



The Constitution and Canons  
of the  
Missionary Diocese of All Saints

*Adopted at the Inaugural Synod - April 27, 2011 - Ocean City, Maryland*

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**CONSTITUTION**  
**of the**  
**MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF ALL SAINTS**

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**PREAMBLE**

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In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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We, the Bishops, Priests and Deacons, and Laity of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints, now assembled in Synod, make the following Solemn Declaration: We declare this Diocese to be a mission of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church established to fulfill, through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, the Great Commission and Great Commandment of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We hold the one Faith revealed by God and defined in the Creeds of 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 who believe, to guide them into all truth. We are determined by the help of God to hold and maintain the Doctrine, Sacraments, Worship, and Discipline of Christ as the Lord has commanded in His Holy Word, and as the Church planted by God in this nation has received and set forth in her several Books of Common Prayer, and to transmit the same unimpaired to our posterity.

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We uphold the Evangelical Faith and Catholic Order which is the inheritance of the Anglican Way.

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Our fellowship works, prays, and witnesses for reform and renewal of the Church with no compromise of truth and no limitation of love. Our fellowship includes faithful Anglicans spanning many parishes, convocations, societies and structures with the mission to witness to the faith and order of the undivided Church.

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To that end, therefore, we do ordain and establish this Constitution of the Church in the Missionary Diocese of All Saints.

1 **ARTICLE 1**

2 **ANGLICAN IDENTITY**

3 **Section 1.** The Missionary Diocese of All Saints (*hereinafter MDAS*) is a Diocese of the Anglican  
4 Church in North America (*hereinafter ACNA*), a Fellowship within the One Holy Catholic and  
5 Apostolic Church, consisting of those duly constituted Dioceses, Clusters, Networks in communion  
6 with its Archbishop and such Anglican Provinces that have recognized the ACNA as, upholding  
7 and propagating the historic Faith and Order as set forth in the Old and New Testaments and  
8 expressed in the Book of Common Prayer.

9 **Section 2.** We affirm the Declaration of Common Faith and Purpose of Forward in Faith North  
10 America (which is appended to the Constitution and Canons of the MDAS), the Global Anglican  
11 Future Conference (GAFCON) Statement, the Jerusalem Declaration issued June 29, 2008, and the  
12 seven elements identified as characteristic of the Anglican Way and essential for membership in  
13 the ACNA, as set forth in Article I of the Constitution of the ACNA. We receive the Thirty-Nine  
14 Articles of Religion of 1571, as expressing the Anglican response to certain doctrinal issues  
15 controverted at that time, and as expressing fundamental principles of authentic Anglican belief.  
16 We also affirm the historic Faith and Order regarding the seven sacraments: Baptism,  
17 Confirmation, Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation, Matrimony, Holy Orders.

18 **Section 3.** We accept the mission of the ACNA as set forth in Article III, Section 1 of the  
19 Constitution of the ACNA and commit to do the work of the ACNA as set forth in Article III,  
20 Section 2 of the Constitution of the ACNA.

21 **Section 4.** The MDAS has no geographical boundaries. Parishes and Missions may be considered  
22 for admission into union with the Diocese upon recommendation of the Bishop and approval of the  
23 Synod, and provided that they meet all other requirements set forth in the Constitution and Canons  
24 of the Diocese.

25 **ARTICLE 2**

26 **DIOCESAN GOVERNANCE**

27 **Section 1.** The authority of the Diocese is vested in and shall be exercised by the Diocesan  
28 Bishop; a Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one; the Suffragan Bishop(s), if there be any; the Diocesan  
29 Synod, and the Standing Committee.

30 **Section 2.** The Bishop is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, and as ordinary he shall have  
31 original jurisdiction in all ecclesiastical causes and in religious or benevolent organizations within  
32 the Diocese, except as shall be reserved by civil or canon law to other authority.

1 **Section 3.** Consistent with canonical and civil law the Bishop shall have the ultimate responsibility  
2 and authority to arbitrate and adjudicate, within the limits of this Constitution and canonical  
3 provisions, all controversies within the Diocese including, but not limited to, disputes between  
4 members of the Clergy, between a Parish or Mission and its governing body (typically the Vestry)  
5 or Rector, or between a Vestry and its Rector.

6 **Section 4.** The Bishop may on occasion authorize a representative or representatives to act in his  
7 stead, provided that such authorization is not in conflict with the Provincial or Diocesan  
8 Constitution and Canons.

9 **Section 5.** In the event of the death of the Diocesan Bishop or his inability to exercise his authority,  
10 then in accordance with the Provincial Canons, that authority shall pass to the Bishop Coadjutor, if  
11 there is one, or the Suffragan Bishop, if there is one canonically authorized to act, or to the  
12 Standing Committee, in that order.

### 13 ARTICLE 3

#### 14 **DIOCESAN SYNOD**

15 The annual Synod of this Diocese shall assemble at a place, time, and date set by the Synod or by  
16 the Bishop and Standing Committee.

17 The Bishop, or a majority of all members of the Standing Committee, may call a special Diocesan  
18 Synod upon thirty (30) days notice thereof. When there is no Bishop, the Standing Committee shall  
19 have power to call a special meeting of the Synod, giving thirty (30) days notice thereof. At this  
20 special meeting of the Synod, the only business to be transacted shall be specified in the call.

21 The Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, Suffragan Bishop(s), Assistant Bishop(s); and all priests and  
22 deacons canonically resident in the Diocese, and not under Ecclesiastical discipline, and who have  
23 not in contemplation of removal from this Diocese, applied for their Letter Dimissory; and Lay  
24 Delegates chosen by and representing their Parishes are members of this Synod.

### 25 ARTICLE 4

#### 26 **QUORUM**

27 At a meeting of the Diocesan Synod a quorum necessary to transact business shall of one-third  
28 (1/3) of the Clergy entitled to seats therein and Lay Delegates from one-third (1/3) of the Parishes  
29 and Missions in union with the Synod; but a smaller number shall have the power to adjourn from  
30 day to day until a quorum is obtained.

1 **ARTICLE 5**

2 **PRESIDENT OF SYNOD**

3 At every meeting of the Synod, the Bishop shall be presiding officer. In the Bishop's absence, or  
4 inability to act, the Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one, shall be presiding officer. In the absence or  
5 inability to act of both the Bishop and the Bishop Coadjutor, the Suffragan Bishops, if there be any,  
6 in the order of seniority within the Diocese shall be presiding officer. In the absence or inability to  
7 act of any Bishop, the President of the Standing Committee shall be presiding officer.

8 **ARTICLE 6**

9 **RULES OF SYNOD**

10 At the meeting of the Synod, the Clergy and Laity shall deliberate as one body. Each bishop, priest  
11 or deacon present and each Lay Delegate present shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Unless a vote by  
12 orders is determined, required or otherwise provided by the Constitution or Canons, a majority of  
13 the aggregate votes shall be decisive. Whenever a vote by orders is determined, required or  
14 otherwise provided, a concurrent majority in both orders shall be necessary. Upon demand of any  
15 seven (7) members of the Synod representing not less than three (3) Parishes or Missions of the  
16 Diocese, the vote shall be taken by orders.

17 The Synod may adopt rules of procedure to regulate and expedite the orderly disposition of its  
18 business, including elections

19 **ARTICLE 7**

20 **THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

21 For purposes of the Standing Committee, the Missionary Diocese of All Saints shall be divided  
22 into three (3) Administrative Regions. These Regions shall be known as "MDAS Convocation of  
23 the East", "MDAS Convocation of the Central United States" and "MDAS Convocation of the  
24 West." Each Region shall elect one Vicar General that shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop  
25 Ordinary. Each region shall also elect in accordance with the Canons of this Diocese one Clergy  
26 and one Lay Person to serve on the Standing Committee.

27 The Standing Committee shall consist of three Vicars General, three Clergy and three Laity from  
28 the Administrative Regions within the Missionary Diocese of All Saints plus the Bishop Ordinary,  
29 any Bishop Coadjutor, any Suffragan Bishops, the Canon Ordinary, the Treasurer, the Secretary, if  
30 he or she be not a member of the Standing Committee, and the Chancellor as chosen in accordance  
31 with the Canons of this Diocese.

32 Lay Persons eligible to serve shall be Confirmed Communicants in good standing in this Diocese  
33 at least eighteen (18) years of age and who shall possess such other qualifications as may be  
34 prescribed by Canon.

1 A Vicar General, once elected, shall serve until he retires or steps down, or until the Bishop  
2 Ordinary decides that a new Vicar General should be elected. The Vicar General shall serve as a  
3 representative of the Bishop in each of the Administrative Regions, shall serve by administering  
4 said Region and shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop Ordinary.

5 When there is a Bishop in charge of the Diocese, the Standing Committee shall be his Council of  
6 Advice. If there be no Bishop canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee shall be the  
7 Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese.

8 Vacancies occurring prior to the expiration of the term of any member of the Standing Committee  
9 shall be filled by the Bishop with the advice of the remaining members of the Standing Committee.

10 Starting in 2020, the Standing Committee shall meet quarterly.

## 11 ARTICLE 8

### 12 **ELECTION OF BISHOPS AND CALLING OF AN ASSISTANT BISHOP**

13 The election of a Bishop, a Bishop Coadjutor, or a Suffragan Bishop for this Diocese shall take  
14 place at a duly called Synod for that purpose. A concurrent majority of the two orders shall be  
15 necessary to a choice if two-thirds (2/3) of all the Clergy entitled to vote and Lay Delegates from  
16 two-thirds (2/3) of the Parishes and Missions entitled to representation are present and voting;  
17 otherwise, two-thirds (2/3) of the votes in each order present shall be necessary to a choice. In any  
18 event, the election may not occur unless a quorum be and remain present.

19 The Bishop may call an Assistant Bishop in accordance with the Constitution and Canons of the  
20 ACNA.

## 21 ARTICLE 9

### 22 **CANONS**

23 Diocesan Canons consistent with this Constitution, and the Constitution and Canons of the ACNA  
24 may be adopted, altered, amended, or repealed by the Diocesan Synod.

1 **ARTICLE 10**

2 **CONSTITUTION AND CANONS OF**

3 **THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA**

4 The Missionary Diocese of All Saints hereby recognizes the authority of the Constitution and  
5 Canons of the Anglican Church of North America as adopted, June 22-23, 2009 in Bedford, Texas.

6 **ARTICLE 11**

7 **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

8 **Section 1.** Any proposed alteration, amendment or repeal of this Constitution shall first be  
9 submitted in writing to the Bishop, and shall be reported by him to the Synod.

10 **Section 2.** If approved by the Synod at its first reading, the proposed amendment shall be published  
11 in the minutes and held until the next Synod. Upon final consideration by the next Synod it shall  
12 be adopted if approved by a majority of both Orders, voting separately.

13 **Section 3.** Amendments to the Constitution shall take effect with the adjournment of the Synod by  
14 which they are finally adopted.

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**We certify that the foregoing is the text of the Constitution of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints of the Anglican Church in North America adopted and ratified with amendments by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting at Ocean City, Maryland, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011.**



The Rt. Rev. William I. Ilgenfritz  
Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints



The Rt. Rev. Richard W. Lipka  
Suffragan Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints

**I certify that the text of the Constitution set out above is the text of the Constitution of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints ratified by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011.**



Mrs. Regina Trollinger  
Acting Secretary

**I certify that the text of the Constitution set out above is the text of the Constitution of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints ratified by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011; and amended at Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March in the Year of our Lord 2017.**



Mrs. Leslie Hanna  
Secretary



1 **CANONS**  
2 **of the**  
3 **MISSIONARY DIOCESE OF ALL SAINTS**

4 **Title I**  
5 **Organization and Administration of the Diocese**

6 *Canon 1*  
7 *Of The Diocese*

8 **Section 1 - Concerning Membership**

9 The Missionary Diocese of All Saints (*hereinafter the MDAS*) is comprised of the parishes,  
10 missions, religious orders, communities, societies, clergy and laity gathered for mission under the  
11 oversight of its Bishop, and are members of the Anglican Church in North America (*hereinafter the*  
12 *ACNA*) a jurisdiction of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

13 **Section 2 - Concerning Membership in Forward in Faith North America**

14 Member parishes, other diocesan organizations or ministries as listed in Section 1 and clergy of the  
15 MDAS shall also be members of Forward in Faith North America (*hereinafter FiFNA*), having  
16 made application and signed the “Declaration of Common Faith and Purpose” (which is appended  
17 to the Constitution and Canons of the MDAS).

18 *Canon 2*  
19 *Of Religious Orders and Other Christian Communities*

20 **Section 1 - Concerning Religious Orders**

21 1. A Religious Order of the MDAS is defined as a society of Christians (Members of  
22 FiFNA) who voluntarily commit themselves for life, or a term of years: to holding their  
23 possessions in common or in trust; to a celibate life in community; and obedience to their Rule and  
24 Constitution.

25 2. To be officially recognized, a Religious Order must have at least six (6) professed  
26 members, and must be approved by the Bishop of the Diocese with the advice and consent of  
27 his Standing Committee.

28 3. Each Order shall have a Bishop Visitor or Protector, who shall not of necessity be the  
29 Bishop of MDAS. If, however, the Bishop Visitor or Protector is not the Bishop of the Diocese in  
30 which the Mother House of the Order is established, he shall not accept election without the  
31 consent of the Bishop of the Diocese. The Bishop Visitor or Protector shall be the guardian of the  
32 Constitution of the Order, and shall serve as an arbiter in matters which the Order or its members  
33 cannot resolve through its normal processes.

1           4. Any persons under vows in a Religious Order, having exhausted the normal processes of  
2 the Order, may petition the Bishop Visitor or Protector for dispensation from those vows. In the  
3 event the petitioner is not satisfied with the ruling of the Bishop Visitor or Protector on such  
4 petition, he may file a petition with the Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints, who shall  
5 have the highest dispensing power for Religious Orders, and his ruling on the petition shall be final.

6           5. A Religious Order may establish a house in a Diocese only with the permission of the  
7 Bishop of the MDAS. This permission once granted shall not be withdrawn by him or any  
8 succeeding Bishop.

9           6. The Constitution of every Religious Order shall make provision for the legal ownership  
10 and administration of the temporal possessions of the Order, and in the event of the dissolution of  
11 the Order, or should it otherwise cease to exist, to provide for the disposition of its assets according  
12 to the laws governing non-profit religious organizations in the State wherein the Order is  
13 incorporated.

14           7. It is recognized that a Religious Order is not a Parish, Mission, Parish or Institution of  
15 the Diocese of MDAS and the canonical provisions thereof shall not apply to Religious Orders,  
16 provided that if the Religious Order includes parishes, missions and/or parishes, by a covenant  
17 between the Diocese and the Order, those parishes, missions and/or parishes so identified shall be  
18 considered parishes, missions and/or parishes in the Diocese, and subject to the canons and other  
19 provisions applying to parishes, missions and/or parishes of the Diocese.

## 20   **Section 2 - Concerning Christian Communities or Societies**

21           1. A Christian Community or Society of the MDAS under this Canon is defined as a  
22 society of Christians (Members of FiFNA) who voluntarily commit themselves for life or a term of  
23 years, in obedience to their Rule and Constitution.

24           2. To be officially recognized such a Christian Community or Society must have at least  
25 six (6) full members in accordance with their Rule and Constitution, and must be approved by the  
26 Bishop of the Diocese with the advice and consent of his Standing Committee.

27           3. Each such Christian Community or Society shall have a Bishop Visitor or Protector,  
28 who shall not necessarily be the Bishop of the Diocese in which the community or society is  
29 established. If, however, the Bishop Visitor or Protector is not the Bishop of the Diocese in which  
30 the Mother House of the Community or Society is established, he shall not accept election without  
31 the consent of the Bishop of the MDAS. The Bishop Visitor or Protector shall be the guardian of  
32 the Constitution of the Community or Society, and shall serve as an arbiter in matters which the  
33 Community or Society, or its members, cannot resolve through its normal processes.

34           4. Any persons under full commitment in such a Christian Community or Society, having  
35 exhausted the normal processes of the Community or Society, may petition the Bishop Visitor or  
36 Protector for dispensation from that full commitment. In the event the petitioner is not satisfied with  
37 the ruling of the Bishop Visitor or Protector on such petition, he may file a petition with the Bishop  
38 of the MDAS, who shall have the highest dispensing power for Christian Communities and  
39 Societies, and his ruling on the petition shall be final.

40           5. Each such Christian Community or Society may establish a house in a Diocese only with  
41 the permission of the Bishop of the MDAS.

42           6. The Constitution of every such Christian Community or Society shall make provision  
43 for the legal ownership and administration of the temporal possessions of the Community or  
44 Society, and in the event of the dissolution of the Community or Society, or should it otherwise

1 cease to exist, to provide for the disposition of its assets according to the laws governing non-profit  
2 religious organizations in the State wherein the Community or Society is incorporated.

3 7. It is recognized that each such Christian Community or Society is not a Parish, Mission,  
4 Parish or Institution of the Diocese of MDAS and the canonical provisions thereof shall not apply  
5 to such Christian Communities or Societies, provided that if the Christian Community or Society  
6 includes parishes, missions and/or parishes, by a covenant between the Diocese and the Christian  
7 Community or Society, those parishes, missions and/or parishes so identified shall be considered  
8 parishes, missions and/or parishes in the Diocese, and subject to the canons and other provisions  
9 applying to parishes, missions and/or parishes of the Diocese.

10 ***Canon 3***  
11 ***Of Diocesan Governance***

12 ***Section 1 - Concerning the Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor***

13 The Bishop of the Diocese or Bishop Coadjutor shall be chosen and elected in conformity with the  
14 Constitution and Canons of the ACNA, by the concurrence of a majority of the clerical and lay  
15 delegates entitled to vote in Diocesan Synod casting votes by Orders. He shall be the chief pastor of  
16 all the members of the Church in this Diocese and the President of the Diocesan Synod. He shall  
17 make or provide for at least one Episcopal visitation to each parish and mission every two years,  
18 shall have the right to summon and attend meetings of parishes and missions within his jurisdiction  
19 and shall be ex officio a member of all diocesan committees and agencies.

20 ***Section 2 - Concerning Bishops Suffragan***

21 Bishops Suffragan may be elected and serve in accordance with the rules established in the  
22 Constitution and Canons of the MDAS and the ACNA.

23 ***Section 3 - Concerning Assistant Bishops***

24 The Bishop of the Diocese may appoint any retired or resigned bishop of this Church or any bishop  
25 without jurisdiction received into membership of this Church, being resident in the Diocese, as an  
26 assistant bishop to perform such episcopal functions as shall be determined by the Bishop.

27 ***Section 4 - Concerning Diocesan Synod***

28 1. The Diocese shall be governed by Synods that meet annually. The Synods shall be on a  
29 three-year cycle. The first and second years shall be years of Regional Synods. The Regional  
30 Synods shall meet separately in the three Administrative Regions, the date and place established by  
31 each Administrative Region. No Regional Synod, however, shall conflict with another Regional  
32 Synod in date, time or place. The Bishop shall attend each Regional Synod if possible. In the third  
33 year, a General Synod shall be held wherein all Administrative Regions shall attend. The General  
34 Synod regularly called shall take place in and shall be hosted by one of the three Administrative  
35 Regions, alternating between the Regions so that each Administrative Region shall host a General  
36 Synod once every nine years. For special reasons at other times at the call of the Bishop and the  
37 Standing Committee, or, during the vacancy of the See, by the Standing Committee, a Special

1 Synod may be called.

2 All Synods shall be comprised of the clergy in good standing and by a minimum of two lay  
3 delegates selected by each parish and mission listed on the most recent Annual Report. Additional  
4 delegates per parish will be entitled based on the number of confirmed adult communicants in good  
5 standing reported on the Annual Parochial Report for the year ending December 31 next preceding  
6 the Diocesan Synod according to the following table:

- 7 101 through 200 - 1 additional delegate
- 8 201 through 300 - 2 additional delegates
- 9 301 through 400 - 3 additional delegates
- 10 401 through 500 - 4 additional delegates
- 11 501 through 600 - 5 additional delegates
- 12 601 through 700 - 6 additional delegates
- 13 701 through 800 - 7 additional delegates
- 14 801 through 900 - 8 additional delegates
- 15 901 through 1000 - 9 additional delegates
- 16 1001 and over - 10 additional delegates

17 2. The selection of the Lay Delegates shall be certified in writing by the Secretary or Clerk  
18 of the Vestry or Rector's Council of the Parish or Mission; but, in the absence of the Secretary or  
19 Clerk, such certificates of selection may be signed by one of the Wardens, or by the Rector or Vicar  
20 of such Parish or Mission. The "Certificate of Election of Lay Delegates" shall show upon its face  
21 that their selection as Delegates has been made pursuant to this Canon.

22 3. Each Parish and Mission shall select Alternate Lay Delegates equal in number to the  
23 number of Lay Delegates to which entitled. In the absence of a Lay Delegate, an Alternate Lay  
24 Delegate from the same Parish or Mission shall have all rights and privileges of a Lay Delegate.  
25 The selection of Alternate Lay Delegates shall be certified in the same manner as provided for Lay  
26 Delegates.

27 4. The manner of selecting Lay Delegates and Alternates is determined by parish or  
28 mission bylaws.

29 5. The Rectors of Parishes and Vicars of Missions shall have authority to fill such  
30 vacancies as may occur in the list of Alternate Lay Delegates between the time of such selection  
31 and any meetings of The Synod.

32 6. Immediately before the meeting of each Synod, the Bishop, or in case of his death or  
33 inability to act, the Standing Committee, shall prepare a list of the Clergy canonically resident in the  
34 Diocese, excluding those who have been suspended from the Ministry. The list shall be filed with  
35 the Secretary of the Synod on the first day of its meeting, and shall be prefixed to the Journal.

36 7. All clergy certified under Sec. 4.6 are voting members of this Synod.

37 8. Minutes of the Diocesan Synod shall be published and distributed to all clergy, parishes  
38 and missions of the Diocese within sixty days of the adjournment of the Synod.

39 9. At any Special, Regional or General Diocesan Synod, proxies and absentee ballots shall  
40 be allowed. Telephone, video and/or other electronic conferencing may also be allowed at any  
41 Special or General Diocesan Synod if the Bishop Ordinary gives his express consent, or, if there be  
42 no Bishop Ordinary, with the express consent of the Standing Committee. Telephone, video, and  
43 other electronic conferencing may also be allowed at any Regional Diocesan Synod with the  
44 express consent of the Vicar General for that particular region. In these cases, those present via  
45 proxy or absentee ballot, or via electronic conferencing will be counted as part of the quorum.

1 **Section 5 - Concerning the Standing Committee**

2 Between Synods, the administrative authority of the Diocese shall reside in the Bishop and the  
3 Standing Committee. The membership of the Standing Committee shall consist of the Bishop; the  
4 Bishop Coadjutor, if there be one; the Bishops Suffragan, if there be any; three Vicars General,  
5 three clergymen and three lay communicants, one from each of the three Administrative Regions of  
6 the Diocese elected by said Region; a Canon Ordinary, a treasurer, a Secretary, if he or she be not a  
7 member of the Standing Committee, and a chancellor, who shall be communicant members of the  
8 Diocese appointed by the Bishop. The Standing Committee shall meet quarterly, or at the call of the  
9 Bishop, or during a vacancy of the See, by the Coadjutor Bishop or the senior Suffragan Bishop or  
10 by the Standing Committee's own resolution. The President of the Standing Committee shall be  
11 elected by that body from among its members who are Priests. The Secretary of the Standing  
12 Committee shall be appointed by the Bishop Ordinary, if there be one, with the advice and consent  
13 of the Standing Committee. But if there be no Bishop Ordinary, the Secretary shall be elected by  
14 said Committee. The members of the Standing Committee shall have seat, voice and vote in the  
15 Special, Regional and General Diocesan Synods. Except for the Vicars General, the elected  
16 members of the Standing Committee shall serve three year terms and may be nominated and serve  
17 for succeeding terms. The Treasurer, Secretary and Chancellor serve three-year terms and may be  
18 appointed by the Bishop for succeeding terms. The Vicars General serve at the pleasure of the  
19 Bishop Ordinary.

20 **Section 6 - Concerning Finance and Budget**

21 1. The Standing Committee, with the assistance of the Finance Committee, shall develop  
22 the program and budget of the Diocese based on commitments of the Parishes, Missions and other  
23 monies raised. The program and budget shall be presented annually to the Diocese for adoption.  
24 The Finance Committee shall consult with any Parish or Mission that is not able to meet the  
25 requested support of the Church.

26 2. The standard of financial support in this Diocese is the biblical tithe.

27 **Section 7 - Concerning Delegates to Provincial Council and Provincial Assembly**

28 1. The Diocesan Standing Committee shall elect one Bishop, one member of the Clergy and  
29 two laypersons to serve as representatives to the Provincial Council of the ACNA. The Diocesan  
30 Standing Committee shall also elect one additional layperson and one additional member of the  
31 clergy as alternates for the Provincial Council to serve if one of the primary representatives cannot  
32 attend. Said Provincial Council representatives shall be elected from candidates proposed by each  
33 of the three Convocations of MDAS. The term of office of the said delegates shall be five years.  
34 The Diocesan Standing Committee may select a replacement to serve for the unexpired term of any  
35 representative who does not serve the full term of office. A retiring representative is eligible for  
36 reelection.

37 2. The Diocesan Standing Committee shall elect two members of the Clergy and two  
38 laypersons as representatives to the Provincial Assembly of the ACNA. The Diocesan Standing  
39 Committee shall also elect one additional layperson and one additional member of the clergy for  
40 each additional one thousand Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) of the Diocese. The Diocesan  
41 Standing Committee shall also elect one youth representative to the Provincial Assembly, in

1 addition to its other representation in the Provincial Assembly. Youth representatives must be at  
2 least sixteen, but not older than twenty-six years of age at the time of the convening of the  
3 Provincial Assembly. The representatives shall serve until their successors are chosen and certified.  
4 Additionally, the Diocesan Standing Committee shall elect one additional layperson, one additional  
5 youth representative and one additional member of the clergy as alternates for the Provincial  
6 Assembly to serve if one of the primary representatives cannot attend. All said Provincial Assembly  
7 representatives shall be elected from candidates proposed by each of the three Convocations of  
8 MDAS. The Bishop(s) of the Diocese shall also serve as Diocesan representative(s) to the  
9 Provincial Assembly.

10 ***Canon 4***  
11 ***Of Parishes and Missions***

12 ***Section 1 - Concerning Parish Mission***

13 The fundamental agency of the mission of the Diocese to extend the Kingdom of God is the local  
14 parish. The chief agents of this mission are the people of God.

15 ***Section 2 - Concerning the Definition of Parish/ Mission***

16 A Parish of the Diocese is defined as having an Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) of 50 and is  
17 financially self-sustaining. A Mission has an ASA less than 50 and may or may not be financially  
18 self-sustaining.

19 ***Section 3 - Concerning Affiliation***

20 Every parish of this Diocese is a member of the ACNA by union with this Diocese.

21 ***Section 4 - Concerning Organization***

22 Every parish shall be established in accordance with the laws of the State or jurisdiction where  
23 situated, shall handle its own finances, and shall carry appropriate insurance coverage for general  
24 liability, officers and directors liability, financial personnel bonding, and fire and other insurance  
25 for damage to improved real property.

26 ***Section 5 - Concerning Parish Clergy***

27 No parish Clergy may serve without being licensed by the diocesan Bishop.

28 ***Section 6 - Concerning Governing Boards***

29 There shall be a governing board of each parish, often known as the vestry, which is chosen and  
30 serves according to applicable laws, diocesan canon, and the parish by-laws. The Presbyter in  
31 charge of the parish shall always be a member of the governing board and its presiding officer  
32 except as provided by diocesan canon. The governing board is responsible for the temporalities of  
33 the parish and, except where otherwise provided by canon, supports the clergy in the spiritual

1 leadership of the parish.

2 **Section 7 - Concerning Property Ownership**

3 All parish property, real and personal, owned by a member parish of the Diocese is and shall be  
4 solely and exclusively owned by the parish and shall not be subject to any trust in favor of the  
5 Diocese or Province or other claim of ownership arising out of the canon law of the ACNA; neither  
6 may this Diocese assert any such claim over the property of any of its parishes without the express  
7 written consent of the parish. Where property is held in a different manner by this Diocese or  
8 grouping, such ownership shall be preserved.

9 **Section 8 - Concerning Church Planting**

10 A parish, with the consent of the Bishop, should plant new churches whenever possible. In such  
11 case the parish shall provide spiritual cover and temporal assistance to the newly planted parish  
12 until it is self-sustaining. A newly planted parish is self-sustaining when it is able to call and  
13 provide for its own Clergy and is acceptable to the Bishop.

14 **Section 9 - Concerning Annual Reports**

15 On or before March 1 of each year the rector and governing board of the parish shall prepare and  
16 forward to the Bishop a report, in a form specified from time to time by the Standing Committee,  
17 reflecting the status and growth of the parish in terms of average Sunday attendance, tithes and  
18 offerings, baptisms, confirmations and receptions, marriages, burials, and other important  
19 categories of information concerning the preceding calendar year, including new initiatives for  
20 mission and ministry.

21 **Section 10 - Concerning Transfer or Withdrawal**

22 Parishes reserve the right to seek transfer between Dioceses of the ACNA with the permission of  
23 the Bishops involved. Parishes also reserve the right to disaffiliate from the MDAS after  
24 consultation with their Bishop. A parish joining or transferring into a Diocese becomes subject to  
25 the constitution and canons of that Diocese.

26 **Section 11 - Concerning Finances**

27 1. The biblical tithe is the minimum standard of giving to support the Mission of the Church, and  
28 should be taught and encouraged at every level in the Diocese.

29 2. Financial responsibility and accountability are the obligations of the Church at every level. The  
30 Diocese, Parishes and Missions shall provide standards for record keeping, audits, insurance,  
31 investments and the bonding of financial officers.

32

33

34

1 **Canon 5**  
2 ***Of the Laity***

3 **Section 1 - *Concerning Membership in the Church***

4 Membership requires that a person has received the Sacrament of Baptism with water in the Name  
5 of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and that such a person be received by a parish  
6 of the MDAS in compliance with the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese. Such a person is a  
7 baptized member of the Church and so recorded in the Parish Register. A confirmed member is a  
8 baptized member who has been confirmed or received by a Bishop of the ACNA and so recorded in  
9 the Parish Register.

10 **Section 2 - *Concerning Ministry***

11 The people of God are the chief agents of the Mission of the Church to extend the Kingdom of God  
12 by so presenting Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit that people everywhere will come to  
13 put their trust in God through Him, know Him as Savior and serve Him as Lord in the fellowship of  
14 the Church. The effective ministry of the Church is the responsibility of the laity no less than it is  
15 the responsibility of Bishops and other Clergy. It is incumbent for every lay member of the Church  
16 to become an effective minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, one who is spiritually qualified,  
17 gifted, called, and mature in the faith. The Diocese may establish standards for the ministry of the  
18 laity.

19 **Section 3 - *Concerning Duties of the Laity***

20 It shall be the duty of every member of the Diocese:

- 21 1. To worship God, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, every Lord's Day in a  
22 Church unless reasonably prevented;
- 23 2. To engage regularly in the reading and study of Holy Scripture and the Doctrine of the  
24 Church as found in Article I of the Constitution of the ACNA;
- 25 3. To observe their baptismal vows, to lead an upright and sober life, and not give scandal  
26 to the Church;
- 27 4. To present their children and those they have led to the Lord for baptism and  
28 confirmation;
- 29 5. To give regular financial support to the Church, with the biblical tithe as the minimum  
30 standard of giving;
- 31 6. To practice forgiveness daily according to our Lord's teaching;
- 32 7. To receive worthily the Sacrament of Holy Communion as often as reasonable;
- 33 8. To observe the feasts and fasts of the Church set forth in the Anglican formularies, as  
34 authorized by the Bishop of the Diocese;
- 35 9. To continue his or her instruction in the Faith so as to remain an effective minister for  
36 the Lord Jesus Christ;
- 37 10. To devote themselves to the ministry of Christ among those who do not know Him,  
38 utilizing the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives them, for the effective extension of Christ's Kingdom.

39 **Section 4 - *Concerning Deaconesses***



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

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

6           3. No one shall be appointed Deaconess until she shall be at least twenty-three years of  
7 age; nor until she shall have laid before the Bishop testimonials certifying that she is a  
8 communicant of this Diocese in good standing, and that she possesses such characteristics as, in the  
9 judgment of the persons testifying, fit her for at least one of the duties above defined. The  
10 testimonial of fitness shall be signed by two Presbyters of this Diocese, and by twelve lay  
11 communicants of the same, six of whom shall be women. The Bishop shall also satisfy himself that  
12 the applicant has had an adequate preparation for her work, both technical and religious, which  
13 preparation shall have covered the period of two years.

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

17           5. When not connected with a Parish, the Deaconess shall be under the direct oversight of  
18 the Bishop of this Diocese or his delegate.

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

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

## 25 **Title II**

### 26 **Worship and the Administration of Sacraments**

27 *(see canons of the ACNA)*

## 28 **Title III**

### 29 **Of Ministers, Their Recruitment, Preparation, Ordination, 30 Office, Practice and Transfer**

31 *(see canons of the ACNA)*

#### 32 **Canon 1**

#### 33 ***Of Holy Orders in the Missionary Diocese of All Saints***

34 The MDAS affirms what traditional Anglicanism has always held, namely the normality of the  
35 threefold pastoral ministry of Bishop, Presbyter and Deacon. Only males may be admitted to the  
36 office of Bishop, Presbyter or Deacon in this Diocese, and allowed to exercise any of these offices,  
37 who have been called, examined, and ordained according to an authorized ordinal of the ACNA, or  
38 ordained in some church whose Orders are recognized and accepted.

1 **TITLE IV**

2 **Ecclesiastical Discipline**

3 *Canon 1*

4 *Ecclesiastical Discipline*

5 All clergy under the authority of the Bishop who exercise ministry in the Diocese shall be subject to  
6 the disciplinary provisions of Title IV of the Provincial Canons and to the provisions of these  
7 Diocesan Canons.

8 *Canon 2*

9 *The Rights of the Respondent*

10 Any member of the clergy against whom disciplinary measures are initiated shall be presumed  
11 innocent until he has been determined guilty according to the provisions and procedures described  
12 herein. All disciplinary procedures shall be undertaken speedily in a manner consistent with  
13 principles of fairness, due process, and natural justice.

14 *Canon 3*

15 *The Canonical Investigator*

16 The Standing Committee of the Diocese shall appoint a canonical investigator to ascertain the merit  
17 of any accusations made against clergy of the Diocese and to make a recommendation to the  
18 Standing Committee as to whether further juridical process should be pursued.

19 *Canon 4*

20 *The Ecclesiastical Trial Court of the Diocese*

21 **Section 1 - Ecclesiastical Trial Court Established, Composition, Number of Members, Mode of**  
22 **Election and Term of Office**

23 There shall be an Ecclesiastical Trial Court (“Court”) of the Diocese consisting of five members  
24 elected by the Synod of the Diocese upon the nomination of the Standing Committee for a term of  
25 three years. Two members shall be chosen from the laity and three from the clergy. No member  
26 may serve more than two consecutive terms. Staggered terms may be provided.

27 **Section 2 - Court Advisor**

28 The Bishop may appoint an attorney at law to advise the Court as to its procedures.

29 **Section 3 - Court Officers and Recorder of Proceedings**

30 The Court shall elect its President and Secretary from its members, and shall appoint a recorder of  
31 proceedings, which recorder may be a court reporting agency not affiliated with the Diocese.

1     **Section 4 - *Quorum and Composition of Court***

2     A panel of no fewer than five members of the Court shall be necessary for the conduct of a trial or  
3     for a judgment. Any panel of the Court shall comprise an odd number of members with one more  
4     clergy than laity.

5     **Section 5 - *Judgment of the Court***

6     An affirmative vote of sixty percent of the members of a panel of the Court shall be required for  
7     any judgment.

8     **Canon 5**  
9     ***The Trial Attorney***

10    The Bishop shall appoint a Trial Attorney who shall have the responsibility of preparing all  
11    presentments and presenting the evidence to the Court.

12    **Canon 6**  
13    ***Attorney for the Respondent***

14    The Respondent shall have the right to an attorney. The Standing Committee may, in its discretion,  
15    authorize the payment in whole or in part of the legal fees incurred by a Respondent.

16    **Canon 7**  
17    ***Court Rules and Procedures***

18    The rules governing proceedings in the Court are set forth in Appendix B to these Diocesan  
19    Canons.

20    **Canon 8**  
21    ***Clergy Under Ecclesiastical Authority in Another Jurisdiction***

22    Regardless of whether any member of the clergy under the authority of the Bishop is also under the  
23    authority of another bishop, whenever it is believed that such a member of the clergy may have  
24    committed a canonical offense in this Diocese, the same shall be reported by the Bishop to the other  
25    bishop or Archbishop who also has ecclesiastical authority over such member of the clergy. Such  
26    member of the clergy shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings in this Diocese in accordance with  
27    Title IV of the Diocesan canons.

28    **Canon 9**  
29    ***Of Sentences***

30    Upon any conviction, the Bishop shall pronounce sentence as outlined in Title IV, Canon 8 of the  
31    Provincial Canons, which shall include the implied authority of the Bishop to prohibit the convicted  
32    member of the clergy from serving in the Diocese.

1 **TITLE V**  
2 **Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal of Canons**

3 *Canon 1*  
4 *Of Enactment, Amendment, and Repeal*

5 **Section 1 - Concerning New Canons**

6 No new canon shall be enacted or existing canon amended or repealed, except by majority vote of  
7 the Standing Committee and ratification of such action by majority vote of the Diocesan Synod.

8 **Section 2 - Concerning the Repealing of Canons**

9 Whenever a canon, which repeals another canon, or part thereof, shall itself be repealed, such  
10 previous canon or part thereof shall not thereby be revived or re-enacted without express provision  
11 to that effect.

12 **Section 3 - Concerning the Form of Amendment**

13 The following form shall be used in all cases of enactment or amendment of existing canons:

14 “Title \_\_, Canon \_\_, Section \_\_ is hereby [enacted] [amended] to read as follows:  
15 [Here insert the new reading].”

16 In the event of the insertion of a new canon, or of a new section or clause in a canon, the numbering  
17 of the canons or divisions of a canon which follow shall be changed accordingly.

18 **Section 4 - Concerning the Form of Repeal**

19 The following form shall be used in all cases for the repeal of a canon:

20 “Title \_\_, Canon \_\_, Section \_\_ [or Canon in its entirety] is hereby repealed.”

21 In the event of the repeal of a canon, or of a section or clause in a canon, the numbering of the  
22 canons or divisions of a canon which follow shall be changed accordingly.

23 **Section 5 - Concerning Effective Dates**

24 Any amendment to these canons, or repeal thereof, shall not become effective until ninety (90) days  
25 following ratification by the Diocesan Synod. In the case of the adoption of the initial set of canons  
26 by the inaugural Synod, such canons shall become effective immediately upon their ratification by  
27 majority vote of the Synod.

**We certify that the foregoing is the text of the Canons of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints of the Anglican Church in North America adopted and ratified with amendments by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting at Ocean City, Maryland, on the 27th day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011.**



The Rt. Rev. William I. Ilgenfritz  
Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints



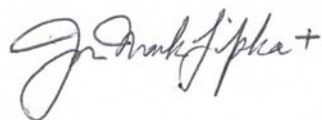
The Rt. Rev. Richard W. Lipka  
Suffragan Bishop of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints

**I certify that the foregoing is the text of the Canons of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints of the Anglican Church in North America adopted and ratified with amendments by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting at Ocean City, Maryland, on the 27th day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011.**



Mrs. Regina Trollinger  
Secretary

**I certify that the text of these Canons set out above is the text of the Canons of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints ratified by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 27th day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011; and amended at Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Belleville, Illinois on the 20th day of July in the Year of our Lord 2013.**



The Ven. Jon Mark Lipka  
Secretary

**I certify that the text of these Canons set out above is the text of the Canons of the Missionary Diocese of All Saints ratified by the Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the Year of our Lord 2011; and amended at Diocesan Synod at its meeting in Ocean City, Maryland on the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> day of March in the Year of our Lord 2017.**



Mrs. Leslie Hanna  
Secretary

1 APPENDIX A

2 **Forward in Faith North America**  
3 **Declaration of Common Faith and Purpose**

4 In the Name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
5 Amen.

6 I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Lay Member/Deacon/Priest/Bishop of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church,  
7 affirm the following so that faithful witness to apostolic Faith and catholic Order may be continued  
8 within the Churches of Anglican heritage:

9 1. I believe our Lord Jesus Christ, has given His Church an Order which claims the loyalty of  
10 faithful Christians above and beyond any deviation sanctioned by any humanly-invented institution,  
11 whether secular or ecclesiastical.

12 2. I accept the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as "containing all things necessary to  
13 salvation," and as being the rule and ultimate standard of faith and morals.

14 3. I accept the Apostles' Creed as the Baptismal Symbol; and the Nicene Creed as the sufficient  
15 statement of the Christian faith.

16 4. I accept the historic episcopate, locally adapted in the methods of its administration to the  
17 varying needs of the nations and peoples called of God into the Unity of His Church. I affirm the  
18 Christian ministerial priesthood as male and that the churches of the Anglican Communion have no  
19 authority to change the historic tradition of the male priesthood. I pray that God grants me the  
20 strength and ability to uphold the Church's Order, both materially and spiritually as concerns the  
21 ministerial priesthood of His holy Church. Accordingly, I will reject any and all actions that might  
22 signify acceptance of a deviation from the Church's Order regarding the Christian ministerial  
23 priesthood.

24 5. I recognize the seven Sacraments ordained of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church -  
25 Baptism and the Supper of the Lord - ministered with unfailing use of Christ's words of institution,  
26 and of the elements ordained by Him, Confirmation, Matrimony, Ordination, Reconciliation of a  
27 Penitent, and Unction of the Sick.

28 6. I believe that, in the Sacrament and mystery of the Holy Eucharist, Jesus Christ is truly, really  
29 and substantially present in the Body and Blood in the outward and visible sign of Bread and Wine.  
30 (cf. 1 Cor. 10:16-17, 11:23-29, John 6:32-71).

31 7. I affirm our Lord's teaching that the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is in its nature the exclusive,  
32 permanent and lifelong union of one man and one woman. I affirm that God created only two  
33 complementary sexes of human beings – male and female. I also affirm that a person's God-given  
34 sex is immutable and therefore, cannot be changed.

1 8. I believe all Seven Councils are ecumenical and catholic on the basis of the received Tradition  
2 of the ancient Undivided Church of East and West.

3 9. I affirm that God, and not man, is the creator of human life. Believing that the unjustified  
4 taking of life is sinful, I will promote and uphold the sanctity of life from conception to natural  
5 death.

6 In making this Declaration, I accept all the responsibilities which pertain to the common witness of  
7 all who participate in this endeavor, and I ask God's blessing upon our labors.



1 APPENDIX B

2 **ECCLESIASTICAL TRIAL COURT RULES OF**  
3 **PROCEDURE**

4 ***Rule 1: Application and Scope of Rules***

5 These Rules govern procedure in the Ecclesiastical Trial Court (the “Court”) in all presentment  
6 actions. They shall be construed and administered to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive  
7 determination of every such action.

8 ***Rule 2: Institution of Presentment Action***

9 (a) **Form.** A presentment proceeding authorized by the Court shall be instituted  
10 by the service of a Summons, together with a copy of the Articles of Presentment. The  
11 Summons and Articles of Presentment shall be signed by the President of the Court, identify  
12 the Court and all the parties to the proceeding, be directed to the Respondent and state the name  
13 and address of the Trial Attorney representing the Diocese. It shall state the time within which  
14 the Respondent must file with the Court an Answer to the Articles of Presentment, and notify  
15 the Respondent that failure to do so may result in a Judgment that an Offense was committed  
16 by the Respondent and place the Respondent at risk for a Sentence to be pronounced at a later  
17 date. The Court may allow the Summons to be amended.

18 (b) **Service.** The service of the Summons and Articles of Presentment shall be made  
19 either by hand or certified mail with return receipt. The Respondent may waive personal service  
20 in writing.

21 (c) **Proof of Service.** The person effecting service of the Summons and Articles of  
22 Presentment shall make proof of service by affidavit or sworn statement to the Court. If service is  
23 waived, the written waiver of service shall be filed with the Court.

24 ***Rule 3: Service and Filing of Pleadings and Other Papers***

25 Except as otherwise expressly provided in these Rules, every pleading, paper, motion and notice  
26 subsequent to the Summons and Articles of Presentment required to be served on a party shall be  
27 served upon either the party or the attorney that enters an appearance for the party, unless otherwise  
28 ordered by the Court. Service shall be made by hand delivering a copy to the party or the party’s  
29 attorney or by mailing it to the party’s or the attorney’s last known address. Service by mail is  
30 complete upon mailing. The filing of papers with the Court shall be made by filing them with the  
31 President of the Court unless otherwise directed by the Court. The parties may by agreement  
32 approved by the Court also provide for service by other means such as electronic mail and/or  
33 facsimile transmission.

1 **Rule 4: General Rules of Pleading**

2 (a) **Articles of Presentment.** The Articles of Presentment shall contain a short and  
3 plain statement of each Offense with express reference to applicable provisions of Canon 2 of Title  
4 IV of the Canons of the Province, and a plain and concise statement of the facts upon which each  
5 such allegation is made.

6 (b) **Answer.** The Answer shall state in short and plain terms the Respondent's  
7 response to each allegation of the Articles of Presentment, including any defense thereto, and shall  
8 admit or deny the factual allegations of the Articles of Presentment. If the Respondent is without  
9 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of any factual allegation, the  
10 Respondent shall so state and this has the effect of a denial. Denials may also be made in part or  
11 with qualification.

12 (c) **Style.** Pleadings are to be plain and concise. No technical forms of pleadings or  
13 motions are required.

14 (d) **Construction.** All pleadings shall be so construed as to do substantial justice.

15 (e) **Form of Pleadings.** Every pleading shall identify the name of the Court, name  
16 of the Respondent, and file number, if any. All allegations in the Articles of Presentment and the  
17 Answer thereto shall be made in separately numbered paragraphs. Exhibits may be attached and  
18 identified by reference within the pleading.

19 (f) **Signature.** All pleadings shall be signed by the attorney for the party on whose  
20 behalf it has been prepared, or the party if not represented by an attorney. Each paper shall state the  
21 signer's address and telephone number.

22 **Rule 5: Defenses and Objections**

23 (a) **When Presented.** Unless a different time period is prescribed, a Respondent  
24 shall serve an Answer to the Articles of Presentment upon the Trial Attorney and file it with the  
25 Court within 30 days after being served with a Summons and Articles of Presentment.

26 (b) **How Presented.** The following defenses may be asserted either in the Answer  
27 or by motion: (1) insufficiency of service or process; (2) lack of jurisdiction; (3) failure to state the  
28 factual basis of an Offense; and (4) expiration of the applicable period of limitations as stated in  
29 Canon 3 of Title IV of the Canons of the Province. The Respondent may also move for a more  
30 definite statement before filing an Answer if the Articles of Presentment are so vague or ambiguous  
31 that Respondent cannot reasonably be required to frame a responsive pleading.

32 **Rule 6: Amended and Supplemental Pleadings**

33 The Court may, in the interest of justice, permit the filing of amended and supplemental pleadings.

34 **Rule 7: Voluntary Disclosures, Discovery**

35 (a) **Voluntary Disclosures.** The parties shall provide to each other and the Court  
36 not later than sixty days prior to trial a list of all the witnesses expected to testify at trial, including  
37 the name and address of each witness; and copies of all documents and exhibits intended for use at  
38 trial.

1           **(b)** The parties may conduct discovery through written or oral depositions or  
2 written interrogatories. The Court may limit the number, length and scope of depositions or  
3 interrogatories. The Respondent shall not be required to make any statement or admission against  
4 himself in any discovery procedure.

5           ***Rule 8: Taking of Testimony***

6           In all Court proceedings, the testimony of witnesses shall be taken orally in open Court by the  
7 Recorder of proceedings, unless otherwise provided by the Court. Such testimony shall be given  
8 under oath or solemn affirmation.

9           ***Rule 9: Summary Judgment of Offense***

10           **(a) How Made.** If the Respondent fails or refuses to Answer the Articles of  
11 Presentment or otherwise respond by motion, except for reasonable cause to be allowed by the  
12 Court, the Trial Attorney may, no sooner than thirty days after the Answer is due, move with or  
13 without supporting affidavits for Summary Judgment. A Respondent may also move, with or  
14 without supporting affidavits, for Summary Judgment on part or all of the allegations of the Articles  
15 of Presentment.

16           **(b) Opposing Affidavits.** Prior to the day of any hearing set by the Court on a  
17 Motion for Summary Judgment, the Respondent may submit affidavits in support of his response to  
18 the Motion.

19           **(c) Proceedings Thereon.** The court shall convene a hearing to consider any  
20 Motion for Summary Judgment and may, in the Court's discretion, receive oral testimony at any  
21 such hearing. If the Articles of Presentment, together with affidavits, if any, and any oral testimony  
22 or other admissible evidence presented to the Court show that there is no genuine issue as to any  
23 fact material to a determination that the Respondent committed an Offense, the Court shall render  
24 Summary Judgment as sought by the Motion for Summary Judgment.

25           **(d) Form of Affidavits.** Supporting and opposing affidavits, and any oral  
26 testimony, shall be made on the basis of personal knowledge, shall state such facts as would be  
27 admissible in evidence, and shall show affirmatively that the affiant is competent to testify as to the  
28 matters stated. Copies of papers referred to in an affidavit shall be attached to and served with the  
29 affidavit.

30           **(e) Defense Required.** When a motion is made and supported as provided in this  
31 rule, the opposing party may not rest upon mere allegations or denials of the adverse party's  
32 pleading but must, by affidavits or otherwise provided in this rule, set forth specific facts to show  
33 that there is a genuine issue for trial.

34           ***Rule 10: Trials***

35           Each Respondent is entitled to a speedy and just trial of the allegations set forth in the Articles of  
36 Presentment. Each Respondent is entitled to confront the evidence against him. The facts alleged in  
37 the Articles of Presentment must be proved by clear and convincing evidence and the Diocese  
38 bears the burden of going forward and of proof as to each and every allegation in the Articles of  
39 Presentment. Trials shall be governed by the Federal Rules of Evidence and, where applicable

1 under those rules, the rules of evidence of the state in which the Diocese has its principal office.

2 ***Rule 11: Judgment***

3 The Court shall render its Judgment no later than sixty days after the date of the conclusion of the  
4 hearing upon a Motion for Summary Judgment or trial.