

Πατριεπίσκοπος ἡρεμὴνχημι ἠορθοδοξος
ἦτε νιθω εφροπ ἔτσαρηс
Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States

*“For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing”
(1 Timothy 3:13)*

Requirements for ordinations to the rank of Epi-deacon - πιεπιδιακων

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Assists the consecrated deacon
- Serves the Eucharist, by serving in the Altar
- Assists the priest in the Liturgy service.

Requirements:

This rank is granted through a calling by God through the church clergy. It is not granted to anyone who seeks to be elevated:

“And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.” (Heb 5:4)

It is granted to those who have demonstrated a good understanding of the Bible and conveying God’s teachings in their daily life.

The Coptic Orthodox male members of the parishes of this diocese who are presented for ordination to the rank of epi-deacon (sub-deacon) must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Fulfill all the minimum requirements for the anagnostis.
2. Be at least twenty-one years old.
3. Be involved in the church services.
4. Be willing and capable of serving in the Altar.
(This rank is not a promotion from the reader rank, it is a call to serve the Altar)
5. Demonstrate proficiency in all the Altar responses of the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil in any language.
6. Demonstrate at least 80% attendance rate in the weekly services: liturgies, vespers, and praises.
7. Understand the correct rites of the Divine Liturgy.
8. Read the book: Christ in the Eucharis, by Fr. Tadros Malaty.
9. Demonstrate proficiency in the Sub-deacon exam, which is based on, but not limited to the above book.

Blessed is the obedient son

*H.E. Metropolitan Youssef
Metropolitan of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern U.S.*