

Application
Vessels of Honor: Training in the Essentials of Spiritual Direction
Pilot Cohort

Before filling out this application, please read the "Vessels of Honor Overview." It can be found on the "Spiritual Direction" subpage of the diocesan website, www.pitanglican.org. When finished, return the application with the \$50 deposit. This application can be emailed to Cn. Joanne Martin martin@pitanglican.org, or mailed to: Attn Cn. Joanne Martin, Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh, 907 Middle Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Check payments should be made out to the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh with "Vessels of Honor" in the memo line. Credit card payments can be made at the diocesan website.

Name: _____ Email: _____
DOB: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____

I am applying for: Year 1 only Year 1 & 2

It is expected that cohort members will attend all sessions of the training program. Please review the Year One dates below and confirm your ability to attend before proceeding with this application:

2020	2021
Friday-Saturday, August 14- 15 (opening retreat)	Friday-Saturday, February 12-13
Friday-Saturday, October 16-17	Friday-Saturday, April 16-17
Friday- Saturday December 11-12	

Name of Church and Church affiliation (if applicable): _____

What best describes your role in your current church community:

- new (attending less than a year)
- committed member/participant
- ministry leader (volunteer _____ paid _____)
- Associate Pastor
- Senior Pastor

If you are a paid ministry leader and/or on staff at a church, what is your position title? _____

How did you find out about this program? _____

Are you currently receiving spiritual direction? Yes No

Do you have training in Spiritual Direction already? If so, please describe. _____

Please list any education or training post-HS diploma. _____

Short answer questions

Tell us about your current spiritual practices (prayer, Bible reading, etc.) and relationships that sustain you.

Describe a time in which you feel that you had a direct encounter with God.

Please describe your reason(s) for wanting this training.

Please describe your level of understanding/experience with spiritual direction or companioning. (If you use a different word for a form of spiritual mentoring, that's fine. Just tell us about that!) Describe your experience in companioning others in their spiritual journey.

Essay of Personal Life, Call, and Ministry

Submit an essay which includes the following information for the three areas outlined below. We recommend 2-3 pages for each area, or 6-9 pages total. Please don't write a book!

Your Faith Journey

- Describe how you first came to living faith in Jesus Christ.
- Describe where you see the Lord working in your life right now.
- Describe a time when you struggled with your faith and/or felt far from God. How did you respond to this situation?

Your Personal and Spiritual Gifting and Call

- Describe your strengths and growth areas and how they have been affirmed by others.
- How does your present ministry and/or work context draw on your God-given personality and strengths?
- Describe your usual reaction to stress.
- Describe your Spiritual gifts and how you have used your gifts in ministry.
- Describe your sense of call to the ministry of spiritual direction and the events and people who influenced and affirmed your call.

Your Understanding of the Church, the Bible and Ministry

- What is your understanding of the nature and mission of the Church, and ministry within it?
- What is the role of Holy Scripture in your life and in spiritual direction?
- What Scripture verse(s) are important to you and how have they influenced your life? Pick 2

Instructions for the Reference Form

Using the form below, please submit references from two persons.

- Your references should be people who can speak to your aptitude for this form of ministry.
- At least one reference should be ministry related. Your ministry reference should be able to speak to how you interact in your church community and the nature of your service there.
- The other may be a personal character reference, but please do not use family or close personal friends as your references.
- If you currently have a spiritual director, you may use him/her as your personal reference.
- Given that this is a new program, you may wish to send the “Vessels of Honor Overview” to your references so they understand the training to which you are applying.

How to prepare the reference form

- It always helps to communicate with your reference in advance! Please check with him or her that they are available and willing to write a reference prior to sending a form.
- Fill out your name, your contact information, and the reference’s name on the top part of the form.
- Fill in the “date due” line. It is best to pick a specific date (i.e. “March 3rd) two weeks from when you give the form to them.
- Send the form to your reference. They fill out the rest of the form and send it back to the diocese directly.
- It is your responsibility to confirm your references are in. You may wish to follow up with them on the specified due date.
- Your application will not be considered complete until we have received both references.

REFERENCE

for Vessels of Honor: Training in the Essentials of Spiritual Direction

Applicant's Name: _____ Contact Info: _____

Name of Person Giving the Reference: _____

As part of my application for Vessels of Honor: Training in the Essentials of Spiritual Direction, I am asking you to write a letter of recommendation for me. Please address the questions below and provide any additional information that might help the leadership team review my application. When finished, please email this form to: martin@pitanglican.org or mail it to: Attn: Canon Joanne Martin

Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh
907 Middle Street Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Please submit your response by (date) _____

1. How long have you known the applicant?
2. In what way and/or capacity are you acquainted with the applicant and his/her ministry?
3. In what ways have you observed the applicant using his/her gift as a "spiritual guide" to others?
4. (A spiritual guide implies attending specifically to other's prayer life, felt relationship with God, spiritual experience, calling, and the like.)
5. What is your appraisal of the applicant's personal spiritual maturity and guidance?
6. What is your opinion of the applicant's psychological maturity and stability?
7. Would you have any hesitation in referring someone to the applicant for spiritual guidance?
8. What do you know about the applicant's relationship to and use of Scripture?
9. How collaborative are they in their ministry style?
10. May we contact you? Yes No
If yes, best way to contact? (email or phone). Please provide contact info: