

Good Shepherd Companions  
An Ecumenical Catholic Ordinariate  
22380 Berry Dr, Rocky River, Ohio 44116, USA  
Office of the Ordinary

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene  
July 22, 2020

The Rev. Dr. Shanon Sterringer, Ph.D., D.Min, MA Theology, MA Ministry, BA

In the name of the most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, peace be with you now and forever on the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene. Your request for acceptance into and incardination as a priest into the presbyterate of the Good Shepherd Companions, an Ecumenical Catholic Ordinariate, has been extensively reviewed and prayerfully considered by our leadership.

Rev. Shanon Sterringer, you have expressed a desire to share in the Gospel mission of The Good Shepherd Companions, An Ecumenical Catholic Ordinariate within the Married Priests Now Catholic Prelature of Sts. Peter and Paul. You have agreed to participate in the life and ministry of the Companions in accord with its commitments. The Good Shepherd Companions is an inclusive, embracing faith community of men and women committed to the good News of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd. We seek to cultivate attitudes and skills of spiritual empowerment, equality, peace and justice among individuals, spouses and families. We seek to build bridges of faith, hope and love.

Our collegial interview via telecommunications on July 22, 2020, St. Mary Magdalene's Feast day, confirmed our previous impressions that it is God's Spirit who has brought us together as companions of the Good Shepherd.

Your incardination within the Good Shepherd Companions is not a new ordination but a validation of your original ordination received from Bishop Mary Eileen Collingwood, ARCWP, and Bishop Christine Mayr-Lumetzberger, RCWP according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church in Linz, Austria on August 3, 2019. On the strength of Emmanuel Milingo's apostolic authority as a Bishop in the Church of God, received from Pope St. Paul VI on August 1, 1969 through us who received it from him before you, we grant you the full faculties of the Good Shepherd Companions of the Good Shepherd Companions. The Prelature is available to respond to the needs of the served, the un-served and the underserved members of the Church as well as those seeking faith in their lives in an accountable fashion. The Companions are available to encourage women, men and married priests to take up the work of pastoral service and pastoral, sacramental care of the Faithful and those seeking faith. We offer ourselves to Pope Francis and his leadership colleagues as collaborating brothers and sisters in the Faith called by the Lord of the Harvest to do the works of God in the world by the power of the Holy Spirit and to share The Joy of the Gospel which invites all of the Church's members to in its missionary transformation.

It gives me great joy to provide you with this formal letter of recognition, acceptance and authorization as an incardinated member of the Good Shepherd Companions, an Ecumenical Ordinariate within the Married Priests Now, Catholic Prelature of Sts. Peter and Paul. Your particular mandate is to continue your work in the Community of St. Hildegard, where you are the founding pastor, engaging in a wide range of ministries. We also support your interest on the alive topic of St. Hildegard, and, missionary work that you have been involved for many years.

In accordance with the office which I hold as Bishop Ordinary and President of The Good Shepherd Companions, I do hereby welcome you as a Companion in the name of our brothers and sisters your new Companions of our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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With great joy we provide you with this official and formal letter of recognition, acceptance and authorization as an incardinated member of the Good Shepherd Companions, an Ecumenical Ordinariate within the Married Priests Now, Catholic Prelature of Sts. Peter and Paul.

Given this day, July 22, 2020, the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, signed and sealed with my signature,

Peace and Joy,



Bishop Philip R. Belzunce, Ph.D., DD, ND, MSprt., LMFT  
President of the Good Shepherd Companions, an Ecumenical Catholic Ordinariate,  
Bishop Ordinary.

Good Shepherd Companions, an Ecumenical Catholic Ordinariate, within the Married Priests Now Catholic Prelature of Sts. Peter and Paul, *Bishop Philip Ruiz Belzunce, 22380 Berry Drive, Rocky River, Ohio 44116; 440-333-4105. PBelzunce@aol.com.*

