocese of Cape  
 Coast, Ghana  
 9:45 AM The diaconate in a diaconal church - an attempt  
 at a synthesis  
**Klaus Kießling**, Frankfurt, Germany  
 10:30 AM Coffee break  
 11:00 AM The ministry of the deacon - opportunities and  
 challenges  
**Beniamino Cardinal Stella**, Congregation for the  
 Clergy (requested)  
 11:45 AM Evaluation  
 12:30 AM Lunch  
 2:00 PM Sightseeing / cultural program

**March 22nd**

- 8:00 PM Breakfast  
 9:00 PM Sightseeing / cultural program