

Overview of Process for former Roman Catholic Priests Seeking Reception of Holy Orders

1. Connect with a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. Worship regularly and get to know the Rector/Priest in Charge.
2. Be received into the Episcopal Church by the Bishop. (12 months must elapse between reception and reception of Holy Orders.)
3. Enter into conversation with the Rector/Priest in Charge about your interest, exploring with him or her the requirements/issues outlined in “Guidelines for Reception of Clergy from Other Churches.”
4. The Rector/Priest-in-Charge appoints a parish evaluation committee to meet with the individual.
5. Upon recommendation and request of the Rector/Priest in Charge, schedule an appointment to meet with the Bishop.
6. The Bishop may determine to appoint a mentor priest, in which case the individual begins regular meetings with the mentor.
7. The Rector/Priest in Charge schedules a meeting with the Vestry to seek approval of a letter of support by at least two thirds of the Vestry.
8. The individual collects all of the supporting evidence specified in “Guidelines” and forwards them with his application to the Diocese.
9. The individual is interviewed by the Commission on Ministry.
10. The Commission and Bishop make a determination concerning a possible internship and additional training as outlined in Section 6 of the Guidelines.
11. The individual undergoes such training as required and performs an internship, if applicable.
12. The individual is interviewed by the Bishop and Standing Committee to determine acceptability as a priest of the Church.
13. If found acceptable, the individual is examined for proficiency.
14. The Bishop seeks the advice and consent of the Standing Committee after being satisfied with the individual’s theological qualifications and successful examination.
15. The Bishop receives the individual into Holy Orders.
16. The Bishop assigns a mentor priest to the newly received priest.

Please note: the definitive requirements are found in the document entitled *Guidelines for Reception of Clergy from other Churches*. This outline is for illustrative purposes only.

For questions or further information, please contact the Rev. Julie Smith, Chairperson of the Commission on Ministry, at 412-995-0915 or jlsphone1@gmail.com.