

**CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: Congregations, Diocese, & Province** (revised 10-5-23)

ANGLICANISM HAS A SYNODICAL, NOT PAPAL MODEL


THE BUCK STOPS WITH EACH DIOCESAN BISHOP

BISHOPS ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE BY FELLOW BISHOPS

ARCHBISHOPS HAVE LIMITED AUTHORITY BEYOND SIMPLY BEING THE CHAIR OF A PROVINCE’S BISHOPS AND REPRESENTING THEIR COLLECTIVE DECISIONS

**Congregations<sup>1</sup>**

The governing documents of a congregation are the bylaws (a copy is available upon request).

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|  <p><b>Saint Matthias Anglican Church</b><br/>www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com</p>  |                   |   |   |
| <p><i>The founding of St. Matthias in Oakdale dates back to 1884. It was officially recognized by the Episcopal Diocese of California in 1887. In those early years, services were held in various locations, including the back of a saloon and was initially served by The Rev D.O. Parker who would walk from Sonora. A permanent home was built in 1905 and consecrated by Bishop Nichols in 1907. For a history of the parish put together in celebration of its centennial history in 1987, visit <a href="http://www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/centennialhistory">www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/centennialhistory</a></i></p> |                   |   |   |
| <p><b>PARISH</b><br/>- a congregation in union with the Diocese</p>  | Rector            | The priest who is responsible for the conduct of worship and the spiritual jurisdiction of the Parish. President of the Vestry. | Elected by Vestry. Installed by Bishop (BCP p. 515).<br><a href="#">Currently Fr John Roberts</a>               |
|  | Vestry            | Manages the material affairs of the Parish. A minimum of 5 lay members + the Rector.  | Confirmed Communicants in good standing*, elected by People at Annual Meeting (in January), approved by Bishop. |
|  | Senior Warden     | Supports and advocates on behalf of Rector. President of Vestry in absence of Rector.   | Vestry Member appointed each year by the Rector<br><a href="#">Currently Barbara Cortese</a>                    |
|  | Junior Warden     | Advocates on behalf of Laypeople. Often also manages the buildings and grounds.   | Vestry Member elected each year by the Vestry<br><a href="#">Currently Larry Johnson</a>                        |
|  | Clerk (Secretary) | An officer not required to be a member of the vestry.   | Elected each year by the Vestry<br><a href="#">Currently Josette Adams</a>                                      |
|  | Treasurer         | An officer not required to be a member of the vestry.   | Elected each year by the Vestry<br><a href="#">Currently Traci Yazembiak</a>                                    |

<sup>1</sup> Prior to 2018, there was a distinction in the Diocese of San Joaquin between Parishes and Missions, with parishes being able to self-support, including a full time priest, and missions being unable to do so. Now that this distinction is dissolved, all congregations function as parishes and use “parish terminology” whether they can afford a full-time clergy person or not. Under the previous model, the rector of a Mission was the Bishop, if there was a priest in charge, they were called a “vicar”, the Vestry was called a “Bishop’s Committee”, and the Sr Warden was called a “Bishop’s Warden”.

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| <b>CATHEDRAL</b> - official Church of the Diocesan Bishop | Bishop  | Chief Pastor of the Cathedral.<br>President of the Chapter.<br>Nominates Dean.         |  |
|   | Dean    | Resident Clergyman at the Cathedral. The cure of souls for the Cathedral Congregation. | Nominated by Bishop and elected by the Chapter       |
|   | Chapter | Manages the material affairs of the Cathedral. Elects Dean from Bishop's nomination.   | Bishop + Dean + Diocesan Chancellor + 12 lay members |

*At this time, the Diocese of San Joaquin, unusually, is in a season of transition concerning its Cathedral at this time. The former Cathedral congregation, St James, merged two years ago with the Hispanic congregation, Our Lady of Guadalupe, to form Emmanuel Anglican Church, but they have only recently acquired their own property that might become the 'cathedral'.*

## Deanery

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| A deanery is a group of parishes and/or missions within the Diocese | There are four Deaneries in the Diocese of San Joaquin <sup>2</sup> | <a href="#">St Matthias is in the Northern Deanery. There is also the Central, Southern, and East-West</a> |
| Rural Dean  | President of Rural Deanery Meetings                                 | <a href="#">Fr John Roberts is Dean of the Northern Deanery</a>  |

## Diocese


The governing documents of a Diocese are the constitution and canons, available for download at the links below:



Constitution: [www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/approved\\_constitution\\_2019.pdf](http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/approved_constitution_2019.pdf)

Diocesan Canons: [www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/approved\\_canons\\_2019.pdf](http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/approved_canons_2019.pdf)

Ecclesiastical Court Rules: [www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/adsj\\_trial\\_court\\_rules\\_2014\\_1.pdf](http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/adsj_trial_court_rules_2014_1.pdf)


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|  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN</b>      <a href="http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net">www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net</a></p>  |  |  |
| <p><i>The Diocese of San Joaquin began as a missionary district of the Episcopal Church USA in 1911. It became a Diocese of the Episcopal Church in 1961. It disaffiliated from the Episcopal Church in 2008 and was one of the founding Dioceses of the Anglican Church in North America in 2009.</i></p> |  |  |
| Diocesan Bishop  | Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. Chief Pastor of the Diocese.  | Elected by Diocesan Convention. Approved by ACNA College of Bishops.<br><a href="#">Currently Bishop Eric Menees</a>   |
| Diocesan Convention  | Approves and adopts Diocesan Budget. Elects members of Diocesan Council & Standing Committee, & Delegates to Provincial Synod. Meets at end of October or by Special Meeting. Elects Bishop. | Qualified Bishops, Priest, Deacons + Delegates from each Congregation (# of Delegates determined by congregation size)<br><a href="#">St Matthias' 2023 delegates: Bobbie Pagano &amp; Bob Beall, elected at 2023 Annual Meeting</a> |
| Standing Committee   | Carries out the instructions of Convention. Proposes Budget to Convention. Ecclesiastical  | 4 Clergy + 4 Laypersons (1 Clergy and 1 Lay elected by each Deanery)<br><a href="#">Fr Luke Childs is serving 4 year term as clergy rep for Northern Deanery</a>   |

<sup>2</sup> Until a few years ago, there were six deaneries: the Delta, Yosemite, Fresno, Sequoia, Kern, Sierra. St Matthias was in the Yosemite Deanery. Fr Jim Stout served as Dean of Delta for many years.

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|   | Authority of the Diocese if Bishop unable to serve.  |  |
| Ecclesiastical Trial Court  | Commence a presentment proceeding when a member of the clergy is served with Articles of Presentment that they are in violation of Church Canons | 4 clergy & 3 adult lay communicants in good standing; appointed by the Diocesan Bishop   |
| Commission on Ministry  | Advises the Bishop concerning the guidance, pastoral care and continuing education of Candidates and Postulants for Holy Orders.                 | 4 Clergy + 4 Laypersons; appointed by the Diocesan Bishop<br><br><a href="#">St Matthias' Bobbie Pagano is completing a term on C.O.M.</a> |
| St Matthias gives 10% of the offerings it receives to the Diocese. <sup>3</sup> |  |  |

## Province

The governing documents of the ACNA are the Constitution and Canons, available for download at <https://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net/uploads/1/9/3/7/19374831/current-c-and-c-2019.pdf>

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|  <p><b>ANGLICAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA</b> <span style="float: right;">www.anglicanchurch.net</span></p>  |   |  |
| <p>Current Dioceses in the ACNA are as follows: All Saints, Carolinas, Cascadia, Central States, Christ Our Hope, Churches for the Sake of Others (C4SO), Fort Worth, Great Lakes, Gulf Atlantic, International, Jurisdiction of Armed Forces and Chaplaincy (JAFCh), Living Word, Mid-America*, Mid-Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, REC*, Network in Canada (ANIC), New England, Pittsburgh, Quincy, Rocky Mountains, San Joaquin, South, South Carolina, Southeast*, Southwest, Upper Midwest. Western Anglicans, Western Gulf Coast</p> <p style="text-align: right;">*Reformed Episcopal Church Dioceses<br/>^Wellspring Anglican Church in Modesto is in the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains</p> |   |  |
| Each diocese shares in the governance of the Province's four structures (below):   |   |  |
| Provincial Council   | The Council meets every year to hear ministry updates from around the Church, consider changes to the Constitution and Canons that might be referred on to the Assembly, elect members to the Executive Committee, and to pass the provincial budget. Comprised of 120-240 Members  | Each Diocese: The Bishop + 1 Clergyperson + 2 lay persons from every Diocese.    |
| Provincial Assembly  | Meets every 3-5 years. Deliberates on any manner of the faith and mission of the Church and makes recommendations to the Provincial Council on such matters. Ratifies changes to the Provincial Constitution and Canons. Comprised of 250-300 Members, with the number of delegates being proportional to the numerical size of each diocese.       | Made up of lay and clergy representatives from each diocese.                     |
| College of Bishops   | Meets biannually (January & June). Chief work: the propagation and defense of the Faith and Order of the Church. Elects the Archbishop. Must approve Bishop elected by a Diocese <i>or</i> choose between a pool of candidates a Diocese puts forth (uncommon). Comprised of approximately 50 members (all bishops).                                | Every ACNA Bishop  |
| Executive Committee  | Serves as a board of directors, meeting monthly to oversee the business of the Province. Prepares budget and oversees the administration of the church in between Provincial Council meetings. <a href="#">Currently includes three (!) lay members from the Diocese of San Joaquin: Dr. Bill Atwood (Christ Church Oakhurst), and Maria Garcia</a> | The Archbishop + 12 members elected by the Provincial Council (6 clergy & 6 lay) |

<sup>3</sup> Historically this was referred to as the Assessment, and under the previous bishop the amount congregations in the diocese were *required* to give went as high as 17-18%. When Bishop Menees was consecrated in 2011, he reduced this to 10%.

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|   | & Catechist Elizabeth Conkle (both from Emmanuel Anglican Church)  |  |  |
| Provincial Court  | Responds to official charges of presentment made against a bishop.   | see current membership here: <a href="https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ACNA-Provincial-Court-Membership-2021.pdf">https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ACNA-Provincial-Court-Membership-2021.pdf</a>   |  |
| Archbishop (Primate)  | Presiding Officer of the Church  | The Archbishop will be elected by the College of Bishops from among the College of Bishops. Five year term (maximum 2 terms).  | Currently The Most Rev Foley Beach, second term ends in 2024 |
| Provincial Deans  | Archbishop is assisted in the administration of the Province by four deans (appointed by him), each with a unique focus. | Bishop Ray Sutton is the canonical Dean of the Province and also oversees ecumenical relationships, Bishop John Guernsey oversees provincial affairs, Bishop Bill Atwood oversees international relationships, and Bishop Terrell Glenn oversees the life of the College of Bishops. |  |
| The Diocese of San Joaquin gives 10% of the money it receives from its congregations to the ACNA. |  |  |  |

Full infographic available here: <https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Structure-ACNA.pdf>