

Diocese of Georgia Training of Bi-Vocational Priests (Revised 2023)

The norm is to complete the Non-Degree Certificate through the ACTS Program of the School of Theology at Sewanee with the following components. Each module couplet requires a twelve-day residence at Sewanee.

Module 1: Ethics and Anglican Moral Theology

Module 2: Contemporary Society and Christian Witness

Module 1: Church History, including Episcopal Church history and polity

Module 2: Theology, including sacramental theology

Module 1: Pastoral Theology

Module 2: Prayer Book and Liturgy

Module 1: Old Testament and Preaching

Module 2: New Testament and Preaching

Students may enter the program at any point, taking the modules in any order. The total cost/year (tuition, room, board, books, travel, etc.) is about \$9000. The Diocese, the student, and the student's congregation normally each contribute 1/3 of the cost.

***Note:** A hybrid Masters in Divinity degree from another seminary is also an option and will be considered together with the postulant in conversation with the Bishop and Commission on Ministry.*

Internship

One or more internships away from your current congregation are the norm as you work on additional formation in preaching, pastoral care, and the practice of ministry. An internship agreement is appended to this document.

Canonically Required Training

SafeChurch and Anti-Racism Training is required for all candidates for ordination. The priest at your church can connect you with SafeChurch training offered online. We use the Anti-Racism Training offered by the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing in Atlanta for that training.

Formation following the above

Leading with Grace

Held at Honey Creek and elsewhere in the Diocese, is a training program in church leadership development. In between weekends, participants work on projects and engage in other learning.

EQHR Training

Held at Honey Creek, this five-day laboratory workshop helps participants to greater self-awareness and understand how they are received by others.

Conflict Management Workshop

Held at Honey Creek, this four-day laboratory workshop helps participants learn their conflict style, conflict theory, and best practices in dealing with conflict.



The Episcopal Diocese of Georgia

Internship agreement

Those preparing for ordination as a priest will serve in a field education site if attending residential seminary or in an internship in the Diocese if taking part in the ACTS Program or a Hybrid M.Div. The requirements may vary by course of study selected as we honor the expectations of the degree or non-degree program you take part in. Any exception to this requires the approval of the Bishop. The internship will usually require at least four hours in a typical week, but is not to exceed eight hours, including any commute to the church.

The internship offers time outside one's accustomed place of worship to enrich the intern's practical training and experience, particularly in liturgy, pastoral care, and outreach. The internship shall include participation in different liturgies, including Sunday and mid-week Eucharists, Daily Offices in person or online, funerals, and weddings.

The primary point of contact, who will supervise the internship, may be the rector or an assisting priest. The supervisor and intern shall meet at least monthly to discuss the internship and make any adjustments needed.

The intern shall preach at least twice during any internship. Additionally, serving on occasion as a lector and a Lay Eucharistic Minister will assist the intern in experiencing leading worship in this new context. Interns will normatively go with the supervisor on some pastoral care calls and serve in one or more outreach ministries.

In signing below, the intern and supervisor agree that they have read and discussed this document and that the intern will have opportunities to:

Serve in liturgy Pastoral calls Outreach Preach Teach

List any additional opportunities to serve:

SIGNATURE OF POSTULANT OR CANDIDATE FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

SIGNATURE OF BISHOP

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING PRIEST

DATE