

## SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR INQUIRY YEAR

- 1. Pray, pray, pray!**
- 2. Spend lots of time talking things over with your spouse and children**
- 3. Do some reading on the diaconate:**

\*Here are a few good introductions to the diaconate:

Baker, Thomas. *I Like Being in Parish Ministry: Deacon*. Mystic, CT: Twenty-Third Publications, 2002.

Ditewig, William. *101 Questions and Answers on Deacons*. New York: Paulist Press, 2004.

Donovan, William T. *The Sacrament of Service: Understanding Diaconal Spirituality*. Green Bay, WI: Alt Publishing Company, 2000.

\*In addition, Abbey Press is the publisher of *Deacon Digest*, a magazine published six times per year and covering a variety of topics relevant to diaconal life and ministry. You may want to subscribe or borrow copies from a deacon you know. Further information can be found at [www.deacondigest.com](http://www.deacondigest.com), or by contacting the publisher at the following:

Abbey Press  
1 Hill Drive  
St.Meinrad, IN 47577

- 4. Visit with deacons and their wives**
- 5. Get together as inquirers / families – for prayer and conversation**
- 6. Call / e-mail / visit with the director**
- 7. Visit with your pastor**
- 8. Do VIRTUS training**
- 9. Be active in parish ministries and in community service**
- 10. Start learning Spanish**
- 11. Check out our website: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/dcn/index.htm>**

From there, you can link to a number of other sites with information about the diaconate and diaconal ministry.