



**COMMISSION ON MINISTRY
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALASKA
DISCERNING HOLY ORDERS:
A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS**

1. Lay → Discernment Committee
 - a. See *Exploring Calls to Ministry* (2)
2. Discernment Committee → Postulancy
 - a. *Discernment Process* (3)
 - b. *Discernment Committee Report to the Rector/Priest-in-Charge or Bishop* (4)
 - c. *Checklist for Ordination Process* (5)
 - d. *Nomination and Pledge of Support for Postulancy* (from Church Committee/Vestry) (6)
 - e. *Application for Postulancy* (7)
3. Postulancy → Candidacy
 - a. Commission on Ministry will arrange to meet with Postulants and Candidates at least once/year.
 - b. Mentor Recruited/Assigned
 - i. *Role of a Mentor* (8)
 - c. Create Formation Plan/Submit to COM (done with Mentor)
 - i. *Formation Plan Template with Introduction and Instructions* (9)
 - d. Begin working through Formation Plan
 - e. Apply to become Candidate. To move from Postulant to Candidate, these things are required (see Canon III.6.4 for details):
 - i. Application to the Bishop
 - ii. *Nomination for Candidacy* (10)
 - iii. written statement from the Commission attesting to the continuing formation of the Postulant, and
 - iv. written approval from Standing Committee,
4. Candidacy → Ordination
 - a. Work through the Formation Plan;
 - b. Follow *the Checklist for Ordination Process*
 - c. Continue to meet with Mentor regularly, and with COM once/year
 - d. *Nomination for Ordination* (11)

