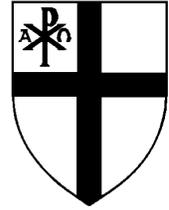


Anglican Province of America

Constitution and Canons

*As Adopted and Amended
in Provincial Synod*



Anglican Province of America

The Most Reverend Walter H. Grundorf, *Presiding Bishop*
3348 West State Road 426
Oviedo (Orlando), Florida 32765

Phone: 800.480.1087
Fax: 407.657.4410

Email: apadeus@cfl.rr.com
Website: www.anglicanprovince.org

August 15, 2018

Pursuant to Canon 52, Section 2 of the Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Province of America, the Constitution and Canons, as amended by this Church in Provincial Synod in Atlanta, Georgia, October 5, 2017, are hereby certified as correct and true.

FOR THE HOUSE OF LAITY.

Mrs. Norma Jean Giffin, *President*

Mrs. Debra Middleton, *Secretary*

FOR THE HOUSE OF CLERGY.

The Rev. Canon Michael L. Ward, *President*

The Very Rev. J. Gordon Anderson, *Secretary*

CERTIFICATE.

I certify that this electronic edition of the Constitution and Canons of the Anglican Province of America has been compared with the records of this Church, and that it conforms thereto.

The Venerable Erich A. Zwingert, SSC, *Chairman*
Constitution and Canons Committee

2018

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Anglican Province of America*

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CONSTITUTION

Adopted in Provincial Synod
Melbourne, Florida
July 22, 1998,
And as amended in 2006 and 2017.

SOLEMN DECLARATION

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

WE, the Bishops, together with the Deputies from the Clergy and Laity of the Anglican Province of America, assembled in Provincial Synod, make the following Solemn Declaration:

WE declare this Church to be, and desire that it shall continue in full communion with all traditional Anglicans throughout the world, as an integral portion of the One Body of Christ composed of Churches which, united under the One Divine Head and in fellowship of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, hold the One Faith revealed in Holy Writ, and defined in the Creeds as maintained by the undivided primitive Church in the undisputed Ecumenical Councils; receive the same Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as containing all things necessary to salvation; teach the same Word of God; partake of the same Divinely ordained Sacraments, through the ministry of the same Apostolic Orders; and worship One God and Father through the same Lord Jesus Christ, by the same Holy and Divine Spirit who is given to them that believe to guide them into all truth.

AND WE are determined by the help of God to hold and maintain the Doctrine, Sacraments, and Discipline of Christ as the Lord hath commanded in His Holy Word, and as the traditional Anglican movement hath received and set forth the same in the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, pointed as they are to be sung, or said in Churches, and the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion of 1801; and in the spirit of the Affirmation of St. Louis of 1977; and to transmit the same unimpaired to our posterity.

ARTICLE I
Of Provincial Synod

Section 1 There shall be a Provincial Synod of this Church, consisting of the House of Bishops, the House of Clergy and the House of Laity; and in all deliberations freedom of debate shall be allowed. Any House may originate and propose legislation, and all acts of the Synod shall be adopted and authenticated by all the Houses.

Section 2 Every Bishop of this Church, unless under suspension, shall have seat, voice, and vote in the House of Bishops. A majority of all Bishops entitled to vote, exclusive of Foreign Missionary Bishops and Bishops who have resigned their jurisdiction or positions, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 3 The Presiding Bishop of this Church shall be a Diocesan Bishop chosen by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the House of Bishops and consented to by two-thirds (2/3) vote each of the House of Clergy and the House of Laity of that Provincial Synod. His duties shall be prescribed by the Canons of this Church. The Presiding Bishop shall preside over the House of Bishops; and shall serve as the President of the Provincial Council. The Presiding Bishop shall serve until he shall retire, resign, or be removed from his jurisdiction as Ordinary or Presiding Bishop in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of this Church.

But if the Presiding Bishop is unable to perform his duties for any reason other than resignation from jurisdiction, retirement, or death, the Bishop with jurisdiction most senior in the order of his consecration as Bishop shall act as Presiding Bishop until the Presiding Bishop is able to resume his duties.

Section 4 The Deputies of the House of Clergy shall be every Clergyman, in good standing, of this Church. Each Parish or Congregation from every Diocese and Missionary District shall be entitled to representation in the House of Laity by one Layman, a communicant member of that Parish or Congregation. Each Parish or Congregation shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputy shall be chosen.

Each Missionary District within the boundaries of the United States of America, which shall have been established in accordance with the Constitution and Canons for the government of this Church, shall be entitled to a minimum representation in the House of Laity of four Laymen, communicants of this Church, having domicile in the Missionary District. Each Missionary District shall prescribe the manner in which these Deputies shall be chosen. Deputies from such Missionary Districts, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution, shall be subject to all of the qualifications and with all of the rights of Deputies from Dioceses.

A majority of the registered and certified deputies of the Houses of Clergy and Laity shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; provided that the Houses of Clergy and Laity, respectively, shall be represented by at least one Deputy from each of a majority of Dioceses entitled to representation. This *proviso* shall not apply if a Diocese is not represented by registered and certified delegates at the opening of Provincial Synod.

On any question the vote of a majority of the Deputies present shall suffice, unless otherwise ordered by the Constitution and Canons; or unless the Clerical or the Lay representation from any Diocese require that the vote be taken by Orders. In all cases of a vote by Orders, the Houses shall vote separately; and the concurrence of the votes of the three Houses, by not less than a majority of votes in each House, shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the Synod.

Section 5 In any House any number less than a quorum may adjourn from day to day. No House, without the consent of the others, shall adjourn for more than one day, or to any place other than that in which Synod shall be sitting.

Section 6 The Provincial Synod shall meet every third year in the summer on a date appointed by the preceding Synod, and at the place designated by such Synod; but if there shall appear to the Presiding Bishop of the Church sufficient cause for changing the place or date so appointed, he may appoint another place or date, or both, for such meeting. Special meetings may be provided for by Canon. This amendment shall take effect at the close of Provincial Synod in 2008.

ARTICLE II
Of Bishops

Section 1 In every Diocese the Bishop or the Bishop Coadjutor shall be chosen agreeably to rules prescribed by the Synod of that Diocese, if the Clergy and Lay delegates present at the electing Synod shall agree upon a nominee by a two-thirds vote, voting by orders. If a Diocese shall be formed out of a Missionary District, the Missionary Bishop in charge of said District shall become the Bishop of said Diocese, if he shall so elect. Missionary Bishops shall be chosen in accordance with the Canons of this Church.

Section 2 No one shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop until he shall be thirty years of age; nor without the consent of a majority of the Standing Committees of all the Dioceses, and the consent of a majority of the Bishops of this Church exercising jurisdiction within the United States. But if the election shall have taken place within three months next before the meeting of the Provincial Synod, the consent of the Houses of Clergy and Laity shall be required in place of that of a majority of the Standing Committees. No one shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop by fewer than three Bishops.

Section 3 A Bishop shall confine the exercise of his office to his own Diocese or Missionary District, unless he shall have been requested to perform episcopal acts in another Diocese or Missionary District by the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof, or unless he shall have been authorized and appointed by the House of Bishops, or by the Presiding Bishop by its direction, to act temporarily in case of need within any territory not yet organized into Dioceses or Missionary Districts of this Church.

Section 4 A Diocese may, with the consent of the Bishop of that Diocese, elect one or more Suffragan Bishops, without right of succession. A Suffragan Bishop shall be consecrated and hold office under such conditions and limitations as provided in this Article and as may be provided by Canons of this Church. He shall be eligible as Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of a Diocese, or as Suffragan in another Diocese, or he may be elected by the House of Bishops as a Missionary Bishop.

Section 5 A Diocese may prescribe by the Constitution and Canons of such Diocese that upon the death of the Bishop a Suffragan Bishop of that Diocese may be placed in charge of such Diocese and become temporarily the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof until such time as a new Bishop shall be chosen and consecrated. During the disability or absence of the Bishop, at the request of a majority of the members of the Standing Committee of that Diocese, a Suffragan Bishop of that Diocese may be placed in charge of such Diocese and become temporarily the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof.

Section 6 A Bishop may not resign his jurisdiction without the consent of the House of Bishops.

Section 7 The House of Bishops may appoint a Bishop who, under the direction of the Presiding Bishop, shall be in charge of the work of those chaplains in the Armed Forces of the United States who are ordained Ministers of this Church. The Bishop so appointed shall hold office under such conditions and limitations as provided in this Article and as may be provided by Canons of this Church. The Bishop so appointed shall hold office in addition to any other office to which he has been elected or appointed.

Section 8 Upon attaining the age of seventy-two years a Bishop shall tender his resignation from his jurisdiction, but the Diocesan Synod may, by the concurrence of the Clergy and Laity, refuse to accept the same for a period of time set forth by resolution, during which time this Article shall be suspended in such case.

Section 9 Diocesan Bishops, Bishops Coadjutor, and Suffragan Bishops shall reside within the geographical territory of their jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III

Of Bishops for Foreign Lands

Bishops may be consecrated for foreign lands upon due application there from, with the approval of a majority of the Bishops of this Church entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, certified to the Presiding Bishop under such conditions as may be prescribed by Canons of the Provincial Synod. Bishops so consecrated shall not be eligible to the office of Diocesan Bishop or of Bishop Coadjutor of any Diocese in the United States or be entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, nor shall they perform any act of the episcopal office in any Diocese or Missionary District of this Church, unless requested so to do by the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof. If a Bishop so consecrated shall be subsequently duly elected as a Missionary Bishop of this Church he shall then enjoy all the rights and privileges given in the Canons to Missionary Bishops.

ARTICLE IV

Of Diocesan Standing Committees

In every Diocese a Standing Committee shall be appointed by the Synod thereof. When there is a Bishop in charge of the Diocese, the Standing Committee shall be his Council of Advice. If there be no Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee shall be the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese for all purposes declared by the appropriate Synod. The rights and duties of the Standing Committee, except as provided in the Constitution and Canons of the Provincial Synod, may be prescribed by the Canons of the respective Dioceses.

ARTICLE V
Of New Dioceses

Section 1 A new Diocese may be formed, with the consent of the Provincial Synod and under such conditions as the Provincial Synod shall prescribe by Canon, (1) by the erection into a Diocese of the whole or of any part of one or more Missionary Districts; (2) by the division of an existing Diocese; (3) by the junction of two or more Dioceses or parts of two or more Dioceses; or (4) by the junction of the whole or part of a Missionary District with a Diocese, or with any part of one or more Dioceses. Whenever geographical territories are joined together as a Diocese, these territories must be geographically contiguous. The proceedings shall originate (1) in a Convocation of the Clergy and Laity of the Missionary District called by the Bishop for that purpose; or (2) in the Synod of the Diocese to be divided, with the approval of the Bishop; or (3) by mutual agreement of the Synods of the Dioceses concerned, with the approval of the Diocesan Bishops, when it is proposed to form a new Diocese by the junction of two or more Dioceses or of parts of two or more Dioceses. In case the Episcopate of a Diocese be vacant, no proceedings toward its division shall be taken until the vacancy is filled. During a vacancy in a Missionary District, the consent of the Presiding Bishop must be had before proceedings to erect it into a Diocese are taken. When it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Provincial Synod, by a certified copy of the proceedings and other documents and papers laid before it, that all the conditions for the formation of the new Diocese have been complied with and that it has acceded to the Constitution and Canons of this Church, such new Diocese shall thereupon be admitted to union with the Provincial Synod.

Section 2 In case one Diocese shall be divided into two or more Dioceses, the Bishop of the Diocese divided may elect the one to which he will be attached, and he shall thereupon become the Bishop thereof; and the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, may elect the one to which he shall be attached, and (if it be not the one elected by the Bishop) he shall be the Bishop thereof.

Section 3 In case a Diocese shall be formed out of parts of two or more Dioceses, each of the Bishops and Bishops Coadjutor of the several Dioceses out of which the new Diocese has been formed shall be entitled, in order of seniority of consecration, to the choice between his own Diocese and the new Diocese so formed. In case the new Diocese shall not be so chosen, it shall have the right to choose its own Bishop.

Section 4 Whenever a new Diocese is formed and erected out of an existing Diocese, it shall be subject to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese out of which it was formed, except as local circumstances may prevent, until the same be altered in accordance with such Constitution and Canons by the Synod of the new Diocese. Whenever a Diocese is formed out of two or more existing Dioceses, it shall be subject to the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese to which the greater number of clergymen shall have belonged prior to the erection of the new Diocese, except as local circumstances may prevent, until the same be altered in accordance with such Constitution and Canons by the Synod of the new Diocese.

Section 5 A Diocese formed out of a Missionary District shall be subject to the Constitution and Canons to which such Missionary District was subject, until the same be altered in accordance with such Constitution and Canons by the Synod of the new Diocese.

Section 6 No new Diocese shall be formed unless it shall contain at least six Parishes and at least six Presbyters who have been for at least one year canonically resident within the bounds of such new Diocese, regularly settled in a Parish or Congregation and qualified to vote for a Bishop. Nor shall such new Diocese be formed if thereby any existing Diocese shall be so reduced as to contain fewer than twelve Parishes and twelve Presbyters who have been residing therein and settled and qualified as above provided.

Section 7 The consent of the Provincial Synod to the erection of a new Diocese shall not be given until it has satisfactory assurance of a suitable provision for the support of the Episcopate.

Section 8 Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted to allow a Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, or Suffragan Bishop to reside outside the boundaries of his diocese.

ARTICLE VI
Of Territorial Jurisdiction

Section 1 The House of Bishops may establish Missionary Districts in States and Territories or parts thereof not organized into Diocese. It may also from time to time change, increase, or diminish the territory included in such Missionary Districts in such manner as may be prescribed by Canon.

Section 2 Subject to the conditions described below, the Provincial Synod may accept a cession of the territorial jurisdiction of a part of a Diocese when such cession shall have been proposed by the Bishop and the Synod of such Diocese, and consent thereto shall have been given by three-fourths of the Parishes in the ceded territory, and also by the same ratio of the Parishes within the remaining territory. Likewise, any territorial jurisdiction or any part of the same, which may have been accepted from a Diocese by the Provincial Synod under the foregoing provision, may be returned to the said Dioceses by such joint action of all the several parties as is herein required for its cession. Such actions of the Provincial Synod, whether of cession or retrocession, shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of every House voting by Orders.

Section 3 Missionary Districts shall be organized as may be prescribed by Canon of the Provincial Synod.

ARTICLE VII
Of Protection of Property

Nothing in the Constitution or the Canons or in the Canons of any jurisdiction of this Church shall defeat, entail, or encumber the title or right of any parish, mission, school, or religious community in any of its real property or personalty, or defeat, burden, or delay the right of any Bishop, Priest, Deacon, Deaconess, or employee of this Church to the full enjoyment of any vested portion of pension funds accrued to his account, or of any contractual right belonging to such person. No officer or agent of this Church, or of any jurisdiction, shall resort to any civil court against any parish, mission, school, or religious community for the purpose of enforcing any temporal claim against the same.

ARTICLE VIII
Of Ministers

No person shall be ordered Priest or Deacon to minister in this Church until he shall have been examined by the Bishop and two Priests and shall have exhibited such testimonials and other requisites as the Canons in that case provided may direct. No persons shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop, or ordered Priest or Deacon to minister in this Church, unless at the time, in the presence of the ordaining Bishop or Bishops, he shall subscribe and make the following declaration:

"I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Anglican Province of America."

Any person consecrated a Bishop to minister in any Diocese or Missionary District of an autonomous Church or Province of a Church in Communion with this Church may, instead of the foregoing declaration, make the promises of Conformity required by the Church in which he is to minister.

No person ordained by a foreign Bishop, or by a Bishop not in communion with this Church, shall be permitted to officiate as a Minister of this Church until he shall have complied with the Canon or Canons in that case provided and also shall have subscribed the aforesaid declaration.

ARTICLE IX
Of Courts

The Provincial Synod may, by Canon, establish a Court for the trial of Bishops, which shall be composed of Bishops only.

Presbyters and Deacons canonically resident in a Diocese shall be tried by a Court instituted by the Synod thereof; Presbyters and Deacons canonically resident in a Missionary District shall be tried according to Canons adopted by the Bishop and Convocation thereof, with the approval of the House of Bishops; *Provided*, that the Provincial Synod in each case may prescribe by Canon for a change of venue.

The Provincial Synod, in like manner, may establish or may provide for the establishment of Courts of Review of the determination of Diocesan or other trial Courts.

The Provincial Synod, in like manner, may establish an ultimate Court of Appeal, solely for the review of the determination of any Court of Review on questions of Doctrine, Faith or Worship.

None but a Bishop shall pronounce sentence of admonition, or of suspension or deposition, from the Ministry, on any Bishop, Presbyter, or Deacon. A sentence of suspension shall specify on what terms or conditions and at what time the suspension shall cease.

In all trials before any Court of this Church, the accused shall be entitled to due process, as provided by Canon.

ARTICLE X *Of Worship*

The 1928 American Edition of the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating Bishops, Priest, and Deacons, the Form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, the Office of Institution of Ministers, and Articles of Religion of 1801, as now established or hereafter amended by the authority of this Church, shall be in use in all the Diocese and Missionary Districts of this Church. No alteration thereof or additions thereto shall be made unless the same shall be first proposed in one triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod and by a resolve thereof sent within six months to the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary District, to be made known to the Diocesan Synod or Convocation of the Missionary District, at its next meeting, and be adopted by the Provincial Synod at its next succeeding triennial meeting by a two-thirds majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, and by a two-thirds majority in both the House of Clergy and the House of Laity voting by Orders. Any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer must conform to the principles contained in the Preface of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Provincial Synod at any meeting shall have power to amend the Tables of Lessons and all Tables and Rubrics relating to the Psalms by a majority in every House of Provincial Synod voting by Orders.

Nothing in this Article shall be construed as restricting the authority of the Bishops of this Church to take such order as may be permitted by the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer or by the Canons of the Provincial Synod for the use of special forms of worship.

The following are permitted for general use in this Church in addition to, and subordination to, The Book of Common Prayer, 1928 American Edition:

1. The Book of Offices, Third Edition, 1970, or earlier editions thereof;
2. The Calendar and the Collects, Epistles and Gospels contained in the Lesser Feasts and Fasts and Special Occasions (1963 Edition or earlier);
3. The Priest's Manual;
4. The Book of Occasional Offices (1960 Edition);
5. The Hymnal, 1940, and other hymns and music authorized by the incumbent;
6. The Anglican Missal;
7. The American Missal; and
8. Other traditional Anglican liturgies as may be authorized by the Bishop Ordinary.

ARTICLE XI *Of Amendments*

No alteration or amendment of this Constitution shall be made unless the same shall be first proposed at one triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod and by a resolve thereof be sent to the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary District, to be made known to the Diocesan Synod or the Missionary District Convocation at its next meeting, and be adopted by the Provincial Synod at its next succeeding triennial meeting by a two-thirds majority of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, and by a two-thirds majority in both the House of Clergy and the House of Laity voting by Orders. Each duly adopted alteration or amendment to this Constitution, unless otherwise expressly stated therein, shall take effect upon the close of the Provincial Synod at which it is finally adopted.

The Provincial Synod in the year of our Lord 2000 shall have the right to change, alter, and amend these Articles, subject to the voting provisions provided herein, without the necessity of said changes, alterations, and amendments first being proposed in the Provincial Synod of 1998.

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CANONS
As Adopted in Provincial Synod 1998
And
As Amended in Provincial Synod 2002, 2004, 2008, and 2011

TITLE I
THE MINISTRY

Canon 1
Of Postulants

Section 1 (a) Every person desiring to be admitted a candidate for Holy Orders is, in the first instance, to consult his immediate Pastor, or, if he have none, some Presbyter to whom he is personally known, setting before him the grounds of his desire for admission to the Ministry, together with such circumstances as may bear on his qualification, or tend to affect his course of preparation.

(b) If, as the result of a thorough inquiry into the physical, mental, moral, and spiritual qualifications of the applicant, he is counseled by the aforesaid Presbyter to persevere in his intentions, he shall make his desire known personally, if possible, or in writing, to the Bishop in whose jurisdiction he has been canonically resident for the three months preceding. But with the written consent of the said Bishop, and on the recommendation of at least one Presbyter of the said jurisdiction who is acquainted with the applicant, the latter may at once apply to some other Bishop. He shall give to the Bishop the name of his Pastor, or, if he have none, of some other Presbyter in good standing, to whom he is personally known, from whom the Bishop may ascertain, either by personal conference, or by direct report in writing, his qualification, as stated above, for the work of the Ministry.

(c) Before the admission of a Postulant the Bishop shall require the applicant to submit to a thorough examination by a physician appointed by the Bishop. This examination shall cover the man's mental health as well as his physical condition; and a record of the medical report shall be kept on file by the Bishop and shall be open to the inspection of the Standing Committee, or Council of Advice, when application is made for its recommendation of the man to be received as a Postulant.

(d) The applicant shall state to the Bishop in writing:

- (1)** His full name and age.
- (2)** The length of time he has been resident in the Diocese or Missionary District.
- (3)** When, and by whom, he was baptized.
- (4)** When, and by whom, he was confirmed.
- (5)** When, and where, he was admitted to Holy Communion.
- (6)** Whether he has ever before applied for admission as a Postulant or as a candidate for Holy Orders.
- (7)** On what grounds he is moved to seek the Sacred Ministry.

Section 2 (a) The Bishop, in a book to be kept for that purpose, shall enter the name of each applicant, with the fact of his approval or disapproval of the application, and the date of such entry. He shall inform the applicant of approval or denial, and of the date of his admission as Postulant.

(b) Similar records shall be made and information given of the removal of a name from the list of Postulants. Without further reason, the Bishop may remove the name of a Postulant who fails to be ordained within four years from the date of his reception as a Postulant.

(c) Every Postulant shall report himself to the Ecclesiastical Authority personally or by letter, four times a year, in the Ember Weeks, giving account of his manner of life and progress in his studies; and if he fails to make such reports to the satisfaction of the Ecclesiastical Authority, his name may be stricken from the list of Postulants.

Section 3 (a) No Bishop shall accept as a Postulant any person who has been refused admission as a Postulant in any other Diocese or Missionary District, or who, having been admitted, has afterwards ceased to be a Postulant, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District in which he has been refused

admission, or in which he has been a Postulant, declaring the cause of refusal or of cessation.

(b) Should the Bishop accept such applicant as a Postulant, he shall send the said certificate, or a copy thereof, to the Standing Committee of the Diocese, to be considered by them if the said Postulant should apply for ordination.

Section 4 A Standing Committee, acting as Ecclesiastical Authority of a Diocese, shall be competent to receive and act upon applications under this Canon from persons desiring to be received as Postulants.

Section 5 (a) The Postulant, before entering upon his course of theological studies, must lay before the Bishop and the Board of Examining Chaplains satisfactory evidence that he is a graduate of some college or university, together with a full statement of the work done by him in such college or university.

(b) If the Postulant be not a graduate as aforesaid and he shall have attained the age of thirty-five years, he must satisfy the Board of Examining Chaplains that he possesses the intellectual ability to enter with advantage upon a course of study preparatory to Holy Orders. To this end, the Board of Examining Chaplains in each Diocese and Missionary District shall develop and publish, with the consent of the Bishop and the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, a procedure of study and examination for those Postulants that do not meet the requirements of Clause **(a)** of this Section. Such procedure shall be applied uniformly to all Postulants not meeting the requirements of Clause **(a)** of this Section.

(c) The Board of Examining Chaplains shall report the compliance of all Postulants under this Section to the Standing Committee or Council of Advice.

Section 6 The Bishop shall require from the applicant's Rector and Vestry a certificate in the following words:

To the Right Reverend A. B., Bishop of_____.

We, whose names are hereunder written, testify to our belief (based on personal knowledge or on evidence satisfactory to us) that A. B. is sober, honest, and godly, and that he is a communicant of this Church in good standing. We do furthermore declare that, in our opinion, he possesses such qualifications as fit him to be admitted a Postulant for Holy Orders.

(Signed)

Whenever such a recommendation is required a copy shall be filed with the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District.

Section 7 In all canons respecting ordination, the terms *Postulant* and *Candidate for Holy Orders* shall be deemed to be synonymous.

Canon 2

Of General Provisions Concerning Postulants for Holy Orders

Section 1 (a) The superintendence of all Postulants for Holy Orders, both as to the daily life and as to the direction of their theological studies, pertains to the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District to which they belong. The Bishop may at his discretion ask one or more of the Board of Examining Chaplains to assist him in this superintendence.

(b) Every Postulant shall pursue his studies diligently under proper direction; he shall not indulge in vain or trifling conduct or in amusements unfavorable to godly and studious habits and to that good report which becomes a person preparing for the Holy Ministry.

(c) When the Standing Committee of a Diocese is the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof, the Clerical members of the Committee shall, through the President, discharge the duties assigned in this Section to the Bishop.

Section 2 (a) A Postulant must remain in canonical connection with the Diocese or Missionary District in which he has been admitted, until his ordination, except as hereinafter otherwise provided.

(b) For reasons satisfactory to the Ecclesiastical Authority, Letters Dimissory may be granted to a Postulant on his own request to any other Diocese or Missionary District.

(c) Convenience of attending any Theological or other Seminary shall not be a sufficient reason for change of canonical residence.

Section 3 (a) Every Postulant for Holy Orders shall report himself to the Ecclesiastical Authority, personally or by letter, four times a year, in the Ember Weeks, giving account of his manner of life and progress in his studies; and if he fail to make such report to the satisfaction of the Ecclesiastical Authority, his name may be stricken from the list of Postulants.

(b) If a Postulant for Holy Orders shall fail to present himself for examination within four years from the date of his admission as a candidate, his name may, after due notice, be stricken from the list of Postulants at the discretion of the Bishop.

(c) If a Postulant for Holy Orders shall have passed his canonical examinations, but is refused, on other grounds, recommendation for ordination, the Bishop, with the advice of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, may remove his name from the list of Postulants.

Section 4 A Postulant for Holy Orders in any Diocese or Missionary District of this Church, or of any Church in communion with this Church, whose name shall have been stricken from the list of Postulants, or whose application for ordination shall have been rejected, shall not be ordained without re-admission as a Postulant, said Postulancy to continue for not less than one whole year; *Provided*, that in no such case shall the whole term of Postulancy be less than two years.

Section 5 A Postulant for Holy Orders shall not be a Deputy to the Provincial Synod.

Canon 3

Of the Normal Standard of Learning and Examination of Candidates for Holy Orders

Section 1 (a) Before ordination to the Diaconate, the candidate must pass examinations before the Board of Examining Chaplains in the following subjects required for Deacon's and Priest's Orders:

- (1)** Holy Scripture: The Old and New Testaments in English, their contents and historical background; a reading knowledge of the New Testament in Greek, together with special knowledge of one Synoptic Gospel and the Gospel according to Saint John, and of three Epistles, one of which shall be Romans or First Corinthians;
- (2)** Church History: From the beginning to the present time; together with:
 - (a)* Special Knowledge of a period or topic elected by the candidate with the approval of the Examining Chaplains;
 - (b)* The history, extent, and methods of Christian Missions;
 - (c)* Ecclesiastical Polity;
- (3)** Theology: Historical, philosophical, and systematic;
- (4)** Christian Ethics and Moral Theology;
- (5)** Liturgics: The Principles and History of Christian Worship; the Contents of the Book of Common Prayer;
- (6)** Practical Theology:
 - (a)* The use of the Book of Common Prayer, the Administration of the Sacraments, and the Conduct of Public Worship;
 - (b)* Homiletics: Principles of Sermon Composition and Delivery. In connection with the examination in this subject the candidate shall present three sermons, composed by himself, on texts of Holy Scripture assigned by the Bishop or the Examining Chaplains;
 - (c)* Pastoral Care;
 - (d)* Parish Organization and Administration, including the keeping of records;
 - (e)* Principles and methods of Christian Education in the Parish;
 - (f)* Canon Law, including the Constitution and Canons of the Provincial Synod and of the Diocese or District to which the candidate belongs;
 - (g)* The use of the voice in reading and speaking.The Board of Examining Chaplains may, in lieu of examination, accept satisfactory evidence of the fulfillment of the above requirements in any of the above mentioned subjects.

(b) If a candidate desires a dispensation from examination in the Greek of the New Testament, he shall make application to the Bishop in writing, stating his reasons for the request. The Bishop may, upon recommendation of the Board of Examining Chaplains, at his discretion, grant the same. A candidate so dispensed shall be examined in the special exegetical knowledge in English of one Synoptic Gospel and the Gospel according to Saint John, and of three Epistles, one of which shall be Romans or First Corinthians.

(c) If the candidate has been a Minister or Licentiate in some other body of Christians, he shall also be examined, in writing, on those points of Doctrine, Discipline, Polity, and Worship, in which the communion from which he has come differs from this Church. This portion of the examination shall be conducted, in part at least, by written questions and answers; the replies shall be kept on file for at least three years.

Section 2 (a) In special cases, under urgent circumstances, with the approval of the Standing Committee and the Board of Examining Chaplains, a candidate may be admitted to the Diaconate after passing examinations in the following subjects:

- (1) Holy Scripture: The Bible in English, its contents and historical background;
- (2) Church History: a general outline;
- (3) Doctrine: The Church's teaching as set forth in the Creeds and the Offices of Instruction;
- (4) Liturgics: The Contents and Use of the Book of Common Prayer;
- (5) Practical Theology:
 - (a) The Office and Work of a Deacon,
 - (b) The Conduct of Public Worship,
 - (c) Principles of Sermon Composition and Delivery,
 - (d) Principles and Methods of Christian Education in the Parish,
 - (e) The Missionary Work of the Church,
 - (f) Constitution and Canons of the Provincial Synod, and of the Diocese or District to which the candidate belongs,
 - (g) The use of the voice in reading and speaking.

(b) Before his advancement to the Priesthood such a candidate shall be examined in all the subjects prescribed in Section 1 (a) of this Canon.

Section 3 (a) Examinations at any theological or other literary institution shall not supersede any canonical examination, nor shall any certificate of graduation or diploma necessarily be sufficient ground for dispensing with any part of the canonical examinations, except as provided in this Canon.

(b) It shall be the privilege of the Priest who is to present a candidate for ordination to be present at his examinations; but no other person save the Bishop shall be permitted to be present without the consent of the Board of Examining Chaplains.

(c) The candidate shall be examined by the Bishop in the presence of two Priests both before his ordination to the Diaconate and before his ordination to the Priesthood. The Bishop may conduct one or both of the examinations by taking some part in the regular examinations held by the Examining Chaplains.

Canon 4

Of a Board of Examining Chaplains

Section 1 In every Diocese or Missionary District there shall be a Board of Examining Chaplains, consisting of at least two learned Presbyters, canonically resident within the said Diocese or Missionary District. Examining Chaplains shall be appointed by the Bishop at the Annual Synod or Convocation. Their term of office shall be one year. Should vacancies occur in the Board when the Synod or Convocation is not in session, the Bishop shall similarly appoint and notify the Standing Committee or Council of Advice. In all cases, the Chaplains shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop Ordinary.

Section 2 The Board of Examining Chaplains may adopt rules for its work, subject to the approval of the Bishop, provided the same are not inconsistent with the Canons of the Provincial Synod. These rules may include the appointment of committees of the Board to act on its behalf.

Section 3 It shall be the duty of the Board of Examining Chaplains, under the guidance and oversight of the Bishop, to conduct the examinations of Postulants 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 and Deacons, and shall advise them in regard to their studies and preparation.

Section 4 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 of the appointed subjects, and upon each person examined. The Bishop shall transmit these reports to the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, who shall in

no case recommend a Postulant for ordination to the Diaconate or to the Priesthood, until they have received and considered the report from the Board of Examining Chaplains. The report of the Board shall be made in the following form:

To the Right Reverend A.B., Bishop of _____ (or the Clerical Members of the Standing Committee of _____ as the case may be)

Place, Date,

We, having been assigned as Examiners of A. B., hereby testify that we have examined the said A. B. upon the subjects prescribed in Canon _____. Sensible of our responsibility, we give our judgment as follows: (Here specify the proficiency of A. B. in each of the subjects appointed, as made apparent by the examinations).

(Signed)

Section 5 The Board shall make an annual report concerning its work to the Synod or Convocation.

Section 6 The Bishop, with the consent of the Board of Examining Chaplains, may ask the Examining Chaplains of another Diocese or Missionary District to conduct the examination of a Postulant on their behalf.

Section 7 The Provincial Synod shall have the right to form a Provincial Board of Examining Chaplains. The members of the Board shall serve for a term of two years each and shall be chosen by rules agreeable to the Provincial Synod. Vacancies occurring when Provincial Synod is not in session shall be filled by the Presiding Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council. It shall be the duty of such Provincial Board to prepare a syllabus indicating the range and character of the attainments required in the several subjects prescribed by these Canons and to prepare question papers for all written examinations. And such syllabus and papers may be adopted for their own use, subject to the approval of the Bishop, by the Board of Examining Chaplains of any Diocese or District within the Province. The Provincial Board, when organized, shall report upon its work to the Provincial Synod at each session.

Canon 5

Of Ordination to the Diaconate

Section 1 No one shall be ordered Deacon until he shall be twenty-one years of age.

Section 2 No one shall be ordered Deacon within eighteen months from his admission as a Postulant, unless, under special circumstances, the Bishop, with the advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, shall shorten the time of his candidacy; and in no case shall the time be shortened to less than twelve months.

Section 3 No one shall be ordered Deacon unless he is first recommended to the Bishop by the Standing Committee of the Diocese, or Council of Advice of the Missionary District, to which he belongs.

Section 4 In order to be recommended for ordination the candidate must lay before the Standing Committee:

- (1) An application therefor in writing, signed by himself, which shall state the date of his birth.
- (2) A certificate from the Bishop by whom he was admitted a Postulant, declaring the date of his admission; but when such certificate cannot be had, other evidence satisfactory to the Committee shall suffice.
- (3) A certificate from a Presbyter of this Church, known to the Ecclesiastical Authority, in the following words:

To the Standing Committee of _____

Place, Date,

I hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with A. B., and that I believe him to be well qualified to minister in the Office of Deacon, to the glory of God and the edification of His Church.

(Signed)

- (4) A certificate from the Minister and Vestry of the Parish of _____ which he is a member, in the following words:

To the Standing Committee of _____

Place, Date,

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that A. B., for the space of three years last past, hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and that he is loyal to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and does not hold anything contrary thereto. And, moreover, we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Deacons.

(Signed)

This certificate must be attested by the Minister of the Parish, or by the Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry, as follows:

I hereby certify that A. B., is a member of _____ Parish in _____ and a communicant of the same; that the foregoing certificate was signed at a meeting of the Vestry duly convened at _____ on the _____ day of _____ and that the names attached are those of all (or a majority of all) the members of the Vestry.

(Signed) The Minister of _____ or Clerk or Secretary of Vestry.

(5) A certificate from the theological seminary where he has been studying, or from the clergyman under whose direction he has been pursuing his studies, showing his scholastic record in the subjects required by the canons, and giving a judgment as to his personal qualifications for the Ministry of this Church.

Section 5 Should the Parish be without a Minister, it shall suffice that in his place the certificate be signed by some Presbyter of the Diocese or Missionary District in good standing, the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause.

Section 6 (a) Should there be no organized Parish at the place of residence of the candidate, or should it be impracticable, through circumstances not affecting his moral or religious character, to obtain the signatures of the Minister and Vestry, or of the Vestry, it may suffice if the certificate be signed by at least

- (1) One Presbyter of the Diocese or Missionary District in good standing; and
- (2) Six Laymen, communicants of this Church in good standing.

(b) In such case, the reasons for departing from the regular form must be given in the attesting clause, which shall be signed by the same, or some other Presbyter of this Church in good standing, and shall be in the following words:

I hereby certify, that the Laymen whose names are attached to the foregoing certificate are communicants of this Church in good standing, and that this form of certificate was used for no reasons affecting the moral or religious character of the Candidate, but because (here give the reasons for departing from the regular form).

(Signed) Presbyter of the Diocese, or Missionary District, of _____.

Section 7 The Standing Committee, on the receipt of the certificates prescribed above and the report of the Board of Examining Chaplains prescribed in Canon 4, Section 4, and having reason to believe that all other canonical requirements have been complied with, and having no reason to suppose the existence of any sufficient obstacle, physical, mental, moral, or spiritual, may, at a meeting duly convened, a majority of all the members of the Committee consenting, recommend the candidate for ordination by a testimonial addressed to the Bishop in the following words:

We, being a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee of _____, and having been duly convened at _____, do testify that A. B., desiring to be ordered Deacon, hath laid before us satisfactory certificates that for the space of three years last past he hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and that he is loyal to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and does not hold anything contrary thereto. And we hereby recommend him for ordination to the Diaconate.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord _____.

(Signed).

The testimonial shall be signed by all consenting to its adoption.

Section 8 The testimonial having been presented to the Bishop, and there being no sufficient objection on grounds physical, mental, moral, doctrinal, or spiritual, the Bishop may take order for the ordination; and at the same time of the ordination he shall require the candidate to subscribe and make, in his presence, the declaration required in Article VIII of the Constitution.

Section 9 No Postulant shall be admitted to Holy Orders unless he shall have been appointed to serve in some Parochial Cure within the jurisdiction of this Church.

Canon 6

Of Ordination to the Priesthood

Section 1 No one shall be ordered Priest until he be twenty-four years of age.

Section 2 No one shall be ordered Priest until he has been a Deacon one full year, unless it shall seem good to the Bishop, for reasonable causes, with the advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee, to shorten the time; nor within two years from his admission as a Postulant, unless the Bishop, for urgent reasons fully stated, with the advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee, shall shorten the time. And in no case shall he be ordered Priest within less than one year from his admission as a Postulant, nor until he has been a Deacon for at least six months.

Section 3 No Deacon shall be ordered Priest unless he be first recommended to the Bishop by the Standing Committee of the Diocese, or by the Council of Advice of the Missionary District, to which he belongs.

Section 4 In order to be recommended for ordination by the Standing Committee, the Deacon must lay before the Committee:

- (1) An application therefor in writing signed by himself, which shall state the date of his birth.
- (2) A certificate from the Bishop declaring that the term of his Postulancy and the time of his service in the Diaconate have been completed; but when such certificate cannot be had, other evidence, satisfactory to the Committee, may suffice.
- (3) A certificate from the Minister and Vestry of the Parish where he resides, in the following words:

To the Standing Committee of _____

Place, Date,

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that the Reverend A. B., Deacon, since the ____day of ____ in the year ____ being the date of his ordination to the Diaconate (or for the space of three years last past), hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and hath not written, taught, or held anything contrary to the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church. And, moreover, we think him a person worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Priests.

(Signed)

This certificate must be attested by the Minister of the Parish, or by the Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry, as follows:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B., is a resident of _____ Parish in _____; that the foregoing certificate was signed at a meeting of the Vestry duly convened at _____ on the ____day of ____, and the names attached are those of all (or a majority of all) the members of the Vestry.

(Signed) The Minister of _____ or Clerk or Secretary of Vestry.

Section 5 But should the Parish be without a Minister, it shall suffice that in his place the certificate be signed by some Presbyter of the Diocese or Missionary District in good standing, the reason for the substitution being stated in the attesting clause.

Section 6 (a) Should there be no organized Parish at the place of residence of the candidate, or should it be impracticable, through circumstances not affecting his moral or religious character, to obtain the signatures of the Minister and Vestry, or of the Vestry, it may suffice if the certificate be signed by at least:

- (1) One Presbyter of the Diocese or Missionary District, in good standing; and,
- (2) Six Laymen, communicants of this Church, in good standing.

(b) In such case, the reasons for departing from the regular form must be given in the attesting clause, which shall be signed by the same, or some other Presbyter of this Church in good standing, and shall be in the following words:

I hereby certify that the Laymen who names are attached to the foregoing certificate are communicants of this Church in good standing, and that this form of certificate was used for no reasons affecting the moral or religious character of the candidate, but because (here give the reasons for departing from the regular form).

(Signed) Presbyter of the Diocese, or Missionary District, of _____.

Section 7 The Standing Committee, on the receipt of the certificates prescribed above and the report of the Board of Examining Chaplains prescribed in Canon 4, Section 4, and having reason to believe that all other canonical requirements have been complied with, and having no reason to suppose the existence of any sufficient obstacle, physical, mental, moral, or spiritual, may, at a meeting duly convened, a majority of all the members of the Committee consenting, recommend the Deacon for ordination by a testimonial addressed to the Bishop in the following words:

To the Right Reverend A.B., Bishop of _____.

We, being a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee of _____ and having been duly convened at _____, do testify that the Reverend A. B., Deacon, desiring to be ordered Priest, hath laid before us satisfactory certificates that since the ____day of ____ in the year ____ being the date of his ordination to the Diaconate (or for the space of three years last past), he hath lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and hath not written, taught, or held anything contrary to the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church; and we hereby recommend him for ordination to the Priesthood.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this ____day of ____ in the year of our Lord ____.

(Signed)

This testimonial shall be signed by all consenting to its adoption.

Section 8 The testimonial having been presented to the Bishop, and there being no sufficient objection on grounds physical, mental, moral, doctrinal, or spiritual, the Bishop may take order for the ordination; and at the time of the ordination he shall require the Deacon to subscribe and make, in his presence, the declaration required in Article VIII of the Constitution.

Section 9 No Deacon shall be ordered Priest until he shall have been appointed to serve in some Parochial Cure within the jurisdiction of this Church, or as a Missionary under the Ecclesiastical Authority of some Diocese or Missionary District, or as an officer of some Missionary Society recognized by the Provincial Synod, or as a Chaplain of the Armed Forces of the United States, or as a Chaplain in some recognized hospital or other welfare institution, or as a Chaplain or instructor in some college or other seminary of learning, with opportunity for the exercise of his Ministry judged sufficient by the Bishop.

Canon 7

Of General Provisions Respecting Ordination

Section 1 (a) For the purpose of this and other Canons of Ordination, the authority assigned to the Bishop of the Diocese may be exercised by a Bishop Coadjutor, when so empowered under Canon 11, Section 2 (a) or (b), or by a Suffragan Bishop when requested by the Bishop of a Diocese, or by a Missionary Bishop, or any other Bishop of this Church canonically in charge of a Diocese or Missionary District, or of congregations in foreign parts.

(b) The Council of Advice in a Missionary District shall, for the purposes of this and other Canons of Ordination, have the same powers as the Standing Committee of a Diocese.

(c) In case of a vacancy in the episcopate in a Diocese or Missionary District, the Ecclesiastical Authority may authorize and request the Presiding Bishop, or another Bishop, to take order for an ordination.

Section 2 (a) No certificate or testimonial, the form of which is supplied by Canon, shall be valid, unless it be in the words prescribed; the omission of the date therefrom shall render such certificate or testimonial liable to rejection.

(b) No Postulant shall sign any of the certificates prescribed in the Canons of Ordination.

(c) Whenever the testimonial of the Standing Committee is required, such testimonial must be signed at a meeting duly convened, and, in the absence of express provision to the contrary, by a majority of the whole Committee.

(d) Whenever the certificate of a Vestry is required, such certificate must be signed by a majority of the whole Vestry, at a meeting duly convened, and the fact must be attested by the Secretary of the said Vestry or by the Minister.

Section 3 Whenever a dispensation from any of the requirements of the Canons of Ordination is permitted, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, the application must be first to the Bishop, and, if he approve it, be by him referred to the Committee.

Section 4 If, in the case of any applicant for ordination, a majority of the Standing Committee refuse to recommend, or shall fail to act within three months, although the required certificates have been laid before the Committee, it shall be the duty of the Committee, without delay, to give to the Bishop the reasons, in writing, for such refusal or failure to act.

Section 5 (a) No Bishop of this Church shall ordain any person to officiate in any Congregation beyond the limits of the United States until the testimonials and certificates required by the Canons of Ordination shall have been supplied, except as provided for as follows:

(b) Any Missionary Bishop of this Church having jurisdiction in foreign lands, or any Bishop to whom the charge of Congregations in foreign lands shall have been assigned by the Presiding Bishop, may ordain as Deacons or Presbyters, to officiate within the limits of his charge, any persons of the age required by the Canons of this Church, who shall exhibit to him the testimonials required by Canons 5 and 6, signed by not less than two Presbyters of this Church, who may be subject to his charge, and other satisfactory evidence of moral character from natives of the country not in Holy Orders. If there be only one Presbyter of this Church subject to his charge, and capable of acting at the time, the signature of a Presbyter in good standing under the jurisdiction of any Bishop in communion with this Church may be admitted to supply the deficiency.

Section 6 No appointment for the ordination of any Candidate shall be made until the Bishop has had due notice that all the canonical requirements have been complied with, and that the Bishop has consented to the ordination.

Section 7 No canon shall conflict with a Bishop's right of final consent without explanation.

Canon 8

Of Ministers Ordained in Foreign Countries by Bishops in Communion with this Church

Section 1 (a) A Minister declaring himself to have been ordained beyond the limits of the United States by a foreign Bishop in Communion with this Church, or by a Bishop consecrated for a foreign country by Bishops of this Church under Article III of the Constitution, shall, before he be permitted to officiate in any Parish or Congregation of this Church, exhibit to the Minister, or, if there be no Minister, to the Vestry thereof, a certificate of recent date, signed by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District, that his letters of Holy Orders and other credentials are valid and authentic, and given by a Bishop in communion with this Church, and also that he has exhibited to the said Ecclesiastical Authority satisfactory evidence of his moral and godly character.

(b) And before he shall be permitted to take charge of any Parish or Congregation, or be received into any Diocese or Missionary District of this Church as a Minister thereof, he shall produce to the Ecclesiastical Authority Letters Dimissory or equivalent credentials under the hand and seal of the Bishop with whose Diocese or Missionary District he has been last connected, which letters or credentials shall be delivered within six months from the date thereof. Before such Minister shall be so received, the Bishop shall require him to promise in writing to submit himself in all things to the Discipline of this Church, without recourse to any foreign jurisdiction, civil or ecclesiastical; and shall further require him to subscribe and make in his presence, and in the presence of two or more Presbyters, the declaration required in Article VIII of the Constitution. He shall also be examined by the Bishop and at least one Presbyter as to his knowledge of the history of this Church, its worship and government. The said Ecclesiastical Authority, being satisfied of his theological acquirements, may then receive him into the Diocese or Missionary District as a Minister of this Church. Such Minister shall not be entitled to hold canonical charge of any Parish or Congregation, until he shall have resided one year in the United States subsequent to the acceptance of his credentials.

Section 2 If such Minister be a Deacon, he shall not be ordered Priest until he shall have resided in the United States at least one year.

Section 3 Any Minister availing himself of the provisions of this Canon shall submit to, and satisfactorily pass, a thorough examination by a physician appointed by the Bishop under whose jurisdiction he shall reside. This examination shall cover the man's mental health, as well as his physical condition.

Canon 9

Of the Ordination of Deacons in Special Cases

Section 1 A man of devout character and proved fitness, desirous to serve in the capacity of Deacon without relinquishing his secular occupation and with no intention of seeking advancement to the Priesthood, may be accepted as a Postulant and admitted as a candidate upon the following conditions:

- (1) He shall be not less than thirty-five years of age.
- (2) He shall be accepted as a Postulant as provided in Canon 1.
- (3) Fulfillment of the requirements of Canon 1, Section 5 (a) or (b) shall suffice as educational qualification for admission as a Postulant.

Section 2 A candidate so admitted may be ordained to the Diaconate any time after twelve months from his admission as a Postulant, upon the following conditions:

- (1) He shall have passed examinations in the subjects set forth in Canon 3, Section 2 (a); but the Bishop may at his discretion dispense him from examination in subjects (c), (d), and (e) of Practical Theology.
- (2) He shall be recommended for ordination to the Diaconate by the Standing Committee or Council of Advice, as required by Canon 5.

Section 3 A Deacon ordained under the provisions of this Canon may execute all the functions pertaining to the office of Deacon, subject to the general provisions of Canon 5. He may be assigned by the Ecclesiastical Authority as Minister in charge of a congregation which is unable to secure the services of a resident Priest. At the request of, or with the consent of, the Rector and Vestry, he may be assigned as an assistant Minister in one or more Parishes. If this is the case, he shall not be dispensed as in Section 2 (1) above. He may not be transferred to another jurisdiction except upon the express request in writing of the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof.

Section 4 Any Deacon ordained in accordance with this Canon who may afterward desire to be advanced to the Priesthood shall be required to pass all examinations required of other candidates for the Priesthood and to comply with all the canonical requirements precedent to such ordination.

Canon 10

Of Ministers Ordained in Churches not in Communion with this Church

Section 1 (a) When a Minister ordained in a Church not in communion with this Church desires to be a Deacon or Priest in this Church, he shall apply to a Bishop, attaching to his written application the following:

- (1) Evidence that he has been duly baptized with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;
- (2) His letters of Ordination and satisfactory evidence that they and his other credentials are valid and authentic;
- (3) Satisfactory evidence of his moral and godly character; and that he is free from any vows or other engagements inconsistent with the exercise of Ministry in this Church;
- (4) Transcripts of his academic and theological studies;
- (5) A certificate from at least two Presbyters of this Church 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;
- (6) A certificate in the form provided in Canon 5, Section 4 (3) and (4), from the Minister and Vestry of a Parish of this Church; and
- (7) A statement of the reasons which have moved him to seek to enter the Ministry of this Church.

(b) With regard to the fulfillment of requirements as to pre-theological education the provisions of Canon 1, Section 5 shall be applicable. The applicant shall also submit to the examinations required in Canon 3, the result of such examination to be filed and submitted as therein required.

Section 2 (a) If such Minister furnish evidence of a satisfactory theological training in his previous Communion, and have exercised his ministry therein with good repute and success for at least five years, he shall be examined by the Board of Examining Chaplains in the following subjects:

- (1) Church History: the History of the Church of England and this Church;
- (2) Doctrine: the Church's teaching as set forth in the Creeds and the Offices of Instruction;
- (3) Liturgics: the Principles and History of Christian Worship; the Contents and Use of the Book of Common Prayer;
- (4) Practical Theology:
 - (a) The Office and Work of a Deacon and of a Priest
 - (b) The Conduct of Public Worship,
 - (c) The Constitution and Canons of Provincial Synod, and the Province and Diocese in which he is canonically resident,
 - (d) The use of the voice in reading and speaking.
- (5) The points of Doctrine, Discipline, Polity, and worship in which the Communion from which he has come differs from this Church. This portion of the examination shall be conducted, in part at least, by written questions and answers, and the replies kept on file for at least three years.

The Board of Examining Chaplains, may, with the consent of the Bishop, and with due notice to the applicant, examine the latter in any other subject required by Canon 3, Section 1.

(b) But if such Minister cannot furnish evidence of a satisfactory theological training in his previous Communion, or if he have not exercised his Ministry therein with good repute and success for at least five years, he shall conform to the requirements of Canon 3, Section 1.

Section 3 (a) Prior to being examined as provided above, the applicant shall have received certificates from the Bishop and from the Standing Committee, or Council of Advice, that he is acceptable as a Minister of this Church, subject to the successful completion of said examinations. He shall not be ordained or received until at least six calendar months shall have elapsed, during which period he shall undertake such studies, in a theological seminary or otherwise, as shall be directed by the Bishop with the advice of the Board of Examining Chaplains.

(b) The Bishop, in a book to be kept for that purpose, shall enter the name of each applicant, with the fact of his approval or disapproval of the application, and the date of such entry. If he approve of the application, he shall inform the applicant of the fact, and the date of his acceptance.

Section 4 Before such Minister shall be ordained or received into the Ministry of this Church, the Bishop shall require him to promise in writing to submit himself in all things to the Discipline of this Church without recourse to any other ecclesiastical jurisdiction or foreign civil jurisdiction; and shall further require him to subscribe and make in his presence, and in the presence of two or more Presbyters, the declaration required in Article VIII of the Constitution.

Section 5(a) Thereafter the Bishop, being satisfied of such Minister's theological attainments and soundness in faith, may

- (1)** Receive him into the Diocese or Missionary District in his order, if he has already been ordained by a Bishop in the historic succession; or
- (2)** Confirm him and make him a Deacon and, no sooner than four months thereafter, ordain him as Priest if he has not received such ordination; or
- (3)** Make him a Deacon and, no sooner than four months thereafter, ordain him a Priest conditionally (having baptized and confirmed him conditionally if necessary) if he has been ordained by a Bishop whose authority to convey such orders has not been recognized by this Church.

(b) In the case of an ordination pursuant to Section 5 (a) (2) of this Canon, the Bishop may, at the time of such ordination, read this preface to the service:

A. B., who is already a minister of Christ, now desires to be made a Deacon (or ordained a Priest) in this Church. He has satisfied the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese (or Missionary District) that he accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church. We are about to confer upon him the grace and authority of Holy Orders as this Church has received them and requires them for the exercise of the Ministry therein.

The letters of ordination in such cases may contain the words:

Acknowledging the ministry which he has already received and hereby adding to that commission the grace and authority of Holy Orders as understood and required by this Church for the exercise of the Ministry.

(c) In the case of a conditional ordination pursuant to Section 5 (a) (3) of this Canon, the Bishop shall, at the time of such ordination, read this preface to the service:

A. B., who has been ordained by a Bishop whose authority has not been recognized by this Church, has now satisfied the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese (or Missionary District) that he accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and that he now desires conditional ordination. By this service of ordination, we propose to establish that A. B., is qualified to minister in this Church.

Section 6 No one shall be ordered Deacon or received as such until he be 21 years of age.

Section 7 Any other provision in other Canons inconsistent with this Canon are inapplicable.

Section 8 The Bishop may, pending the reception of a Priest or Deacon under this Canon, license him to officiate in his Order temporarily, *provided*, that the Standing Committee shall consent to such license, and *provided*, that the Bishop and they shall certify that the Minister has been certainly validly ordained, but in the case of a Minister whose Orders are uncertain or who has not received episcopal ordination, the Bishop may, during the pendency of the Minister's application, license him as a Lay Reader or as a Preacher, or both.

Canon 11

Of the Ordination and Consecration, and Reception of Bishops

Section 1 (a) Whenever the Church in any Diocese shall desire the ordination and consecration of a Bishop-elect, if the election shall have taken place within three months before a meeting of the Provincial Synod, the Standing Committee of the said Diocese shall, by their President, or by some person or persons specially appointed, forward to the secretaries of the Houses of Clergy and Laity evidence of the election of the Bishop-elect by the Synod of the Diocese, together with evidence

of his having been duly ordered Deacon and Priest, and also a testimonial signed by a constitutional majority of such Synod, in the following words:

We, whose names are hereunder written, fully sensible how important it is that the Sacred Order and Office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify that the Reverend A. B. is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion or for viciousness of life; and that we know of no impediment on account of which he ought not to be ordained and consecrated to that Holy Office. We do, moreover, jointly and severally declare that we believe him to be of such sufficiency in good learning, of such soundness in the Faith, and of such virtuous and pure manners and godly conversation, that he is apt and meet to exercise the Office of a Bishop to the honour of God and the edifying of His Church, and to be a wholesome example to the flock of Christ.

(Signed)

The Secretary of such Synod shall certify upon this testimonial that it has been signed by a constitutional majority thereof.

The Secretaries of the Houses of Clergy and Laity shall lay the said testimonials before each House, and if each House shall consent to the consecration of the Bishop-elect, notice of said consent, certified by the President and Secretary of the said Houses, shall be sent to the House of Bishops, together with the testimonials aforesaid.

(b) If the House of Bishops consent to the consecration, the Presiding Bishop shall, without delay, notify such consent to the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing and to the Bishop-elect; and upon notice of the acceptance by the Bishop-elect of his election, the Presiding Bishop shall take order for the consecration of the said Bishop-elect either by himself and two other Bishops of this Church, or by any three Bishops of this Church to whom he may communicate the testimonials.

In all particulars the service at the consecration of a Bishop shall be under the direction of the Bishop presiding at such consecration.

(c) If the election of a Bishop shall have taken place more than three months before the meeting of the Provincial Synod, the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing shall, by their President, or by some person or persons specially appointed, immediately send certificate of the election to the Standing Committees of the several Dioceses, together with copies of the necessary testimonials; and if a majority of the Standing Committees of all the Dioceses shall consent to the consecration of the Bishop-elect, the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing shall then forward the evidence of said consent, with the other necessary testimonials, to the Presiding Bishop, who shall immediately communicate the same to every Bishop of this Church having jurisdiction in the United States, and if a majority of such Bishops shall consent to the consecration, the Presiding Bishop shall, without delay, notify such consent to the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing and to the Bishop-elect, and upon notice of his acceptance of the election, the Presiding Bishop shall take order for the consecration of the said Bishop-elect either by himself and two other Bishops of this Church, or by any three Bishops of this Church to whom he may communicate the testimonials.

The evidence of the consent of the several Standing Committees shall be a testimonial in the following words, signed by a majority of the Standing Committees of all the Dioceses:

We, being a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee of _____, and having been duly convened at _____, fully sensible how important it is that the Sacred Order and Office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify that the Reverend A. B. is not, so far as we are informed, justly liable to evil report, either for error in religion or for viciousness of life; and that we know of no impediment on account of which he ought not to be ordained and consecrated to that Holy Office.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this ____day ____of ____in the year of our Lord ____.

(Signed)

If the Presiding Bishop shall not have received the consent of a majority of the Bishops within three months from the date of his notice to them, he shall then give notice of such failure to the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing.

(d) In case a majority of all the Standing Committees of the several Dioceses shall not consent to the consecration of a Bishop-elect within the period of six months from the date of the notification of the election by the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing, or in case a majority of all the Bishops entitled to act in the premises shall not consent within the period of three months from the date of notification to them by the Presiding Bishop of the election, the Presiding Bishop shall declare the election null and void, and the Synod of the Diocese may then proceed to a new election.

Section 2 (a) When a Bishop of a Diocese is unable, by reason of age, or other permanent cause of infirmity, or by reason of the extent of Diocesan work, fully to discharge the duties of his office, a Bishop Coadjutor may be elected by and for said

Diocese, who shall have the right of succession; *Provided*, that before the election of a Bishop Coadjutor for the reason of extent of Diocesan work, the consent of the Provincial Synod, or during the recess thereof, the consent of a majority of the Bishops having jurisdiction in the United States and of the several Standing Committees, must be had and obtained. Before any election of a Bishop Coadjutor, the Bishop of the Diocese shall read, or cause to be read, to the Synod thereof, his written consent to such election, and in such consent he shall state the duties which he thereby assigns to the Bishop Coadjutor, when duly ordained and consecrated, and such consent shall form part of the proceedings of the Synod. The duties assigned by the Bishop to the Bishop Coadjutor in any Diocese may be enlarged by mutual consent whenever the Bishop of the Diocese may desire to assign such additional duties to the Bishop Coadjutor. In case of the inability of the Bishop of the Diocese to issue the aforesaid consent, the Standing Committee of the Diocese may request the Synod to act without such consent, and such request shall be accompanied by certificates of physicians as to the inability of the Bishop of the Diocese to issue his written consent.

(b) It shall also be lawful, within six months prior to the effective date of the resignation or retirement of a Bishop from his jurisdiction, for the said Bishop, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, to call a special meeting of the Synod of the Diocese to elect a successor; *Provided*, that if the Synod is to meet in regular session meanwhile, it may hold the election during such regular session. The proceedings incident to preparation for the ordination and consecration of such successor shall be as provided in Section 1 of this Canon; but the Presiding Bishop shall not take order for the consecration to be on any date prior to that upon which the resignation is to become effective.

(c) In the case of a Bishop Coadjutor, the grounds for his election as stated in the record of the Synod, shall be communicated, with the other required testimonials, to the Provincial Synod, or to the Standing Committees and Bishops.

(d) In case of application for the ordination and consecration of a Bishop Coadjutor, the Standing Committee shall forward to the Presiding Bishop, in addition to the evidence and testimonials required by the preceding Section, a certificate of the Presiding Officer and Secretary of the Synod that every requirement of this Section has been complied with.

(e) There shall not be in any Diocese at the same time more than one Bishop Coadjutor.

Section 3 No one shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop unless he shall at the time subscribe, in the presence of the ordaining and consecrating Bishops, the declaration required in Article VIII of the Constitution.

Section 4 (a) The House of Bishops may receive into this Church a Bishop of a Church which is in communion with this Church, who, if he shall be elected to jurisdiction in this Church, shall assume the rights and duties as set forth in Article I of the Constitution, or, if he is retired, he may be accorded the status of a retired Bishop of this Church.

(b) The House of Bishops may, with the concurrence of the Provincial Council, receive into this Church a Bishop of a Church which is not in communion with this Church, *provided* that the provisions of Canon 10 be observed as to his Diaconate and Priesthood, and *provided further* that no temporary license shall extend further than permission of the House of Bishops for such Bishop to function as a Priest, and that, unless the House of Bishops shall certify that his ordination and consecration as Bishop is certainly valid, such license shall extend only to the status of lay reader and Preacher, unless and until he shall have received conditional ordination as Deacon and Priest. No one shall receive conditional ordination and consecration as a Bishop without the consent of the House of Bishops and of the Provincial Council. Such a Bishop so received, whether in his Order or with conditional ordination and consecration, shall become a member of the House of Bishops under Article I of the Constitution.

Canon 12 *Of Missionary Bishops*

Section 1 The House of Bishops may establish Missionary Districts in the States or Territories, or parts thereof, or in territory belonging to the United States, not organized into Dioceses, or in territory beyond the United States, not under the charge of Bishops in communion with this Church. It may also, from time to time, change, increase or diminish the territory included in such Missionary Districts.

Section 2 (a) The House of Bishops may, from time to time, choose a suitable person or persons to be a Bishop or Bishops of this Church in Missionary Districts, such choice to be subject to confirmation by the Houses of Clergy and Laity during the session of the Provincial Synod, and at other times to confirmation by a majority of the Standing Committees of the

several Dioceses.

(b) The evidence of such choice shall be a certificate signed by the Bishop presiding in the House of Bishops and by its Secretary, with a testimonial, or certified copy thereof, signed by a majority of the Bishops of the House, in the second form required in Canon 11, Section 1, which shall be sent to the Presiding Officers of the Houses of Clergy and Laity, or to the Standing Committees of the several Dioceses, if the Provincial Synod be not in session.

(c) When the Presiding Bishop shall have received a certificate signed by the President and Secretary of the Houses of Clergy and Laity (or certificates signed by the Presidents and Secretaries of a majority of the Standing Committees as the case may be), that the election has been approved, and shall have received notice of the acceptance by the Bishop-elect of his election, he shall take order for the consecration of the said Bishop-elect either by himself and two other Bishops of this Church, or by any three Bishops of this Church to whom he may communicate the certificates and testimonial.

Section 3 The House of Bishops shall have power, at their discretion, to transfer a Missionary Bishop from one Missionary District to another, and, in case of the permanent disability of the Bishop in charge, to declare the Missionary District vacant.

Section 4 Any Bishop or Bishops elected and consecrated under this Canon shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the House of Bishops, and shall be eligible to the office of Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop in any organized Diocese within the United States; *Provided*, that such Bishop shall not be so eligible within five years from the date of his consecration, except to the office of Bishop of a Diocese formed in whole or in part out of his Missionary District. And whenever a Diocese shall have been organized within the jurisdiction of such Missionary Bishop, if he shall be chosen Bishop of such Diocese, he may accept the office without vacating his Missionary appointment; *Provided*, that he continue to discharge the duties of Missionary Bishop within the residue of his original jurisdiction, if there be such residue, until the House of Bishops shall elect a Missionary Bishop of such residue.

Section 5 (a) When a Diocese, entitled to the choice of a Bishop, shall elect as its Diocesan, or as its Bishop Coadjutor, or Suffragan Bishop, a Missionary Bishop of this Church, if such election shall have taken place within three months before a meeting of the Provincial Synod, evidence thereof shall be laid before each House of the Provincial Synod, and the concurrence of each House, and its express consent, shall be necessary to the validity of said election, and shall complete the same; so that the Bishop thus elected shall be thereafter the Bishop of the Diocese which has elected him.

(b) If the said election shall have taken place more than three months before a meeting of the Provincial Synod, the above process may be adopted, or the following instead thereof, viz: The Standing Committee of the Diocese electing shall give duly certified evidence of the election to every Bishop of this Church, and to the Standing Committee of every Diocese. On receiving notice of the concurrence of a majority of such Bishops and of the Standing Committees in the election, and their express consent thereto, the Standing Committee of the Diocese electing shall transmit notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese and Missionary District within the United States; which notice shall state what Bishops and what Standing Committees have consented to the election. On receiving this notice the Presiding Bishop shall certify to the Secretary of the House of Bishops the altered status and style of the Bishop concerned.

The Standing Committee of such Diocese shall transmit to every Congregation thereof, to be publicly read therein, a notice of the election thus completed, and also cause public notice thereof to be given in such other way as they may think proper.

Section 6 In case of the death or resignation of a Missionary Bishop, or of a vacancy in the Missionary District from other cause, the charge thereof shall devolve upon the Presiding Bishop with the power of appointing some other Bishop of this Church as his substitute in said charge until the vacancy is filled.

Section 7 If during the recess of the Provincial Synod, and more than six months previous to its session, there shall be a vacancy in a Missionary District arising from any cause, the House of Bishops shall, on the written request of a majority of the members of the same, be convened by the Presiding Bishop, and thereupon may proceed to elect a Bishop for such District.

Section 8 Upon attaining the age of seventy-two years a Missionary Bishop shall tender his resignation, but the Convocation of the Missionary District may, by the concurrence of the Clergy and Laity and with the consent of the House of Bishops, refuse to accept the same. If any resignation is refused, the Missionary Bishop shall again tender his resignation no later than two years from the date of last refusal.

Canon 13
Of Suffragan Bishops

Section 1 A Suffragan Bishop shall be elected in accordance with the Canons enacted in each Diocese for the election of a Bishop. But the initiative shall always be taken by the Bishop of the Diocese asking for the assistance of a Suffragan.

Section 2 There shall not at any time be more than two Suffragan Bishops holding office in and for any Diocese, save by special consent of the Provincial Synod previously obtained.

Section 3 The House of Bishops, from time to time in its discretion, may choose a Suffragan Bishop for any Missionary District in the same manner as provided by Canon 12, Section 2, and subject to all the provisions thereof.

Section 4 A Suffragan Bishop shall act, in all respects, as the assistant of the Bishop of the Diocese, or Missionary District, and under his direction.

Section 5 The tenure of office of a Suffragan Bishop shall not be terminated on the death or removal of the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District. A Suffragan Bishop at any time may resign his position as Suffragan of a Diocese with the consent of a majority of those entitled to vote in the House of Bishops. A Suffragan Bishop of a Missionary District, at any time, may resign his position as such Suffragan Bishop with the consent of a majority of those entitled to vote in the House of Bishops. A Suffragan Bishop whose resignation has been accepted shall exercise Episcopal functions only as he may be authorized by the Ecclesiastical Authority of a Diocese or a Missionary District.

Section 6 (a) Whenever a Suffragan Bishop shall be elected Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of a Diocese or Bishop of a Missionary District, if such election shall have taken place within three months before a meeting of the Provincial Synod, evidence thereof shall be laid before each House of the Provincial Synod and the concurrence of each House and its express consent shall be necessary to the validity of said election, and shall complete the same, so that the Bishop thus elected shall be thereafter the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese which has elected him; or Missionary Bishop of the District, as the case may be.

(b) If the said election has taken place more than three months before a meeting of the Provincial Synod, the above process may be adopted, or the following in stead thereof, viz:

The Standing Committee of the Diocese electing, or the Secretary of the House of Bishops, as the case may be, shall give duly certified evidence of the election to every Bishop of this Church in the United States who has seat and vote in the House of Bishops, and to the Standing Committee of every Diocese.

On receiving notice of the concurrence of a majority of the Bishops and of the Standing Committees in the election, and their express consent thereto, the Standing Committee of the Diocese concerned or the Secretary of the House of Bishops, as the case may be, shall transmit notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of every Diocese and Missionary District within the United States; which notice shall state what Bishops and what Standing Committees have consented to the election. On receiving this notice the Presiding Bishop shall certify to the Secretary of the House of Bishops the altered status and style of the Bishop concerned.

Canon 14
Of the Consecration of Bishops for Foreign Lands

Section 1 Pursuant to the provisions of Article III of the Constitution, the following conditions are prescribed as necessary to be fulfilled before the Presiding Bishop of this Church shall take order for a Consecration to the Episcopate authorized by that Article.

(1) A person seeking to be ordained and consecrated a Bishop for a foreign land, within the purport of Article III of the Constitution, must present to the Presiding Bishop of this Church a statement in writing subscribed by him setting forth his name, and the date and place of his birth; his Ecclesiastical and Civil status; whether he is in Priest's Orders, and, if so, the time and place and Episcopal source of his admission thereto, and to the Diaconate; the fact of his election or appointment, by a body of Christian people in a foreign land, to be, when duly ordained and consecrated, their Bishop; the corporate name under which such body is or desires and intends to be known as a distinct part of the Catholic Church of Christ; and the land wherein and the civil government under which it claims and purposes to exercise its jurisdiction as such; that the position of this body of Christian people in the land wherein they dwell is such as to justify its distinct organization as a Church therein; that the members of that body will receive the person consecrated for them by the Episcopate of this Church as a true and lawful Chief Pastor, will suitably maintain him as such, and will render to him all

due canonical obedience in the exercise of his proper Episcopal functions; that by the lawful authority recognized in the body applying through him for the Episcopate there has been prescribed for use in that body a Book of Offices containing the Creeds commonly called the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, together with forms for the Administration of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, an Ordinal, an Office for the Administration of Confirmation by the Laying on of Hands, and an Order for the public reading of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, in which Book the Faith and Order of the Church, as this Church hath received the same, are clearly set forth and established as the Faith and Order of the Church in which the Episcopate is as aforesaid desired to be settled and maintained; and that the person presenting himself for consecration is, in his life and teaching, in entire conformity with the principles of such Faith and Order, that he is not justly liable to evil report for error in religion or viciousness of life, and that he has no knowledge of any impediment on account of which he ought not to be consecrated to the Office of a Bishop.

(2) In case a Bishop should already have been consecrated for a foreign land under the provisions of Article III of the Constitution, and application should be made for the consecration of a second or of a third Bishop for the same country, the judgment in writing of the Bishop or Bishops already exercising jurisdiction in that land concerning the proposed consecration shall be presented to the Presiding Bishop together with the papers required in the foregoing Clause.

(3) The applicant making the statement required in Clause (1) shall with it present to the Presiding Bishop evidence fully substantiating the said statement in every particular thereof; and shall make such further statement, supported by such further evidence, as the Presiding Bishop may in the premises deem to be desirable or essential.

(4) If the Presiding Bishop shall deem the statement so submitted, with the evidence substantiating the same, sufficient to justify the consideration or the application by the Bishops of this Church, he shall lay the whole record embodying such statement and evidence before the House of Bishops on the next occasion on which they may be duly convened as such, with the presence of a majority of all the Bishops of this Church entitled to vote in that House.

Section 2 If after consideration of the statement and evidence so presented, and of any other evidence of which they may be cognizant, a majority of the Bishops of this Church entitled to vote in the House of Bishops of this Church shall consent to the proposed ordination and consecrations under the provisions of Article III of the Constitution, the Presiding Bishop shall take order therefor in the same manner as order is prescribed to be taken by him in the consecration of Bishops in this Church, the Order of Consecration being conformed, as nearly as may be in the judgment of the Bishops consecrating, to that used in this Church.

Section 3 Immediately after a consecration as herein provided shall have taken place, the Presiding Bishop shall lodge the original record of the statement and evidence above required, together with such other papers and documents as he may deem essential to the true and complete history of the proceedings, with the Registrar of the Provincial Synod for preservation among the Archives of this Church.

Canon 15 *Of the Presiding Bishop*

Section 1 The Presiding Bishop shall preside over meetings of the House of Bishops, and shall take order for the consecration of Bishops when duly elected. He shall also perform all other duties prescribed for him by other Canons of Provincial Synod.

Section 2 The stipend of the Presiding Bishop and his necessary expenses shall be provided for in the budget approved by the Provincial Synod.

Section 3 The style of the Presiding Bishop shall be *Bishop of N., Presiding Bishop*. The Presiding Bishop shall be denominated *Most Reverend*.

Canon 16 *Of Duties of Bishops*

Section 1 It shall be the duty of every Bishop of this Church to reside within the limits of his jurisdiction; nor shall he absent himself therefrom for more than three months without consent of the Synod or the Standing Committee of the Diocese, or, in the case of a Missionary Bishop, without the consent of the Presiding Bishop.

Section 2 (a) Every Bishop shall visit the Congregations within his Diocese or Missionary District at least once in three years, for the purposes of examining their condition, inspecting the behavior of the Clergy, administering Confirmation, preaching the Word, and at his discretion, celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

(b) If a Bishop shall for three years have declined to visit a Parish or Congregation, the Minister and Vestry [or the Corporation], or the Bishop, may apply to the Presiding Bishop to appoint a Council of Conciliation, who shall amicably determine all matters of difference between the parties, and each party shall conform to the decision of the Council in the premises; *Provided*, that in case of any subsequent trial of either party for failure to conform to such decision, any constitutional or canonical right of the defendant in the premises may be pleaded and established as a sufficient defense, notwithstanding such former decision; and, *Provided, further*, that in any case the Bishop may at any time apply for such Council of Conciliation. If the Presiding Bishop shall be the party within whose jurisdiction the Parish or Congregation may be, then the application shall be made to the Bishop next in seniority.

(c) Every Bishop shall keep a record of all his official acts, which record shall be the property of the Diocese, and shall be transmitted to his successor.

Section 3 Every Bishop shall deliver at least once in three years, a Charge to the Clergy of his Diocese or Missionary District, unless prevented by reasonable cause; and may, from time to time, address to the people of his Diocese or Missionary District Pastoral Letters on points of Christian doctrine, worship, or manners, which he may require the Clergy to read to their congregations.

Section 4 At every Annual Synod or Convocation the Bishop shall make a statement of the affairs of the Diocese or Missionary District since the last meeting of the Synod or Convocation; the names of the churches which he has visited; the number of persons confirmed; the names of those who have been received as Candidates for Holy Orders, and of those who have been ordained, and of those who have been by him suspended or deposed from the Ministry; the changes by death, removal, or otherwise, which have taken place among the Clergy; and all matters tending to throw light upon the affairs of the Diocese or Missionary District; which statement shall be inserted in the Journal.

Section 5 It shall be the duty of a Bishop, whenever leaving his Diocese or District for the space of six calendar months, to authorize, by writing, under his hand and seal, the Bishop Coadjutor, or, should there be none, the Standing Committee of the Diocese, or the Council of Advice of the District, to act as the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof during his absence. The Bishop Coadjutor, or, should there be none, the Standing Committee, may become at any time the Ecclesiastical Authority upon the written request of the Bishop, and continue to act as such until the request be revoked by him in writing.

Section 6 (a) Any Bishop of this Church may, on the invitation of the Synod or of the Standing Committee of any Diocese where there is no Bishop, or where the Bishop is for the time under a disability to perform Episcopal offices by reason of a judicial sentence, visit and perform Episcopal offices in that Diocese, or in any part thereof; and this invitation may be for a stated period, and may be at any time revoked.

(b) A Diocese without a Bishop, or of which the Bishop is for the time under a disability by reason of a judicial sentence, may, by its Synod, be placed under the provisional charge and authority of the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of another Diocese, who shall by that act be authorized to perform all the duties and offices of the Bishop of the Diocese so vacant or whose Bishop is under disability, until, in the case of a vacant Diocese a Bishop be duly elected and consecrated for the same; or in the case of a Diocese whose Bishop is disabled, until the disqualification be removed; or, until, in either case, the said act of the Synod be revoked.

(c) A Diocese, while under the provisional charge of a Bishop, shall not invite any other Bishop to perform any Episcopal duty or exercise authority.

Section 7 (a) If the Bishop of a Diocese, or a Bishop Coadjutor, shall desire to resign his jurisdiction, he shall send in writing to the Presiding Bishop his resignation with the reasons therefor. This communication shall be sent at least thirty days before the date set for a regular or a special meeting of the House of Bishops. The Presiding Bishop shall without delay send a copy of the communication to every Bishop of this Church having ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and also to the Standing Committee of the Diocese of the Bishop desiring to resign, in order that the Standing Committee may on behalf of the Diocese be heard either in person or by correspondence upon the subject. The House during its session shall investigate the whole case, and by a majority of those present accept or refuse the resignation.

(b) In case the resignation be sent to the Presiding Bishop at a time when no regular or special meeting of the House is about to be held, he shall exercise his discretion as to calling a special meeting.

(c) The House of Bishops may accept the resignation of a Missionary Bishop at any session of the House by a vote of not less than two-thirds of those present.

(d) In all cases of a proposed resignation, the House of Bishops shall cause their proceedings to be recorded in their Journal; and the resignation shall be completed when the vote of the House of Bishops, accepting the same, shall be so recorded. It shall then be the duty of the Presiding Officer of the House of Bishops to communicate the fact to the Houses of Clergy and Laity, if in session, and to the Ecclesiastical Authority of each Diocese and Missionary District.

(e) A Bishop whose resignation has been accepted may perform episcopal acts at the request of any Bishop of this Church, having ecclesiastical jurisdiction, within the limits of his jurisdiction.

(f) A Bishop who ceases to have Episcopal charge shall still be subject in all matters to the Canons and authority of the Provincial Synod.

Section 8 In the event of the disability of the Presiding Bishop, the Bishop who, according to the Rules of the House of Bishops, becomes its Presiding Officer, shall be substituted for the Presiding Bishop for all purposes of these Canons.

Canon 17

Of Duties of Missionary Bishops

Section 1 Missionary Bishops shall exercise jurisdiction in States and Territories, or parts thereof, or in territory belonging to the United States, not organized into Dioceses, or in any Missionary District of this Church beyond the limits of the United States, in conformity with the Constitution and Canons of this Church, and under such regulations and instructions, not inconsistent therewith, as the House of Bishops may prescribe.

Section 2 Notice shall be sent to all Archbishops and Presiding Bishops, and all Presiding Bishops of Churches in communion with this Church, of the designation of any Foreign Missionary District, and of the consecration of any Foreign Missionary Bishop. Such Bishop, either already consecrated or to be consecrated, shall exercise his mission within his defined District, and it is hereby declared as the judgment of this Church, that no two Bishops of Churches in communion with each other should exercise jurisdiction in the same place.

Section 3 Every such Bishop shall report annually to the Presiding Bishop his proceedings, and the state and condition of the Church within his Missionary District, such report to be transmitted by the Presiding Bishop to the Executive Council. Every such report shall state the amount contributed in each year by the said District for Episcopal Support.

Section 4 (a) On the formation of a Missionary District the Bishop consecrated therefor, or assigned thereto, shall, for the administration of his jurisdiction, adopt the Canons approved by the House of Bishops for Missionary Districts, or he may select the Constitution and Canons of one of the Dioceses of this Church, which shall remain in force, so far as applicable to the circumstances of such Missionary District, except so far as altered by the Bishop and Convocation from time to time with the approbation of the Presiding Bishop of the Church.

(b) Every Missionary Bishop shall appoint annually a Council of Advice, to be composed of not less than two or more than four Presbyters, and an equal number of Laymen, communicants of this Church, resident within his Missionary District, who shall perform the duties of a Standing Committee for such District, except in so far as these Canons otherwise provide, and who shall continue in office until their successors are appointed, and shall, so far as the circumstances of the District permit, be governed by the Constitution and Canons that have been adopted for such District.

Canon 18

Of the Filling of Vacant Cures

Section 1 When a Parish or Congregation becomes vacant the Churchwardens or other proper officers shall notify the fact to the Bishop. If the authorities of the Parish shall for thirty days have failed to make provision for the services, it shall be the duty of the Bishop to take such measures as he may deem expedient for the temporary maintenance of Divine services therein.

Section 2 No election of a Rector shall be had until the name of the Clergyman whom it is proposed to elect has been made known to the Bishop, if there be one, and sufficient time, not exceeding thirty days, has been given to him to communicate with the Vestry thereon.

Section 3 Written notice of the election, signed by the Churchwardens, shall be sent to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. If the Ecclesiastical Authority be satisfied that the person so chosen is a duly qualified Minister, and that he has

accepted the office, the notice shall be sent to the Secretary of the Synod, who shall record it. And such record shall be sufficient evidence of the relation between the Minister and the Parish.

Section 4 A Minister is settled, for all purposes here or elsewhere mentioned in these Canons, who has been engaged permanently by any Parish, according to the rules of said Diocese, or for any term not less than one year.

Section 5 In case of the election of an Assistant Minister, a letter from the Rector and Wardens shall be sent to the Bishop.

Section 6 Any parish or congregation which elects a Minister and/or an Assistant Minister shall be required to participate in the Pension Plan of the Reformed Episcopal Church and the Anglican Province of America or some other qualified pension plan, subject to the same funding provisions of the Pension Plan of the Reformed Episcopal Church and the Anglican Province of America.

Canon 19

Of Ministers and Their Duties

Section 1 (a) The control of the worship and the spiritual jurisdiction of the Parish, are vested in the Rector, subject to the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer, the Canons of the Church, and the godly counsel of the Bishop. All other Ministers of the Parish, by whatever name they may be designated, are to be regarded as under the authority of the Rector.

(b) For the purposes of his office and for the full and free discharge of all functions and duties pertaining thereto, the Rector shall, at all times, be entitled to the use and control of the Church and Parish buildings with the appurtenances and furniture thereof.

(c) In a Missionary Cure the control and responsibility belong to the Priest who has been duly appointed to the charge thereof, subject to the authority of the Bishop.

Section 2 (a) It shall be the duty of Ministers of this Church who have charge of Parishes or Cures to be diligent in instructing the children in the Catechism, and from time to time to examine them in the same publicly before the Congregation. They shall also, by stated catechetical lectures and instruction, inform the youth and others in the Holy Scriptures and the Doctrine, Polity, History, and Liturgy of the Church. They shall also instruct all persons in their Parishes and Cures concerning all the missionary work of the Church at home and abroad, and give suitable opportunities for offerings to maintain that work.

(b) It shall be the duty of Ministers before baptizing infants or children to prepare the sponsors by instructing both the parents and the Godparents concerning the significance of Holy Baptism, the responsibilities of parents and Godparents for the Christian training of the baptized child, and how these obligations may properly be discharged.

(c) It shall be the duty of Ministers to prepare young persons and others for Confirmation; and on notice being received from the Bishop of his intention to visit any Church, which notice shall be at least one month before the intended visitation, the Minister shall announce the fact to the Congregation of the first Sunday after the receipt of such notice; and he shall be ready to present for Confirmation such persons as he shall judge to be qualified, and shall deliver to the Bishop a list of the names of those to be confirmed.

(d) At every visitation it shall be the duty of the Minister, and of the Churchwardens, or Vestrymen, or of some other officer, to exhibit to the Bishop the Parish Register and to give information to him of the state of the Congregation, spiritual and temporal, under such heads as shall have been previously signified to them, in writing, by the Bishop.

(e) The Alms and Contributions, not otherwise specifically designated, at the Administration of the Holy Communion on one Sunday in each calendar month, and other offerings for the poor, shall be deposited with the Minister of the Parish, or with such Church officer as shall be appointed by him, to be applied by the Minister, or under his superintendence, to such pious and charitable uses as shall by him be thought fit. During a vacancy the Vestry shall appoint a responsible person to serve as Almoner.

(f) Whenever the House of Bishops shall put forth a Pastoral Letter, it shall be the duty of every Minister having a pastoral charge to read it to his Congregation on some occasion of public worship on a Lord's Day, not later than one month after the receipt of the same.

Section 3 (a) It shall be the duty of every Minister of this Church to record in the Parish Register all Baptisms, Confirmations, Marriages, Burials, and the names of all Communicants within his Cure.

(b) The registry of every Baptism shall be signed by the officiating Minister.

(c) Every Minister of this Church shall make out and continue, as far as practicable, a list of all families and adult persons within his Cure, to remain in the Parish for the use of his successor.

Section 4 (a) No Minister of this Church shall officiate, either by preaching, reading prayers in public worship, or by performing any other priestly or ministerial function, in the Parish, or within the Cure, of another Minister, without the consent of the Minister of that Parish or Cure; or one of its Churchwardens if, in his absence or disability, the Minister fail to provide for the stated services of such Parish or Cure.

If there be two or more Congregations or Churches in one Cure, as provided by Canon 48, Section 3 (b), the consent of the majority of the Ministers of such Congregations or Churches, or of the Bishop, shall be sufficient; *Provided*, that nothing in this Section shall be construed to prevent any Clergyman of this Church from officiating, with the consent of a Minister, in the Church or place of public worship used by the Congregation of such Minister, or in private for members of his Congregation; or, in his absence, with the consent of the Churchwardens or Trustees of such Congregation; and *Provided, moreover*, that the license of the Ecclesiastical Authority required in Section 5 (c) be first obtained when necessary.

This rule shall not apply to any Church, Chapel, or Oratory, which is part of the premises of an incorporated institution, created by legislative authority, provided that such place of worship is designed and set apart for the convenience and uses of such institution, and not as a place for public or parochial worship.

(b) If any Minister of this Church, from disability or any other cause, neglect to perform the regular services in his Congregation, and refuse, without good cause, his consent to any other duly qualified Minister of this Church to officiate within his Cure, the Churchwardens, Vestrymen, or Trustees of the Congregation shall, on proof before the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District of such neglect or refusal, have power, with the written consent of the said authority, to permit any duly qualified Minister of this Church to officiate.

Section 5 (a) A Minister of this Church removing into a Diocese or Missionary District shall, in order to gain canonical residence within the same, present to the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof, a testimonial from the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District in which he last had canonical residence, which testimonial shall set forth his true standing and character. The said testimonial shall be given by the Ecclesiastical Authority to the applicant, and a duplicate thereof may be sent to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District to which he proposes to remove. The testimonial may be in the following words:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B., who has signified to me his desire to be transferred to the Ecclesiastical Authority of _____ is a Presbyter [or Deacon] of _____ in good standing, and has not, so far as I know or believe, been justly liable to evil report, for error in religion or for viciousness of life, for three years last past.

(Signed).

(b) Such testimonial shall be called Letters Dimissory. The canonical residence of the Minister so transferred shall date from the acceptance of his Letters Dimissory, of which prompt notice shall be given both to the applicant and to the Ecclesiastical Authority from which it came.

(c) Letters Dimissory not presented within six months from the date of their transmission to the applicant shall become wholly void. No Minister shall officiate more than two months, by preaching, ministering the Sacraments, or holding any public service, within the limits of any Diocese or Missionary District other than that in which he is canonically resident, without a license from the Ecclesiastical Authority.

(d) If a Minister, removing into another Diocese, who has been called to a Cure in a Parish or Congregation shall present Letters Dimissory in the form above given, it shall be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese to which he has removed, to accept them within three months, unless the Bishop or Standing Committee shall have heard rumors, which he or they believe to be well founded, against the character of the Minister concerned, which would form a proper ground of canonical inquiry and presentment, in which case the Ecclesiastical Authority shall communicate the same to the Bishop or Standing Committee of the Diocese to whose jurisdiction the said Minister belongs; and in such case, it shall not be the duty of the Ecclesiastical Authority to accept the Letters Dimissory unless and until the Minister shall be exculpated from the said charge.

(e) No Minister, removing from one Diocese or Missionary District to another, shall officiate as Rector or Minister of any Parish or Congregation of the Diocese or District to which he removes, until he shall have obtained from the Ecclesiastical Authority thereof a certificate in the words following:

I hereby certify that the Reverend A. B. has been canonically transferred to my jurisdiction and is a Minister in good standing.
(Signed).

(f) No person who has been refused Ordination or reception as a Candidate in any Diocese or Missionary District, and who has afterwards been ordained in another Diocese or Missionary District, shall be transferred to the Diocese or Missionary District in which such refusal has taken place without the consent of its Bishop or Ecclesiastical Authority.

(g) No person who has been ordained under the provisions of Canon 9 shall be transferred to another Diocese or Missionary District, save as provided in the said Canon.

Canon 20

Of Deacons

Section 1 Every Deacon shall be subject to the direction of the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District for which he has been ordained, or, if there be no Bishop, to that of the Clerical members of the Standing Committee, acting by their 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 Standing Committee, 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 both of his own Bishop and of the Bishop in whose Diocese he desires to minister.

Section 2 No Deacon who shall not have passed the examinations prescribed in Canon 3 shall be transferred to another jurisdiction without the written request of the Ecclesiastical Authority of the same.

Section 3 (a) No Deacon shall be a Rector of a Parish or Congregation, nor be permitted to be a Chaplain in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(b) 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.

(c) 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 21

Of Persons Not Ministers in this Church Officiating in any Congregation Thereof

No Minister in charge of any congregation of this church, or, in case of vacancy or absence, no Churchwardens, Vestrymen, or Trustees of the Congregation, shall permit any person to officiate therein, without sufficient evidence of his being duly licensed or ordained to minister in this Church; *Provided*, that nothing herein shall be so construed as to forbid communicants of the Church to act as Lay Readers; or to prevent the Bishop of any Diocese or Missionary District from giving permission to Christian men, who are not Ministers of this Church, to make addresses in the Church, on special occasions.

Canon 22

Of Deaconesses

Section 1 A woman of devout character and proved fitness may be set apart to the lay order of Deaconess by any Bishop of this Church.

Section 2 The duty of a Deaconess is to assist the Minister in the care of the poor and sick, the religious training of the young and others, and the work of moral reformation, but shall not include the performance of any liturgical function as reserved to those in Holy Orders.

Section 3 No one shall be appointed Deaconess until she shall be at least twenty-three years of age; nor until she shall have laid before the Bishop testimonials certifying that she is a communicant of this Church in good standing, and that she possesses such characteristics as, in the judgment of the persons testifying, fit her for at least one of the duties above defined.

The testimonial of fitness shall be signed by two Presbyters of this Church, and by twelve lay communicants of the same, six of whom shall be women. The Bishop shall also satisfy himself that the applicant has had an adequate preparation for her work, both technical and religious, which preparation shall have covered the period of two years.

Section 4 No Deaconess shall accept work in a Diocese without the express authority, in writing, of the Bishop of that Diocese; nor shall she undertake work in a Parish without the like authority from the Rector of the Parish.

Section 5 When not connected with a Parish, the Deaconess shall be under the direct oversight of the Bishop of the Diocese in which she is canonically resident. A Deaconess may be transferred from one Diocese to another by Letters Testimonial.

Section 6 A Deaconess may at any time resign her office to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in which she is at the time canonically resident, but she may not be suspended or removed from office except by the Bishop for cause, with the consent of the Standing Committee, and after a hearing before the Bishop and Standing Committee.

Section 7 No woman shall be recognized as a Deaconess until she has been set apart for to that office by an appropriate service, to be prescribed by the Diocesan Bishop.

Canon 23 *Of Religious Communities*

Section 1 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 Bishop of the Diocese wherein the Mother-house of the community is situated; and no change in the Rule or Constitution shall be made without his approval.

Section 2 In such Constitution there shall be a distinct recognition of the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church as of supreme authority.

Section 3 No religious community shall establish itself in another Diocese without permission of the Bishop of that Diocese.

Section 4 The community may elect a Chaplain, but if he be a Priest who is not canonically resident in the Diocese, he must be licensed by the Bishop. Any Priest ministering in a chapel of a religious community shall be responsible to the Bishop of the Diocese for his ministrations, in the same manner as parochial Clergyman.

Section 5 In the administration of the Sacraments the Book of Common Prayer shall be used without alteration, save as it may be lawfully permitted by lawful authority.

Section 6 It shall be provided in the Constitution of a religious community that real estate and endowments belonging to the community shall be held in trust for the community as a body in communion with this Church.

Section 7 Members of a religious community who are in Holy Orders shall be subject to all canonical regulations concerning the Clergy.

Section 8 Provision shall be made in the Constitution for the appointment of a Visitor, with the approval of the Bishop of the Diocese in which the Mother-house is situated, if the Bishop is himself unwilling to serve in such capacity. It shall be the duty of the Visitor to see that the Constitution and Rule, as approved, are duly observed, and to receive and hear appeals either from the community or from individual members thereof as to transgressions of the Rule. No full member of a community shall be dismissed therefrom without appeal to the Visitor, nor shall any be released from his or her obligations thereto without the Visitor's sanction.

Section 9 It shall not be within the power of a succeeding Bishop to withdraw official recognition which has been given to a Religious Community, provided that the conditions laid down in this Canon are observed.

Canon 24 *Of Lay Readers*

Section 1 A competent person ready and desirous to serve the church in the public services stately as a Lay Reader must procure from the Bishop or Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or Missionary District a written license. Such license shall not be granted to any but a male communicant of this Church who has attained the age of sixteen years, and must be

given for a definite period, not longer than three years, and may be renewed from time to time, or revoked at any time. Such license may be given for any vacant Parish or Mission, or for a Congregation without a Minister, but where a Presbyter is in charge, his request and recommendation must have been previously signified to the Ecclesiastical Authority. A license shall not be granted for conducting the service in a congregation without a Minister, which is able and has had reasonable opportunity to secure the services of an ordained Minister. If the Lay Reader be a student in any Theological Seminary, he shall also, before acting as such, obtain the permission of the presiding officer of such institution and of his own Bishop.

Section 2 A Lay Reader shall be subject to the regulations prescribed by the Ecclesiastical Authority, and shall not serve in any Diocese other than that in which he is licensed, unless he shall have received a license from the Bishop of the Diocese in which he desires to serve.

Section 3 In all matters relating to the conduct of the service, and the Sermons or Homilies to be read, he shall conform to the directions of the Minister in charge of the Parish, Congregation, or Mission in which he is serving, and, in all cases, to the directions of the Bishop. He shall read only the Morning and Evening Prayer (omitting the Absolution), the Litany, and the Office for the Burial of the Dead. He shall not deliver sermons or addresses of his own composition, unless, after instruction and examination, he be specially licensed thereto for urgent needs by the Bishop. He shall not wear the dress appropriate to Clergymen ministering in the Congregation.

TITLE II
ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINE

Canon 25
Of Amenability, Citation and Attendance

Section 1 Every Bishop, Priest or Deacon shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the Church as provided herein. Every Lay communicant of the Church is likewise subject to the orders and requests of the Courts and shall attend any hearing or investigatory procedure at the request of the Courts. Notice of the nature of such order or request may be served upon such Clergyman or Layman in the manner provided in Section 2 hereof.

Section 2 Any notice, citation, presentment, order or request of any Court of the Church addressed to any Bishop, Priest, Deacon or Lay communicant of the Church may be served upon such person by:

- (1) personal delivery to the individual;
- (2) delivery to the place of residence of such person or to a mature person residing therein;
- (3) delivery to the last known address of such person by registered or certified mail; or
- (4) if none of the above can be accomplished, by publication of notice of such citation in a newspaper of regular circulation within the County or City where such person is canonically resident, for three consecutive issues of such newspaper; but for no less than three consecutive weeks, at least once a week for those three weeks.

Section 3 Every Priest and Deacon shall be amenable to the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District in which he is canonically resident. Bishops shall be amenable to the House of Bishops in all Canons respecting Ecclesiastical Discipline.

Section 4 If the Presiding Bishop shall be the subject of any procedures pursuant to the Canons of Ecclesiastical Discipline, or any portion thereof, then and in that event, his place and stead in all procedures, as herein provided, shall be assumed by the senior Bishop with jurisdiction of this Church.

Canon 26
Of Offenses for Which Bishops, Presbyters, or Deacons May Be Tried

A Bishop, Priest or Deacon may be presented on any of the following charges:

- (1) Commission of an act constituting a felony violation of the criminal code of law of any political subdivision of the United States or of the Federal government.
- (2) Commission of an act of a lewd, lascivious or vulgar nature involving moral turpitude or immorality.
- (3) Holding, pronouncing, teaching or espousing by any means whatever any doctrine or practice contrary to that held by the Church.
- (4) Violation of the Constitution and Canons of the Church.
- (5) Violation of the Canons and By-laws of the Diocese, Missionary District, or Parish.
- (6) Any act or statement which constitutes a violation or repudiation of his Ordination vows.
- (7) Habitual neglect of the exercise of his Ministerial Office, without cause; or habitual neglect of Public Worship, and of the Holy Communion, according to the order and use of this Church.
- (8) Any unseemly, notorious and dilatory act or acts deemed derogatory of the Church or its Holy Orders. *Provided, however,* no formal charge of this nature or any presentment thereon shall be sanctioned until, and unless, the same shall be certified by the written signature thereto of three-fourths of all the members of the Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the Diocese or Missionary District in which the Clergyman is canonically resident.
- (9) Abandonment of the communion of this Church.

Canon 27
Of the Establishment of Courts and Their Jurisdiction

Section 1 In order to insure the expeditious and just disposition of the presentment of charges regarding any member of Holy Orders, the following courts of inquiry, fact-finding, appeal and review are established:

- (1) **Court of Bishops:** This court shall have sole jurisdiction of any presentment preferred against any Bishop of any Province, Diocese or Missionary District. It shall consist of two Bishops, one of whom shall be the Presiding Bishop and the other shall be chosen by the House of Bishops from its members.
- (2) **Court of Diocesan Authority:** This court shall have sole jurisdiction of any presentment preferred against any Priest or Deacon. It shall consist of three Priests to be selected agreeable to the Diocesan Synod or the Convocation of the Missionary District from all those Priests canonically resident in the same place as the subject of the presentment.

Section 2 No Court shall have any jurisdiction to hear and decide upon any presentment preferred against any member of the Clergy in any place which is located geographically beyond the boundaries of the Diocese or Missionary District in which he is canonically resident at the time of the presentment; nor shall any member of the Clergy be required to respond to any Court convened outside of his canonical residence; *Provided, however,* any Court of inquiry or review or of appeal may convene its sessions at any place, or places, directed by the Presiding Bishop.

Section 3 All decisions of any Court must be delivered, in written or typed form, to the subject of the presentment within fifteen days next following the date of the conclusion of the hearing.

Section 4 (a) There shall be a single **Court of Review**. It shall be a court of appeal and for the only purpose of reviewing the written record as established by the Court in which the presentment is heard. No additional testimony shall be considered, either oral or written. It may, at its election, hear arguments and receive written briefs, delivered or prepared by individuals other than the charged Clergyman or members of the Court.

(b) Appeals from the decisions of the trial Courts must be perfected within thirty days next following the receipt of the written decision of the trial Court by the subject of such hearing.

(c) Notice of appeal must be in written or typed form addressed to the Bishop to whom the Clergyman is amenable and all members of the Court of trial; *Provided, however,* when the accused Clergyman is a Bishop, the notice of appeal shall be addressed to the Presiding Bishop. The presiding member of the Court of trial shall notify the presiding member of the Court of Review that notice of appeal has been made.

(d) The Court of Review shall convene within thirty days of the date of the receipt of the notice of appeal or the written record of the Court of trial, whichever event occurs last. The Court of Review shall announce its decision within thirty days next following its consideration of such appeal.

(e) In rendering its decisions, the Court of Review may:

- (1)** Affirm the decision of the trial Court in whole or in part;
- (2)** Return the presentment for a new trial;
- (3)** Vacate the decision of the trial court; or
- (4)** Dismiss the appeal for failure to properly prosecute or lack of merit.

(f) The membership of the Court of Review shall consist of:

- (1)** A member of the House of Bishops, who shall preside over the proceedings, to be appointed by the Presiding Bishop;
- (2)** Three members of the Clergy to be elected by the House of Clergy at Provincial Synod; and
- (3)** Two members of the Laity to be elected by the House of Laity at Provincial Synod.

All members of the Court shall serve terms of two years and may succeed themselves in office.

Section 5 All written decisions of the various Courts shall contain the following:

- (1)** A proper heading for purpose of identification;
- (2)** Name of the subject of the presentment;
- (3)** Name or names and addresses of the presentors;
- (4)** A concise statement of the nature of the charges with canonical references;
- (5)** Findings of fact;
- (6)** Verdict; and
- (7)** Sentence.

Section 6 In their deliberation, all Courts shall have the prerogative of employing such stenographers and other recorders of its proceedings as shall be deemed necessary.

Canon 28

Of the Membership of the Courts

Section 1 The following persons may not serve on any Court:

- (1)** The presenter of a charge, or any person who will appear as a witness in the proceedings;
- (2)** Consanguinity to the accused in any degree; and
- (3)** Any person expressing a preconceived opinion.

Section 2 (a) Vacancies occurring on any Court of Diocesan Authority for any reason whatsoever shall be filled by appointment of the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District in which the vacancy occurred. Such replacing member shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of the vacating member and may be re-elected or re-appointed.

(b) Vacancies occurring on any other Court for any reason whatsoever shall be filled by appointment of the Presiding Bishop. Such appointments shall be of persons having the same canonical residence as the member whose seat is vacated. Such replacing member shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of the vacating member and may be re-elected or re-appointed.

Canon 29

Of the Rules of Procedure of Courts

Section 1 The Rules of Procedure provided herein shall apply to all Courts of trial, inquiry, and appeal.

Section 2 Courts of trial and review shall be composed:

- (1) Of a presiding officer elected by the membership and in a manner and fashion established by the membership; *Provided, however,* the Presiding Bishop shall always be the presiding officer of any court of which he is a member;
- (2) Of a secretary, charged with the duty of recording the proceedings and certifying the same to a court of review and appeal; *Provided, however,* the secretary may be a non-member of the Court as authorized by Canon 27, Section 6; and
- (3) At the election of the court, an advisor, who shall be conversant in canonical and secular law, may be a non-member of the court, and shall advise the Court in the application of canonical and secular law.

Section 3 The general rules of procedure applicable to the Courts including the rules of evidence, pre-trial methods and hearings, shall be those applied by the State courts in the jurisdiction where the proceedings are convened. The rights guaranteed by the Church, its Constitution, Canons and By-laws, as well as those provided by the State and Federal statute and Constitution shall be observed.

Section 4 Presentments shall be written or typed, specific and concise in form, setting forth in detail sufficient to properly advise the Court of the offense charged, including the following:

- (1) the exact name, or names, of the persons charged;
- (2) the date, or dates, time, or times, place, or places, of the alleged offense;
- (3) the position of the charged clergyman in the episcopal Order and place of ministerial appointment;
- (4) the nature of the offense charged with reference to applicable Canon, Constitution, By-law, Holy Scripture or Church teaching; and
- (5) the exact names and addresses of the person, or persons, instituting the presentment.

Section 5 (a) No charge, or charges, which allege commission of an act, or acts, more than five years prior to the date of the presentment, shall be considered by any Court for any purpose and shall be dismissed by the presiding officer of the Court on his own motion.

(b) If the accused shall have been convicted of a felony offense in any Court of Record exercising criminal jurisdiction, notwithstanding five years may have elapsed since its commission, a presentment may be made at any time within one year after such conviction.

Section 6 In the event the charged party shall be a Priest or Deacon, the presentment shall be endorsed and certified by the affidavit of at least one Bishop or Priest, and by at least three members in good standing of the Laity of the Church .

Section 7 In the event the charged party is a Bishop, the presentment shall be endorsed and certified by the affidavit of one Bishop, by no less than three Priests, and no less than five members in good standing of the Laity of the Church. Before a Bishop shall be placed on trial for any offense charged by presentment, the Presiding Bishop shall impanel a Board of Inquiry composed of himself and two Priests, whose purpose shall be to establish the adequacy of such presentment. The Board of Inquiry may, on its own motion, dismiss the presentment or institute the necessary procedures precedent to trial upon the same.

Canon 30
Of a Board of Inquiry

Section 1 Prior to the institution of proceedings originating with a presentment, and at any time when, in his sole discretion, a circumstance exists which is surrounded by rumor, gossip, allegations, or unrest in the Church, and which leads to discord, discontent and unrest, the Bishop of a Diocese or Missionary District may appoint a Board of Inquiry, the purpose of which shall inquire into the validity, cause and content of such circumstances. The Board shall exercise such authority as may be necessary to establish a valid opinion regarding such matter and report the same, in writing, to the Bishop who shall take such measures, and institute such proceedings, as he shall deem just and proper.

Section 2 When a Bishop is the subject of a presentment, or other circumstances as provided in Section 1, the prerogatives and duties assigned to a Diocesan or Missionary Bishop shall be exercised by the Presiding Bishop.

Canon 31
Of Special Procedures for Presentments Charging Particular Acts

Section 1 Renunciation of the Ministry.

(a) "Renunciation of the ministry" shall be defined as the instance, or instances, of oral or written expression or intention of a Minister of the Church that he desires, or will in the future request, a release from his pastoral and ministerial obligations and vows undertaken and assumed by him at the time of his ordination.

(b) Information regarding an actual, or contemplated, renunciation of the ministry shall be delivered in written form, properly subscribed, directly to the Bishop, to whom the renouncing Minister is amenable, who shall not take action thereon for a period of thirty days, unless the renouncing Minister shall request that he do so, and *Provided*, the Bishop may, at his election, suspend such Minister from the performance of all pastoral and ministerial functions during such period, and *Provided, further*, the Bishop shall appoint a committee of inquiry during such period to establish whether or not a valid act or intention of renunciation of the ministry is, in fact, true or possible.

(c) No presentment charging renunciation of the ministry shall be accepted or rejected if the renouncing Minister shall be (1) under a presentment, (2) subject to trial as the result of a presentment, or (3) sufficient evidence exists, in the sole discretion of the Bishop, that the subject Minister may be required to answer formal presentment under any charge provided in these Canons.

(d) Upon acceptance of a renunciation of the ministry by a Clergyman, or the establishment thereof to the satisfaction of the Bishop, he shall immediately notify the Clergyman, all the Bishops of this Church, the Registrar of Provincial Synod, and the Secretary of every Standing Committee and Council of Advice of this Church.

(e) A renouncing Minister shall be immediately deprived of the right to exercise and administer all Sacramental gifts and authorities as a Minister of God's Word and as conferred upon him at the time of ordination.

(f) If the renouncing Minister is a Bishop of this Church, all the prerogatives and duties of the Diocesan or Missionary Bishop provided in this section shall be exercised by the Presiding Bishop.

Section 2 Abandonment of Communion by a Bishop

(a) "Abandonment of the Communion of the Church" shall be defined as (1) an overt renunciation of the Doctrine, Discipline or Worship of the Church, or any one of them, (2) formal admission in any degree or consideration whatsoever into any religious body not in communion with this Church, or (3) in any other manner deemed to constitute a rejection or departure from the precepts, principles and teachings of the Anglican Province of America.

(b) Notice of any such actions may be delivered to the Presiding Bishop by a duly certified statement of any other Bishop, or that of at least two Priests, or that of at least three Deacons, or that of the entire membership of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or the Council of Advice of a Missionary District.

(c) Upon receipt of such certificate, the Presiding Bishop shall notify the Bishop who is the subject thereof within five days of receipt thereof, but shall take no action thereon for a period of thirty days, during which time the charged Bishop may demand a full hearing. Within thirty days of receipt of a request for hearing, the Presiding Bishop shall convene a Court having jurisdiction in the trial of a Bishop. If no request for a hearing be received, in proper form and within such time, a Certificate of Deposition from the Ministry shall be issued by the Presiding Bishop, forwarded to the Bishop who is the

subject thereof and certified to all the Bishops of this Church, the Registrar of Provincial Synod, and the Secretary of every Standing Committee and Council of Advice of this Church. If a trial of the matter be convened and the charge be substantiated, then, and in that event the sentence shall be the same as provided for the Abandonment of the Communion and shall be communicated to the Church in the manner herein provided.

Section 3 Abandonment of Communion by a Priest or Deacon

In the event of the abandonment of the communion by a Priest or Deacon, as herein defined, the mode and method procedure and sentence as set forth in Section 2 of this canon shall be applicable, with the Diocesan or Missionary Bishop exercising the prerogatives and duties assigned to the Presiding Bishop.

Section 4 Ministerial or Pastoral Absence of a Clergyman from a Parish, Diocese or Missionary District

If any Minister shall absent himself from the Parish, Diocese or Missionary District in which he shall be canonically resident, or shall engage in secular occupation either within or without his canonical residence, without having advised the Bishop to whom he is amenable of his desire to do so, and having received permission to do so, for a period of sixty days, he shall be deemed to have abandoned the Communion of the Church and the applicable provisions of this Canon shall be immediately effective.

Section 5 Whenever, pursuant to the requisites of this Canon, a Clergyman shall be deposed from the Ministry, such deposition shall be entire in nature and not merely from a higher to lower order.

Canon 32
Of Sentences

Section 1 Upon a Court determining any Bishop, Priest, or Deacon guilty of the charges preferred against him, the verdict shall state the terms and conditions thereof in conformance with Canon 27, Section 5.

Section 2 When the penalty of suspension shall be imposed, it shall specify (1) the terms and conditions thereof and (2) the time and interval of such suspension.

Section 3 In the event of the imposition of the sentence of deposition, a Minister may not be deposed from a higher to a lower order.

Section 4 If a Bishop, Priest or Deacon shall be adjudged guilty of the charges in a presentment, whether one or more, by a Court of trial and no appeal shall be taken from such findings as herein provided, then the presiding officer of such Court shall certify the findings, judgment and sentence to the Bishop to whom the Clergyman is amenable. In the event of appeal and affirmance of the action of a trial Court, such judgment shall be remanded to the trial Court for imposition of sentence. The decision of the trial Court may likewise be remanded to the trial Court for (1) dissolution, (2) a new trial, or (3) partial affirmation and partial dissolution.

Section 5 At any time during a presentment, the trial of a presentment, or during the period of appeal from an adverse decision of a trial Court, the Bishop, to whom the Clergyman is amenable, may suspend the charged Clergyman from the performance of any pastoral, episcopal, sacramental, or ministerial duties.

Section 6 When sentence has been imposed by a trial Court, or the decision of the trial Court shall be affirmed by the Court of Review, the Bishop, to whom the Clergyman is amenable, shall immediately certify the same to all the Bishops of this Church, the Registrar of Provincial Synod, and the Secretary of every Standing Committee and Council of Advice of this Church.

Canon 33
Of the Dissolution of the Pastoral Relation

Section 1 A Rector may not resign his Parish without the consent of the said Parish, or its Vestry, or its Trustees, whichever may be authorized to act in the premises, nor may any Rector or Minister canonically or lawfully elected and in charge of any Parish be removed therefrom by said Parish, Vestry, or Trustees, against his will, except as hereinafter provided.

Section 2 If for any urgent reason a Rector or Minister as aforesaid, or the Parish committed to his charge, its Vestry or Trustees, shall desire a separation and dissolution of the pastoral relation, and the parties be not agreed respecting such separation and dissolution, notice in writing may be given by either party to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese or

Missionary District. The Bishop may ask the advice and consent of the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District, and shall be the ultimate arbiter and judge. If the Diocese or Missionary District be vacant, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall select a Bishop of an adjacent Diocese or Missionary District to act as the Bishop, and with like force and effect. The judgment shall be either that the pastoral relation between the parties shall cease and determine at a time and upon terms therein specified, or that the pastoral relation shall not be terminated; and it shall be the duty of both parties to submit to and abide by such judgment. In the event of either party refusing to abide by such judgment, the penalty for refusal and the further proceedings in the case shall be those provided by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District in which such Parish is situated.

Section 3 In case of the regular and canonical dissolution of the connection between a Rector or Minister and his Parish, under this Canon, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall direct the Secretary of the Synod to record the same.

Section 4 This Canon shall not apply in any Diocese or Missionary District which has made, or shall hereafter make, provision by Canon upon this subject, nor in contravention of any right of any Rector, Minister, Parish, Congregation, or Vestry under the law of the Civil Authority.

Canon 34

Of the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony

Section 1 Ministers of this Church shall be careful to observe the law of the State governing the civil contract of marriage in the place where the service shall be performed, and they shall conform to the laws of this Church governing the solemnization of Holy Matrimony.

Section 2 No Minister, knowingly after due inquiry, shall solemnize the marriage of any person who has been or is the husband or wife of any other person then living whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved in any way by the civil court for any cause arising after marriage; *Provided, however,* In any case of a person who has been the husband or wife of any other person then living, whose marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a civil court, who shall apply to a Minister of this Church for solemnization of his or her marriage, the Minister shall ascertain all pertinent facts concerning the dissolution, including matters of record, and the actual causes of dissolution, and forward these facts, in writing, to the ordinary with his recommendations, and letters from both parties indicating their understanding of marriage, and by their agreement to abide by Section 4 of this Canon, at least thirty days before the proposed date of marriage. In every case, the Minister shall deliver his personal opinion to the ordinary. Such application shall not be made until a period of not less than one year shall have elapsed since the civil dissolution of the previous marriage. The ordinary shall consider both godly discipline and justice and Christian mercy and charity, and shall deliver his judgment on the petition within thirty days of receiving the same. Should he not deliver his judgment within the stated time, the proposed marriage shall be considered valid. In every case, the proceedings shall be held confidential.

Section 3 No Minister, knowingly after due inquiry, shall solemnize any marriage unless the following conditions are met:

- (1) He shall have ascertained the right of the parties to marry not in violation of any of the following impediments:
 - (a) Consanguinity within the degrees of the Table of Kindred and Affinity in the 1662 edition of the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England;
 - (b) Mistake as to identity of either party;
 - (c) Mental incompetence or deficiency of either party sufficient to prevent the exercise of intelligent choice;
 - (d) Impotence, sexual perversion, or the existence of venereal disease undisclosed to either party;
 - (e) Facts which would make the marriage bigamous;
 - (f) Concurrent contract inconsistent with the covenant of Holy Matrimony according to the Holy Scriptures and the Canons of the Church;
 - (g) Fraud, coercion, or duress; or
 - (h) The failure of both parties to be baptized;
- (2) There shall be three days notice of intention to marry unless waived for weighty reasons, in which case the ordinary shall be notified immediately and in writing;
- (3) The Minister shall counsel both parties on the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony with respect to theological and social implications and responsibilities.
- (4) There shall be at least two witnesses present; and
- (5) The Minister shall record in the parish register the name, age, and residence of each party. Such record shall be signed by the Minister, the married parties, and at least two witnesses.

Section 4 The Minister shall require the parties to 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 Book of Common Prayer. We believe it is for the purpose of the procreation (if it may be) of children, and their spiritual and physical nurture, for mutual fellowship, encouragement, and understanding, and 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.

Section 5 It shall be within the discretion of any Minister to decline to solemnize any marriage.

Canon 35

Of Regulations Respecting the Laity

Section 1 (a) A communicant in good standing, moving from one Parish or Congregation to another, shall be entitled to receive and shall procure from the Rector or Minister of the Parish or Congregation of his or her last residence, or, if there be no Rector or Minister, from one of the Wardens, a certificate stating that he or she is duly registered or enrolled as a communicant in the Parish or Congregation from which he or she desires to be transferred, and the Rector or Minister or Warden of the Parish or Congregation to which such communicant may move shall enroll him or her as a communicant when such certificate is presented, or, on failure to produce such certificate through no fault of such communicant, upon other evidence of his or her being such a communicant, sufficient in the judgment of said Rector or Minister. Notice of such enrollment in such Parish or Congregation to which such communicant shall have moved, shall be sent by the Rector or Minister thereof to the Rector of the Parish from which the communicant or baptized member is moved.

(b) Any communicant of any Church in communion with this Church shall be entitled to the benefit of this Section so far as the same can be made applicable.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Rector or Minister of every Parish or Congregation, learning of the removal of any member of his Parish or Congregation to another Cure without having secured a letter of transfer, as herein provided, to transmit to the Minister of such Cure a letter of advice informing him thereof.

Section 2 When a person to whom the Sacraments of the Church shall have been refused, or who has been repelled from the Holy Communion under the Rubrics, shall lodge a complaint with the Bishop, it shall be the duty of the Bishop, unless he see fit to require the person to be admitted or restored because of the insufficiency of the cause assigned by the Minister, to institute such an inquiry as may be directed by the Canons of the Diocese or Missionary District, and should no such Canon exist, the Bishop shall proceed according to such principles of law and equity as will insure an impartial decision; but no Minister of this Church shall be required to admit to the Sacraments a person so refused or repelled, without the written direction of the Bishop.

The Sacraments shall not be refused in any case to a penitent person at the point of death.

TITLE III

WORSHIP

Canon 36

Of Translations of the Bible

The Lessons at Morning and Evening Prayer shall be read from the translation of the Holy Scriptures, commonly known as the King James or Authorized Version, which is the Standard Bible of this Church. Upon consulting, and receiving permission from, the Diocesan Bishop or Missionary Bishop, a Minister may use another version of the Holy Scriptures.

Canon 37

Of the Standard Book of Common Prayer

The 1928 American edition of the Book of Common Prayer is hereby declared to be the Standard Book of Common Prayer of this Church.

Canon 38

Of the Authorization of Special Forms of Service

In any congregation, worshipping in other than the English language, which shall have placed itself under the oversight of a Bishop of this Church, it shall be lawful to use a form of service in such language. Such form of service shall be approved by the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District responsible for oversight of the congregation. A Bishop shall not license any such form of service until he shall be satisfied that the same is in accordance with the doctrine and worship of this Church. Such form of service shall not be used for the ordination or consecration of Bishops, Priests, or Deacons.

Canon 39

Of the Due Celebration of Sundays

All persons within this Church shall celebrate and keep the Lord's Day, commonly called Sunday, by regular participation in the public worship of the Church, by hearing the Word of God read and taught, and by other acts of devotion and works of charity, using all godly and sober conversation.

Canon 40

Of the Music of the Church

It shall be the duty of every Minister to appoint for use in his congregation hymns or anthems from those authorized by the Rubric or by the Constitution and Canons of this Church, and, with such assistance as he may see fit to employ from persons skilled in music, to give order concerning the tunes to be sung in his congregation. It shall be his especial duty to suppress all light and unseemly music, and all irreverence in the performance. To this end, he shall be the final authority in the administration of matters pertaining to music in his congregation.

Canon 41

Of the Consecration of Churches

Section 1. No Church or Chapel shall be consecrated until the Bishop shall have been sufficiently certified that the building and the ground on which it is erected have been fully paid for, and are free from lien or other encumbrance.

Section 2. No consecrated Church or Chapel shall be removed, taken down, or otherwise disposed of for any worldly or common use, without the previous consent of the Bishop, acting with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee of the Diocese.

Section 3. A Church or Chapel which has been consecrated shall not be used, encumbered, hypothecated, or otherwise alien.

TITLE IV

ORGANIZATION and ADMINISTRATION

Canon 42

Of the Provincial Synod

Section 1 (a) At the time and place appointed for the meeting of the Provincial Synod, the Secretary of the Provincial Synod, or in his absence, the person appointed as hereinafter provided by the Standing Committee of the Diocese in which the Provincial Synod is to meet, shall call to order the members present, and record the names of those whose testimonials, in due form, shall have been presented to him, which record shall be *prima facie* evidence that the persons whose names are therein recorded are entitled to seats. If there be a quorum present, by the record, the Secretary shall so declare, and the Houses of Clergy and Laity shall proceed to organize by the election by ballot of a President and Secretary of each House, from the members of those respective Houses, and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to an election. As soon as a President and Secretary have been elected in each House, the Presidents and Secretaries of the two Houses shall wait upon the House of Bishops, and inform them of the organization of the Houses of Clergy and Laity, and of their readiness to proceed to business. The Presiding Bishop shall then assume the Presidency of the Synod and shall declare the Synod organized and open for the proceeding to business.

(b) In order to aid the Secretary of Provincial Synod in preparing the record specified in clause (a), it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese to forward to him, as soon as may be practicable, a copy of the latest Journal of the Diocesan Synod, together with a certified copy of the testimonials of members aforesaid. He shall also forward a duplicate copy of such testimonials to the Standing Committee of the Diocese in which the Provincial Synod is next to meet.

(c) The Secretary shall keep full minutes of the proceedings of the Synod; record them, with all reports, in a book provided for that purpose; preserve the Journals and Records of the Synod; deliver them to the Registrar, as hereinafter provided, and perform such other duties as may be directed by the Synod. He may, with the approval of the Synod, appoint Assistant secretaries, and the Secretary and Assistant Secretaries shall continue in office until the organization of the next Provincial Synod, and until their successors be chosen. If, during the recess of the Provincial Synod, a vacancy should occur in the office of Secretary of Provincial Synod, a Secretary shall be appointed by the Standing Committee of the Diocese in which the Provincial Synod is next to meet. The Secretaries of the Houses of Clergy and Laity shall also keep full minutes of their separate proceedings and shall deliver them to the Secretary of the Provincial Synod for inclusion in the records of the Synod.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Provincial Synod, whenever any alteration of the Book of Common Prayer or the Constitution is proposed, or any other subject submitted to the consideration of the several Diocesan Synods, to give notice thereof to the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Church in every Diocese and Missionary District, as well as to the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese and every Missionary District, and written evidence that the foregoing requirement has been complied with shall be presented by him to the Provincial Synod at its next Session. All notices shall be sent by registered mail, return receipts being required. He shall notify each Diocesan Secretary that it is his duty to make known such proposed alterations of the Book of Common Prayer, and of the Constitution, and such other subjects, to the Synod of his Diocese at its next meeting, and to certify to the Secretary of the Provincial Synod that such action has been taken by him.

(e) The Secretary of the Provincial Synod and the Treasurer of the Provincial Synod shall be entitled to seats upon the floor of the Synod, and, with the consent of the Presiding Bishop, they may speak on the subjects of their respective offices.

(f) At the meetings of the Provincial Synod, and also at the meetings of the separate Houses thereof, the Rules and Orders of the previous meeting shall be in force until they are amended or repealed by the Synod, or the respective Houses.

Section 2 (a) The right of calling special meetings of the Provincial Synod shall be vested in the Bishops. The Presiding Bishop shall issue the summons for such meetings, designating the time and place thereof, with the consent, or on the requisition, of a majority of the Bishops, expressed to him in writing.

(b) The Deputies elected to the preceding Provincial Synod shall be the Deputies at such special meetings of the Provincial Synod, except in those cases in which other Deputies shall have been chosen in the meantime by any of the Diocesan Synods, and then such other Deputies shall represent in the special meeting of the Provincial Synod the Church of the Diocese in which they have been chosen.

(c) Any vacancy in the representation of any Diocese caused by the death, absence or inability of any Deputy, shall be supplied either temporarily or permanently in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Diocese, or, in the absence of any

such provision, by appointment by the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. During such periods as shall be stated in the certificate issued to him by the appointing power, the Provisional Deputy so appointed shall possess and shall be entitled to exercise the power and authority of the Deputy in place of whom he shall have been designated.

Section 3 (a) The Provincial Synod, upon the nomination of the House of Bishops, shall elect a Presbyter, to be known as the Registrar of the Provincial Synod, whose duty it shall be to receive all Journals, files, papers, reports and other documents or articles that are, or shall become, the property of any House of the Provincial Synod; to arrange, label, index, and put them in order, and to provide for the safe-keeping of the same in some fireproof, accessible place of deposit, and to hold the same under such regulations as the Provincial Synod may, from time to time, provide.

(b) It shall also be the duty of the said Registrar to procure a suitable book, and to enter therein the record of the ordinations and consecrations of all the Bishops of this Church, designating accurately the time and place of the same, with the names of the consecrating Bishops, and of others present and assisting; to have the same authenticated in the fullest manner practicable; and to take care for the similar record and authentication of all future ordinations and consecrations of Bishops in this Church. Due notice of the time and place of such ordinations and consecrations shall be given by the Presiding Bishop to the Registrar; and thereupon it shall be his duty to attend such ordinations and consecrations, either in person or by deputy.

(c) He shall prepare, in such form as the House of Bishops shall prescribe, the Letters of Ordination and Consecration in duplicate; and he shall have the same immediately signed and sealed by the ordaining and consecrating Bishops, and by such other Bishops assisting as may be practicable; and he shall deliver to the newly consecrated Bishop one of the said Letters, and shall carefully file the other among the papers in his custody, and make a minute thereof in his book of record.

(d) It shall also be the duty of the said Registrar to continue the List of Ordinations and keep a list of the Clergy in regular standing, corrected to the first day of March, in each year, and furnish a certified copy of the same to any applicant at the applicant's expense.

(e) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of every Diocese and Missionary District, to forward to the Registrar on or before the first day of March in each and every year a report giving (1) the names of the Clergy canonically resident therein on the first day of January in that year with their several charges, etc.; (2) the names of the Clergy licensed by the Bishop to officiate, but not yet transferred; (3) the names of all persons connected with the Diocese or District who have been ordered Deacons or Priests during the preceding year, with the date and place of ordination and the name of the Bishop ordaining; (4) the names of the Clergy of the Diocese or District who have died during the year, with the date and place of death; (5) the names of the Clergy who have been received during the year, with the date of their reception and the name of the Diocese or District from which received, and, in the case of Clergy not received from a Diocese or District of this Church, the date and place of ordination and the name of the Bishop ordaining; (6) the names of the Clergy who have been transferred during the year, with the dates of the Letters Dimissory and of their acceptance, and the name of the Diocese or District to which transferred; (7) the names of the Clergy who have been suspended during the year, with the date and ground of suspension; (8) the names of the Clergy who have been deposed during the year, with the date, place, and ground of deposition; and (9) the names of Deaconesses canonically resident in the Diocese or District. The Registrar shall not give out for publication the grounds of suspension or deposition.

(f) The Registrar shall also be Historiographer, unless in any case the House of Bishops shall make a separate nomination; and in this event the Provincial Synod shall confirm the nomination.

(g) The necessary expenses incurred under this Section shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Provincial Synod.

(h) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Provincial Synod, within three months after the adjournment of the Provincial Synod, to deliver to the Registrar the manuscript minutes of the proceedings of the Provincial Synod, and of any separate proceedings of the separate Houses, together with the Journals, files, papers, reports, and all other documents of either House. The Secretary of the Provincial Synod shall also deliver to the Registrar, when not otherwise expressly directed, all the Journals, files, papers, reports, and other documents specified in Canon 43. The Secretary shall require the Registrar to provide receipts for the Journals and other papers delivered to him.

(i) In case of a vacancy in the office of Registrar, the Presiding Bishop shall appoint a Registrar, who shall hold office until the next Provincial Synod.

Section 4 (a) At every triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod a Treasurer shall be chosen, and shall remain in office until the next stated Synod, and until a successor be appointed. It shall be his duty to receive and disburse all moneys collected

under the authority of the Synod, and of which the collection and disbursement shall not otherwise be prescribed; and to invest, from time to time, such surplus funds as he may have on hand. His account shall be rendered triennially to the Synod and shall be audited yearly at the direction of the Provincial Council.

(b) The Treasurer shall appoint, subject to the confirmation of the Presiding bishop and Provincial Council, such assistants as may be necessary, to hold office during his pleasure, and until their successors are appointed and confirmed.

(c) In case of a vacancy in the office, the Presiding Bishop and the Presidents of the Houses of Clergy and Laity together shall appoint a Treasurer, who shall hold office until another appointment be made by the Provincial Synod.

Canon 43

Of the Mode of Securing an Accurate View of the State of this Church

Section 1 It shall be the duty of every Minister of this Church in charge of a Parish or Congregation, or, if there be no Minister in charge, of the Churchwardens, or other proper officer, to prepare upon the blank form adopted by Provincial Synod a report for the year ending December 31st preceding, and to deliver the same on or before the first day of March to the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District, or where there is no Bishop, to the presiding officer of the Synod. The report shall include the following information: (1) the number of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and burials during the year; the total number of baptized persons, communicant members, and adult communicant members (those 18 years of age and older) at the time of the report; and for all purposes the number of members of the Church shall be deemed to be the number of baptized persons, and (2) a summary of all the receipts and expenditures, from whatever source derived and for whatever purpose used. And every Minister not in charge of any Parish or Congregation shall also report his occasional services, and if there have been none, the causes or reasons which have prevented the same. And these reports, or such parts of them as the Bishop may deem proper, shall be entered in the Journal.

Section 2 It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Synod of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary District to forward to the Secretary of the Provincial Synod immediately upon publication, the Journals of the Synod of the Diocese or Convocation of the Missionary District, together with Episcopal charges, statements, resolutions, and such other papers as may show the State of the Church in his Diocese or Missionary District. It shall also be his duty to prepare, immediately after the adjournment of the Diocesan Synod or the Convocation of a Missionary District next preceding the regular meeting of every Provincial Synod, and forward forthwith to the Secretary of the Provincial Synod, upon the blank provided for that purpose, which shall conform to the reports required in the previous Section of this Canon, and shall give a condensed summary of the statistics contained in the Parochial reports and the Bishop's statements, with information as to all institutions in any way connected with the Church within the Diocese or Missionary District, and also as to the condition of all invested funds and the amount of all contributions received and expended by the Bishops, or otherwise within the Diocese or District. The Secretary of the Provincial Synod shall present these papers to the Provincial Synod.

Canon 44

Of Business Methods in Church Affairs

Section 1 The Provincial Fiscal year shall begin January 1st.

Section 2 It shall be the duty of the custodians of all trust and permanent funds for Church purposes to deposit the same in trust with some Trust Company or Bank organized under the laws of the United States, or of a State, or with a corporation of the Diocese, such as an incorporated Board of Trustees, and a full and detailed statement of each fund shall be annually reported to the Diocesan Synod, or the District Convocation.

Section 3 All accounts, having to do with the receipt, and expenditure, or investments of money of all church organizations shall be verified at the close of each year by a certified public accountant; *Provided, however,* that if the amount of income for the year, as shown by the account shall be less than \$100,000, or if a certified public accountant is not convenient, the verification may be made by an accountant bookkeeper in no way connected with the subject matter of the account.

Canon 45
Of the Extent of Dioceses

Section 1 The Dioceses of this Church are:

- (1) The Diocese of the Eastern United States, which shall encompass the states of Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia;
- (2) The Diocese of the West, which shall encompass the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming; and
- (3) The Diocese of Mid-America, which shall encompass the states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

Section 2 The extent of the Missionary Districts of this Church shall be established in accordance with Article VI of the Constitution of this Church and in accordance with Canon 12, Section 1 of this Church.

Section 3 Whenever a diocese shall be divided for the purposes of erecting a new diocese, existing congregations which then became situated within the bounds of the new diocese because of said division may make a written request to the Presiding Bishop to remain canonically a part of the previous diocese. Such written request shall contain the specific reasons why the congregation wishes to remain as a part of the previous diocese. Such request shall also be accompanied with a resolution from a properly called Parish meeting, or a Special Congregational Meeting, stating that the majority of the members are requesting permission to remain in the previous diocese. Said request, with its accompanying resolution, must be tendered to the Presiding Bishop within six months of the erection of the new diocese.

Upon receipt of such a request, the Presiding Bishop shall then seek the advice of the Bishops Ordinary affected and then lay the matter before the Provincial Council for their advice and consent to approve or reject the request of the congregation seeking to remain within its previous diocese.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit a congregation, which makes such a positive resolution, from later electing to become a part of the diocese in which it is geographically located. If it so elects to become a part of the diocese in which it is geographically located it shall be done by the same above described process.

Canon 46
Of Standing Committees

Section 1 In every Diocese the Standing Committee shall elect from its own body a President and a Secretary. They may meet in conformity with their own rules from time to time, and shall keep a record of their proceedings; and the President may summon a special meeting whenever he may deem it necessary. They shall be summoned on the requisition of the Bishop, whenever he shall desire their advice; and they may meet of their own accord and agreeably to their own rules when they may be disposed to advise the Bishop. The Bishop shall retain the right to preside when present.

Section 2 In all cases in which a Canon of the Provincial Synod directs a duty to be performed, or a power to be exercised, by a Standing Committee, or by the Clerical members thereof, or by any other body consisting of several members, a majority of said members, the whole having been duly cited to meet, shall be a quorum; and a majority of the quorum so convened shall be competent to act, unless the contrary is expressly required by the Canon.

Section 3 When it is certified to the Presiding Bishop by at least three reputable physicians who shall have examined the case, that the Bishop of any Diocese is incapable of authorizing the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, or a Suffragan Bishop, if there be one, or the Standing Committee, to act as the Ecclesiastical Authority, then upon the advice of three active Bishops (those not retired), at least one Bishop from a neighboring Diocese or District, to be selected by the Presiding Bishop, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, or a Suffragan Bishop, if there be one, or the Standing Committee, shall be declared by the Presiding Bishop to be the Ecclesiastical Authority for all purposes set forth in these Canons, and shall retain such authority until such time as, acting upon a like certificate, the Presiding Bishop shall declare the said Bishop competent to perform his official duties.

Canon 47
Of New Dioceses

Section 1 Whenever a new Diocese shall be formed within the limits of any Diocese, or by the junction of two or more Dioceses, or parts of Dioceses, or in a Missionary District, and such action shall have been ratified by the Provincial Synod, the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District within the limits of which a Diocese is formed, or in case of the junction of two or more Dioceses or Missionary Districts, or parts of Dioceses or Missionary Districts, the senior Bishop by consecration, shall thereupon call the Primary Synod of the new Diocese, for the purpose of enabling to organize, and shall fix the time and place of holding the same, such place being within the territorial limits of the new Diocese.

Section 2 In case there should be no Bishop who can call such Primary Synod, pursuant to the foregoing provision, then the duty of calling such Synod for the purpose of organizing and of fixing the time and place of its meeting, shall be vested in the Standing Committee of the Diocese or Council of Advice of the Missionary District within the limits of which the new one is erected, or in the Standing Committee or Council of Advice of the oldest of the Dioceses or Missionary Districts by the junction of which, or of parts of which, the new Diocese may be formed. And such Standing Committee, or Council of Advice, shall make the call immediately after ratification by the Provincial Synod.

Section 3 Whenever one Diocese is about to be divided into two Dioceses, the Synod of such Diocese shall declare which portion thereof is to be the new Diocese, and shall make the same known to the Provincial Synod before the ratification of such division.

Section 4 Whenever a new Diocese shall have organized in Primary Synod in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and Canons in such case made and provided, and in the manner prescribed in the previous sections of this Canon, and shall have chosen a name and acceded to the Constitution of the Provincial Synod in accordance with Article V, Section 1, of the Constitution, and shall have laid before the Provincial Synod certified copies of the Constitution adopted at its Primary Synod, and the proceedings preparatory to the formation of the proposed new Diocese, such new Diocese shall thereupon be admitted into union with the Provincial Synod.

Section 5 The Convocation of a Missionary District at the time of its organization as a Diocese, shall be entitled to elect Deputies to the succeeding Provincial Synod, and also to elect a Bishop.

Canon 48
Of Parishes and Congregations

Section 1 Every Congregation of this Church shall belong to the Church in the Diocese or Missionary District in which its place of worship is situated; and no Minister having a Parish or Cure in more than one jurisdiction shall have a seat in the Synod of any jurisdiction other than that in which he has his canonical residence.

Section 2 (a) The ascertainment and defining of the boundaries of existing Parishes or Parochial Cures, as well as the establishment of a new Parish or Congregation, and the formation of a new Parish within the limits of any other Parish, is left to the action of the several Diocesan Synods.

(b) Until a Canon or other regulation of a Diocesan Synod shall have been adopted, the formation of new Parishes, or the establishment of new Parishes or Congregations within the limits of existing Parishes, shall be vested in the Bishop of the Diocese, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee thereof, and, in case of there being no Bishop, in the Ecclesiastical Authority.

Section 3 (a) When Parish boundaries are not defined by law, or settled by Diocesan Authority under Section 2 of this Canon, or are not otherwise settled, they shall be defined by the civil divisions of the State as follows:

Parochial boundaries shall be the limits as fixed by law, of a village, town, township, incorporated borough, city, or of some division of any such civil district, which may be recognized by the Bishop, acting with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, as constituting the boundaries of a Parish.

(b) If there be but one Church or Congregation within the limits of such village, town, township, borough, city, or such division of a civil district, as herein provided, the same shall be deemed the Parochial Cure of the Minister having charge thereof. If there be two or more Churches or Congregations therein, it shall be deemed the Cure of the Ministers thereof.

(c) This Canon shall not affect the legal rights of property of any Parish or Congregation.

Section 4 (a) It shall be lawful, under the conditions hereinafter stated, to organize a Congregation in any foreign land, other than within the jurisdiction of any Missionary Bishop of this Church.

(b) The Bishop in charge of such Congregations, and the Council of Advice hereinafter provided for, may authorize any Presbyter of this Church to officiate temporarily at any place to be named by them within any such foreign land, upon being satisfied that it is expedient to establish at such place a Congregation of this Church.

(c) Such Presbyter, after having publicly officiated at such place on four consecutive Sundays, may give notice, in the time of Divine Service, that a meeting of the persons of full age and attending the services, will be held, at a time and place to be named by the Presbyter in charge, to organize the Congregation. The said meeting may proceed to effect an organization, subject to the approval of the said Bishop and Council of Advice and in conformity to such regulations as the said Council of Advice may provide.

(d) Before being taken under the direction of the Provincial Synod of this Church, such Congregation shall be required, in its Constitution, or Plan, or Articles of Organization, to recognize and accede to the Constitution, Canons, Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and to agree to submit to and obey such directions as may be, from time to time, received from the Bishop in charge and Council of Advice.

(e) The desire of such Congregation to be taken under the direction of the Provincial Synod shall be duly certified by the Minister, one Warden, and two Vestrymen or Trustees of said Congregation, duly elected.

(f) Such certificate, and the Constitution, Plan, or Articles of Organization, shall be submitted to the Provincial Synod, if it be in session, or to the Presiding Bishop at any other time; and in case the same are found satisfactory, the Secretary of the Provincial Synod, under written instruction from the Presiding Bishop, shall thereupon place the name of the Congregation on the list of Congregations in foreign lands under the direction of the Provincial Synod; and a certificate of the said official action shall be forwarded to and filed by the Registrar of this Church. Such Congregations are placed under the government and jurisdiction of the Presiding Bishop.

(g) The Presiding Bishop may, from time to time, by written commission under his own signature and seal, assign to any other Bishop of this Church, having a seat and vote in the House of Bishops, the full charge of one or more of such Congregations, and the Ministers officiating therein, for such period of time as he may deem expedient, not exceeding three years; *Provided*, that should such term expire in a year during which a Provincial Synod is to be held, prior to said Synod, the commission may be extended until the adjournment of the Synod.

(h) Nothing in this Canon is to be construed as preventing the election of a Bishop to have charge of such Congregations under the provision of Canon 12.

(i) To aid the Presiding Bishop or the Bishop in charge of these foreign Churches, in administering the affairs of the same, and in settling such questions as may, by means of their peculiar situation, arise, a Council of Advice, consisting of four Clergymen and four Laymen, shall be constituted as follows, and shall act as a Council of Advice to the Bishop in charge of the foreign Churches. They shall be chosen annually until their successors are chosen, by a Convocation duly convened, of all the Clergy of the foreign Churches or Chapels, and one Lay representatives of each Church or Chapel, chosen by its Vestry or Committee. The Council of Advice shall be convened on the requisition of the Bishop whenever he may desire their advice, and they may meet of their own accord and agreeably to their own rules when they may wish to advise the Bishop. When a meeting is not practicable, the Bishop may ascertain their mind by letter.

It shall be lawful for the Presiding Bishop at any time to authorize by writing under his hand and seal the Council of Advice to act as the Ecclesiastical Authority.

(j) In case a Minister in charge of a Congregation in a foreign land shall be accused of any offense under the Canons of this Church, it shall be the duty of the Bishop in charge of such Congregation to summon the Council of Advice, and cause an inquiry to be instituted as to the truth of such accusation; and should there be reasonable grounds for believing the same to be true, the said Bishop and the Council of Advice shall appoint a Commission, consisting of three Ministers and two Laymen, whose duty it shall be to meet in the place where the accused resides, and to obtain all the evidence in the case from the parties interested; they shall give to the accused all rights under the Canons of this Church which can be exercised in a foreign land. The judgment of the said Commission, solemnly made, shall then be sent to the Bishop in charge, and to the

Presiding Bishop, and, if approved by them, shall be carried into effect; Provided, that no such Commission shall recommend any other discipline than admonition or removal from his charge as Minister of said Congregation. Should the result of the inquiry of the aforesaid Commission reveal evidence tending, in their judgment, to show that said Minister deserves a severer discipline, all the documents in the case shall be placed in the hands of the Presiding Bishop, who may proceed against the said Minister, as far as possible, according to the Canons of the Provincial Synod, and the Canons of the Diocese of the Presiding Bishop.

(k) If there be a Congregation within the limits of any city in a foreign land, no new Congregation shall be established in that city, except with the consent of the Bishop in charge and the Council of Advice.

(l) In cases of a difference between the Minister and a Congregation in a foreign land, the Bishop in charge shall duly examine the same, and the said Bishop shall, with the Council of Advice, have full power to settle and adjust such difference upon principles recognized in the Canons of the Provincial Synod.

(m) No Minister shall be allowed to take charge of a Congregation in a foreign land, organized under this Canon, until he shall have been nominated by the Vestry thereof, or, if there be no Vestry, by the Council of Advice, and approved by the Bishop in charge, and when such appointment shall have been accepted by the Minister so appointed, he shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Presiding Bishop.

Canon 49 *Of Parish Vestries*

Section 1 In every Parish of this Church the number, mode of election, and term of office of Wardens and Vestrymen, with the qualification of voters, shall be such as the State or Diocesan Law may permit or require, and as required by the By-Laws of the Parish. The Wardens and Vestrymen elected under such law shall hold office until their successors are elected and have qualified.

Section 2 Except as provided by the law of the State or of the Diocese, the Vestry shall be agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property and the relations of the Parish to its Clergy.

Section 3 The Rector, when present, shall preside in all the meetings of the Vestry.

Section 4 All Vestry Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the laws of the State of incorporation.

Canon 50 *Of the Provincial Council*

Section 1 The Presiding Bishop and the Provincial Council as hereinafter constituted, shall have charge of the unification, development and prosecution of the Missionary, Educational and Social Work of the Church, of which work the Presiding Bishop shall be the executive and administrative head.

Section 2 (a) The Provincial Council, herein referred to as the Council, shall be composed as follows: The Presiding Bishop, the Secretary of Provincial Synod, the Treasurer of Provincial Synod, one Bishop elected by the House of Bishops, two Presbyters elected by the House of Clergy, four Laymen elected by the House of Laity, and Diocesan members as provided in Section 2 (a) (2) below.

(1) The following members shall be chosen at Provincial Synod:

(a) One Bishop elected by the House of Bishops, from among its members at each triennial meeting of Provincial Synod, to a term of office of three years;

(b) One Presbyter elected by the House of Clergy, from among its members at each triennial meeting of Provincial Synod, to a term of office of six years; and

(c) Two Laymen elected by the House of Laity, from among its members at each triennial meeting of Provincial Synod, to a term of office of six years.

(d) At the Provincial Synod of 1998, the selection of the Council members at Provincial Synod shall be as follows: one Bishop, one Presbyter, and two Laymen elected for terms of two years, and one Presbyter and two Laymen elected for terms of four years. These elections shall be by Orders, within the respective Houses.

(2) Each Diocesan Synod and each Convocation of a Missionary District shall have the right to choose one person to membership on the Council, subject to rules agreeable to the Synod or Convocation. Such selection shall take place in the meeting of the Synod or Convocation in its last meeting preceding the triennial meeting of Provincial Synod. The

term of office for such members of the Council shall be three years.

(3) The Presiding Bishop, the Secretary of Provincial Synod, and the Treasurer of Provincial Synod shall be members *ex officio* of the Council. The Presiding Bishop, when present, shall always preside at meetings of the Council.

(b) The term of office of the members of the Council shall commence on the first day after each regular triennial meeting of the Provincial Synod and they shall remain in office until their duly elected successors are chosen and are entitled to assume their offices. Should any vacancy occur through the death or resignation of a member elected at the Provincial Synod, the Council shall fill such vacancy from among the members of the respective House from which such vacancy occurred.

(c) The Council shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by Canon, and such further powers as may be designated by the Provincial Synod. It may, subject to the provisions of this Canon, enact By-laws for its own government and the government of its several departments.

(d) The Council, as soon as practicable after the close of each fiscal year, shall prepare a full report of its work to be presented to the Church. Such report shall contain an itemized statement of all disbursements and a statement of all trust funds and other properties in its possession or under its control. A like report shall also be made to include a detailed schedule of the salaries paid to all officers, agents and principal employees. Presentation of said reports to the Provincial Synod during its regular triennial meeting shall satisfy the requirement to present the reports to the Church in the triennial meeting year only.

(e) Members of the Provincial Council shall have seat, voice, and vote at any meeting of Provincial Synod.

Section 3 (a) The Council shall meet with the Presiding Bishop at such place, and at such stated times, at least one time each year, as it, with his concurrence, shall appoint, and at such other times as it may be convened. The Council shall be convened at the written request of any five members thereof.

(b) Four elected members of the Council shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Council; *Provided, however,* proper notification having been given to all members.

Section 4 Upon the adoption by the Provincial Synod of a program and plan of apportionment for the ensuing triennium, the Council shall formally advise each Diocese and Domestic Missionary District with respect to its proportionate part of the estimated expenditure involved in the execution of the program in accordance with the plan of apportionment adopted by the Provincial Synod. Such quotas shall be determined by the Council upon an equitable basis.

Section 5 (a) Every Missionary Bishop, or in case of a vacancy, the Bishop in charge of the District, receiving aid from the Province shall report at the close of each fiscal year to the Council, giving account of his work, of money received from all sources and disbursed for all purposes, and of the state of the Church in his District at the date of such report, all in such form as the Council may prescribe.

(b) Every Bishop of a Diocese receiving aid from the Council shall report at the close of each fiscal year to the Council giving account of the work in his Diocese supported in whole or in part by the Council

Section 6 No person shall, under any power or authority delegated by this or any other Canon, be appointed a Missionary who is not at the time a Minister or a member of this Church, or of some Church in communion with this Church, in regular standing; *Provided, however,* that at the request of the Bishop of a Diocese or Missionary District, other persons not so qualified may be employed for work not directly religious.

TITLE V
CANONICAL LEGISLATION

Canon 51
Of Repealed Canons

Whenever there shall be a repealing clause in any Canon, and the said Canon shall be repealed, such repeal shall not be a re-enactment of the Canon or Canons repealed by the said repealing clause.

Canon 52
Of the Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal of Canons

Section 1 In all cases of future enactment, the same, if by the way of amendment of an existing provision shall be in the following form:

Canon_____, Section_____, Clause_____, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:_____.

And if the enactment is of an additional Clause, Section, or Canon, it shall be designated as the next Canon or next Section, or next Clause of a Canon or Section; and if a Canon or Section or Clause be stricken out, the existing numbering shall be retained until a new edition of the Canon be directed, or until changed as in the next Section provided.

Section 2 At each regular meeting of the Provincial Synod, the House of Clergy shall appoint two of their number and the House of Laity shall appoint two of their number to certify the changes, if any, made in the Canons, including a correction of the references made in any Canon to another, and to report the said certified copy of changes, with the proper arrangement thereof, to the Secretary, who shall print the same in the Journal. Such certifications and corrections shall be completed within three months of the close of Provincial Synod.

Canon 53
Of the Time of New Canons Taking Effect

All Canons hereafter enacted, unless otherwise specially ordered, shall take effect upon the close of the Provincial Synod at which they were made.

Canon 54
Of the Time of These Canons Taking Effect

These Canons, except as otherwise provided, shall take effect upon the close of Provincial Synod, in the year of our Lord, 1998; from and after which day all other Canons of this Church are hereby and shall be deemed to be repealed; *Provided*, that such repeal shall not affect any case of a violation of existing Canons committed before that date; but such case shall be governed by the same law as if no such repeal had taken place.