

**ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN**  
**1300 E. Shaw Ave. #123, Fresno, California 93710**

Place  
Photo  
Here  
**REQUIRED**

*Aspirants will need to complete this form prior to an initial interview with the Bishop of San Joaquin, returning the completed form to the Vocational Officer at the above address. If you need additional space for your responses, please use the reverse side or attach an additional sheet of paper. Your photo must accompany application.*

FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street (P.O. Box) City State Zip Phone:

Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.)? **Circle one: Yes / No**

If "Yes," may we add/friend/follow/etc. those accounts? **Circle one: Yes / No**

If "Yes," please list the type of account(s) and the "handle"/username we can find you at for each account:

Account Type	"Handle"/Username
1) _____	1) _____
2) _____	2) _____
3) _____	3) _____
4) _____	4) _____

Name of Parish/Mission: Communicant in this parish since: \_\_\_\_\_

I believe I am responding to God's call to the: \_\_\_\_\_ Diaconate \_\_\_\_\_ Priesthood

Have you applied previously? **Circle one: Y / N** If yes, when? \_\_\_\_\_ Diocese \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY**

Marital Status: (s) \_\_\_\_\_ (m) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_ (w) \_\_\_\_\_ If applicable, number of previous marriages \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name: Date of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names	Birthdates
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**PERSONAL**

Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ How long? \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Employment History: *(Please attach separate sheet/resume or use an Employment History form)*

**Theological**

Can you sign, without reservation, the Jerusalem Declaration? Circle one: Yes / No. If no please state your objections.

**Hobbies and Interests:**

**Baptism**

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation**

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

by the Rt. Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION**

Academic institutions attended with degrees or certificates:

NAME OF INSTITUTION

DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE

**Attach your Spiritual Autobiography (*see below for instructions*). Additionally please respond to the following questions on a separate sheet and attach them as well:**

1. How do you view the authority of Scripture?
2. Describe what you believe to be your spiritual gifts?
3. Describe your perception of the order of ministry to which you believe you are being called
4. Describe your family situation. In what ways is your family's support being expressed?
5. What concerns does your spouse/family have?
6. Describe your current ministry(s) in your church
7. What gifts would you bring to the ordained ministry not already evident in your present lay ministry?

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parish/Mission Clergy

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

*Application for Nomination to Postulancy Form*

## Writing a Spiritual Autobiography

A Spiritual Autobiography is a description of your call to ordained ministry within the context of your life history. This is not your life story, although we are interested in knowing a little bit about that. We want to hear the story of your call to ordained ministry. Please include important points of life context. ***If you are coming to Anglicanism from another Christian tradition please include a description of this journey.***

Writing a Spiritual Autobiography is the typical first step in our ordination process. Your spiritual autobiography will be shared with a small group of people. This group varies but includes (as deemed applicable and listed in normal reading order).

- The Vicar / Rector / Clergy-in-charge of your Parish
- The Rev. Phil Berghuis
- The Deanery Leaders assisting you in this process
- Bishop Menees
- Appropriate Diocesan Staff and Leadership
- Your Mission's / Parish Ordained Ministry Discernment Team
- The Diocesan Commission on Ordained Ministry

Everyone who reads your Spiritual Autobiography will treat it with utmost respect and confidentiality. Your Spiritual Autobiography is very helpful in the discernment process. As it is immensely personal, it is initially shared with a very small group of clergy. The group of readers only expands if Bishop Eric accepts you into the ordination process.

The exercise of writing a Spiritual Autobiography also provides you with a thought exercise that will help you be prepared for the often asked question “Why do you want to be ordained?” or “How did you come to be ordained”. (Tip: after you write the long version of this story, condense it to an “elevator pitch” for future use)

Please prayerfully reflect and use these other questions as you write your Spiritual Autobiography:

1. When and how did you first become aware of and/or committed to following Jesus Christ?
2. Who was the last person you brought to Christ? How did that process work? Where is that person now if you know?
3. In what ways have you grown in Christ-likeness over the past years?
4. What obstacles, trials or failures have you faced in life? How did these events shape your faith? How did you respond in these situations?
5. What are your strengths and barriers, particularly those recognized by others? Are there types of communities where your leadership skills would be especially appreciated? Are there groups of people that it is hard for you to minister to? Does your present context draw on your God-given personality and strengths?
6. What things have you done (or are you doing) in order to develop your strengths and to minimize the ill effects of your barriers, in order to maximize your effectiveness in serving God?

We understand that writing a Spiritual Autobiography is something you probably haven't done before. We encourage you to not over think this. As soon as you get a first draft done, please review with your Rector/Vicar/Clergy-in-Charge. Most people end up writing two or three drafts before completing this exercise.

**One final note:** Please title your document using the following convention: “Spiritual Autobiography: first name last name”. This is helpful for those of us who read a large number of these documents.