

Requirements for Ordination

The Anglican Church in North America and the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin both have specific requirements as far as who can pursue ordination. Before beginning the application process please read the relevant portions of this document to make sure you'll be able to meet these requirements.

CANONS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

TITLE III

Section 1 - *Concerning General Requirements*

Every Bishop shall take care that he admit no person into Holy Orders but such as he knows either by himself, or by sufficient testimony, to have been baptized and confirmed, to be sufficiently instructed in Holy Scripture and in the doctrine, discipline and worship of this Church, as defined by this Province, to be empowered by the Holy Spirit and to be a wholesome example and pattern to the entire flock of Christ.

Section 2 - *Concerning Requirements for Deacon According to Holy Scripture*

In accordance with Holy Scripture, a Deacon must be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, not pursuing dishonest gain, and one who holds the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested, and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as Deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

Section 3 - *Concerning Requirements for Presbyter According to Holy Scripture*

In addition to the qualifications above, and in accordance with Holy Scripture, a Presbyter must be above reproach, not self-pleasing but self-controlled, upright, holy, disciplined, temperate, hospitable, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money, not a recent convert, one who loves what is good and one who has a good reputation with outsiders. A Presbyter must be able to preach and teach, holding firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, in order to encourage others by sound doctrine and to refute those who oppose it (1 Timothy 3:1-7; 5:17; Titus 1:6-9).

Section 4 - *Concerning Requirements for Married Candidates With and Without Children*

In the case of persons who are or have been married, and/or have children, every Bishop shall take care that such persons manage their own family well, for as Holy Scripture attests, "If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?" (1 Timothy 3:4-5, 12; Titus 1:6).

Section 5 - Concerning Upholding the Sanctity of Marriage Especially for Those to Be Ordained

Marriage as a lifelong covenant between a man and a woman, where the two become one flesh, is both an ordinance of Creation, affirmed as such by our Lord, and commended by Saint Paul as a sign of the mystical union between Christ and his Church (Matthew 19:3-9; Ephesians 5:22-32). As wholesome examples and patterns to the entire flock of Christ, all married persons to be admitted to Holy Orders shall remain married to their spouse for life, and in accordance with the vows they exchanged in Holy Matrimony. Subject to Section 6 of this Canon, no person shall be admitted into Holy Orders who has divorced and remarried.

Section 6 - Concerning Pastoral Exceptions to Section 5

The Archbishop of this Church, on an application made to him by the Bishop sponsoring a person who by reason of Section 5 of this Canon could not otherwise be admitted into Holy Orders may, upon a showing of good cause and particularly in light of the exceptions in Matthew 19 and 1 Corinthians 7, remove the impediment imposed by that section to the admission of the person into Holy Orders. Pastoral exceptions may be made in accordance with the directions given from time to time by the Archbishop acting in consultation with the College of Bishops.

Section 7 - Concerning Theological Training Requirements

No person shall be admitted into Holy Orders who has not been properly trained in Holy Scripture, and the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of this Church.

CANONS OF THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN

Canon XXVIII – Of Deacons and Their Ordination

Sec. 28.02 Concerning the Required Declaration of Ordinands

No one shall be ordained a Deacon in the Church until such person shall have subscribed without reservation to the following declaration:

“I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and to contain all things necessary to salvation, and I consequently hold myself bound to conform my life and ministry thereto, and I do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of Christ as this Church has received them.”

Canon XXIX – Of Presbyters and Their Ordination

Sec. 29.01 Concerning Ordination Following Period of Diaconate

(a) The individual must be male and must have been ordained a Deacon in this church

to be eligible to be ordained a Presbyter.

(b) The individual must serve as an ordained Deacon in this Church for at least one year prior to being ordained Presbyter, unless the Bishop having jurisdiction

shall find good cause for the contrary, so that the Deacon's manner of life and ministry may be tested and observed before admission to the order of Presbyter.

Canon XXX – Of Those Ordained in Another Church

Sec. 30.01 When ministers who have been serving in, or pastoring a Christian ministry for at least three years, and who have been ordained in a Jurisdiction not in Communion with this Church, desire to be a Deacon or Presbyter in this Church, they shall apply to a Bishop of this Church, for Reception, Ordination, or Conditional Ordination.

Sec. 30.02 The Applicant shall become canonically resident in the diocese by either being received or confirmed into this Church. The bishop may assign a mentor to the applicant to assist in the applicant's instruction and introduction to this Church and this Diocese.

Sec. 30.03 The Applicant shall submit to a background investigation, medical examination, and psychological examination.

Sec. 30.04 Supplemental studies in Anglicanism, and any other areas as needed for ministry in this Church will be assigned. This supplemental training shall include Sexual Misconduct Prevention Training, and familiarization with the Constitution and Canons of ACNA and this Diocese.

Sec. 30.05 The applicant shall be examined on subject areas of Canon 34.02, as well as on the points of Doctrine, Discipline, Polity, and Worship in which the Jurisdiction from which the applicant has come differs from this Church, and any other subject which the Bishop deems necessary and appropriate.

Sec. 30.06 Being satisfied of the Applicant's soundness of faith, theological qualifications, the appointment to a Cure, and upon successful completion of the examination specified in Canon 35.05, the Bishop may, with the recommendation of the Commission on Ministry and with the advice and consent of Standing Committee:

- (1) Receive the person into this Church in the Orders to which already ordained by a Bishop in the Historic Succession; or
- (2) Ordain the person as a Deacon, and no sooner than four months thereafter, ordain the person a Presbyter. If necessary, the Bishop may conditionally ordain the person to either or both orders, if the applicant was ordained by a Bishop whose authority to convey such orders has not been recognized by this Church.

Sec. 30.07 Before being received or ordained, the person shall sign the Oath of Conformity. 32

Sec. 30.08 The priest or deacon shall be mentored by another priest or deacon for one year following ordination or reception into this Church.