



Testimonial of the Suitability of a Prospective Speaker Who is a Priest

Most Reverend Luis Zarama
Bishop of Raleigh
7200 Stonehenge Drive
Raleigh, NC 27613

The Reverend _____, a priest of _____
[(Arch)Diocese, Religious Institute] is seeking to exercise priestly ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh. I have carefully reviewed our personnel files and all other records we maintain and I have consulted with those who served with him in the priestly ministry to which he has been appointed under our authority. Based on these inquiries, I am able to make each of the following statements, which I now verify regarding the Reverend _____.

- _____ He is a priest in good standing.
- _____ He has never been suspended or otherwise canonically disciplined.
- _____ No criminal charges have ever been brought against him nor does he have a criminal record.
- _____ He has never behaved in such a manner as to indicate that he might engage in sexual behavior inconsistent with priestly celibacy.
- _____ He has never behaved in such a way as to indicate that he might deal with minors in an inappropriate manner.
- _____ He does not have a current, untreated alcohol or substance abuse problem.
- _____ He does not have a current, untreated emotional or mental health problem.
- _____ He has, as mandated by the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, participated in a *VIRTUS* or *Presidium* or other approved training session on how to provide a safe environment for children and young people.
- _____ He has never been involved in any incident, to my knowledge, which called into question his fitness or suitability to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of his priestly ministry.
- _____ He is a person fully qualified to serve as an effective speaker in union with the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church with respect to faith and morals.

In addition to the information provided above, I state that the Reverend _____ is a man of good moral character and reputation and is qualified to serve as a priest in an effective and suitable manner. I hereby grant him permission to seek to exercise his priestly ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh for the purpose of public speaking located at _____ (Parish, Retreat Center, other) in _____, NC for the period of _____. Note: should the period of priestly ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh extend beyond one month, a background check must be completed and submitted by the priest to the Office of the Vicar General and the results assessed prior to beginning any priestly ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh.

Signature

Print Name

Title
(Bishop, Vicar General, Major Superior, Provincial)

Affix Seal

Date