



The Holy Wisdom Interfaith Seminary

The Holy Order of Saint Raphael Interfaith
www.straphaelinterfaith.org



Welcome To Holy Wisdom Interfaith Seminary,

I want to be the first to congratulate you on taking the first steps of your spiritual journey. You are about to embark on a life changing experience like no other, growing in the knowledge and love of God. Holy Wisdom is the Major Seminary of the Holy Order of St. Raphael Interfaith. The purpose of Holy Wisdom is to provide academic and spiritual resources for the interfaith movement, to prepare candidates for Holy Orders - particularly in the Holy Order of St. Raphael Interfaith, and to prepare candidates to perform a sacramental and public ministry. Our program is uniquely tailored to meet the needs of those men and women who wish to enter ministry as a deacon or priest, as well as to offer classes for laity who wish to further their understanding and relationship with the Divine.

We, at Holy Wisdom, believe theological education is more than just learning about the particulars of our faith. It must include growth in our relationship with the Divine, exploration of our personal beliefs and philosophies, and the transformation and spiritual quickening of our minds and hearts. Our spiritual formation is an integration of spiritual practice and academic study that produces leaders, lay and ordained, who are mature and collaborative, responsible to the community that has raised them up and to the wider universal church. Our innovative interfaith academic programs, workshops and conferences, and our creative ways we have revitalized the interfaith movement have all emerged from a spiritual community committed to serving the needs of today's modern and progressive church movement.

Please fill out the attached application and return it to our seminary office. Once your application and application fees are received, you will be contacted by either the Dean or Rector of the seminary and you will be cleared for your psychological evaluation and background check. Once your application process is completed you will be given permission from the Rector or Dean to begin your studies and spiritual formation with Holy Wisdom Interfaith Seminary. Enjoy the time you spend with Holy Wisdom and know that our faculty and staff are always ready to answer your questions and share more about our enduring commitment to theological education and spiritual formation.

Seeing Christ In All Things,

++L. William Gameson

The Most Rev. Dr. Lloyd William Gameson, Ph.D.
Archbishop - Interfaith Archdiocese of St. Michael
Rector - Holy Wisdom Interfaith Seminary

Application for Ordination / Incardination

Instructions

- ❖ Please complete the following application and mail the original to the seminary office, keeping a copy of all forms for your own records. With this application please include the following documents:
 1. Original copy of this application form.
 2. Copies of Baptismal, First Communion, & Confirmation Certificates.
 3. Resume / Curriculum Vitae
 4. 3 Letters of Reference
 5. 2 Passport Sized Photographs
 6. Letter of Support From Your Partner/Spouse
 7. Copies of all Degrees, Licenses, Certifications, Ordination Certificates
 8. All Academic Records
 9. For transfer clergy or those requesting incardination: please include a paper outlining the experience and resolution process of leaving your former denomination, as well as any letters or documents of excardination from your previous religious superior.
 10. Application fee of **\$75.00**, which covers the costs of your application process, psychological evaluation, and criminal background check.

- ❖ Please mail all of the following to:

The Most Rev. William Gameson
20 Borden Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

- ❖ Once your application and application fee has been received by the Rector of the seminary you will be notified of the date of your first formal ordination interview. If you have any questions about the application process please contact the Rector of the seminary.

Applicant Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Postal Code: _____ Country: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security Number (USA only): _____

Congregation where applicant is an active member: _____

Diocese of Canonical Residence: _____ Bishop: _____

Incardination Request

Name of Previous Church Jurisdiction: _____

Name of Previous Supervising Clergy: _____

Work Phone: _____ Address: _____

Previous Ordination Date(s): _____

Previous Education

Please list all previous education, including any degrees, certificates, or licenses:

High School Name & Location: _____

High School GPA: _____ Degree: _____ Date Issued: _____

College: _____ GPA: _____

Degree: _____ Date Issued: _____

Seminary: _____ Religious Tradition: _____

Degree: _____ Date Issued: _____

Spiritual Discernment

Are You Interested In: _____ **Diocesan Priesthood** _____ **Religious Priesthood**

_____ **Religious Life** _____ **Permanent Deacon** _____ **Uncertain**

Have you ever studied in a seminary or been affiliated with a religious community?

_____ **Yes** _____ **No** **Please describe that association:** _____

Why did you leave? _____

How long have you been thinking about priesthood/religious life? _____

Who has assisted you in your vocational discernment? _____

Describe your desire to be a priest/religious: _____

Were there significant role models in your life? _____

Describe your understanding of ministry: _____

What strengths do you see in yourself? _____

What weaknesses? _____

What spiritual practices are part of your life at the present time? (ie., Mass, Prayer):

Date You Were Baptised: _____ **Date You Were Confirmed:** _____

Previously Belonged To The Following Church: _____

Applicants, please answer the following questions:

If you answer yes to any of the following questions, please provide details on a separate attached sheet.

- _____Yes _____No 1. Have you ever been refused a professional license?
- _____Yes _____No 2. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony, misdemeanor or crime other than minor traffic violations?
- _____Yes _____No 3. Have you now or ever had problems with the use of alcohol, stimulants or habit forming drugs?
- _____Yes _____No 4. Have your debts been or are they now unmanageable?
- _____Yes _____No 5. Have you previously applied and been turned down for licensing/credentialing within any church? If yes, when and where?
- _____Yes _____No 6. Have you ever been the subject of disciplinary action by an employer licensing organization alleging sexual or ethical misconduct?
- _____Yes _____No 7. Have you ever been the subject of ecclesiastical discipline by a church or denomination?

By your signature below you understand and agree that an investigation of any or all of these matters may be conducted by the church to determine your eligibility to pursue credentialing within the Church. You also understand and agree that you will be subject to removal from the credentialing process if it is later determined that your answer to any of the above questions was false.

Signature

Date

Code of Conduct

The following is a code of conduct the church uses internally to define unbecoming conduct, disloyalty and dereliction of duty.

Unbecoming Conduct:

1. Pattern of public drunkenness or substance abuse
2. Misappropriation of church funds or property
3. Misuse of the powers of the pastoral office for personal or sexual gain
4. Any sexual relations with persons below the age of consent
5. Non-consensual physical abuse or violence
6. Sexual relations between supervisors and those they supervise or counselors and those they counsel
7. Pattern of deceit or dishonesty
8. Creating a person-centered ministry rather than a God-centered ministry, i.e. creating emotional dependency on the pastor, abuse of authority, divisiveness
9. Knowingly violating the sanctity of another person(s) relationship covenant
10. Inappropriate violation of confidentiality
11. Sexual harassment, i.e. any sexually related behavior that is unwelcome, offensive, and which fails to respect the rights of others
12. Engaging in any type of psychological counseling for which they are not licensed as required by applicable civil laws and do not hold appropriate credentials. Church clergy credentials do not license one to do such counseling

Disloyalty / Dereliction of Duty:

13. Patterns of deliberate or malicious acts which damage or bring harm to a person, a congregation or other church body within the Church.
14. Initiating or performing a ministry which is unauthorized and unaccountable to the Church
15. Undermining the authority and ministry of the Presiding Archbishop of the Church, your local diocesan Bishop, or the Bishop's authorized representatives, or your direct supervising clergyman.
16. Not being obedient or failure to follow instructions/orders from the Presiding Archbishop, your local diocesan bishop, or any of the Bishop's authorized representatives.
17. A pattern of deliberate non-attendance at events where your participation is mandated by your religious superior.
18. A pattern of ministry that leaves churches weakened rather than strengthened
19. Leading a church into unreasonable indebtedness or other breach of fiduciary responsibilities
20. Negligent supervision
21. Failure to report acts of misconduct

I pledge to uphold the Code of Conduct printed above.

Signature

Date