



PERMANENT WITHDRAWAL FROM MINISTRY

Ordination brings with it a special relationship between the priest and diocese. Until death, excommunication or loss of the clerical state, one remains in this special relationship. The diocese requests anyone who wishes to permanently depart from clerical life to speak with the bishop, and to present a formal letter of departure to him. If the priest foresees the need of any assistance beyond what is available for a Personal Leave of Absence, he is asked to address the issue with the bishop.

The priest will be encouraged to petition for dispensation from the obligations of the sacrament of Holy Orders through the Judicial Vicar or Vicar General of our diocese or of the diocese where one has domicile.