

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Archdeacon

A priest appointed by the bishop to assist with the supervision of parishes in the management of the diocese. Archdeacons serve on the Bishop's Advisory Committee and play an important role in the appointment of clergy. There are three archdeacons in the Diocese of Ontario who live in and represent a different territory or region.

Bishop

The bishop is the leader of the diocese and the link between the diocese and other levels (diocesan, provincial, national, and worldwide) of the Anglican Communion.

Bishop, Assistant

A bishop appointed by the diocesan bishop to assist in diocesan duties and functions but without jurisdiction or right of succession.

Bishop, Coadjutor

A bishop elected by the Diocesan Synod to assist the bishop. A coadjutor bishop has the right of succession.

Bishop, Suffragan

A bishop elected by the Diocesan Synod to assist the bishop with no right of succession.

Bishop's Commissary

A priest appointed by the bishop to perform the duties and administrative functions of the bishop during his or her absence or illness.

Canon

A decree or law of the Church passed by the Synod.

Canon

An honorary title bestowed by the bishop on clergy or lay people for distinguished service.

Chancellor

A judge or barrister, active or retired, appointed by the bishop to advise on legal and other matters. The chancellor is member of the church in this diocese.

Convening Circular

A package sent to the members of Synod before a meeting that includes information about all the business to be conducted.

Deanery

A deanery is a group of parishes within the diocese organized by region for administrative purposes and mutual assistance. There are four deaneries in the Diocese of Ontario: Leeds-Grenville, Frontenac, Quinte, and Hastings. Each deanery is led by a Regional Dean appointed by the bishop.

Deacon, Transitional

A transitional deacon is a person ordained as a deacon with the intention of becoming a priest.

Deacon, Vocational

A vocational deacon is ordained with the intention of continuing as a deacon. The role of a vocational deacon is to represent the church in the world.

Diocesan Synod

Synod is the diocesan governing body made up of all the licensed clergy as well as lay members selected by their parishes. Synod meets at least once every two years to oversee all areas of diocesan life, including ministry and mission, finances, and canons. Between sessions of the Synod, the work of the diocese is conducted by Synod Council.

Diocese

The Anglican Church of Canada is divided into thirty dioceses under the jurisdiction and pastoral care of a bishop. The Diocese of Ontario includes the five counties of Prince Edward, Hastings, Lennox and Addington, Frontenac, and Leeds-Grenville.

Ecclesiastical Province

Dioceses are grouped into larger regions or provinces. The provinces do not coincide with civic boundaries. In Canada, there are four ecclesiastical provinces. The Diocese of Ontario belongs to the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, which includes seven dioceses in all.

Layreader

A member of the church who has completed training and who is licensed by the bishop to assist or lead in parts of worship that do not require the leadership of clergy.

Letters Bene Decessit

A formal letter given by the bishop to a priest or deacon in good standing who is transferring to another diocese.

Orders

Refers to membership in the Synod according to the Order of Bishops, the Order of Clergy, and the Order of Laity.

Metropolitan

An archbishop who has jurisdiction and pastoral oversight over an ecclesiastical province.

Parish

A defined area within a diocese that includes one or more congregations under one incumbent.

Primate

An archbishop who serves as the President of the General Synod, chair of the House of Bishops, and senior metropolitan of the church.

Regulation

A regulation is a rule that can be developed or amended by Synod Council. A canon, on the other hand, can only be added, deleted, or amended at a meeting of the Synod.

Synod Council

Synod Council is a group of elected, appointed, and ex-officio members who meet regularly to ensure that the directions of Synod are carried out.

Vestry

The vestry includes everyone in a parish who is entitled to vote at vestry meetings. Members of the vestry belong to the Anglican Church of Canada, regularly attend worship in that parish, and are sixteen years or older.