



Anglican Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast

POSTULANT

EMBER DAY LETTERS

Ember Days are days of special prayer for the ministry of the Church. They are traditionally observed on the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after the First Sunday in Lent, the Day of Pentecost, Holy Cross Day and after St. Lucy's Day on December 13. It is sufficient to have the letter to the Bishop by the end of the month.

The Ember Letter should be a brief (1 page maximum) letter written to the Bishop, reporting on personal and ministry life through this period.

CONVERSATION WITH THE DEAN OF PRESBYTERS

A meeting should be scheduled with Fr. Stan Gerber - Dean of Presbyters either in person or by video conference.

BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL COMPETENCY EXAM

Prior to the Ordination of Deacon, the postulant prepares for the Biblical & Theological Competency exam. The exam is given one time for all being ordained a deacon; there is no exam prior to the ordination of a presbyter.

The postulant takes the Biblical & Theological Competency exam, proctored by the Sr. Pastor/Rector or another approved person.

Four to six weeks before, the postulant provides the Diocesan House – Ministry Formation Administrator with the contact information of the proctor, and the date and time of the scheduled examination.

The exam takes place in two parts. The first portion of the test is closed book and takes between 4 to 5 hours to complete. More time may be afforded the postulant in need on the one day.

Upon completion of the closed book exam, the postulant will be given an open book exam. The postulant has 4 additional days to complete the exam and return it to the Diocesan House for grading. *The Postulant should allow 30 Days for grading and there are no exceptions to this timeframe. Ordination dates MUST be considered and planned accordingly. There are no exceptions.*

From Anglican Church in North America Canons:

Canon 3, Section 1 - Concerning Prerequisites for Ordination

No person shall be ordained a Deacon in this Church until that person shall have passed a satisfactory examination conducted by those appointed by the Bishop for this purpose, and shall have demonstrated sufficient knowledge of Holy Scripture, the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of this Church, and any other topics the Bishop shall deem necessary for the office and ministry of Deacons.

PHYSICAL EXAM

The purpose of the DWGC pre-ordination medical evaluation process is to assess the physical health of ordination applicants.

Make an appointment with a licensed medical doctor. At the appointment, you will need to sign a release to allow the doctor to share his/her evaluation with the DWGC (a release form has been included with the Medical Evaluation Form to use if he desires). The doctor completes the medical evaluation and returns it to the DWGC. The evaluation can be mailed to the address on the cover of the evaluation form or emailed to sandy@dwgc.org. You will compensate the doctor for services.

MINISTRY SAFE

Ministry Safe is online instruction that provides sexual abuse awareness. This training is key in equipping clergy to better understand the risk of child sexual abuse . . . especially in those places like the church where barriers of protection are less and people more trusting.

There is a fee for this training which you will provide when you log-in. The Certificate of Completion should be forwarded to sandy@dwgc.org. To proceed go to: ministriesafe.com.

KEEPING OUR SACRED TRUST

Keeping Our Sacred Trust is designed to help prevent clergy sexual misconduct by creating awareness of what constitutes misconduct and how issues of misconduct typically arise. This training addresses the relational dynamics, internal motivations, and vulnerabilities that can lead to misconduct and the positive steps that can be taken to help prevent misconduct or the appearance of misconduct. The goal is to help course participants develop a strong and reliable “internal compass” that will help them to steer a safe course even in confusing or difficult situations.

There is a fee for this course, which you will pay online before proceeding. Please email your Certificate of Completion to sandy@dwgc.org. To proceed, go to: www.keepingoursacredtrust.org.

MAINTAINING BOUNDARIES IN A DIGITAL AGE

Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age is an online course that explores issues of clergy ethics in an era of instantaneous, electronic communication. It helps spiritual leaders stay healthy and attentive to appropriate boundaries amid new challenges. It builds on the first course in the Keeping Our Sacred Trust series, Understanding Clergy Sexual Ethics, which is a primer on preventing clergy sexual misconduct

The amount of time required to complete the course varies from person to person, but you should expect to spend a minimum of 4 to 6 hours. However, it need not be done in one sitting.

There is a fee for this course, which you will pay online before proceeding. Please email your Certificate of Completion to sandy@dwgc.org. To proceed, go to: www.keepingoursacredtrust.org.