**Path to Ordination as Priest – National Canon III.8 and Diocesan Requirements**

### Section 1

**Applicant moving towards Nominee**
- There’s a sense of calling
- Confirmed adult communicant, baptized and in good standing – *Canon III.8.2*
- Resident in the Diocese of Hawai’i for a minimum of one year – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Discernment Committee formed by Rector/Vestry – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Committee meets with Applicant over several months (see “Guidelines for Discernment of Ministry”) – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Committee submits Report to Vestry, specifying: – *Diocesan Requirements*
  - the type of ministry to which the Committee discerns Applicant is called to
  - If to proceed in ordination process, which order (deacon or priest) and explain why they believe this
  - how often and how long the Committee and Nominee met
  - the process that the Discernment Committee followed
  - why the Committee is making the recommendation that they are
- Vestry nominates Applicant at meeting on: ______________________
- Vestry submits Nomination in writing to Bishop; incl. letter of support with: – *Canon III.8.2(a)*
  - committing the community to pledge to contribute financially to that preparation – *Canon III.8.2(a)(1)*
- Vestry/Vestry and Rector – *Canon III.8.2(a)(2)*
  - if no Rector, signed by a Priest of the Diocese acquainted with the nominee and the Parish,
  - the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
- Attested by Clerk – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
- Copy of Discernment Committee Report submitted to Bishop – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Rector/Priest writes letter of support and recommendation to Bishop – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Discernment Committee continues providing pastoral care & help (until ordained), at least every 6 months and upon request by the Nominee/Postulant/Candidate – *Diocesan Requirement*

**Becomes a Nominee**
- Three Letters of Recommendation received from: – *Diocesan Requirement*
  - Current employer
  - Community/volunteer position
  - Someone who knows Nominee personally
- Bishop confirms person is confirmed adult communicant in good standing – *Canon III.8.3(a)(1)*
- Bishop meets with Nominee on ______________________ – *Canon III.8.3(a)(2)*
- Financial resources available for support through preparation for ordination – *Canon III.8.3(a)(3)*
- Bishop approves with proceeding – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- Meeting between COM and Nominee arranged for ______________________ – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- COM sends letter of evaluation & recommendations to Bishop – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- Previously removed / refused admission as Candidate? __________ notes: __________ – *Canon III.8.3(c)*

### Section 2

**Nominee moving towards Postulancy**
- Nominee accepts nomination in writing (by completing Acceptance of Nomination form) – *Canon III.8.2(b)*1-6 incl:
  - Discernment Process Reflection
  - Evidence of Baptism and Confirmation
  - Official Transcripts received
  - Date accepted: ______________________
- Three Letters of Recommendation received from: – *Diocesan Requirement*
  - Discernment Process Reflection
  - Spiritual Autobiography – *Diocesan Requirement*
- Bishop confirms person is confirmed adult communicant in good standing – *Canon III.8.3(a)(1)*
- Bishop meets with Nominee on ______________________ – *Canon III.8.3(a)(2)*
- Financial resources available for support through preparation for ordination – *Canon III.8.3(a)(3)*
- Bishop approves with proceeding – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- Meeting between COM and Nominee arranged for ______________________ – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- COM sends letter of evaluation & recommendations to Bishop – *Canon III.8.3(b)*
- Previously removed / refused admission as Candidate? __________ notes: __________ – *Canon III.8.3(c)*

**Background Check/Medical Evaluation/ Psychological Evaluation** – *Diocesan Requirement for Postulancy; Nat’l* *Canon III.8.5(k)(1) and (2)* requirement while Candidate or earlier, but within 36 months of Ordination to Diaconate
- Forms for background check, medical and psychological exam sent to Nominee
- FCRA form received
- Background check initiated on: __________
- Background check completed: __________
- Medical exam forms delivered to Bishop, dated: __________
- Psychological exam report delivered to Bishop; dated: __________
### Section 3
#### Admitted as Postulant
- Bishop accepts/declines Nominee as Postulant -- Record name and date of admission in Register – *Canon III.8.3(d)*
- Bishop writes to Postulant/clergyperson/COM/SC/Dir of program re: fact and date of admission – *Canon III.8.3(d)*
- Postulant communicates with Bishop in person or by letter in Ember Weeks, reflecting on academic experience and personal/spiritual development – *Canon III.8.3(e)*
- Discernment Committee continues providing pastoral care & help (until ordained), at least every 6 months and upon request by the Nominee/Postulant/Candidate – *Diocesan Requirement*

- Postulant request entry to Candidacy, incl – *Canon III.8.4(a)*
  - admit date to Postulancy – *Canon III.8.4(a)(1)*
  - congregation’s support ltr, endorse by 2/3 of Vestry and Rector – *Canon III.8.4(a)(2)* – or, if no Rector, signed by a Priest of the Diocese acquainted with the nominee and the Parish, the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
  - Attested by Clerk – *Canon III.5.2(c)*

- COM interviews to assess Postulant’s formation – *Diocesan requirement*
  - COM provides statement attesting to continuing formation of Postulant – *Canon III.8.4(b);* dated: _____________

- Interview with Standing Committee, who shall have had an opportunity to review the documentation relating to the application of the Postulant; interview on: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.4(b)

- Standing Committee provides approval in writing; dated: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.4(b)*

#### Postulant moving towards Candidacy

### Section 4
#### Admitted as Candidate (some items may be started/completed while Postulant)
- Bishop accepts/declines Postulant as Candidate for Ordination to Diaconate -- Record name and date of admission in Register – *Canon III.8.4(b)*
- Bishop writes to Candidate/clergyperson/COM/SC/Dir of program re: fact and date of admission – *Canon III.8.4(b)*
- Discernment Committee continues providing pastoral care & help (until ordained), at least every 6 months and upon request by the Nominee/Postulant/Candidate – *Diocesan Requirement*

**Formation/Internship:**
- Formation program decided upon; location: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(a)-(g)*
  - Reports: □ Freshman □ Middler and □ Senior reports on academic performance and personal qualifications from formation program (ex: seminary, Waiohai’ia) – min. 1 per yr – *Canon III.8.5(j)*

- □ Formation program completed: _____________________________

- □ Add’l competency area completed: History & Cultures of Hawai’i, per Bishop – *Diocesan Requirement to fulfill Canon III.8.5(c)*

- □ Postulant (or Candidate) starts internship – *Diocesan Requirement for Local Formation*
  - □ Location: _____________________________
  - □ Copy of Contract/Agreement Received
  - □ Letter received from internship site supervisor

**Trainings to complete:**
- □ Safeguarding God’s Children; completed: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(h)(1)*
- □ Sexual Misconduct Prevention; completed: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(h)(1)*

- □ Civil requirements for reporting and pastoral opportunities for responding to evidence of abuse; completed: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(h)(2)*

- □ Constitution and Canons, esp. Title IV training; completed: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(h)(3)*

- □ Racism/Diversity/Cultural Competency training; completed: _____________________________ – *Canon III.8.5(h)(4)*

- □ Candidate communicates with Bishop in person or by letter in Ember Weeks, reflecting on academic experience and personal/spiritual development – *Canon III.8.5(i)*

- □ COM interviews Candidate to assess formation in required canonical areas. COM may, at Bishop’s direction, assign Examining Chaplains (as established by Bishop) to conduct the assessment. The Examining Chaplains will then report back to COM – *Diocesan Requirement*
  - □ COM sends letter to Standing Committee (□ with copy to Bishop) certifying Candidate is proficient in areas specified in Canon III.8.5(g) for Transitional Diaconate, plus additional area of History & Cultures of Hawai’i, with recommendation re: ordination – *Diocesan Requirement*
Box Bishop provides in writing to Standing Committee – *Canon III.8.6(c)*
- Candidate writes to Bishop, requests application to Ordination as a Deacon – *Canon III.8.6(c)(1)*
- Letter of support from Candidate's congregation, signed by at least 2/3 of Vestry and Rector – *Canon III.8.6(c)(2)*
  - if no Rector, signed by a Priest of the Diocese acquainted with the nominee and the Parish, the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
- Attested by Clerk – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
- Evidence of admission to Postulancy and Candidacy, incl dates of admission – *Canon III.8.6(c)(3)*
- Certificate from seminary/preparation program showing scholastic record in subjects req'd by Canons and giving evaluation with recommendation as to Candidate’s other personal qualification for ordination together with a recommendation regarding ordination to the Diaconate – *Canon III.8.6(c)(4)*
- Certificate from COM giving recommendation regarding ordination to Diaconate under this Canon – *Canon III.8.6(c)(5)* – (copy of above letter from COM to Standing Committee sufficient)
- Standing Committee, once they receive above packet from Bishop, with no sufficient objection and majority consenting: shall certify with testimonial [Form III.8.6(d)], signed by consenting members of Standing Committee – *Canon III.8.6(d)*. Standing Committee's Testimonial dated: ____________________________

Box Is at least 24 years old – *Canon III.8.6(b)*

**Per Canon III.8.5(k)**
- Background check was completed within 36 months of Ordination to Diaconate (date: ____________________________)
- Medical exam was completed within 36 months of Ordination to Diaconate (date: ____________________________)
- Psychological exam was completed within 36 months of Ordination to Diaconate (date: ____________________________)

---

**Section 5**

**Ordination as Deacon**

Box Bishop takes order for ordination to Diaconate – *Canon III.8.6(e)*
- Oath of Conformity signed (Declaration required in Article VIII) – *Canon III.8.6(e)*

**Deacon moving towards Priesthood**

Box COM interviews for ordination; date: ____________________________ - *Diocesan Requirement*
- COM sends letter to Standing Committee certifying that the Transitional Deacon is proficient in required canonical areas, with recommendation for ordination to priesthood – *Diocesan Requirement [COM: see also 5th item in below list of items Bishop provides to Standing Committee – attestation with add'l info required from COM to Bishop]*

Box Bishop provides in writing to Standing Committee – *Canon III.8.7(b)*
- Application from Deacon to Bishop, requesting Ordination as Priest, incl dates of Postulancy, Candidacy, and Ordination as a Deacon [Form III.8.7(b)(1)] – *Canon III.8.7(b)(1)*
- Ltr of support from congregation where Deacon is serving, signed by 2/3 of Vestry and clergy/leader w/ oversight – *Canon III.8.7(b)(2)*
  - if no Rector, signed by a Priest of the Diocese acquainted with the nominee and the Parish, the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
  - Attested by Clerk – *Canon III.5.2(c)*
- Evidence of admission to Postulancy and Candidacy, incl dates of admission, and ordination to Diaconate – *Canon III.8.7(b)(3)*
- Certificate from seminary/prep program, written at completion, showing Deacon’s scholastic record and giving recommendation re: personal qualifications for ordination and recommendation regarding ordination to Priesthood – *Canon III.8.7(b)(4)*
- COM attests to successful completion of formation program designed during Postulancy, verifies that the person is proficient in the required canonical areas of study, and recommends Deacon for ordination to Priesthood – *Canon III.8.7(b)(5)*
- Standing Committee, once they receive above packet from Bishop, with no sufficient objection and majority consenting: shall certify with testimonial [Form III.8.7(c)], signed by consenting members of Standing Committee – *Canon III.8.7(c)*. Standing Committee Testimonial dated: ____________________________
☐ Deacon has exercised office (serve in a Parochial Cure within the jurisdiction of this Church, or as a Missionary under the Ecclesiastical Authority of a Diocese, or as an officer of a Missionary Society recognized by the General Convention, or as a Chaplain of the Armed Services of the United States, or as a Chaplain in a recognized hospital or other welfare institution, or as a Chaplain or instructor in a school, college, or other seminary) – *Canon III.8.7(e)*

☐ At least 6 months has passed from Ordination as Deacon – *Canon III.8.7(a)(1)*. Date ordained: __________________________

☐ At least 18 months has passed since Nominee accepted nomination in writing – *Canon III.8.7(a)(1)*. Date accepted nomination: __________________________

☐ Is at least 24 years old – *Canon III.8.7(a)(2)*

Within 36 months of ordination to Priesthood, the following have taken place or been updated – *Canon III.8.7(a)(3)*

☐ Medical Evaluation

☐ Psychological Evaluation

☐ Background Check

---

**Moving towards Priesthood if Vocational**

If formerly Vocational Deacon, subsequently called to Priesthood

☐ A person ordained to the Diaconate under Canon III.6 who is subsequently called to the Priesthood shall fulfill the Postulancy and Candidacy requirements set forth in this Canon [III.8.3, 4, 5]. Upon completion of these requirements, the Deacon may be ordained to the Priesthood – *Canon III.8.7(f)*

---

**Section 6 Ordination, Priesthood**

☐ Bishop takes order for ordination to Priesthood – *Canon III.8.7(d)*

☐ Bishop Ordains to Priesthood on: _________________________________

☐ Oath of Conformity signed – *Canon III.8.7(d)*