

**Clergy Application  
to  
The Celtic Christian Church**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Present situation: \_\_\_\_\_ Single, \_\_\_\_\_ Married, \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced, \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed

Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Eve \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part I - Requirements**

**1. Documents**

(1) Various Documents. The following documents must be submitted to the Bishop of the Jurisdiction the potential candidate wishes to join. Address at end of this application.

- Certificate of Baptism
- Certificate of First Eucharist
- Certificate of Confirmation
- Certificate of Marriage (for each marriage, if more than one)
- Decree of Divorce, if applicable
- Decree of Annulment, if applicable

(2) Ordination and Religious Vows. If you are an ordained person and/or were a member of a religious order, please submit the following documents:

- Certificate of Ordination (permanent diaconate, priesthood, episcopacy, other ordinations)
- Decree of Dispensation from religious vows, if applicable
- Decree of Laicization from the clerical state, if applicable

(3) Transcripts. For college, university and any other post-graduate study, please have the school registrars send an official transcript directly to the Bishop.

(4) Letters of Recommendation. Please have three persons (one of them a past or present employer) who know you well, other than immediate family members, send a letter of recommendation directly to the Bishop

(5) Statement of Belief. Please sign and date the Celtic Christian Church's Statement of Belief, included at the end of this Application, and return it with the Application.

(6) Indemnification and Hold-Harmless Agreement. Please sign and date this Agreement, also included at the end of this Application, and return it with the Application.

## **2. Clearances**

(1) A criminal-history clearance must be obtained by the candidate, at his/her own expense, and sent to the Bishop. Please contact the State Police for the proper forms and procedures.

(2) A child-abuse clearance must be obtained by the candidate, at his/her own expense, and sent to the Bishop. Please contact the State Department of Public Welfare or corresponding agency for the proper forms and procedures.

(3) No ordinations or clergy transfers will take place without these clearances. Other clearances may be required if this is deemed advisable

## **3. Psychological Screening**

All clergy applicants must take a battery of tests for purposes of psychological assessment. Unless a Church psychologist is used, the candidate will be told which tests are required, and must make arrangements locally with a psychologist who will administer them. The psychologist will score and interpret them and send the results to the Bishop. The Bishop or a designate will then interview the candidate, preferably in person but by telephone if necessary.

## **4. Personal Guidance**

(1) All clergy applicants must have a spiritual director. When requested, this director will present to the Bishop, with the candidate's knowledge and agreement, his impression of the candidate's suitability for ordained ministry.

(2) All clergy applicants preparing for ministry in the Celtic Christian Church must be under the guidance of an appointed mentor, who will keep the Bishop informed of the candidate's progress.

## 5. Receipt of Documents

The letters of recommendation, the clearances, and Part II of this Application must be received by the Bishop before any further step can be taken. If anything in those documents makes it inadvisable to continue the application, the candidate will be so informed. Otherwise, the candidate will be admitted to the psychological screening and must provide the rest of the documents listed in Part I and the responses requested in Part III.

### Part II - Personal Information

#### 1. Education

(1) High School: Name, location \_\_\_\_\_

Date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

(2) College: Name, location \_\_\_\_\_

Major area of study \_\_\_\_\_

Date of graduation and degree \_\_\_\_\_

(3) University and other post-graduate institutions: Please give name and location of each one, fields of study, degrees/certificates obtained, and date of completion.

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**2. Employment**

(1) Current employment: Name of employer, location, starting date, position

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(2) Previous employment: Name and location of employers, positions held, years of employment

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**3. Ordination and Ministry.**

If you are an ordained person, please complete the following:

Church/religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Seminary or mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of ordination: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree of ordination (diaconate, priesthood, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Place of ordination: \_\_\_\_\_

Diocese, religious order or other jurisdiction: \_\_\_\_\_

Ordaining bishop: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministries in which you have served since your ordination: \_\_\_\_\_

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Date of leaving most recent ministerial position, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Part III - Reflective Statements**

On separate pages please respond to the following questions or statements as thoroughly and as honestly as you can.

1. Describe your family background, your parents and their marriage, your place in your family of origin, and any important family values and rituals.
2. Describe your religious upbringing, your parents' faith, important family practices and devotions, and any significant church or religious experiences you may have had growing up.
3. Describe any mentoring / coaching / guiding / spiritual direction you have had and how this has helped you (or not helped you).
4. Describe any post-high-school training or education you have had that can be of value to you in various ministerial or pastoral roles (communications, social work, leadership, team building, psychology...).
5. Name and describe the person who has been your most important mentor thus far, and indicate why or how that person holds this role in your life.
6. Name and describe those persons who are presently your most important role models, and indicate why or how they are models for you.
7. How have you dealt with your own sexuality during your teen and young adult years? What guidelines do you now hold to in this area and why have you chosen these particular guidelines?
8. What is your view of authority and how has it evolved since adolescence? What do you consider to be the proper role of, first, authority in general, and second, religious authority?
9. How do you deal with anger and with conflict?

10. If you have done any self-study (Myers-Briggs, Enneagram, etc.), describe what you have learned from this work. Describe the importance of self-knowledge and give the reasons for your position.
11. Think of a person who knows you as well as or better than others. What would that person say are, first, your strengths or strong points, and second your growth areas?
12. In your own opinion, what are, first, your strong points, and second, your growth areas?
13. Again in your own opinion, what are your gifts for ministry and what are your possible blind spots that could hinder ministry?
14. Have you ever been arrested? If so, give all important details. Have you ever been convicted of any crime? If so, give all important details.
15. Indicate your present state in life (celibate, single, married, divorced, etc.), and describe its pluses and minuses and how these help or hinder your desire for ordained ministry?
16. How do you currently support yourself, that is what is your work or career? How will ordained ministry enhance or hinder this, and conversely, how will this enhance or hinder ordained ministry?
17. What is the importance of prayer in your life and what are your current prayer habits?
18. Describe why you are Catholic rather than belonging to or affirming some other faith or Wisdom tradition? ("Catholic" here is a generic term that is specified by Roman Catholic, Anglo-Catholic, Orthodox Catholic, Celtic Catholic, etc.)
19. What is it about Celtic spirituality that attracts you?
20. If you have left your previous religious affiliation, explain the reasons for leaving it.
21. What is your conception of the mystery we call God and how has it evolved from your high school years until now?
22. What do you understand to be the core of the Gospel message?
23. What is your understanding of the inspiration of Sacred Scripture? How is it God's word?

24. How have you reconciled the problem of human suffering and a loving God? What would you say to a person who had just lost a spouse or child through an accident?
25. How did you decide upon your original vocation or mission in life and, if it has changed, how or why did it change?
26. Describe your call to ordained ministry and indicate who and what were significant persons and factors in this experience.
27. To what particular ordained ministry do you feel called or attracted, and why?
28. Explain your reasons for wanting to pursue ordained ministry in the Celtic Christian Church.
29. Is there a community of faith, that is, some group of faithful people, who would endorse your application for Holy Orders? If so, describe this faith community and indicate how long they have known you.
30. Explain why you feel that the Celtic Christian Church should accept you as a candidate for Holy Orders and what you feel you will bring to this faith community.
31. Explain what you view, realistically, as the positives and the negatives of belonging to or being affiliated with the Celtic Christian Church.

Because a minister of the Gospel has special access to children and families and because of many known abuses, the following questions are vital in determining your ability to function in a healthy and effective way in a pastoral role, without any threat to the reputation of the Celtic Christian Church.

32. If you were sexually abused as a child or minor, please describe briefly what happened, whether you have received any counseling, and what, if anything, you still experience as a consequence.
33. Have you been accused or suspected of, or disciplined for, any immoral behavior, particularly any sexual activity with minors? If yes, please explain.
34. Whether single, married, partnered or divorced, please indicate any sexual activity you have had outside of a committed relationship.

35. If you are divorced or separated, have you been responsible, both financially and emotionally, for any child you brought into the world?

36. Are there any pastoral situations that would place your sexual controls at risk for the welfare of others?

37. Is there anything in your present or past behavior, particularly in the sexual area, that could offend or embarrass or harm this Church? If so, please give the essential details.

38. The statements or questions you have answered so far provide a fairly thorough description of you as a person and as a candidate for Holy Orders. If there is anything further you feel should be added to it, please present it in this final answer.

Please send all material to: Most Rev.Cait Finnegan Grenier  
The Celtic Christian Church  
476 Birch Drive  
Cresco, PA 18326

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