

# Diocese of the United Kingdom

Catholic Faith † Orthodox Worship † Apostolic Order

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## Information for Ministers and Priests from other jurisdictions wishing to join the ACC OR for men wishing to offer themselves for ministry in the ACC.

From time to time we receive requests and enquiries from clergy from other Churches who would like to join the Anglican Catholic Church or from men who would like to train for the priesthood.

### Requirements for the Reception and Licensing of Clergy.

All candidates for ministry in the ACC must satisfy the requirements for ordination laid down by the Canons of the Diocese of the United Kingdom and the Provincial Canons and Constitution of the Church, including:

- (a) be naturally male
- (b) have attained the canonical age appropriate for Holy Orders
- (c) have achieved a satisfactory level of education
- (d) have displayed a mature understanding of their own Christian faith
- (e) be not divorced and remarried nor married to a divorcee whilst either first spouse is still living
- (f) otherwise live a godly, righteous and moral life
- (f) be willing to embrace the faith, practice and worship of the ACC and take canonical oaths to that effect

### Pre-Application Requirements

All candidates prior to their application should have read and have a general understanding of the following documents:

- a) The Affirmation of St Louis (1977)
- b) College of Bishops Statement on Church Unity (1984)
- c) Constitution & Provincial Canons of the Anglican Catholic Church (Original Province) In Particular in the Code of Canons, Title II, OF THE COMMON LAW OF THE CHURCH. Where Canon 2.1 refers to the doctrine of the Church.

Although all the Canons should be read, at this stage complete familiarity with the other Canons of the Church is not strictly necessary but Candidates may find it useful to have some knowledge at this stage, in the Provincial Canons, of Title XI, OF MINISTERS, THEIR ORDINATION, FUNCTION, AND CHARGE and Title XII – OF THE DUTIES OF THE CLERGY AND THEIR MANNER OF LIFE

- d) The Candidate would do well also to familiarise himself with the contents of the Provincial ACC Website [www.anglicancatholic.org](http://www.anglicancatholic.org) and the Diocesan ACC Website [www.anglicancatholic.org.uk](http://www.anglicancatholic.org.uk) upon which the above documents may be viewed or downloaded. Candidates without access to the internet may request hard copies of the above from the Diocesan Office.

## The Procedure

- 1.** All Clergy wishing to join the ACC must fully complete the necessary application form(s) and supply copies of all relevant certificates and the names and addresses of 3 character referees in support of their application.
- 2.** An initial interview with the Regional Dean (of the Deanery within which the candidate is resident) may then be arranged.
- 3.** The Application will be considered by the Bishop. If the Bishop does not feel that the application should be pursued at this time the Candidate will be informed at this stage.
- 4.** The Bishop may, if he wishes, arrange to interview the candidate concerned.
- 5.** The Bishop will then request that Diocesan Board of Ministry arrange to interview the candidate concerned. The relevant application form will be sent to the Board of Ministry prior to this interview. Following the interview the Chairman of the Board will then make a recommendation to the Bishop or give any other such advice as he shall deem necessary
- 6.** The candidate will be notified of the Bishop's decision whether or not to accept the application.

**NB:** In the event that the Bishop does not agree to accept a candidate, he is not required to state his reasons, although he may decide to do so.

7. If accepted by the Bishop, arrangements are made for the candidate to be advanced (ordained *sub conditione* if necessary) and duly licensed after satisfactorily undertaking an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

**NB:** Each application is considered on an individual basis and the Bishop's decision is final.