

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

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

THEOLOGICAL

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

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: _____

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 Diocesan Vocations Officer
- Bishop Menees
- The Deanery Leaders assisting you in this process
- Your Mission's / Parish Ordained Ministry Discernment Team
- The Diocesan Commission on Ordained Ministry
- Appropriate Diocesan Staff and Leadership

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 shared with select individuals who facilitate the initial process. 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.