

COM RECOMMENDATION FOR VALIDATING MINISTRY

The Commission on Ministry enthusiastically recommends that Presbytery approve Nicole Reibe's work as Assistant Teaching Professor/Director of Program Operations at Loyola College as a validated ministry. Our Rationale:

Dr.. Reibe has been working in Catholic schools for fifteen years, and at Loyola for the past six. She graduated from seminary in 2008, and then entered a Ph. D. program. Though ordination is not a requirement for this position, she deeply appreciates the connection with and support of the presbytery. In her work, she has found herself serving as a role model to female students, who comprise 65% to 70% of Loyola's student body. She works with both Protestant and Roman Catholic students and sees a pastoral dimension to her teaching ministry in that she provides not only education, but also spiritual formation.

She has also discovered a significant degree of pastoral burnout among clergy in today's church and hopes that after ordination she can assist colleagues by serving as pulpit supply when pastors need to take a break from regular duties for a time. She reports she loves preaching and entering new communities. She sees herself as a traditional theologian who can authentically embrace the diversity in many congregations.

COM would point out that teaching is one of the professions for which we have traditionally validated ministries. We believe Ms. Reibe will be an asset to the presbytery, her colleagues, and to the work of the church of Jesus Christ.