



Anglican Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast

SPIRITUAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Please write a spiritual autobiography of no more than 10 pages. This exercise will also provide you with a thoughtful practice that will help you be prepared when you are asked the question, “Why do you want to be ordained?” The Spiritual Autobiography is a description of your call to ordained ministry within the context of your life story. If you are coming from another Christian tradition to Anglicanism, please include a description of this journey. This paper should include, but not be limited to the following topics:

- Write of your conversion to Jesus Christ
- What significant events and persons have shaped you as a person both negatively and positively? Influenced how you see yourself as a person of faith?
- What obstacles, trials or failures have you faced which have challenged you faith? How did these events shape your faith? How did you respond in these situations?
- Summarize the most important elements of your own Christian faith. Why are they important to you?
- Describe your patterns/practices/spiritual disciplines of individual and corporate devotion.
- What is at the heart of the good news you want to share with other people?
- Describe yourself and your temperament, including your gifts and preferences, strengths and weaknesses.
- What has made you believe that God may be calling you to the ministry for which you are a candidate? What effect has your sense of vocation had on you?
- To whom do you relate most closely? From whom do you draw sustenance for the demands of life and who might sustain you in your future ministry?
- What do you believe will be the main offerings of your future ministry? More Pastor? More teacher? More evangelist?
- Why ordination? Why ordination as an Anglican?

BEFORE SIGNING THIS FORM,

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDER-STAND THE FOLLOWING:

This form is YOUR opportunity to tell the Bishop about yourself before he meets you formally. It will also serve as a part of your parish discernment process. We will share your information, as necessary with members of the discernment committee and Diocesan staff.

I agree that my parish discernment committee, the Bishop and other diocesan credentialing staff may use my personal information as noted above.

Signed _____ Date: _____