

Initiativtext englisch

Parish Initiative

In the current development of the Catholic Church there are practices, which overstep the rules. We ministers find we must articulate, clearly and firmly what these practices are in order to clarify that exceptions to the rules and therefore forms of disobedience have become the going practice. Our goal is to clearly name what we do in order to self critically reflect upon our actions and give meaning to our actions “in light of the Gospel” and to encourage the solidarity among ministers who are convinced of the direction of Their ministry .

We want to continue our current practice of ministry and thus pray that the renewal of the Church continues. In order to succeed, prayer and credibility are of utmost importance; particularly while our life as the Church is responsible to the example of Jesus from Nazareth, who hung on the cross and was resurrected, who without exception was in solidarity with the human beings he lived with and healed, as well as those with whom he shared his message of salvation. Because of this he died and was resurrected for us. For a life oriented towards Jesus Christ, the words of the Apostle is central: “We must obey God rather than human beings!” (Acts 5:29)

In our struggle to name what for us is self-evident yet leads to disobedience, we understand ourselves to be in community with the Austrian Priest Initiative and similar movements in the world wide, catholic Church.

The following are current practices by which we stand:

1. God, through the church and the sacraments, performs healing works. We must not decide who is deserving or not deserving. We already share with all baptized people who feel invited by the resurrected Christ to partake in the communion meal, the “bread of life” (John 6:48)
2. We already share the communion meal that Jesus gave us, with our sisters and brothers from other Christian Churches. We celebrate our tradition of communion with our fellow Christians and partake in their traditions of communion celebration.
3. We already invite remarried couples to bless their relationship and prudently address questions of guilt, reconciliation and new beginnings. We share also with these Christians, the bread of life.
4. We already accept those with different sexual orientation as our sisters and brothers. We stand by them and insist that they belong to our church with all the rights and obligations of such membership.
5. In the celebration of Eucharist and Liturgy of the word, women and men, of course educated theologians, baptized and confirmed Catholics, already interpret the words of God in their sermons (homilies).
6. We already give encouragement to the ill and when asked anoint them and their relatives to offer spiritual and physical strength.
7. In a variety of ways we already offer people steps along the path of forgiveness. We are convinced that when a person is ready, the important elements of forgiveness of sins are possible to provide within a personal exchange with us as ministers.
8. With the mutual understanding of the Priests, the ministers and Deacons, bring the intercessional dimension of the Eucharistic prayer to the people. Through this we bring a network of service to the people, built upon a responsibility for the church already shared by both ministers/Deacons and Priests.

9. Because solidarity in the witness of Christ normally needs human encounter and exchange, we already stand in support of an easily comprehensible parish. A pastoral region of more parishes is therefore only a subsidiary structure.
10. Every Sunday each parish already celebrates the Day of the Lord with the people and the local minister. Every Parish furthermore has a contact person in the form of a community leader.

Therefore we stand in support of ordination of competent woman and men regardless of their life status to responsibly provide services of the church.

17. September 2012

To send more signatures along with credentials of consecrated or hired employees of the church to info@pfarrei-initiative.ch