

**CANONS OF  
THE UNITED ANGLICAN CHURCH  
A PROVINCE OF  
THE ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

We, the Right Reverend Bishops of the United Anglican Church, a Province of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, by and with the advice and consent of the Councils of Advice of our respective Dioceses, and of our Clergy and People in Synod assembled, do hereby ordain and establish these Canons for the government, administration, and good order of this Province, as well as for the provision of godly discipline therein, recognizing and declaring that they are supplementary only to the general body and corpus of Canon Law as received by and effective as of the year 1789 in that National Church of England and consisting of the provinces of Canterbury and York, except insofar as any part of the same may have fallen into desuetude, may be inapplicable by reason of changed and altered external conditions, may be superseded by and/or made inapplicable by reason of secular legislation in any nation or state wherein this Province functions, or made the subject of express enactment herein as to matters of ecclesiastical government and administration only, affirming that it is beyond our power and authority to make any express or implied additions to, deletions from, or alterations in the fundamental law of the Church and in particular in matters of or relating to Faith and Doctrine.

**CANONS OF THE PROVINCE**

Proclamation and Promulgation

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## 1. OF THE DIOCESES CONSTITUTING THE PROVINCE

Canon 1.01. This Province consists of certain Dioceses as designated in the subscription hereto, or which may later subscribe thereto and be admitted into its fellowship, each composed of Parishes, Clergy, and Laity continuing in their membership in and allegiance to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church after the Provinces, Regional churches, and/or National Church of their former ecclesiastical obedience had departed into heresy, apostasy and schism.

Canon 1.02. Each of the said aforementioned Dioceses, shall exercise jurisdiction only within well-defined, fixed, and readily ascertainable geographical boundaries established in accordance with these Canons.

Canon 1.03. New Dioceses may be admitted to this Province from territory not included in an aforementioned Diocese, or by division of any existing Dioceses, provided such division is approved by the Bishop and Synod of the Diocese(s) to be divided, and provided further that said Diocese or Dioceses so divided be not reduced in Parishes or in Clergy below the requirement for a new Diocese, by action of the Provincial Synod, or by its College of Bishops. Any new Diocese shall have defined geographical bounds, together with a minimum of seven self supporting Parishes and twelve resident Priests, and Canons which shall be submitted in compliance with Canon 4.01.

Canon 1.04. Territories not included within the territories of existing Dioceses shall be deemed the territory of a Provincial Diocese, with respect to which the College of Bishops shall corporately exercise oversight and ecclesiastical authority in accordance with these Canons. The College of Bishops shall provide Canons for such Diocese consistent with these Canons.

## 2. OF THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS AND THE ARCHBISHOP

Canon 2.01. The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ.

Canon 2.02. The reflection of Christ's Headship is the Archbishop. This is in accord with Our Lord's teaching directed at Peter, manifested by the role of The Apostle James at the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), and affirmed in the unbroken practice of the Church. He is the Spiritual and Temporal leader of the Province there being no such sundering in Christ's Church. The Archbishop shall be elected by the College of Bishops in accordance with Canon 2.04, such election being for life, or until removed due to gross moral error, grave Theological error, incapacitation, or resignation.

Canon. 2.03. The College of Bishops shall consist of all the Bishops of this Province, both active and retired, the actions and decisions thereof under these Canons being binding on all of its members. The Archbishop shall serve as the president of the College.

Canon 2.04. The College of Bishops shall, by unanimous action, name one of their own number as the Archbishop of this Province, who may remain Ordinary of his Diocese, he to possess and exercise all the power, authority, duties, functions, and prerogatives assigned to the Archbishop by the Canon Law herein recognized as applicable to the Province, except as may be limited by the Provincial Canon or by the Bishops in Council. Retired Bishops may not be elected to serve as Archbishop.

Canon 2.05. When the Archbishopric shall become vacant its power, authority, duties, functions, and prerogatives shall revert to the College of Bishops, which shall name a new Archbishop as prescribed in Canon 2.04.

### 3. OF THE PROVINCE

Canon 3.01. The temporal affairs and business of this Province, and such ecclesiastical affairs and business as are not, under the aforementioned Canons, reserved to the Archbishop or College of Bishops, or otherwise provided for in these Canons, shall be under the direction of and governed by a Provincial Synod.

Canon. 3.02. Provincial Synod shall consist of three Orders, which shall meet and deliberate together, unless a division be called under rules of the Synod therefore, namely: (1) the Episcopal Order, to consist of all the Bishops of this Province; (2) the Clerical Order, which shall consist of four Priests for each Diocese who shall vote as a unit; and (3) the Lay Order, which shall consist of four Lay Representatives from Each Diocese, who shall likewise vote as a unit. The Archbishop shall be Synod President. Synod may elect such other officers as it may require.

Canon 3.03. Any Synod member may initiate legislation, concurrence of all three Orders being necessary to effect synodical action.

Canon 3.04. Synod shall meet at least triennially at the call of the Archbishop, who shall designate the date and place thereof, giving at least ninety days written notice to each Bishop and to the Secretary of each Diocese.

Canon 3.04. Between meetings of the Provincial Synod, its functions shall be exercised through the College of Bishops.

Canon 3.05. The judicial functions of the Province shall be exercised through and by the Provincial Court, which shall consist of: (a) three Bishops of this Province appointed by the Archbishop, (b) two Priests, and (c) two Lay Persons appointed by the Provincial Council of Advice, each to serve for three-year rotating terms.

Canon 3.06. The Provincial Court shall have original jurisdiction in all matters (excluding disciplinary proceedings) involving the interpretation of these Canons and the validity of any action thereunder of any Bishop, Council, Officer or Agency. It shall have appellate jurisdiction from all Diocesan Courts, and shall prescribe its own rules, consonant with canonical procedures and due process of the law. The College of Bishops shall be the Supreme Court of Appeal in questions of Faith and Order, and of the interpretation of the Constitutional and Canon Law of this Church.

Canon 3.07. The College of Bishops shall appoint an attorney at law as Chancellor of the Province, to act as attorney and legal advisor thereof.

Canon 3.08. Only Clergy in good standing or Communicants 18 years of age or older (hereinafter referred to as adult Communicants) in good standing may serve in any Provincial or Diocesan office.

#### 4. OF THE DIOCESES

Canon 4.01. As Christ is the Head of the Church, and the Archbishop a reflection of that Headship, so is the Bishop Ordinary a local expression thereof.

Canon 4.02. Each Diocese shall have a Charter or Constitution and/or Canons for its own internal government, which shall be subject and subordinate to these Canons. Diocesan Canons shall provide for the Annual Diocesan Synod, which shall be the electing authority as provided in Canon 4.03, shall provide for the remittance of tithes of Diocesan income to the Province, and shall have authority to make and amend Canons of the Diocese, subject to approval of the Archbishop.

Canon 4.03. When a Diocesan Episcopate becomes vacant, or upon acceptance of the resignation of an incumbent Bishop to be effective upon the consecration of a successor, or upon other circumstances under which a Bishop may be elected, the College of Bishops shall select not fewer than two Priests, including at least one who is canonically resident in the Diocese for which the election is to be held (if there be one qualified therein). These Priests shall be the nominees to the electing authority. Should the College of Bishops fail to select such nominees within 90 days of the notice to it of the vacancy, the Council of Advice of the Diocese for which an episcopal election to be held may act in the place of the said Provincial College to select nominees to the electing authority.

Canon 4.04. In each Diocese there shall be a Council of Advice consisting of either six or eight members, equally divided between Clergy and Laity, to be appointed by the Bishop Ordinary. The said Council, in addition to advising the Bishop, shall have such other powers and duties as are specified in these Canons and in the Diocesan Canons. During any vacancy in the Episcopate, the Council of Advice shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, with Episcopal Acts to be performed by an Episcopal Visitor appointed by the Archbishop.

Canon 4.05. The Diocesan Council of Advice shall have authority to fill vacancies in all Diocesan offices unless the Canons in that case provide otherwise.

Canon 4.06. Only Clergy in good standing or adult communicants in good standing may serve in any Diocesan office or represent the Diocese in the Provincial Synod.

Canon 4.07. Each Diocese, by Canon, shall provide for an Ecclesiastical Court, which shall have jurisdiction over all controversies arising out of interpretation of Diocesan Canons or the act of any Diocesan official, and over all disciplinary causes involving any Lay Person, Priest, or Deacon. The said Diocesan Court shall have jurisdiction in marriage cases under these Canons, unless the Bishop has established a Marriage Tribunal, which shall then have such jurisdiction. Each Diocesan Ecclesiastical Court shall prescribe its own rules of procedure consonant with canonical procedure and due process of law.

## 5. OF THE PARISH

Canon 5.01. A Parish is a local congregation, which shall be a constituent member of and subject to the jurisdiction of the Diocese in which it is situated.

Canon 5.02. As the Head of the Church is Christ, the reflection of Christ's Headship the Archbishop, the Diocesan expression of the same the Bishop, so is the Priest to the local Parish.

Canon 5.04. The Rector of a Parish is a Priest chosen under the provisions of Canon 5.08. He shall have exclusive charge and control of the spiritualities of the Parish and, subject to Canon 6.01 through 6.07 and the godly counsel of the Bishop, shall be in charge and control of all services of public and private worship. He shall at all times be entitled to the use and control of and access to all Parish buildings, together with the furniture and appurtenances thereof. He shall be a voting member and President of the Vestry, and shall be a member *ex officio* of all Parish organizations with right of seat, voice and vote therein.

Canon 5.05. In the case of a Parish which for any reason is without a Rector, the Bishop is the acting Rector thereof, and may appoint a Priest or Deacon or a Lay Reader to conduct services under his direction; such Deacon or Lay Reader is restricted in the conduct of services by these Canons.

Canon 5.06. The Vestry of a Parish is its legal agent and board of directors, having charge over and responsibility for all temporalities of the Parish. Its members shall be chosen in accordance with Parish By-Laws not inconsistent with these Canons and the Diocesan Canons.

Canon 5.07. Every Parish shall own and control its own property, and neither the Diocese nor the Province shall have any equitable interest or trust estate therein.

Canon 5.08. The Bishop and the Vestry, in mutual consultation, shall call the Rector of a Parish. No Rector may be called until they reach agreement. The agreed remuneration and all other terms of the call shall be fixed in writing and signed by the Bishop, the Rector elect and a Warden or the Secretary of the Vestry.

Canon 5.09. In the event of a disagreement between the Rector and the Vestry as to the terms of the call or as to whether for any reason the relation between the Rector and the Parish should be terminated, the Bishop shall be the sole arbitrator between them, and his decision shall be binding on all parties.

Canon 5.10. Only adult communicants in good standing may serve on the Vestry of a Parish or hold any office therein.

## 6. OF LITURGICAL MATTERS

Canon 6.01. Worship of Almighty God in this Province shall be according to the Book of Common Prayer, the 1928 version for the Protestant Episcopal Church or, where it is the custom, the 1662 Anglican Prayer Book, being hereby authorized, or other formularies as approved by the Archbishop.

Canon 6.02. Missals and devotional manuals, as well as rites and usage prior to the publication of the 1662 or 1928 Books of Common Prayer, and of demonstrable use in the pre-Apostate Church of England, may be allowed. Specifically these include:

The Sarum Rite;  
The Anglican, English and American Missals;  
The 1549 Edwardian Prayer Book;  
The 1789 American Book of Common Prayer;  
The 1929 South African Book of Common Prayer;  
The so-called “Liturgy for India” of 1922 and 1933; and,  
The 1922 Canadian Book of Common Prayer.

Canon 6.03. The service designated in the Book of Common Prayer as the Holy Communion, The Lord’s Supper, and also known as The Holy Eucharist, The Divine Liturgy, and the Mass, is the principal service of the Church, and shall be celebrated on the Lord’s Day and on the Prayer Book Days of Obligation in every Parish when a Priest is available as the celebrant.

Canon 6.04. Subject to the provisions of these Canons, each Diocesan Bishop shall have liturgical authority in his own Diocese with the traditional right of *jus liturgicum*.

Canon 6.05. Except where the text of Holy Scripture is printed as a part of the Book of Common Prayer, only the Authorized or King James Version shall be used in public worship.

Canon 6.06. Changes in and amendments to the said Books of Common Prayer shall be made only in the following manner:

- a. Such changes shall first be proposed by the College of Bishops;
- b. Shall be confirmed by three-fourths of all the Diocesan Councils of Advice;  
and
- c. After the lapse of at least three years, and no more than four, shall be ratified by a three-fourths vote of Provincial Synod either in a regular session or a special session called for that purpose.

If ratified, such changes and alterations shall take effect on the First Sunday in Advent next following. It shall be beyond the competence of the Bishops, the Diocesan Advisory Councils, or the Provincial Synod to make any amendments which effect a doctrinal change or alteration.

## 7. OF THE LAITY

Canon 7.01. A member of the Church in this Province is a person who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and who has been duly enrolled in a Parish of a Diocese of this Province.

Canon 7.02. A Communicant is a baptized member who has been confirmed: (a) by a Bishop of this Province; (b) by a Bishop in communion with the Bishops of this Province; (c) properly confirmed with the proper intent by a Bishop in communion with the See of Canterbury who himself was properly consecrated with proper intent; or (d) by a Bishop not in communion with the Bishops of this Province or the See of Canterbury and such person being received by a Bishop of this Province. In all of these cases the person is a Communicant of a particular Parish, being either the parish in which or for which he or she

was confirmed or received, if the status of Communicant is obtained under (s) or (d) above, or the Parish in which he or she has been enrolled as a Communicant if the status was obtained under (b) or (c) above.

Canon 7.03. A member or Communicant is in good standing if he or she is in full compliance with these Canons and not under any form of ecclesiastical discipline.

Canon 7.04. A member of Communicant moving, or desiring to move or transfer from one Parish to another shall be entitled to a Letter of Transfer.

Canon 7.05. It shall be the duty of a Communicant of the Church in this Province: (a) to observe the Lord's Day, commonly known as Sunday, by attending Divine Worship unless reasonably hindered, and, in the event of such hindrance, to read privately either the office of Morning Prayer or the office of Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, if at all possible; (b) to observe his or her baptismal vows, and so to live as not to give scandal to the Church of God, (c) to observe the Canons of this Province with respect to Holy Matrimony, and (d) to contribute regularly to the support of the Church as evidenced in the books of the Treasurer of the Parish.

Canon 7.06. It shall be the duty of a Communicant of the Church in this Province: (a) to comply with and observe all of the provisions of Canon 7.05, (b) to be present every Sunday unless prevented by reasonable cause at a celebration of the Holy Communion, (c) to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Communion or the Lord's Body and Blood at least three times a year, once being at Christmastide, once being at Eastertide, and the third being at Whitsuntide, (d) to observe the Feasts and Fasts of the Christian year as and in the manner in which they are set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.

Canon 7.07. A baptized member may be stricken from the rolls of a Parish by the rector with the consent of the Bishop if such person abandons the Church by joining another religious body or otherwise; or if said person gives offense to the Church by reason of his manner of life; provided that he or she may thereafter be restored to the rolls of the Parish when, and if, the causes for removal no longer exist.

Canon 7.08. A baptized member or Communicant may be censured by the Bishop and thereby removed from and be made ineligible for any parochial, diocesan or provincial office for any of the causes specified in Canon 7.09, or refusal to obey the godly admonition of the Bishop. Such admonition and censure shall be given or confirmed in writing by the Bishop and state the cause therefore with specificity as to the act or acts and the evidence thereof which constitute the cause. A member so censured shall have a right of appeal to the Ecclesiastical Court and/or to the College of Bishops of the Province, and, upon favorable final adjudication, shall be entitled to reinstatement to the office from which he or she was removed if the term of thereof has not expired. Such censure shall be lifted by the Bishop when the cause therefore no longer exists.

Canon 7.09. Excommunication of Communicants shall be by the Bishop for (a) abandoning the Communion of this Church, either for membership in another religious body or any other means; (b) failure or refusal to repent of grievous sins and to amend his life in accordance with the Christian Gospel; (c) openly and advisedly denying any doctrine of the Church, or teaching or proclaiming any contrary doctrine; provided: that in all cases the said Communicant shall be entitled, if he demands it, to a trial before the Ecclesiastical Court of

the diocese as to the facts alleged by the Bishop. Where applicable the rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer shall also be followed.

Canon 7.10. After one year has elapsed and if the cause of excommunication no longer exists, a person who has been excommunicated may be restored to communicant status by the Bishop with the advice and consent of the Rector of the Parish of which said person was formerly a Communicant.

## 8. OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Canon 8.01. No Minister may solemnize any marriage or bless any previous union except in accordance with these Canons.

Canon 8.02. No Minister of the Province shall solemnize the marriage of any person who has been the husband or the wife of any other person then living whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by any civil court or authority except as hereinafter in these Canons provided; nor shall any member of the Church in this Province enter upon a marriage when either of the contracting parties have been the husband or wife of any other person then living whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by any civil court or authority, except as hereinafter in these Canons provided.

Canon 8.03.

Section 1. Every Minister of this Province shall conform to applicable local civil laws governing the creation of the civil status of marriage, and also the laws of this Church governing the solemnization of Holy Matrimony.

Section 2. No Minister of this Province shall solemnize any marriage unless the following conditions are complied with:

- a. He shall have ascertained the right of the parties to contract a marriage according to the laws of the State.
- b. He shall have ascertained the right of the parties to contract a marriage according to the laws of the Province, and not in violation of the following impediments.
  - (1) Consanguinity (whether of the whole or half blood) within the following degrees:
    - a. One may not marry one's ascendant or descendant,
    - b. One may not marry one's sister or brother,
    - c. One may not marry the sister or brother of one's ascendant or the descendant of one's brother or sister,
  - (2) Mistake as to the identity of either party,
  - (3) Mental deficiency of either party sufficient to prevent the exercise of intelligent choice,
  - (4) Insanity of either party,
  - (5) Failure of either party to have reached the age of puberty,
  - (6) Impotence, sexual perversion, the existence of HIV, venereal disease, or known sterility in either party undisclosed to the other,
  - (7) Facts which would make the proposed marriage bigamous,



- (8) Concurrent contract inconsistent with the contract constituting canonical marriage.
  - (9) Attendant conditions: Error as to the identity of either party, fraud, coercion or duress, or such defects of personality as to make competent or free consent impossible.
- c. He shall have ascertained that at least one of the parties has received Holy Baptism,
  - d. He shall have instructed the parties as to the nature of Holy Matrimony.
  - e. The intention of the parties to contract a marriage shall have been signified to the Minister at least thirty days before the service of solemnization, and he shall have read the Banns of Matrimony in the Church on three occasions, as provided in the Book of Common Prayer; provided that for weighty cause the Minister may dispense with this requirement, if one of the parties is a member of his congregation or can furnish satisfactory evidence of his responsibility; in case the thirty day notice is waived, the Minister shall report his action in writing to the Ecclesiastical Authority immediately.
  - f. There shall be present at least two competent witnesses other than the Priest to the solemnization of the marriage.
  - g. The Minister shall record in the proper register the date and place of the marriage, the names of the parties and their parents, the ages of the parties, their residence and their Church status, and the witnesses and the Minister shall sign the record.

Section 3. The Minister shall have required that the parties read and sign the following declaration:

“We, A.B. and C.D. desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of husband and wife as it is set forth in the Form of Solemnization of Holy Matrimony in the Book of Common Prayer. We believe it is for the purpose of mutual fellowship, encouragement and understanding, for the procreation (if it may be) of children, and their physical and spiritual nurture, for the safeguarding and benefit of society. And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God’s help thereto.”

Canon 8.04. It shall be within the discretion of any Minister of this Province to decline to solemnize any marriage without assigning cause.

Canon 8.05. Christian marriage, being a lifelong union, cannot be dissolved, terminated, or otherwise set aside by the decree of any civil court or any act of man. In the eyes of God and His Church, the parties continue as husband and wife, despite any such decree or act, and any person entering into union contrary to these Canons thereby abandons the communion of this Province.

Canon 8.06. If a Christian marriage in accordance with the doctrine of the Church and the provisions of these Canons was never intended or consummated, either party thereto may apply to the Bishop of the Diocese wherein he or she resides for a Decree of Nullity.

Canon 8.07. The Bishop shall refer the application for Annulment to his Marriage Court if he has one, or, if not, in his discretion to other competent advisors. Said Court or advisors shall hear all testimony offered, and make recommendation to the Bishop. The Bishop shall give full weight to the recommendation of the Court, but is not bound thereby.

Canon 8.08. A judgment of nullity by the Bishop determines that the parties to the previous union were not united in an indissoluble Christian marriage and that both of them are now free to enter into marriage. It does not, however, affect the legitimacy of any children born to the union.

Canon 8.09. It shall be the duty of the husband and wife to seek the counsel of a Minister of this Province (his or her Rector, if possible) whenever serious dissension threatens the marriage.

Canon 8.10. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Canons, it is conclusively presumed that a husband and wife who were united in Holy Matrimony prior to becoming members of this Church, and whose right to so marry has been affirmed by a Bishop whose authority to do so is recognized by the College of Bishops, are validly and lawfully united in Holy Matrimony.

Canon 8.11. Any person who has contracted a marriage contrary to these Canons may be restored by the Bishop to Communicant status after the lapse of at least one year upon his determination of need as to such person's spiritual health and well being and the recommendation of that person's Rector.

## 9. OF HOLY ORDERS

Canon 9.01. Only males are qualified to receive Holy Order and only males may be ordained as Deacon, Priest, or Bishop.

Canon 9.02. No man may be ordained Deacon until he has reached the age of twenty-one (21) years, nor Priest until he has reached the age of twenty-four (24) years, nor Bishop until he has reached the age of forty (40) years.

Canon 9.03. No man shall be ordained Bishop, Priest, or Deacon unless and until he has publicly subscribed to the Ancient Catholic Creeds, known as the Apostle's Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Creed of St. Athanasius, and shall have subscribed to any oath prescribed by the College of Bishops.

Canon 9.04. No man shall be ordained Bishop, Priest, or Deacon, or received into this Province in any of these capacities, or admitted as a Postulant or Candidate for Holy Orders, unless: (a) he shall meet the New Testament requirements for Ordination, especially as stipulated in I Timothy 3:3-13; (b) he shall have kept the sanctity of marriage and shall not have been married otherwise than the law of this Church allows; (c) he shall be free from drug and alcohol abuse; (d) he shall be free from sexual perversion; and (e) he shall meet such medical qualifications as may be prescribed by Canon.

## 10. OF A BOARD OF EXAMINING CHAPLAINS

Canon 10.01. In every Diocese there shall be a Board of Examining Chaplains, consisting of at least two learned Priests canonically resident within the said Diocese.

Examining Chaplains shall be appointed by the Bishop for one year terms.

Canon 10.02. It shall be the duty of the Board of Examining Chaplains, under the guidance of the Bishop, to conduct the examinations of Postulants and Candidates prescribed by these

Canons. These examinations shall be, in part at least, in writing. The Examining Chaplains, when so requested by the Bishop, shall give oversight to Postulants, Candidates, and Deacons, and shall advise them in regard to their studies and preparation.

Canon 10.03. The Board of Examining Chaplains shall promptly report in writing to the Bishop the results of all examinations held by them, whether satisfactory or unsatisfactory, making separate reports upon each person examined.

Canon 10.04. The Board shall make an annual report concerning its work to the Bishop and to the Diocese.

Canon 10.05. The Bishop may ask Examining Chaplains of another Diocese to conduct the examination of a Postulant or Candidate on their behalf.

## 11. OF POSTULANTS FOR HOLY ORDERS

Canon 11.01. An adult male Communicant who believes himself called to the Sacred Ministry should consult the Rector or Priest in Charge of his Parish or, if there is not at the place he lives, some other Priest. If encouraged to persevere, he should apply to the Bishop for admission as a Postulant.

The application for Postulancy shall state:

- (1) Date and place of Birth,
- (2) Date and place of Baptism,
- (3) Date and place of Confirmation with the name of the Confirming Bishop,
- (4) Date and place of admission to Communion,
- (5) Whether he has previously applied to any Bishop for admission as a Postulant, with full details,
- (6) The grounds on which he believes himself to be called to the Sacred Ministry.

The application shall be accompanied by medical reports from one or more physicians as to physical, mental and emotional health.

The Bishop may require a recommendation from the Vestry of the applicant's parish.

Canon 11.03. The Bishop shall within sixty days of receipt of the application, notify the said person of his acceptance or rejection as a Postulant. If he is accepted, this fact is to be reported in the records of the Diocese and the Board of Examining Chaplains notified.

Canon 11.04. The life, preparation, and study of a Postulant for Holy Orders shall be directed by the Bishop and Board of Examining Chaplains.

Canon 11.05. The Postulant shall report to the Bishop personally or by letter four times a year at the Ember Days, reporting his manner of life, his spiritual state, and the progress of his studies.

Canon 11.06. The Bishop may remove any Postulant who fails to be accepted as a Candidate after the lapse of two years from the date of his acceptance as a Postulant, noting this fact in the Diocesan Records and notifying the Postulant so removed.

Canon 11.07. Within not more than two years after he has been admitted as a Postulant, said Postulant shall present himself to the Board of Examining Chaplains to be examined as to his aptness to be admitted as a Candidate.

## 12. OF CANDIDATES FOR HOLY ORDERS

Canon 12.01. An application for admission as a candidate may be made to the Bishop by any Postulant who has successfully sustained the examination mentioned in Canon 11.07. The application shall be endorsed by the Dean, or Head of the Seminary in which he is studying if he is a seminary student, by the Vestry and Rector or Priest in Charge of the Parish of which he is a member, and by two members of the Board of Examining Chaplains.

Canon 12.02. The Bishop shall within thirty days of receipt of the application notify the said applicant of his acceptance or rejection as a Candidate for Holy Orders, and he shall so note the fact in the Records of the Diocese and advising the Board of Examining Chaplains of the same. If said person is not admitted, he shall be notified within thirty days of the reason thereof.

Canon 12.03. Canons 11.04 and 11.05 apply to Candidates also.

Canon 12.04. The Bishop may remove any Candidate for Holy Orders who fails to present himself for examination for Deacon's Orders within three years, and shall note this action in the Diocesan records.

## 13. OF ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Canon 13.01. A Candidate for Holy Orders, having passed satisfactorily the examinations of the Board of Examining Chaplains for Ordination to the Diaconate, shall apply to the Bishop to be ordained Deacon, submitting to him (a) certificate of approval from the Dean or Head of the Seminary such Candidate is attending, if he is a Seminarian, (b) certificate of approval of the Priest who has endorsed him as a Postulant, if possible, or if not, another priest having knowledge of the Candidate, (c) recommendation by the Vestry of the Parish to which the Candidate belongs, and (d) certificate by one or more physicians as to his physical, mental and emotional health.

Canon 13.02. The Board of Examining Chaplains shall transmit the results of the examination of such Candidate to the Bishop.

Canon 13.03. When all the requirements of Canons 13.01 and 13.02 have been satisfied, the Bishop shall take order for the Ordination of the Candidate to the Diaconate, and on the day appointed shall ordain him Deacon. Having been ordained a Deacon, he must remain as such for one year before being ordained to the Priesthood, provided that the Bishop may shorten this time to no less than six months.

## 14. OF ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Canon 14.01. A Deacon desiring to be ordained to the Priesthood, and having satisfactorily passed the Examination of the Board of Examining Chaplains for Ordination to the Priesthood, shall apply to the Bishop to be ordained Priest, submitting to him credentials as set forth in Canon 13.01.

Canon 14.02. The Board of Examining Chaplains shall transmit to the Bishop the results of the examination mentioned in canon 14.01.

Canon 14.03. When all the requirements of Canons 14.01 and 14.02 have been satisfied, the Bishop shall take order for Ordination of said Deacon to the Priesthood, and on the day appointed shall ordain him Priest.

## 15. OF THE CONSECRATION OF BISHOPS

Canon 15.01. When a Diocese shall have chosen a man to be consecrated Bishop in accordance with Diocesan Canons not inconsistent with Canon 4.03, the Council of Advice of said Diocese shall transmit to every Bishop of this Province (a) evidence that said Bishop-elect has been chosen in a canonical manner, (b) a testimonial of the soundness of his faith and manner of his life, signed by a majority of those who participated in his selection, and (c) evidence of his prior ordination as a Deacon and Priest

Canon 15.02. The several Bishops shall consider these testimonials and, within sixty days, shall advise the Council of Advice of the Diocese choosing the Bishop-elect of their approval or disapproval of the person so chosen. Failure to act within the prescribed time is to be considered as disapproval.

Canon 15.03. When two-thirds of the Bishops of the Province shall have communicated their approval, the Council of Advice of the said Diocese choosing a Bishop shall so notify the College of Bishops in a communication dispatched to the Archbishop, if there is one, and, if not, to each of the Bishops of this Province and order for the consecration of the Bishop-elect shall be taken by the Archbishop, if there is one, otherwise by the College of Bishops.

Canon 15.04. On the day appointed, the said Bishop-elect shall be consecrated Bishop by the Bishops appointed therefore, who shall be in Apostolic Succession in the Holy Catholic Church, and, except for grave cause, shall be at least three in number.

Canon 15.05. A second Bishop in any Diocese, regardless of title, is henceforth known as Suffragan. The Bishop Suffragan shall have and exercise only such jurisdiction and Episcopal functions as shall from time to time be assigned by the Bishop Ordinary, and his role shall be that of assistant to the Ordinary. Bishops Suffragan shall be admitted to the College of Bishops. A Bishop Suffragan shall be appointed by the Bishop Ordinary with the approval of the Archbishop.

## 16. OF CLERGY ORDAINED IN OTHER CHURCHES

Canon 16.01. A Priest or Deacon who has been ordained by a Bishop in Apostolic Orders recognized as valid by this Province as determined by the College of Bishops may be admitted to a Diocese of this Province in the Order to which he may have been ordained, such admission being by the Bishop of the Diocese under such conditions as he may

determine, provided that the said Priest or Deacon renounces the authority of his former ecclesiastical obedience and submits himself to the authority of such Bishop.

Canon 16.02. If there is any doubt as to the validity or regularity of such ordination, the Bishop shall Ordain such person conditionally.

Canon 16.03. A Minister ordained in a church not having Apostolic Orders recognized as valid by this Province as determined by the College of Bishops and who seeks Holy Orders in this Province must:

1. Renounce the authority of his former ecclesiastical obedience and submit himself to the authority of a Bishop of this Province.
2. Submit his letter of ordination and satisfactory evidence that they and his other credentials are valid and authentic.
3. Provide satisfactory evidence of his moral and godly character and that he is free from any vows or other engagements inconsistent with the exercise of the ministry in this Province.
4. Provide transcripts of his academic and theological studies.
5. Be certified in writing by at least two presbyters of this Province stating that from personal examination or from satisfactory evidence laid before them, they believe that his desire to leave the communion to which he has belonged has not arisen from any circumstance unfavorable to his moral or religious character or on account of which it may not be expedient to admit him to Holy Orders and the exercise of the ministry in the Province.
6. Present a certificate of recommendation from the Priest or Deacon in Charge and Vestry of a Parish in this Province.
7. He shall further fulfill all the requirements of Canons 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, and 9.04.
8. He shall satisfactorily pass the examination of the Board of Examining Chaplains, displaying competence in all areas expected for ordination to the Diaconate. In addition, he shall be examined in the points of doctrine, discipline, polity, and worship in which the communion from which he has come differs from this Province. This portion of the examination shall be conducted at least in part by written questions and answers.
9. He shall be subject to the Canons relating to the Diaconate not otherwise provided for above and in Canons 13.01 through 13.03.

## 17. OF LAY READERS

Canon 17.01. The Bishop may, under such conditions as he may prescribe, license any male person over the age of 18 years as a Lay Reader. Such license shall be for a period not exceeding one year, and is renewable at the Bishop's discretion.

Canon 17.02. A Lay Reader, so licensed, may be placed by the Bishop in temporary pastoral charge of a Parish which has no Rector, in which case he shall function under the direction and oversight of the Bishop, or he may exercise his office in a Parish, under the direction of the Rector thereof. In no event shall he function outside of an established Parish or Mission, or elsewhere than in the Diocese in which he is licensed, except on the express instructions of his Bishop.

Canon 17.03. The functions of a Lay Reader are limited to the following:  
(1) reading:

- (a) Morning and Evening Prayer, omitting the Absolution, and making no substitution for it;
  - (b) The Litany;
  - (c) The Penitential Office;
  - (d) The Offices of Instruction;
  - (e) The Burial Offices, substituting the Grace for the Priestly Blessing;
  - (f) The Epistle only in Holy Communion;
  - (g) Sermons, homilies, and addresses approved by the Bishop or the Rector;
- (2) Preaching sermons of his own composition if specially licensed thereto by the Bishop; and
  - (3) Giving such pastoral care as does not require a Minister in Holy Orders to any congregation committed to his charge by the Bishop.

Canon 17.04. A Lay Reader shall not wear distinctive clerical vestments or dress, except that when serving as Sub-Deacon at Holy Communion he may be vested in the traditional vestment of a Sub-Deacon.

Canon 17.05. For cause which to him may be sufficient, the Bishop may at any time revoke the license of any Lay Reader.

## 18. OF DEACONESSES

Canon 18.01. A woman of devout character and proved fitness, ~~unmarried or widowed~~, may be appointed and set apart as a Deaconess by the Bishop. Such appointment and setting apart is not under any circumstances to be construed as Ordination, and the office of Deaconess is not under any circumstances to be construed as being within Holy Orders. ~~Subsequent marriage shall terminate the appointment and vacate the act of the Bishop in setting apart of a Deaconess.~~

Canon 18.02. A Deaconess shall assist in the work of the Parish or institution to which she may be assigned under the direction of the Rector or Priest in Charge, or if there be none, or if she is not assigned to any parish or institution, she shall work and function under the direction of the Bishop.

Canon 18.03. The work and functions of a Deaconess are: (1) to care for the sick, the afflicted, and the poor; (2) to give instruction in the Christian Faith; (3) under the direction of the Rector or Priest in Charge, to prepare Candidates for Baptism and Confirmation; (4) to organize and carry out the Church's work among women and children; (5) under exceptional circumstances, with the approval of the Bishop, to read such portions of the services of the Church as are entrusted to Lay Readers (except the Epistle at Holy Communion); (6) to organize and carry out social work in colleges and schools and to promote the welfare of women students.

Canon 18.04. A woman desiring to be appointed and set apart as a Deaconess shall submit to the Bishop (1) endorsement of her aspirations by the Rector of the Parish of which she is a member, or if such Parish has not Rector, by some other Priest; (2) recommendation and endorsement by the Vestry of the said Parish; (3) a report of the Examining Chaplains that she has passed the examination required by said Board for Deaconesses; (4) proof of the date and place of her Baptism and Confirmation; (5) proof that she is over the age of 24 and meets all the requirements specified in the foregoing Canon; (6) certificate by one or more

physicians as to her physical, mental and emotional health; and (7) recommendation by the Council of Advice of the Diocese.

Canon 18.05. A Deaconess may be suspended or her appointment vacated by the Bishop for cause, but she may demand trial as provided in Canon 7.09.

## 19. OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Canon 19.01. A religious community of men or of women desiring the official recognition of the Church shall submit for his approval its Rule and Constitution to the Archbishop; and no change in the Rule or Constitution shall be made without his approval.

Canon 19.02. In such Constitution there shall be a distinct recognition of the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church in this Province as of supreme authority.

Canon 19.03. No religious community shall conduct services, preach or teach in this Province outside of its property without the approval of the Archbishop, with the advice of the Bishop of the Diocese in which it proposes to conduct such activities.

Canon 19.04. The religious communities shall be free to choose liturgical formularies within their chapels in conformity to their Rule and the monastic traditions of the Western Rite, but elsewhere they shall conform to Canons 6.01-6.06.

Canon 19.05. Canon 5.07 shall apply to a religious community in the same way that it applies to a Parish.

Canon 19.06. Provision shall be made in the Constitution of a religious community for appointment of an Episcopal Visitor, whose duties shall be:

- (1) To see that the Constitution and Rule, as approved, are observed.
- (2) To receive and hear appeals, either from the community or individual members thereof, as to transgressions of the Rule.

The Episcopal Visitor shall be appointed with the consent and approval of the Archbishop.

Canon 19.07. No full member of the community shall be dismissed therefrom without the right of appeal to the Visitor, nor shall any be released from his or her obligations thereto without the Visitor's dispensation or sanction.

Canon 19.08. It shall be within the power of any succeeding Archbishop to withdraw official recognition that has been given to a religious community, provided the conditions laid down in these Canons as well as the Rule and Constitution as approved are observed.

## 20. OF DEACONS

Canon 20.01. Every Deacon shall be subject to the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese for which he has been ordained, or, if there be no Bishop, to that of the Clerical Members of the Council of Advice, acting by its President, until he is canonically transferred to some other jurisdiction. He shall officiate in such places only as the Bishop, or the Clerical Members of the Advisory Council, as the case may be, may designate. He shall not accept any appointment for work outside the Diocese to which he canonically belongs without the written consent of his own Bishop and the Bishop in whose Diocese he desires to minister.



Canon 20.02. No deacon shall be the Rector of a Parish or Congregation, nor be permitted to accept a Chaplaincy in the military service.

A Deacon ministering in a Parish or Congregation under the charge of a Priest shall act under the direction of such Priest in all his ministrations.

A Deacon ministering in a Parish or Congregation not under the charge of a Priest shall, if not under the immediate direction of the Bishop, be placed under the authority of some neighboring Priest, by whose direction in subordination to the Bishop he shall in all things be governed.

Canon 20.03. In the case of a Deacon desiring to be transferred from one Diocese to another, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the former Diocese must state in the Letter Dimissory the exact standing of the Deacon in regard to examinations passed or dispensation received; also the dates of his birth, admission as a Candidate, and ordination.

## 21. OF MINISTERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Canon 21.01. Every Minister in charge of a Congregation shall see to it that a Parish Register is kept in which shall be recorded:

- (a) All Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, and Burials within such Parish;
- (b) All Divine Services of said Parish, whether in Church or elsewhere, with notation of the date, place, nature of service and attendance;
- (c) All communicants of said Parish, with notation of how received, how and for what cause removed, and designation of whether active or inactive;
- (d) A list of the families in the Parish.

Canon 21.02. Every Minister in charge of a congregation shall:

- (a) Instruct both parents and godparents concerning the significance of Holy Baptism, the responsibilities involved, and how these obligations are to be discharged;
- (b) Instruct both children and adults who have not been confirmed, preparing them for Confirmation.

Canon 21.03. Every Minister in charge of a congregation shall:

- (a) At every Confirmation deliver to the bishop a list of the names of those being Confirmed;
- (b) Advise the Bishop on every Episcopal Visitation of the spiritual and temporal state of the Parish, delivering to him for inspection all Parish records he may request;
- (c) Receive from the Parish the alms and contributions not otherwise specifically designated on one Sunday in each Calendar month and on other designated occasions, using the same at his discretion for such pious and charitable purposes as he may see fit.
- (d) Read to the congregation within nine days after receipt of the same any Pastoral letter received from the Bishop.

Canon 21.04. No Minister shall officiate by preaching or conducting religious worship within the bounds of the Parish served by another Minister without the consent of such other Minister or of the Bishop.

This rule shall not apply to any Church, Chapel, or Oratory which is part of the premises of an institution other than the Parish, provided that it is not a place of regular parochial or public worship.

Canon 21.05. No Minister shall officiate or preach on any more than one occasion in any Diocese other than that of his ecclesiastical domicile without the written license of the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof.

Canon 21.06. No Minister removing from one Diocese to another shall officiate as Rector or Minister in Charge of any Parish or Congregation of the Diocese into which he moves unless and until there shall have been received by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese into which he has moved Letters Dimissory from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese from which he has moved.

Canon 21.07. A Clergyman removing from one Diocese to another in order to gain Canonical Residence within the said other Diocese shall present to the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof a testimonial from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese from which he is removing, a certificate that his is a Clergyman (stating Order) in good standing and not liable for presentment for any ecclesiastical offense within the past five years. Such certificate is called Letters Dimissory.

Canon 21.08. Any Minister who desires to officiate temporarily without the confines of this Province shall obtain from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in which he is resident proper permission.

Canon 21.09. Any Minister retiring from active ministry because of age or disability and any Minister who is not currently engaged in ecclesiastical duties remains subject to his Bishop and Diocese, and shall present thereto each year a report of his ecclesiastical activities.

## 22. OF THE DUTIES OF BISHOPS

Canon 22.01. Every Bishop shall reside within the limits of his jurisdiction and shall not absent himself therefrom for more than three months without the consent of the Council of Advice.

Canon 22.02. Every Bishop shall visit every Congregation in his Diocese at least once in every three years for the purpose of examining their condition, preaching the Gospel, celebrating the Holy Eucharist, and confirming those presented for that purpose.

Canon 22.03. Every Bishop shall keep a Register of his Official Acts.

Canon 22.04. A Bishop may not perform any Episcopal acts within the jurisdiction of another Bishop without the consent of the latter or of the Archbishop.

Canon 22.05. A second Bishop in any Diocese, regardless of title, is an assistant to the Bishop of the Diocese, and shall act under his direction.

Canon 22.06. Every Bishop shall give timely notice of the acceptance of Letters Dimissory, shall enroll among the Clergy of the Diocese those received and delete the names of those transferred thereby.

Canon 22.07. A Bishop retiring because of age or disability retains his seat and vote in the College of Bishops and is subject to these Canons; likewise, a Bishop resigning from his Diocese for the convenience or benefit of this Church shall retain his seat and vote in the College of Bishops, and remains subject to these Canons.

Canon 22.08. Resignation of a Bishop shall be addressed to the Archbishop, and shall not be effective until accepted thereby.

### 23. OF OFFENSES FOR WHICH BISHOPS, PRIESTS OR DEACONS MAY BE TRIED

Canon 23.01. A Bishop, Priest, or Deacon of this Province shall be liable to Presentment and trial for the following offenses, viz:

- (1) Crime or immorality
- (2) Holding or teaching publicly or privately and advisedly, any doctrine contrary to that held by this Church
- (3) Violation of the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer (such Rubrics being subject to modification as set forth in Canon 6.01)
- (4) Violation of these Canons
- (5) Violation of the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese to which he belongs
- (6) Any act which involves a violation of his Ordination vows
- (7) Habitual neglect of Public Worship, and the Holy Communion, according to the order and use of this Church
- (8) Conduct unbecoming a Clergyman
- (9) Abandonment of the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church in the Province.

Canon 23.02. In the case of a Bishop, Priest, or Deacon convicted in a Secular Court of Record of any crime or misdemeanor involving immorality, it shall be the duty of the Archbishop, if there be one, otherwise the College of Bishops in the case of a Bishop, and in the case of a Priest or Deacon, of the Bishop of the Diocese in which he is canonically resident, to institute an inquiry into the matter, and if there is sufficient reason for further proceeding, to present him for trial.

Canon 23.03. No presentment shall be made or conviction had for any offense, unless the offense shall have been committed within five years immediately preceding the time of the presentment, except that in a case of conviction in a Court of Record exercising criminal jurisdiction as aforesaid, a presentment may be made at any time within one year after such conviction notwithstanding that five years may have elapsed since the commission of the offense.

Canon 23.04. The mode of presentment of a Priest or Deacon shall be that provided by the Canons of the Diocese wherein the accused is canonically resident.

Canon 23.05. A Bishop may be presented by any Bishop of this Province exercising jurisdiction, or ten or more Communicants of this Province in good standing, of whom at least two shall be Priests; one Priest and not less than six Communicants shall belong to the Diocese in which he has domicile. Such charges shall be in writing, signed by all the

accusers, sworn to by two or more of them, and shall be presented to the Archbishop, if there be one, otherwise to the College of Bishops. The grounds of accusation must be set forth with reasonable certainty of time, place, and circumstance.

Canon 23.06. Whenever a Bishop shall have reason to believe that there are in circulation rumors, reports, or allegations affecting his personal or official character, he may demand in writing of the Archbishop, if there be one, otherwise the College of Bishops, that investigation of said rumors, reports and allegations be made.

The Archbishop, if there be one, otherwise the College of Bishops, upon receipt of such demand, shall select a Board of Inquiry of three Priests and three Laymen, of whom four shall constitute a quorum.

The Board of Inquiry shall investigate such rumors or reports, as the case may be. In conducting the investigation, the Board shall hear the accusations and such proof as the accusers may produce, and shall determine whether, upon matters of law and fact, as presented to them, there is ground to put the accused to trial.

The testimony shall be stenographically reported, and shall be preserved in the archives of the College of Bishops. The proceeding of the Board shall be private.

If in the judgment of the majority of the whole Board of inquiry there is sufficient ground to present the accused Bishop for trial, it shall make a public declaration to that effect.

#### 24. OF THE TRIAL OF PRIESTS AND DEACONS

Canon 24.01. A Priest or Deacon presented for trial as hereinabove provided, shall stand trial in the Diocesan Ecclesiastical Court.

Canon 24.02. In case of conviction by the Diocesan Court, the defendant may within thirty days appeal to the Provincial Court and the pronouncement of sentences shall be delayed until the time of appeal has expired. After an appeal has been filed, no sentence shall be pronounced unless and until the verdict of the Diocesan Court has been affirmed.

#### 25. OF THE TRIAL OF BISHOPS

Canon 25.01. The Archbishop shall appoint and convene a court for the trial of any Bishop presented as heretofore provided. None but Bishops may be members of this Court, which may make its own rules of procedure.

#### 26. OF SENTENCES

Canon 26.01. A Bishop alone has the authority to pronounce sentence on a Priest or Deacon convicted as aforesaid.

Canon 26.02. The Archbishop has the sole responsibility and authority to pronounce sentence on a Bishop.

Canon 26.03. Sentence shall be:

- (1) Suspension, for a definite period, not to exceed five years
- (2) Deposition from the Sacred Ministry.

Canon 26.04. A Priest or Deacon who has been deposed from the Sacred Ministry may be restored thereto by the Bishop of the Diocese in which he was convicted with the advice and consent of the Archbishop.

Canon 26.05. A sentence of suspension may be terminated or shortened in the same manner.

Canon 26.06. A Bishop who has been deposed may be restored by unanimous action of the whole College of Bishops, but such restoration is to his order of ministry and not to his jurisdiction.

Canon 26.07. A sentence of suspension against a Bishop may be terminated or shortened by the Archbishop.

## 27. OF THE RENUNCIATION OF THE MINISTRY

Canon 27.01. If any Minister of this Church not under presentment shall declare in writing, to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in which he is canonically resident, his renunciation of the Ministry of this Church, and his desire to be removed therefrom, it shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority to record the declaration and request so made. The Bishop, being satisfied that the person so declaring is not amenable for any canonical offense, and that his renunciation of the Ministry is not occasioned by foregoing misconduct or irregularity, but is voluntary and for causes assigned or known, which do not affect his moral character, shall defer formal action on the declaration for three months, and meanwhile shall lay before the Clerical members of the Council of Advice, and with their advice and consent may pronounce that such renunciation is accepted, and that the Minister is deposed from the Sacred Ministry. He shall also declare in pronouncing and recording such action that it was for causes which do not affect the man's moral character, and shall, if desired, give a certificate to this effect to the person so removed from the Ministry. In all other cases of renunciation of the Ministry, where there may be a question of foregoing misconduct or irregularity, the Bishop shall not pronounce sentence of Deposition save with the consent of the Council of Advice of the Diocese. The Bishop shall give due notice of every such deposition from the Ministry, in the form in which it is recorded.

Canon 27.02. If a Minister making the aforesaid declaration of renunciation of his Ministry be under presentment for any canonical offense, or if he shall have been placed on trial for the same, the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such declaration is made shall not consider or act upon such declaration until after the said presentment shall have been dismissed, or the said trial shall have been concluded, and sentence, if any, pronounced. If the Ecclesiastical Authority to whom such declaration is made shall have ground to suppose that the person making the same is liable to presentment for any canonical offense, such person may, in the discretion of the said Ecclesiastical Authority, be placed upon trial for such offense, notwithstanding such declaration of renunciation of the Ministry.

Canon 27.03. A Bishop may avail himself of the provision of Canon 27.01, in which case the action therein specified shall be taken by the Archbishop.

## 28. OF A MINISTER IN ANY DIOCESE CHARGEABLE WITH OFFENSE IN ANOTHER

Canon 28.01. If a Minister belonging to any Diocese shall have conducted himself in any other Diocese in such a way as to be liable for presentment under the provision of Canon 23.01, the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof shall give notice of the same to the Ecclesiastical Authority where he is canonically resident, exhibiting with the information given, reasonable ground for presuming its truth. If the Ecclesiastical Authority after due notice given, shall omit for a space of three months, to proceed against the offending Minister, or shall request the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Dioceses in which the offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed, to proceed against him, it shall be within the power of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, within which the alleged offense or offenses are alleged to have been committed, to institute proceedings according to these Canons.

Canon 28.02. If a Minister shall come temporarily into any Diocese, under imputation of having elsewhere been guilty of any of the offenses within the provisions of these Canons, or if any Minister, while sojourning in any Diocese, shall so offend, the Bishop, upon probable cause, may admonish such Minister and inhibit him from officiating in said Diocese. And if, after such inhibition, the said Minister so officiates, the Bishop shall give notice to all Ministers and Congregations in said Diocese that the officiating of said Minister is inhibited; and like notice shall be given to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese to which the said Minister belongs, and to the Archbishop. And such inhibition shall continue in force until the Bishop of the first-named Diocese be satisfied of the innocence of such Minister, or until he be acquitted on trial.

Canon 28.03. The provisions of the last section shall apply to Ministers ordained in foreign lands by Bishops in communion with this Province, but in such case, notice of the inhibition shall be given to the Bishop from whose jurisdiction the Minister shall have come, and all of the Bishops exercising jurisdiction in this Province.

## 29. OF THE REGULARITY AND APOSTOLIC VALIDITY OF ORDERS

Canon 29.01. In an effort to attain and maintain regularity and Apostolic validity of orders and, insofar as is possible, an unbroken and verifiable Apostolic Succession, there shall be appointed by the Archbishop a Commission on Order.

Canon 29.02. The Commission on Order shall be composed of three (3) clergy, including at least two (2) bishops which shall be charged with verifying the regularity and Apostolic validity of the Orders of the clergy of the Church and of all ordained applicants for incardination. The Commission's determination shall be unanimous except that in the event of a two to one vote in favor of positive verification, the Archbishop shall, upon appropriate study and deliberation, approve or disapprove the verification. In the event of a two to one vote in the Commission against verification, such determination shall be determinative.

Canon 29.03. While it is understood that absolute regularity and Apostolic validity cannot possibly be determined from the earliest times, the standard to be set by the Commission shall be commensurate with that which is practically possible so as to assure such regularity and Apostolic validity to the highest degree attainable. To this end, reliance may be placed upon all that precedes a consecration in Apostolic Succession made in regular and licit manner in the Roman Catholic Church, any National Church in the Eastern Orthodox

Tradition, the Old Catholic Church prior to 1900, and any subsisting Province of the International Anglican Communion prior to that Province's recognition and acceptance of the ordination or consecration of women either tacitly or in fact. Under no circumstances will any Orders purportedly derived from or through a female be verifiable.

Canon 29.04. Except in the case of Orders purportedly derived from or through a female, in the event of the impossibility or failure of verification, the Archbishop shall cause to be arranged a "Conditional Consecration" or "Conditional Ordination" to be performed by three (3) or more of the Bishops of the Church or acceptable to the Church with verified Orders (in the case of a bishop) or of one (1) Bishop of the Church with verified Orders.(in the case of a priest or a deacon.) In the case of one whose purported orders are derived from or through a female, such individual may, if it is deemed appropriate by the authority in the Church charged with the approval of candidates for Holy Orders, be ordained or consecrated to the office he formerly purportedly held. In such case, his ordination or consecration date will be the date upon which he is duly Ordered and not some prior date relating to the purported orders derived from or through a female. This Church offers and acknowledges no recognition whatsoever to any orders derived from or through a female.

Canon 29.05. Under no circumstances will any Bishop of this Church participate actively or in a sacerdotal capacity in an ordination or consecration in any Church not of this Province without specific permission to do so given by the Archbishop acting with the College of Bishops.

Canon 29.06. The Commission on Orders shall establish a protocol and appropriate material to be used in the reception of applicants or inquirers from other Provinces or Jurisdictions into this Church as a body and/or as ordained persons. Upon compilation of such completed material, the same shall be forwarded to the College of Bishops for action in concert with the Archbishop.

Canon 29.07. Any person coming to this Church as an applicant for incardination who has apparently valid orders (other than as may be derived from or through a female) shall be permitted to exercise the office within this Church appertaining to those orders until such time as the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) hereof shall be effectuated except that during the period prior to such effectuation such person shall not participate in any consecration of any person within this Church.

### 30. OF ENACTMENT, AMENDMENT, AND REPEAL

Canon 30.01. No new Canon shall be enacted, or existing Canon be amended or repealed, except by the College of Bishops, with the consent and approval of the Provincial Synod by a majority vote in each Order.

Canon 30.02. Whenever a Canon which repealed another Canon, or part thereof, shall itself be repealed, such previous Canon or part thereof shall not thereby be revived or re-enacted, without express words to that effect.

Canon 30.03. In all cases of future enactment, the same, if by way of amendment of an existing provision, shall be in substantially the following form: "Canon(or Section or Clause,.. of Section, of Canon) is hereby amended to read as follows: (Here insert the new reading)." And in the event of insertion of a new Canon, or of a new Section, or Clause, in a Canon, or

of the repeal of an existing Canon, or of a Section or Clause, the numbering of the Canons or of divisions of a Canon which follow shall be changed accordingly, if necessary.

Canon 30.04. Amendment to these Canons shall become effective on the first Sunday in Advent next after enactment thereof.

*Provisional Canons of the United Anglican Church scheduled for review in January 2005 by the College of Bishops and by the Synod following this meeting.*