

Here is **Romans 16:1** enumerated across the same Bible versions.

Once you stray from Orthodoxy, it becomes name your poison, anything goes.

### **1. King James Version (KJV, 1769 Oxford Standard Text)**

1 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a **servant** of the church which is at Cenchrea.

### **2. Douay-Rheims Bible (1749–1752 Challoner Revision)**

1 And I commend to you Phebe, our sister, who is in the **ministry** of the church that is at Cenchrea.

### **3. Webster's Bible (1833, KJV Revision)**

1 I commend to you Phebe our sister, who is a **servant** of the church which is at Cenchrea.

### **4. Revised Version (RV, 1881–1885)**

1 I commend unto you Phoebe our sister, who is a **servant** of the church that is at Cenchreae.

### **5. American Standard Version (ASV, 1901)**

1 I commend unto you Phoebe our sister, who is a **servant** of the church that is at Cenchreae.

### **6. Revised Standard Version (RSV, 1952)**

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a **deaconess** of the church at Cenchreae.

### **7. New American Standard Bible (NASB, 1971)**

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a **servant** of the church which is at Cenchrea.

### **8. New International Version (NIV, 1978)**

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a **deacon** of the church in Cenchreae.

### **9. New King James Version (NKJV, 1982)**

1 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a **servant** of the church in Cenchrea.

## 10. English Standard Version (ESV, 2001)

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a **servant** of the church at Cenchreae.

## 11. Christian Standard Bible (CSB, 2017)

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a **servant** of the church in Cenchreae.

### Key Observations:

#### 1. Diakonos (διάκονος) Translation:

- "Servant" (KJV, ASV, NKJV, ESV, CSB, NASB, Webster's): Downplays formal office.
- "Deaconess" (RSV): Gendered term implying a recognized role.
- "Deacon" (NIV): Gender-neutral, suggesting formal clergy status.
- "Ministry" (Douay-Rheims): Broad but hints at official function.

### Conclusion

The translation of **Romans 16:1** reveals **denominational biases** on women's roles:

- **Conservative translations (KJV, ESV, NASB)** soften Phoebe's authority.
- **Progressive translations (NIV, RSV)** highlight her as a **clergy-level figure**.
- **Catholic (Douay-Rheims)** leans toward formal ministry but avoids "deacon."