

## Overview of the Ordination Process

### Steps taken by the **ASPIRANT:**

Anticipate one year from enrollment as an Aspirant until meeting with the Commission on Ministry at Screening and Review. The Commission on Ministry advises the Diocesan Bishop.

Persons aspiring to be ordained to Holy Orders must meet with their Rector, the regional Ministry Intake Person, the Archdeacon for Deployment, the Diocesan Bishop, and their Discernment Committee. Various papers are submitted. If a call to ordination to holy orders is determined then aspirant is scheduled to go to see the Commission on Ministry for Screening and Review.

Screening and Review is a one-day meeting. The Commission on Ministry advises the Diocesan Bishop, who will say (1) No; (2) Wait; or (3) Yes

If "yes", Postulancy is granted. According to Canon Law, the duration of the process to final ordination is no less than 18 months.

### Steps taken by the **POSTULANT**

Typically, residential seminarians apply for candidacy at the conclusion of the Middler year. Submit the various required papers which are provided by the Archdeacon's secretary, who administers the process.

Postulants meet with the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee to apply to become a candidate to ordination for holy orders. The meetings are approximately one hour each. The Standing Committee has canonical authority to advance a postulant to candidacy. The Bishop may not override the decision of the Standing Committee.

Steps taken by the  
**CANDIDATE:**

After approximately six months, the candidate will apply for ordination to the diaconate. The Candidate meets again with the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee to apply for ordination to the Diaconate.

In order to apply for ordination to the Diaconate, various papers must be submitted, as directed by the Archdeacon's secretary, who administers the process. The Candidate then meets with Commission on Ministry and with the Standing Committee to apply for ordination to the Diaconate. Both groups advise the Bishop. The decision of The Standing Committee is canonically binding, if the decision is negative; the Bishop may not override the decision.

If the decision and advice of the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee is positive, the Bishop may say either (1) No; (2) Wait; (3) Yes.

If yes, permission is granted for Ordination to the Diaconate.

Steps taken by the  
**DEACON:**

The Deacon may apply for ordination to the Priesthood.

In order to apply for ordination to the Priesthood, various papers must be submitted, as directed by the Archdeacon's secretary, who administers the process. The Deacon meets with the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee. Both groups advise the Bishop. The decision of The Standing Committee is canonically binding, if the decision is negative; the Bishop may not override the decision.

**PRIEST**