

CANON 34
POSTULANCY COMMITTEE

1. Definitions

For the purpose of this Canon the following words shall have the meanings assigned to them:

- (a) "Applicant" is a person who applies to be accepted as a Postulant of the Diocese and has completed the required form of application;
- (b) "Postulant" is a person who has been accepted by the Bishop into the formation process of the Diocese;
- (c) "Ordinand" is a person who has been approved by the Bishop for ordination in the Diocese;
- (d) "Discernment Process" is the process by which suitable candidates for ordination are identified and includes factors to be considered in that process; and
- (e) "Formation Process" is the process by which a Postulant prepares for ordination.

2. Postulancy Committee

- (a) **Composition:** There shall be a committee, known as the Postulancy Committee. The Bishop shall appoint members to this Committee from the clergy and laity of the Diocese. For the purpose of this Committee, the Bishop may appoint any lay members of the Diocese. The Bishop will select the Chair of the committee from amongst its members.
- (b) **Responsibility:** The Postulancy Committee shall advise the Bishop on the selection of persons for ordained ministry. They will recommend which Applicants should be accepted by the Bishop as Postulants, and which Postulants should be approved by the Bishop for ordination.

3. Discernment Process

- (a) The Discernment Process will be determined by the Bishop in consultation with the College of Bishops. The Discernment Process shall be disclosed to Applicants prior to their consideration for postulancy.
- (b) The Postulancy Committee shall be guided by the Discernment Process in making the recommendations referred to in Section 2(b) of this canon.

4. Formation Process

- (a) The Formation Process will be determined by the Bishop in consultation with the College of Bishops. The Formation Process shall be disclosed as part of the official policies and guidelines for clergy of the Diocese, and shall be discussed with Applicants prior to their acceptance as Postulants.
- (b) The Formation Process shall begin when an Applicant is accepted as a Postulant and continues until ordination.
- (c) Neither acceptance as a Postulant nor participation in the Formation Process guarantees that a person will be approved as an Ordinand. Such approval is at the sole discretion of the Bishop.

5. Financial Support

There shall be a capital fund known as the Theological Students' Fund which shall consist of monies received for the support of theological students, and be invested in the Consolidated Trust Fund of the Diocese. The capital of the fund may only be spent for the purpose for which it is established and as approved by Diocesan Council in the Diocesan budget. The income of the fund shall be disbursed at the discretion of the Bishop.

6. Report

A report of the work of the Postulancy Committee will be communicated to Diocesan Council and Synod members before each Regular Session of the Synod.