

# FROM THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

Dear Applicant,

The call to priesthood is a gift from God; an invitation to a way of life that requires faith, generosity, courage, and sacrifice. We welcome your application and your desire to join us in living our ancient faith in the modern world.

The process of discernment is a mutual experience; and this application will help to determine whether you are called to holy orders in the Episcopal Catholic Church in the United States under the Anglican Free Communion. Be assured of our prayers, and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely in Christ,

The Office of Vocations

# Personal Information

First/Middle/Last Name:

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Mailing Address:

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Physical Address:

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Phone number:

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E-mail:

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Date of Birth:

Gender:

Male or Female

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How long have you been considering the possibility of ordained ministry?

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Do you have a sponsoring congregation? Yes or No

Name and address of congregation:

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Pastor:

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# Sacramental Information

*Optional documents.*

Date of Baptism:

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Church Name:

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Minister:

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First Holy Communion:

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Church Name:

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Minister:

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Confirmation Date:

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Church Name:

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Bishop: *(if applicable)*

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Date of Matrimony: *(optional)*

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Name of Spouse: *(optional)*

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Location: *(optional)*

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Officiant: *(optional)*

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Spouses occupation: *(optional)*

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Spouse religious affiliation: *(optional)*

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Are you: \_\_\_\_\_ separated, when? \_\_\_\_\_ *(optional)*

Are you: \_\_\_\_\_ divorced, when? How many times are you divorced? \_\_\_\_\_  
*(optional)*

# Educational Information

*The candidate should send copies of academic transcripts with this application and original copies to the Office of the Chancellor.*

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate or Professional School: \_\_\_\_\_

Degrees/Field: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Employment Information

*Please include a copy of Curriculum Vitae or Resume along with this application.*

Current Employer:

\_\_\_\_\_

Position:

\_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Employment:

\_\_\_\_\_

Nature of work:

\_\_\_\_\_

# Military Service

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Which branch:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Reserves \_\_\_ Active duty

Honorably discharged: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If no, please explain:

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# Activities

List major hobbies, interest, and pastimes:

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List principal church activities:

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List community service, volunteer, or political work:

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# Request for Postulancy

- I request admittance as a postulant for the priesthood. I understand that in making this request, I am putting myself under the authority of the Bishop and those that represent the Bishop of the diocese and Church at large.
- I understand that, should I be ordained, I will be required to make promise and vows. The promises and vows will be something as follows:
  - I will be loyal to the doctrine, discipline and worship of Christ as this Church received them.
  - In accordance with the canons of this Church, I will obey my bishop and all other ministers who may have authority over me and my work.
  - I will respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and authority of my bishop.
  - I will be diligent in the reading and study of Holy Scriptures and seeking the knowledge of such things as may make me a stronger and more able minister of Christ.
  - I will endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received.
  - I will undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom I am called to serve, laboring together with them and my fellow ministers to build up the family of God.
  - I will do my best to pattern my life ( and that of my family or household community) in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that I may be a wholesome example to my people.
  - I will persevere in prayer, both in public and private asking God's grace, both for myself and for others, offering all my labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ and the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.
  - **I further understand that, should I be ordained, I will be required to sign the following declaration:**

**I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Episcopal Catholic Church.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I give full permission for the confidential information disclosed in this application to given to all persons who will be part of my process.  
(Confidential here means that those who need to know for purpose of evaluation will have access to this document.)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Self-Disclosure statement

{This is to be seen by the Bishop, and Canon of the bishop only.}

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you aware of any physical, mental, or emotional condition that might limit your ability to work with a congregation or perform the other duties elected of a cleric? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
2. Are you, or any of your friends, family members, or co-workers concerned about your patterns of alcohol use? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
3. Do you think you may have a problem with the use of any drugs - prescription, over the counter, or illicit? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
4. In the past ten years, have you been charged with any crimes which have caused, or might cause, distress, or concern within a congregation? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
5. In the past ten years, have you been convicted of any violation of any law or ordinance (except minor and infrequent traffic violations)? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
6. Do you believe there is anything in your background, beliefs, or behavior that might cause distress or concern within a congregation? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
7. Are you, or are any family members, friends, or co-workers concerned about your patterns of gambling? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
8. Have you ever been Suspended, Deposed, or otherwise formally disciplined by an Ecclesiastical Authority? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

**If you answered yes to any question above, please explain here and indicate the question referencing:**

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**I affirm that the questions on this and the previous pages have been answered honestly, completely, and to the best of my ability.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**I relinquish claim to any information about me which may be forward as confidential.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Written Statements

*Each candidate will be required to submit the following typed Statements.*

- **Biographical Statement** - this essay should provide inside into your personal history, employment and family life.
- **Vocational Statement** - this essay should provide insight into your desire for priestly ministry, your sense of calling and vocational history.
- **Letter of Petition for Postulancy to the Diocesan Bishop** - this is a formal letter written by each candidate, requesting to be accepted for Postulancy.

## Theological Education and Priestly Formation

- In general, all candidates are required to be examined by the local Ordinary and/or Archbishops Commission on Ministry concerning the candidates knowledge of theology, church history, sacramental theology, liturgy, and overall understanding of the the ordained position sought.
- In most cases where the candidate is meeting with the local Ordinaries Commission on Ministry, it will be determined by the local Ordinary if the candidate should further his or her education or formation.
- Continued education and formation are strongly encouraged of each candidate and priest. Through on going education and formation we become strong in our ministry and more effective to the people we serve.
- A candidate will not be denied ordination if he or she does not have a degree. If it is determined that the candidate is truly called by God, the church will confirm that call by calling the candidate to orders. Continued education and formation, again, will be strongly encouraged. Our church offers a seminary degree to its candidates and priests at no charge to the seminarian. The seminarian is only required to buy his or her books.

# Letter to the Bishop

{Example of the letter to send to the Bishop, feel free to use this or create a more personal one that follows this example.}

Date

Name

Address of the candidate

Your Grace, The Rt. Rev. (name of bishop)

Your Grace,

It is with great humility and with sincere desire to follow the calling of priesthood in the service of the Lord and His one holy catholic apostolic church. I respectfully request that you accept my application for consideration of my request to be received and accepted as a Postulant for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Catholic Church, in hopes that I too will be given the privilege to serve in ordained ministry.

Respectfully yours,

X \_\_\_\_\_