



A request from Dave

In my early twenties I trained for the priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church, I was ordained a deacon and was finished my ministerial training and awaiting full ordination when I reported someone to the principal of my order for sexual abuse, not of me but of a teen ager. The principal of my order had me thrown out for my trouble.

Seven months later I met Denise, now my wife and we have been a couple for thirty seven years, married for thirty three. I have no regrets about not being ordained but just lately something is eating at me and I am opening up to all of you for your thoughts and prayers.

In the intervening almost thirty eight years since being thrown out I have led many church music groups run retreats, been co-founder of Disability and Jesus and written the Ordinary Office but I have also progressively lost my sight as well as dealing with several other ongoing medical issues.

About twelve years ago I began worshipping as an Anglican.

For the last few months now I feel my work with the Ordinary Office has developed more of a priestly form and am wondering what God might be saying to me.

My role has become more pastoral, not through any deliberate intention on my part but it simply has evolved over time.

I feel the need to explore how to do the sacramental online and yet I am acutely aware of what a contentious issue this can be for many.

I am not looking to serve in a parish as I feel the Ordinary Office community is my parish.

Then there would be the issue of training for ministry, with the lack of vision I now have and the other medical issues I feel it would not be possible and yet in many ways I have already done the training.

It feels to me like Gid is saying something about formalising my ministry yet I don't understand what that can mean given my circumstances.

I am simply putting this to you as the community I belong to and asking simply for your thoughts and prayers.

Blessings

Dave.