



## **THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH ~ COMMISSION ON MINISTRY MANUAL**

### **FORM I: Nominee Agreement**

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

1. Ordination process: the whole series of steps provided by the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church as defined and applied by the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh which, all requirements being satisfied, may lead to the ordination of an individual to the Sacred Orders of Priest and/or Deacon. In summary, these steps may be grouped under four headings:
  - a. Aspirancy is the period between being permitted by the bishop to discern, up until the acceptance of the nomination by one's home parish. During this time the discernor is called an aspirant.
  - b. Nomination covers the time beginning with a letter from the individual to the bishop accepting his/her/their nomination by the congregation, continuing up until the time that the individual is admitted to postulancy by the bishop. During this stage, the discernor is called a nominee.
  - c. Postulancy covers the period from admission to postulancy up until the time the individual is admitted to candidacy by the bishop, upon the favorable recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and approval of the standing committee. One is called a postulant.
  - d. Candidacy covers the period from admission to candidacy to ordination by the bishop upon the favorable recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and approval of the standing committee. One is called a candidate
2. Ordination: The sacramental conferral of authority on an individual by the bishop, under the Book of Common Prayer, to carry out the ministry of the Church consistent with this Church's understanding of the specific Order to which they are ordained.
3. Cure: The ecclesiastical position to which an ordained person is called, and for which the ordained person is authorized by the bishop to carry out the ministry belonging to their Order.

#### **FAITH AND DISCIPLINE**

Anyone wishing to pursue ordination in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is required to agree with and abide by the historic faith and practice of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition as found in the Book of Common Prayer (1979), and conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church.



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**AGREEMENT**

I, the undersigned, do hereby acknowledge the foregoing definitions and agree to the following:

1. That I understand that permission to enter the ordination process in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh does not carry with it an assurance that I will be ordained, or that I have any claim to be appointed to a cure.
2. That I acknowledge and understand that, in the event, I become a candidate for Holy Orders, I will not be ordained without a cure. Further,
3. I have read, understood, and acceded to the policy concerning sexual misconduct.
4. I understand that failure to live by these standards will result in my removal from the ordination process.

**Submitted by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Applicant*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name of Applicant*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**Witnessed by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Witness*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name of Witness*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Completed original forms should be submitted to:

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh  
Attention: Executive Assistant to the Bishop  
325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Or electronically to [arath@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:arath@episcopalpgh.org)

Copies scanned/sent/emailed to Chair, Commission on Ministry, jlsphone1@gmail.com