



Testimonial of Suitability for Priestly Ministry in the Diocese of Raleigh

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 never engaged in any financial irregularities related to his priestly ministry.

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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.

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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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 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