

# Nominee's Spiritual and Personal Autobiography

## Form P5

*The aspirant is to write a spiritual and personal history addressing the points below. The purpose of this writing is to provide an in-depth picture of yourself to help inform your discernment. Copies are to be made available to each member of the CDC after the committee has formed and agreed to confidentiality. Upon completion of discernment, you are to revise this document and submit it to the Diocese. A copy will also be sent to the address below to be put in your file. Your CDC will not share it with your Vestry or your Priest. Honest and candid information (6 to 8 pages double spaced) will be a great benefit in the discernment process. If the following points leave out an important element in your journey that you feel needs to be included, please do so. Aspirant needs to refer to P1 to complete this autobiography.*

Send to:

Executive Administrator  
The Diocese of Colorado  
1300 Washington Street  
Denver, CO 80203-1311

1. Describe the significant aspects of your life including childhood and adolescence. Include your past and current relationships with your parents and siblings. Who are the individuals who have been most influential in your journey and why?
2. Describe your spiritual journey.
3. Describe your call to the priesthood. When did you first consider ordination? Why do you feel you are called to the priesthood rather than another ministry? How was this call tested and explored by you personally, by you and your priest, and by you and your Congregational Discernment Committee?
4. Describe the gifts and talents that you would bring to the church as a priest. How have you demonstrated them in your congregation? Be specific. What do you see as your strengths and your weaknesses? What are you passionate about?
5. What other congregations of the Episcopal Church have you experienced? If you have been a member of any other congregation, Episcopal or otherwise, for more than 6 months, please give the complete name, address and phone number of each church, and your reasons for leaving.
6. Describe your close personal relationships: the relationships on which your call to the priesthood will have a significant impact. These can include spouses, significant others, a fiancée, children, parents, former spouses, business partners.

7. Describe the thoughts and feelings of your spouse, family, and other with whom you have close personal relationships towards your participation in the Holy Orders process and life as an ordained minister. What joys and challenges do you foresee in balancing your personal life with and the discernment process, and with your life as a priest?
8. Please discuss any former significant relationships listed on Form P1 and describe the work you have done to reconcile the dissolution of these relationships and the impact of the dissolution on yourself, others (particularly children) and your relationship with God.
9. If you have been married more than once, please describe any counseling you participated in and the internal work you did prior to taking on this covenant.
10. Describe how you live out your Baptismal Covenant.
11. In what way has stewardship theology been a part of your life? Describe your personal practice of stewardship.
12. How do you understand the authority of and your personal relationship with the Bishop?
13. Elaborations from Form P1:
  - Former ordinations
  - Previous participation in the Holy Orders process in this or any other Anglican Communion
  - Psychotherapy or other similar counseling