



## Holy Orders

*Below is only a brief outline of the sacrament along with the Catholic particularity of each sacrament. The recontextualisation of each sacrament is explored and explained in the "Sacraments Tile" on the Awakenings website.*

Along with Marriage, the Sacrament of Holy Orders are the two sacraments of vocation. All people are called to a vocation and this sacrament focuses on how an adult male continues to shape his Christian life according to this call from God<sup>[i]</sup>. The sacraments are firstly, God's gift to us and in this sacrament, the believer receives a renewed gift of the Spirit to live his life in response to God's invitation. The individual is called to participate in divine love and this is manifested through this sacrament as service to God, Christ, the Church community and the world<sup>[ii]</sup>. Consequently, the ordained minister is a gracious gift from God to the community of the faithful that he will be serving<sup>[iii]</sup>.

- The Sacrament of Holy Orders is not just about taking on a new role as a leader but also *becoming a new creation to serve the Church in the name of Christ through the renewed gift of the Spirit.*
- The Sacrament of Holy Orders is not just about appointing a leader of people but also about *a person being anointed to lead Christian communities by proclaiming the Word and celebrating the sacraments.*
- The Sacrament of Holy Orders is not just about leaders declaring a particular direction to follow but also about *individuals being called by God and sent to proclaim Christ's message in the world.*
- The Sacrament of Holy Orders is not just about appointing someone to lead communities in meaningful rituals but also about *anointing an individual to celebrate the Eucharist which is the source and summit of Christian life.*
- The Sacrament of Holy Orders is not just about appointing leaders to be served but also about *anointing an individual to serve God, Christ, the Church community and the world.*

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[i] Lambert J. Leijssen, *With the Silent Glimmer of God's Spirit: A Postmodern Look at the Sacraments*, trans. Marie Baird (Mahwah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 2007), 91.

[ii] Leijssen, *With the Silent Glimmer of God's Spirit*, 116.

[iii] Leijssen, 104.