The Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes
1446 S. Main Street, Akron, OH 44301

ADMINISTRATIVE STEPS FOR CALL TO ORDERS

For those discerning a Call to be ordained as a Deacon or Presbyter in the Anglican Church in North America

1. All Applicants must follow the most currently published ADGL resources related to the Ordination Track found on the diocesan website, and particularly in the Bishop's Customary on Ordination. This ensures that we are in compliance with all ACNA Canons.

2. Those inquiring about ordained ministry begin the discernment process in their local parish where they must be a Confirmed member, resident, and active for at least a year. Those beginning discernment towards ordination have an initial conversation with their Rector, who will then act as their Sponsoring Priest or name a designee. The Sponsoring Priest sends a "Letter of Recommendation" for those desiring to enter discernment towards ordination to the Bishop *before* the parish discernment process begins. The Bishop, through his Canon for Leadership Development, and the Vocations Committee, guides the process as it continues. The Ordination Track Summary document from the website will be an invaluable resource and guide for documentation submission and other requirements.

3. The Sponsoring Priest's letter of recommendation to the Bishop is to be cc'd to the Canon for Leadership Development and should include contact information for the Applicant. Upon receipt of the letter of recommendation in the diocesan office, a file will be opened for the person who is now a Phase I Aspirant.

4. The Sponsoring Priest or their designee, using the guidelines and resources found on the ADGL website, will then convene or form the Parish Discernment Team. The PDT is to meet with the Aspirant over a period of three to six months. Positive or negative recommendations of the PDT, the Vestry, and the Sponsoring Priest are sent to the Diocese.

5. After the PDT report is sent to the Bishop, the Aspirant will then send their formal Application to enter the diocesan discernment process to the diocese following the instructions on the Application and in the Bishop's Customary. Upon receipt of the Application and fees, the Aspirant will enter Phase II. They are to contact the Canon for Administration who will instruct them on protocols for their Psychological Evaluation and complete background checks. They will also attend one of two required Formation Retreats.

6. When the Application, background checks, Psych Evaluation, letters of recommendations, and further assessments for Aspirant Phases II are complete, the Aspirant will prayerfully consider moving to the Postulant stage. The next step is to write a letter of intent to the Bishop and set up an appointment to meet with him for the Postulant's examine interview.

7. The Bishop will meet with the Aspirant for discussion of educational options, approval of their educational plan, the Postulant Examine and expectation moving forward. When this is

complete, the Aspirant will be recognized as a Postulant. All eligible Postulants to be ordained as deacons and transitional Deacons will complete the required exams.

8. All fees, required documents, and assessments must be completed before ordination as a deacon takes place All essays, reports, and applicable files will be forwarded to the Bishop and the Vocations Committee before a final interview. The Vocations Committee will communicate their recommendation to the Bishop Ordinary who will then issue the Call to Orders if appropriate and the Postulant will be recognized as a Candidate for Holy Orders.

9. The Candidate will have a self-guided Ordination Retreat using materials from the diocese and a date for ordination will be determined; diaconal ordinations normally take place annually at the Fall Synod while priestly ordinations normally take place at least a year from their diaconal ordination in the Candidate's cure with dates to be arranged through the diocesan office.

10.2025/kmr