



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
of Rhode Island

NOTES FOR CLERGY APPLICANTS

- This Diocese is committed to doing all it can to recruit the best qualified priests. We seek creative clergy of wide vision and rich backgrounds who are not only excellent matches with a particular parish but who also desire to participate in the life and work of our Diocese.
- Congregations in search are listed through the Office of Transition Ministry (OTM) and on the website of the Transition Ministry website which may be found on the web at <http://www.transitionministryconference.org>.
- I am always glad to give whatever background information I have on any churches in search. Please feel free to call (401) 274-4500 Ext. 232 if you have questions. It is also helpful for me to know where you stand with your own Bishop before you approach this Diocese.
- If you would like to be considered for one of our congregations, please send an electronic copy of your resume and OTM Portfolio to me at Dena@episcopalri.org along with a letter expressing your interest. Please be sure your OTM is current and complete including answers to all of the questions in the narrative section.
- All interested candidates are initially reviewed and screened by me and the Bishop. As part of our screening process, we will seek the recommendation of your deployment/transition officer. The bishop will only submit the names of qualified candidates whose gifts and skills match the needs of the congregation.
- The Diocese of Rhode Island offers congregations with no extenuating circumstances (such as a long rectorship, conflict or crisis) the choice of an expedited process or a traditional longer process. The expedited process means they do not prepare a profile but rather focus on using their website as the primary way of telling their story. Most expedited processes are six to nine months. Once the Discernment Team has completed its work, they will recommend a single candidate to the Vestry for their review and call.
- Clergy serving as interims are not eligible to be candidates for rectors/vicars of the church in which they are serving.
- We also reaffirm the principle that our employees and members have a right to be free from sexual harassment by any minister or employee. The Diocese shall not tolerate sexual harassment in any form and does not condone any conduct that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive worship or work environment.

- Before a call is final, the candidate must undergo a background screening using the Province One Ordained Ministry Screening Questionnaire as well as a public records check. New clergy must complete Safe Church training or provide certification of completion of this training program in another diocese within the past three years. Renewals can be done via the online modules.
- All priests beginning new ministry participate in a diocesan sponsored program designed to support clergy new to a cure for at least the first 24 months of their ministry. First time rectors/priests-in-charge/vicars meet with the Canon to the Ordinary. Time required for this program is considered work time.
- If you are a candidate for one of our openings, I am more than happy to check with a Discernment Team on the status of your application and to report the results to you. If you have any comments about your treatment by a parish or search committee in this Diocese, I would welcome hearing from you.

Working with clergy who are seeking new opportunities for growth and challenge is an important part of my ministry. I will try to assist you in every way possible.

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