

PARISH LOGO

DATE

RECTOR'S SUMMARY of CAREFUL INQUIRY

Re: ██████████ – for Ordination to the Priesthood

Background

I have known ██████████ for the past couple of years and have met with him to discuss his sense of call to ordination to the priesthood on various occasions, including specifically ██████████; and together with his wife, ██████████, on DATE.

This Careful Inquiry is based on my personal knowledge of ██████████ as a parishioner at Church ██████████, the various discussions we have had concerning ordination, his Essay on Personal Life, dated DATE, and his ministry involvement at CHURCH.

██████████ (62) has been married to ██████████ for ██████████ years and they have four adult children (aged from 21 to 30). ██████████ is a gregarious, warm-hearted, winsome man who has likely never met a stranger! He has a deep Christian Faith and love for the Lord Jesus. ██████████ is a deeply committed Christian woman, highly competent, and fully supportive of ██████████ in this discernment process.

Summary

██████████ grew up in a Christian home and, with his two siblings, was involved in the life and ministry of churches his father pastored. ██████████ and ██████████ are both talented musicians and have spent almost their whole lives engaged in ministry. They have written many songs, recorded albums, and toured nationally (for some ten years) with various Christian bands. In addition to their music ministry, they have also focused significantly on ministry with and to young adults. Over the past 18 years ██████████ has served on ██████████ staff of three churches: ██████████. ██████████ has served full-time and part-time in music ministry, young adult ministry, cross-cultural ministry, and church planting.

Since joining ██████████, ██████████ and ██████████ have started a new Community Group, primarily for young adults, and have been a loving, welcoming presence in the congregation. Before the pandemic, ██████████ also preached effectively at one of our mid-week services of Eucharist. Most recently ██████████ and ██████████ have been leading musical worship in our weekly online Kids Church videos, including using some of their own songs.

██████████ graduated with an M.Div. from Trinity School for Ministry in May ██████████. His time there affirmed, informed, and consolidated his growing appreciation for the sacramental and liturgical expression of his faith. While ██████████ is ██████████ “champion-in-chief,” it is important to note that many others have identified and affirmed ██████████ gifting for ministry and calling to ordination.

Conclusion:

In some ways, given [REDACTED] older years and relatively newness to the Anglican tradition, he is perhaps a surprising potential candidate for ordination. However, given his life-long fruitful ministry, his passion for evangelism, his love for people, especially young adults on the edge or outside of traditional church, ordination could also be viewed as the next right, best step for [REDACTED] – and for the Church. I believe [REDACTED] has great potential to be an excellent Anglican priest. Though [REDACTED] may not excel in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] skills, his life is one which exudes a winsome zeal and passion for the Gospel and for people. With [REDACTED] at his side, and in partnership with him in life and ministry, they make a wonderful team.

[REDACTED] is a tried and tested leader who is a wholesome example and inspirer of others. He is a self-starter and is already a most effective transformational leader within the church. I can see [REDACTED] (and [REDACTED]) continuing to exercise fruitful ministry, whether as part of a church planting team, as a clergy staff member of a larger church, or perhaps as a rector of a turnaround church that needs revitalization.

SIGNED