

Sacred Heart



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

200 Third Street Northwest • East Grand Forks, Minnesota 5672 • 218-773-0877

Dear Bishop Hoepfner,

As pastor of Sacred Heart in East Grand Forks, Holy Trinity in Tabor, and St. Francis of Assisi in Fisher, I write you concerning Ron Vasek who is in Deaconate formation. I have spent a year and half working with and getting to know Ron. I, as pastor, recommend that Ron's ordination to the Deaconate be postponed and reviewed in a year.

If Ron hones these skills to an acceptable level, I would have no objection to him being ordained to the deaconate for our diocese. However, I have concern with the consultation with my associate, Fr. John Christianson and several parishioners at Holy Trinity that Ron is not ready for ordination at this point in his formation. The reasons are as follows:

- Ron has several relationships with fellow parishioners that are strained
- Ron tends to take control in inappropriate contexts (liturgy, decision making, and meetings that he is not a part of)
- Though Ron is a self-starter, he could improve in times where team work is more appropriate
- Ron struggles with taking orders from hierarchy that have different understandings than his own
- Ron's orientation needs to be more focused on service to God and His people rather than on agendas that are Ron's personal preferences

In the upcoming year, I suggest that Ron work on these areas of concern that will enhance his future ministry. An assigned advisor may be able to help Ron grow in these areas in the upcoming year.

In Christ,

Fr. Xavier Ilango