



The Rev. Charleen Crean

Charleen Crean was born in Alabama and soon thereafter moved to Florida where she remained until moving to Honolulu in 1983. She was ordained to the diaconate in December 1986. For six years she served as Chaplain at Iolani School as well as parish deacon at St. George's, Pearl Harbor before moving to Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1996.

In the Diocese of Western Michigan, she served at the bishop's request as deacon of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Belmont, a new church plant. The bishop asked her to work at building a strong DNA of outreach in this new congregation. There she established several outreach ministries, including a commercial-sized food pantry, an after-school tutoring program, and ESL classes. Once the new ministry had been established, the bishop then asked her to serve as parish deacon at Grace Church, East Grand Rapids. She served there until an employment opportunity brought her to Pasadena in 2010. In the Diocese of Los Angeles, she served on the Commission on Ministry (COM), service she rendered in all three dioceses. One of her key responsibilities on the COM was to review the results of the psychological testing given to aspirants.

As with most deacons, Charleen was engaged in regular full-time employment. Having received her MSW degree from the University of Hawaii, she served as a licensed clinical psychiatric social worker. The past thirty plus years she worked in locked psychiatric hospitals in addition to managing an outpatient clinic treating those impacted by addictions as well as their families. In Michigan, prior to her move to California, she was clinical director of a free-standing seventy-two bed psychiatric hospital.

After arriving in California and meeting with the Bishop of Los Angeles, a discussion ensued about her working at the diocese to oversee the ordination process. Two years after moving to California, per the bishop's request, she joined the staff of the Diocese of Los Angeles. She was subsequently appointed Archdeacon and continued to serve on staff until her retirement in 2021.

She is married to the Very Rev. Canon Dr. John E. Crean, Jr. and has lovingly put up with all his shenanigans for nearly forty years.