

# Intro to Anglicanism



Week 5 Handout  
Revised 10/12/23

## Optional Homework from last week:

1. In the teaching on (adult) baptism, was there any element of the theology of baptism new to you or different from how it had been taught to you in different churches or traditions?
2. Get a jump on reviewing next week's chart of Anglican Church structure on the Congregation, Diocese, and Provincial levels at [www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/structure](http://www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/structure) and come ready with your questions.
3. Very optional: visit [www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/baptism-and-charismata](http://www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/baptism-and-charismata) and check out a sermon from the mini-series on the so-called 'baptism of the Holy Spirit' or the sermon on what we tend to get wrong about 'spiritual gifts'. Write down your response.

### Outline of topics...

#### ...covered last week...

THE CHRISTIAN SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM  
 WHAT IS BAPTISM?  
 FAITH NECESSARY  
 CONVERSION  
 COMMUNION WITH GOD  
 WASHING  
 BAPTISM MARKS US AS NEW CREATIONS  
 REPENTANCE  
 BAPTISM MARKS OUR RECEPTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
 EXCURSUS ON THE "BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"  
 BAPTISM MARKS OUR INITIATION INTO CHURCH  
 BAPTISM TEACHES US AND REMINDS US ABOUT OUR NEW LIFE

#### ...being covered tonight...

BAPTISM & INFANTS  
 INFANT BAPTISM & THE RELATION OF BAPTISM AND FAITH  
 INFANT BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION  
 BAPTISM AND INFANT DEATH  
 WHEN IS INFANT BAPTISM APPROPRIATE?  
 INFANT BAPTISM FROM A COVENANT THEOLOGY PERSPECTIVE

## BAPTISM OF INFANTS & YOUNG CHILDREN (Paedobaptism)

### CHRISTIAN DIVISION

SCRIPTURE NEITHER COMMANDS NOR FORBIDS INFANT BAPTISM

STRONG EVIDENCE APOSTLES PERFORMED INFANT BAPTISM

*'At the same hour of the night (the jailer) took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.  
- Acts 16:33*

## INFANT BAPTISM & THE RELATION OF BAPTISM AND FAITH

“Can infants have faith?”

YES & NO

NO: NOT FULL FAITH: INFANTS CANNOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRUTH OF GOSPEL & PROCLAIM JESUS AS LORD

YES: INFANTS CAN BELONG TO CHRIST & RELATE TO HIM THROUGH LIFE IN THE CHURCH

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." - Matthew 19:14*

## INFANT BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

OPPOSITION ROOTED IN CONCERN OVER INDISCRIMINATE INFANT BAPTISMS

## BAPTISM AND INFANT DEATH

FEAR OF INFANT DAMNATION CAN BE TRACED TO ST. AUGUSTINE

*"...let no one promise for the case of unbaptized infants some middle place, as it were, between damnation and the kingdom of heaven, of rest and happiness... for this is what the heresy of Pelagius promises them" -St Augustine*

INFANT DAMNATION INCONSISTENT WITH SCRIPTURAL WITNESS

*"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven."  
- Matthew 10:32-33*

“When is infant baptism appropriate?”

INFANT BAPTISM IS APPROPRIATE WHEN THERE IS A REASONABLE EXPECTATION OF ACTIVE LIFE IN THE CHURCH

INFANT BAPTISM FROM A COVENANT THEOLOGY PERSPECTIVE

*"Baptism isn't primarily a way for us to show our faith and devotion. As with worship more generally, God is the agent here. Baptism is a sacrament precisely because it is a means of grace, a way that God's gracious initiative marks and seals us. It is the sign that God is a covenant-keeping Lord who fulfills his promises even when we don't. This is why, since the time of the early church, households have been baptized (Acts 16:33, 1cor 1:16), and it is why, historically in 'catholic' Christianity, believing parents present their children for baptism. Baptism is not a bottom-up expression of our faith but a top-down symbol of God's gracious promises. He chose us before we could believe; he loves before we even know how. Baptism signals our initiation into a people..."*

-James K.A. Smith



THE BAPTISMAL RITE (*BCP p. 161ff*)

VOWS: RENUNCIATIONS & AFFIRMATIONS (*p. 164*)

CORPORATE AFFIRMATION (*p. 165*)

SEALED WITH OIL OF CHRISM (*p. 169*)<sup>1</sup>

## **OTHER SACRAMENTS**

SACRAMENT: “An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.”

CONFIRMATION (*2019 BCP p. 175ff*)

MINISTER OF CONFIRMATION: BISHOP

RATIFYING INFANT BAPTISM

TRADITION OF AGE 12 OR 13 UNHELPFUL

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<sup>1</sup> There are 3 holy oils regularly used in the life of the Church: Oil of Chrism, Oil for Catechumens, Oil for the Sick; each have a unique recipe combining olive oil and balsam. These oils are typically stored in the ambry. Only Bishops have the right to consecrate the chrism, as was stated at the Second Council of Carthage (390 AD). This is done each year at the Mass of Chrism, traditionally held during Holy Week (but held a week earlier in the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin) when the clergy of the Diocese also renew their ordination vows.

## EMPOWERMENT FOR HOLY LIVING AND MINISTRY

*...we shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ's full stature. Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind of the teaching of deceitful people, who lead others into error by the tricks they invent. Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ, who is the head. - Ephesians 4:13-15*

*The apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had received the word of God, so they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for the believers that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For the Holy Spirit had not yet come down on any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.  
- Acts 8:14-17*

## COMMISSIONING INTO CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Question: If I was baptized as an adult in another tradition, should I be confirmed?

YES!

SUBMITTING UNDER AUTHORITY OF BISHOP

ESSENTIALLY HOW ONE BECOMES ANGLICAN

REQUIREMENT FOR CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES

BEFORE CONFIRMATION:

RECIPIENT OF CONFIRMATION - BAPTIZED & INSTRUCTED IN FAITH

HAVE YOU ACCEPTED JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOR & LORD?

ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO FILL YOU

CANDIDATES WILL KNEEL IN FRONT OF THE BISHOP (*BCP p. 178*), WHO WILL ANOINT THEM WITH OIL FOR CATECHUMENS & PRAY OVER THEM

RECEPTION (*BCP p. 179*)

Question: If my understanding of my faith and commitment to the Lord has increased significantly since I was confirmed, is there anything left for me to do?

REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS (*BCP p. 179*)



## **HOMEWORK FOR THOSE SEEKING CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION, OR REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS:**

1. Review confirmation rite (BCP 175-180) and bring any questions
2. Speak with Fr John to notify him about our intention or confirm with him
3. Begin writing Spiritual Autobiography for Bp Menees (according to the guidelines below), due 2 weeks before the Confirmation service

### **Guidelines for Writing a Spiritual Autobiography for Confirmands, Receptions, and Reaffirmations in the Diocese of San Joaquin**

The Bishop's usual practice is to try and meet in person with candidates for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation prior to the laying on of hands service, in order to hear from them – in their own words – the story of their faith thus far and why they want to take this step in their faith. However, from time to time and in certain years, this type of one-on-one meeting will not be possible.

In order to be certain that the Bishop is still able to get to know the candidates, he requires that each candidate write a brief spiritual autobiography, with the help of their sponsors and/or clergy. The following are some minimum guidelines (not exhaustive) for the types of information a spiritual autobiography of this sort should provide:

- What is your faith background? Did you grow up in a Christian home environment, some other faith, or with no faith at all?
- When did you begin your relationship with Jesus? Has it been ongoing since your baptism as an infant, or were you older?
- What impact has following Jesus had on your life? What role has your faith played in your day-to-day activities, whether school, work, or social/recreational?
- What do you think Confirmation is, and why is being Confirmed/Received or Reaffirming your faith something you want to do right now
- What does being an Anglican mean to you?
- Do you believe the Nicene Creed? Why is it important?



## **CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (Polity)**

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>2</sup>

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

 <p><b>Saint Matthias Anglican Church</b> 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> - 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). <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 <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 <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 <a href="#">Currently Josette Adams</a>
	Treasurer	An officer not required to be a member of the vestry.	Elected each year by the Vestry <a href="#">Currently Traci Yazembiak</a>

<sup>2</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”.

<b>CATHEDRAL</b> - official Church of the Diocesan Bishop	Bishop	Chief Pastor of the Cathedral. President of the Chapter. 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
<p><i>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'.</i></p>			

## Deanery

A deanery is a group of parishes and/or missions within the Diocese	There are four Deaneries in the Diocese of San Joaquin <sup>3</sup>	St Matthias is in the Northern Deanery. There is also the Central, Southern, and East-West
Rural Dean	President of Rural Deanery Meetings	Fr John Roberts is Dean of the Northern Deanery

## 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)



	<b>THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN</b>	<a href="http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net">www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net</a>
<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>		

<sup>3</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.

Diocesan Bishop	Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese. Chief Pastor of the Diocese.	Elected by Diocesan Convention. Approved by ACNA College of Bishops. <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) <a href="#">St Matthias' 20223 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 Authority of the Diocese if Bishop unable to serve.	4 Clergy + 4 Laypersons (1 Clergy and 1 Lay elected by each Deanery) <a href="#">Fr Luke Childs is serving 4 year term as clergy rep for Northern Deanery</a>
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 <a href="#">St Matthias' Bobbie Pagano is completing a term on C.O.M.</a>
<a href="#">St Matthias gives 10% of the offerings it receives to the Diocese.<sup>4</sup></a>		

## Province

PRIOR TO 2009:

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH USA WAS THE ONLY ANGLICAN PROVINCE IN THE UNITED STATES + THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA WAS THE ONLY ANGLICAN PROVINCE IN CANADA

IN 2009, THIS CHANGED WHEN OUR PROVINCE, THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA (ACNA), FORMED

<sup>4</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%.



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>



## ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

[www.anglicanchurch.net](http://www.anglicanchurch.net)

North America is the only continent where there are overlapping Provinces. This occurred after dioceses and parishes that left the Anglican Church of Canada and the Episcopal Church USA formed the ACNA in 2009.

In the ACNA, there are numerous geographically based dioceses, non-geographical dioceses and networks. Many jurisdictions overlap with each other.

Each diocese or network has a bishop and sometimes suffragan or assistant bishops.

Note: The overlap of Dioceses in the ACNA contrasts with the Structure of The Episcopal Church, where there is *no* geographic overlap between Dioceses, as this map of Western Episcopal Dioceses shows:



ACNA Diocese	See City		ACNA Diocese	See City
Anglican Diocese in New England	Amesbury, MA		Quincy <sup>+</sup>	Peoria, IL
Anglican Diocese of All Nations	El Paso, TX		Mid-Atlantic	Woodbridge, VA
San Joaquin <sup>+</sup>	Fresno, CA		Southeast/REC	Summerville, SC
South Carolina <sup>+</sup>	Charleston, SC		Upper Midwest	Wheaton, IL
The Carolinas	Mt. Pleasant, SC		Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, ACNA <sup>+</sup>	Fort Worth, TX
the Living Word	Manassas, VA		Gulf Atlantic	Jacksonville, FL
the South	Loganville, GA		International	Frisco, TX
the Southwest	El Paso, TX		Missionary Diocese of All Saints	Berlin, MD
Anglican Network in Canada	Burlington, ON		Northeast and Mid-Atlantic (REC)	Jenkintown, PA
Jurisdiction of Armed Forces & Chaplaincy <sup>=</sup>	Montevallo, AL		Pittsburgh <sup>+</sup>	Pittsburgh, PA

Central States	Mason, OH		Rocky Mountains	Colorado Springs, CO
Christ Our Hope	Durham, NC		the Great Lakes	Akron, OH
Churches for the Sake of Others (C4SO)	Franklin, TN		Via Apostolica Missionary District of Canada	Lethbridge, AB
Cascadia	Silverdale, WA		Western Anglicans	Long Beach, CA
Mid-America REC	Dallas, TX		Western Gulf Coast	The Woodlands, TX

<sup>+</sup> Former Dioceses of the Episcopal Church

\*Reformed Episcopal Church Dioceses; the Reformed Episcopal Church formed from individual parishes that left the Episcopal Church in 1873

^Wellspring Anglican Church in Modesto is in the Diocese of the Rocky Mountains

<sup>=</sup> Cp Eva Mauch of Saint Matthias is a Lay Chaplain who was commissioned by and is canonically resident in the J AFC

#### PROVINCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE ACNA

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 &amp; Catechist Elizabeth Conkle (both from Emmanuel Anglican Church)</a>	The Archbishop + 12 members elected by the Provincial Council (6 clergy & 6 lay)

Provincial Court	Responds to official charges of presentment made against a bishop.	see current membership here: <a href="https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/ACNA-Provincial-Court-Membership-2023.pdf">https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/ACNA-Provincial-Court-Membership-2023.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>



**To learn about the present state of the unique relationship between the Church of England and the State in the United Kingdom, visit a document drafted on the subject by Fr John & (now) Fr Luke in 2019 at [www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/coeandstate](http://www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/coeandstate)**

## Communion





FRACTURED COMMUNION



**THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION**

[www.anglicancommunion.org](http://www.anglicancommunion.org)

**The Four Instruments of Communion**

the Archbishop of Canterbury	The Archbishops of Canterbury are seen by the Anglican Communion of churches as their spiritual leader. He is the Primate of All England and Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Canterbury. The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby was enthroned on 21 March 2013. He is the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury.	
the Lambeth Conference	The Lambeth Conference takes place approximately every ten years. Bishops from around the Anglican Communion are invited to attend by the Archbishop of Canterbury.	
the Anglican Consultative Council	The Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) seeks to serve the needs of member churches. It comprises members of the laity, archbishops, bishops, priests, and deacons. Meetings take place approximately every three years.	
the Primates' Meeting	The Primates of the Anglican Communion are the chief Archbishops, Presiding Bishops, Moderators and chief pastors of the 41 provinces. Their churches are autonomous. The Archbishop of Canterbury chairs their meetings, which are held at varying intervals around the world.	

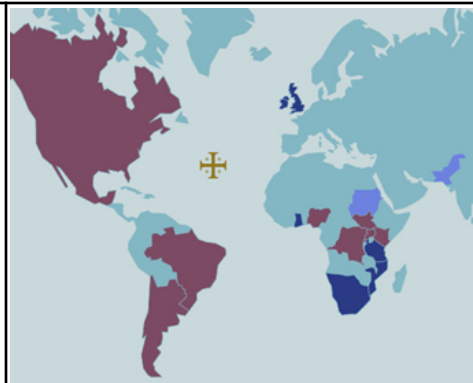


**GAFCON Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans**

[www.gafcon.org](http://www.gafcon.org)

GAFCON is a global movement within the Communion, which represents the majority of all Anglicans.

The Anglican Communion is in a time of reformation. In 2008, the Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (GAFCON), which represents the majority of the world's Anglicans, called for the creation of a new provincial home in North America for orthodox Anglicans and, in response, the Anglican Church in North America was established in 2009. The Anglican Church in North America is in full communion with the GAFCON Provinces of Brazil, Chile, Congo, Kenya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Rwanda, South America, South Sudan, & Uganda. This recognition continues to grow in momentum with the Anglican Church in North America being made a full partner province of the Global South, an official structure of the Anglican Communion. In addition, there are branches of GAFCON in Australia, the UK, Ghana (Sunyani), Ireland, & Tanzania.



The fourth (IV) meeting of GAFCON, held in 2023 (in Kigali, Uganda), issued a statement repudiating the practice of blessing same-sex marriages in The Episcopal Church USA, The Anglican Church of Canada, and most recently in the Church of England and called them to repentance. GAFCON announced its intention to leave behind “reset the communion” by establishing new structures of communion for the 85% of Anglicans who remain biblically orthodox on this issue.

The full Kigali statement can be found here:

<https://gafcon23.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Kigali-Commitment-2023.pdf>

THERE REMAINS NO SHORTAGE OF BROKENNESS IN THE ACNA OR GAFCON



### CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF A MARRIAGE (BCP p. 201)

MARRIAGE BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN REFLECTS THE LOVE CHRIST HAS FOR HIS CHURCH

#### DIOCESAN CANON ON MARRIAGE

Sacrament of Marriage (a) The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is a lifelong covenant between a man and a woman in which the two become one flesh. It is both an ordinance of Creation, affirmed as such by our Lord, and also a sign of the mystical union between Christ and His Church, as commended by Saint Paul. (b) All members of the clergy of this Diocese are prohibited from solemnizing or blessing any union or intimate personal relationship other than between one man and one woman in Holy Matrimony (c) No church facility may be used to solemnize, bless, or celebrate any union or intimate personal relationship other than Holy Matrimony between one man and one woman. (d) All members of the clergy of this Diocese may refuse to solemnize the marriage of any couple for any reason. (ADSJ Canons, Sec. 31.03)

BLESSING OF A CIVIL MARRIAGE

REMARRIAGE IN THE ACNA - REQUIRES APPROVAL OF DIOCESAN BISHOP

#### **Optional Homework for next week:**

1. For those seeking confirmation, begin working on your Spiritual Autobiography for Bp Menees.
2. Read the rite for confession (“Reconciliation of Penitents”) on BCP p. 223-224.
3. Watch the video clip of the procession at a recent St Matthias burial service (from BCP p. 249-250) at [www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/burialprocession](http://www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/burialprocession)

**NO Class next Thursday (10/19)! Next Class: 10/26**