



144th Annual Synod in Special Session

Constitution and Canons

Revisions



Constitution and Canons

Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Present the results of the Committee's work to date
- Lay out the plan going forward
- Give you all a "homework" assignment



Constitution and Canons

Background:

- Current version is wordy, not easily followed, and mixes content between the two documents.
- Several items needed to be rewritten or clarified based on court cases and recent experiences.
- This effort was recommended by our Chancellor, the Hon. Tad Brenner.
- It was decided that rather than piecemeal revisions and addendums, we would do a wholesale re-write of both the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese.



Constitution and Canons

- Constitution

- Requires vote and approval at two consecutive Synods.
 - Can be either Annual Synod or Special Session
- The Committee focused on Constitution in order to be ready for first reading and approval at last fall's Synod.
 - Due to continuing review by Chancellor, we postponed to a special session of Synod this spring.

- Canons

- Requires vote and approval at one Synod.
- Considerably more complicated.
- The Committee is diligently working on them.
- Plan is to present to Synod this fall.



Constitution and Canons

Ground Rules:

- Simplify and Clarify
 - Use plain English rather than “Church Speak” and “Legalese” wherever possible.
 - Reduce or eliminate repetition and/or conflicts.
- Constitution:
 - Structural: Who we are and how we operate.
- Canons:
 - Procedural: Rules and procedures.



Constitution and Canons

The Constitution as Presented:

- A Committee was formed and met weekly over a course of a year.
- Review of ACNA Constitution, as well as those of the Dioceses of Ft. Worth and San Joaquin.
- Prepared a Constitutional revision which is consistent with Province in form, yet distinctly Quincy's in substance.
- This took hundreds of hours of work, review, and coordination.
- Everything presented was done with a purpose.



Constitution and Canons

The Committee:

Chair -

The Rev. Dcn. Henry Carpenter, Esq.

Members -

The Very Rev. Cn. James Fosdick, SSC

The Very Rev. William Anderson, SSC

The Very Rev. Andy Ainley (partial year)

The Very Rev. J. Payton Wieland

The Rev. Cn. Dcn. Marti Isler

The Rev. Dcn. K. Krewer, Esq.

The Rev. Cn. Eric Raskopf, Esq. (partial year)

Consultants -

The Rt. Rev. J. Alberto Morales, OSB

The Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman, SSC

The Rt. Rev. Abbot Luis Gonzalez, OSB



Constitution and Canons

The Path Forward

- Clergy and Synod Deputations review and submit comments and questions in writing (two weeks)
- Committee will review, discuss, and incorporate as deemed appropriate.
- “Final” Draft will be posted on web page
- Date for Special Session of Synod will be determined
 - By Canon, there will be a minimum 30 day notice
- Deanery Meetings will be held for last round of discussion
- The Committee will prepare a final-final document, and a Synod resolution.



Constitution and Canons

The Constitution

- Proposed Revision is posted on the Diocesan Web Page
 - <https://www.dioceseofquincy.org/canons-constitutions-and-customary.html>

About the Special Session of Synod

- Will be virtual (details TBD)
- As we did not adjourn October session, prefer keeping previously certified deputies where possible.
 - Corrections or replacements should be submitted to the Secretary of Synod
- Voting by orders will open after the session, with a two-day window to cast votes.
- Results of vote will be publicized by diocesan email as soon as certified.



Constitution and Canons

The Constitution

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Your Homework Assignment

- Read the Constitution, and Make Copies available to your Deputies
- Discuss with your Synod Deputies
- Gather comments and questions, and send to the Secretary of Synod no later than Saturday, March 27 (Two weeks from today)
 - Primarily desire input on errors and omissions (did we miss something?)
- Submit all questions and comments to:

secretaryofsynod@dioceseofquincy.org