

Report of the Discernment Committee to the Vestry

(Form A)

Date: _____

To the Rector and Vestry of _____
(church name and town)

Aspirant's name: _____

Discernment Committee Chair: _____

(The following questions are offered as a guide to the Discernment Committee. Each aspirant and committee is different. The committee, working with the aspirant, should adapt this form to communicate the experience of discernment and the call of the aspirant. Concise answers given in some detail are most helpful.)

1. What is the aspirant's understanding of the ministry which has been discerned in the course of the meetings of the committee?

How does the aspirant view the ministry of the whole Body of Christ and the differences and similarities of the ministries of the laity and ordained persons?

2. How is the aspirant growing in the Christian faith?

Does the aspirant seem to have a good understanding of the basics of the faith and a lively personal relationship with God? How does the aspirant's spirituality make itself known? Is the aspirant still questioning, searching, and probing the mysteries of faith?

3. Describe the current ministries of the aspirant.

4. What is this person's capacity to learn?

What is his/her academic record? What evidence is there of continuing commitment to intellectual growth?

5. What is the status of the aspirant's emotional health?

How aware is he/she of feelings and family issues? How does he/she function in inter-personal relationships?

6. Describe the aspirant's capacity for leadership and the style with which it is carried out.

What are examples of the aspirant's leadership in prior or current ministries in the church and community?

7. What practical and "common sense" issues (e.g. finances, family etc.) might have an impact (positive or negative) on the aspirant's ability to fulfill his/her calling?

8. Can you envision the aspirant as a deacon or priest / as *your* deacon or priest?

Comments:

What conclusions have the aspirant and the discernment committee arrived at regarding the aspirant's call and the next steps to be taken?

