

## THE DIPLOMA PLUS SYLLABUS, THE SEQUENCE AND THE OBJECTIVE

The Diploma Plus is for those whose possible vocation to ordained ministry is blessed by their parish priest and for those who have been recommended to the bishop for ordination by the Archdiocesan AXIOS Committee. There are 20 essays toward the Diploma in a different sequence to the standard Diploma qualification. The first 10 essays qualify as theological formation to the diaconate; the remaining 10 essays formation for the priesthood. If a person has previously attained the standard E-Quip Diploma and then is subsequently recommended for ordination, the bishop will require the completion of the two extra essays. The two extra essays are on the topics “Liturgical Composition” (Year 1 Term 2) and “Apologetics with Comparative Theology” (Year 2 Term 3). Resources for these two essays will be ready by 31 October 2026. Theological formation is only one of many factors that the bishop will assess in terms of suitability for ordination. Successful participation in the E-Quip Diploma Plus, therefore, is no guarantee of ordination thereafter.

*Implementation: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026*

| <b>Course Syllabus Section</b>                        | <b>Tutor</b>  | <b>Lecture References<br/>Y=Year T=Term</b>          | <b>Essays</b>  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>THEOLOGY:</b><br>Foundations, Patristics and Dogma | Fr Gregory    | Y1T1; Y2T3; Y3T1                                     | 6              |
| <b>BIBLICAL STUDIES</b>                               | Fr Panagiotis | Y2T1; Y2T2                                           | 4              |
| <b>CHURCH HISTORY</b>                                 | Fr Dmitry     | Y1T3                                                 | 2              |
| <b>COMPARATIVE THEOLOGY AND APOLOGETICS</b>           | Fr Dmitry     | Y2T3 (extra essay)                                   | 1              |
| <b>LITURGY AND HOMILETICS</b>                         | Fr Philip     | Y1T2 and Liturgical Resources Page (extra essay)     | 2+1            |
| <b>BYZANTINE CHANT &amp; ECCLESIASTICAL ARTS</b>      | Fr Philip     | Y3T3<br>(only when an essay is chosen on this topic) | Option in Y3T3 |
| <b>ASCETICAL, PASTORAL AND MORAL THEOLOGY</b>         | Fr Boniface   | Y3T2; Y3T3                                           | 4              |