



# U. S. PRELATURE FOR OLD-CATHOLICS

(OLD CATHOLIC CONFEDERATION)

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, ACCEPTANCE INTO POSTULANCY AND FORMATION TOWARD HOLY ORDERS

1. The prospective candidate must be at least eighteen years of age, a baptized and confirmed Christian for a minimum of six years.
2. A married candidate must be lawfully married for at least six years. A married candidate, who has been divorced, must present a notarized copy of the civil divorce decree in order to fulfill canonical requirement for an ecclesiastical divorce.
3. Application and Petition: The application process requires the candidate to have a psychological examination by a licensed psychologist and background check. While a conviction will not necessarily prevent acceptance, the candidate must submit a statement of explanation. Please see application for more detail.
4. Acceptance into Postulancy (Formation Stage)
5. With the exception of those who already hold a graduate degree in theology from an approved seminary or university, the postulant is immediately assigned to higher studies. Registration and Matriculation into the Ministry Formation Program (STB/STL degree program) at the Collegium Augustinianum (or at an approved Seminary)
6. Reception as an Old-Catholic (for those from another Christian tradition, Tonsure and Conferral of Minor Order of Subdeacon)
7. Postulancy
  - a. Spiritual Formation
  - b. Philosophy and Theology Studies
  - c. Liturgical and Sacramental Praxis
  - d. Continued Discernment
  - e. Priest Mentorship
8. The Call to the Order of Deacon (transitional Deacon)
  - a. Spousal Consent
  - b. Spousal Reception (except for Episcopalians/Anglicans)
  - c. Promise of Obedience
  - d. Ordination to the Order of Deacon
  - e. Diaconal Service
  - f. Spiritual Formation
9. The Call to the Order of Priest
  - a. Spousal Consent
  - b. Promise of Obedience
  - c. Ordination to the sacred Order of Priest
  - d. Priestly Ministry under the mentorship of a senior priest
  - e. Priestly Assignment