



**NOTRE DAME SEMINARY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM**



DECLARATION OF FREEDOM

from

CANONICAL IRREGULARITIES AND IMPEDIMENTS TO HOLY ORDERS

“Those bound by an impediment are to be barred from the reception of orders” (c. 1040) and the ordaining minister is obliged to ascertain that any man ordained to the diaconate or the priesthood is free from those impediments specifically contained in the *Code of Canon Law* (c. 1025, §1).

To establish this fact, I _____, declare the following to be true:

I do not now nor have I ever suffered from any form of incapacitating insanity (c. 1041 §1).

I have never committed the delicts of apostasy (total repudiation of the Catholic faith), heresy (obstinate post-baptismal denial of some truth which must be believed with divine and Catholic faith), or schism (refusal of submission to the roman Pontiff or of communion with the members of the Church subject to him) (c. 1041, §2).

I have never attempted to marry (even civilly) while I was not free to do so because of a previous marriage, a prior ordination, or a prior vow of chastity to a religious institute (c. 1041, §3).

I have never attempted to marry (even civilly) a woman who was not free to marry because she had been previously validly married or had vowed chastity in a religious institute (c. 1041, §3).

I have never committed voluntary homicide (c. 1041, §4) nor have ever performed a voluntary abortion nor positively cooperated in the procurement of an abortion (c. 1041, §4).

I have never seriously mutilated myself or another person (c. 1041, §5) nor have I ever attempted suicide (c. 1041, §5).

I have never performed some act reserved to some degree of holy orders (diaconate, priesthood, episcopacy) while I lacked the order (c. 1041, §6).

I do not currently exercise some public office requiring the exercise of civil power or (without the permission of my ordinary) conduct business or trade for myself or others or exercise any administration requiring me to render an account.

Furthermore, I am aware that if I am ordained while any of the above are true or if I am after ordination afflicted by amentia or other debilitating psychic illness, I am not legally permitted to function in that order.

Name

Witness

Date

Date