



EPISCOPAL MINISTRY



On September 26, 2020 the Diocese of British Columbia will be electing a bishop who will become the 14th diocesan bishop. This will require each member of Synod to discern God's call for the Church in this time and place. As with all spiritual discernment, this process will involve prayerful reflection, thoughtfulness and insight.

As a member of Synod you must be:

- ✙ fully apprised of the challenges and opportunities facing our diocese
- ✙ knowledgeable about the competencies and tasks required of a bishop
- ✙ informed about the gifts and abilities of each candidate

This document outlines the responsibilities and gifts required for the ministry of the bishop of the diocese of British Columbia. Please read this as you prayerfully consider the supporting documents for each candidate and watch the video clips.

Together, we will build on the strong leadership God has provided our diocese in the past and move forward faithfully into the future.





RESPONSIBILITIES AND GIFTS

a steadfast guardian of the faith and sacraments

It is expected that the chosen bishop will come to the position with ideas and gifts to build upon and enhance our diocesan vision for *Renewed Hearts, Renewed Spirits, Renewed People*. They will also come ready to assume leadership within the Transforming Futures initiative which is our means of developing strategies for this renewal and for ensuring the resources necessary are available.

- ✙ The bishop provides episcopal oversight to the diocese and shares in “the leadership of the Church throughout the world.”
- ✙ “A bishop in God’s holy Church is called to be one with the apostles in proclaiming Christ’s resurrection and interpreting the Gospel, and to testify to Christ’s sovereignty as Lord of lords and King of kings.”
- ✙ A bishop is “called to guard the faith, unity and discipline of the Church; to celebrate and to provide for the administration of the sacraments of the new covenant; to ordain priests and deacons, and to join in ordaining bishops; and to be in all things a faithful pastor and wholesome example for the entire flock of Christ.”

(Book of Alternative Services, 636)



QUALIFICATIONS

to follow him who came not to be served but to serve

- ✙ Must be a bishop or an ordained priest in the Anglican Church of Canada or a church in full communion with it.
- ✙ Must not have taught or held within the past five years anything contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the Anglican Church of Canada.
- ✙ Must be the full age of 30 and under the mandatory retirement age of 70.
- ✙ Must not be “deficient in learning, training or experience.”

**See Canon 4b for complete list and description of qualifications.*



SPIRITUAL LEADER OF THE DIOCESE *to heal, not hurt; to build up, not destroy*

- ✙ Serves as chief pastor of the whole church that forms the Diocese of British Columbia and as a teacher of the Church's faith.
- ✙ Serves as the primary interpreter of the faith by providing doctrinal and liturgical oversight.
- ✙ Ensures ministry is provided and developed within the diocese through an awareness of the social needs, demographics of the diocese and change management theory.
- ✙ Serves as overseer of all the churches in the diocese and presides at diocesan and parish services.
- ✙ Presides at confirmations, ordinations and celebrations of new ministries.



CHIEF PASTOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *chief pastor and guide to the clergy, synod staff* *chief executive officer of the diocese*

- ✙ Leads 6,000 Anglicans on the diocese's parish rolls comprised of 46 worshipping communities.
- ✙ Is responsible for the oversight of the episcopal administration of the diocese, with the support of the executive officer, who manages a staff of 17 full and part-time employees.
- ✙ Serves as the president and chair of Synod (200+ members), chairs diocesan council (30 members), as well as a number of committees. Chairs the legislative sessions of Synod and provides for the preparation of its agenda.
- ✙ Makes all clerical appointments and grants the licenses of all the clergy in the diocese.
- ✙ Supervises and sees that pastoral care is provided to 151 clergy who are canonically resident in the diocese. These clergy include 65 active clergy who are serving as incumbents, priests-in-charge, associate priests, honorary assistants, curates and chaplains, 6 deacons, as well as 80 retired clergy.



- ✝ Works with clergy in assessing their gifts and abilities and challenges clergy to develop their abilities.
- ✝ Oversees the postulancy process for those seeking ordination as priests and deacons.
- ✝ Is responsible for the implementation of the diocesan vision.
- ✝ Oversees the stewardship of:
 - real estate (including churches, rectories, commercial real estate) with an appraised value of approximately \$100 million in a geographic area covering approx. 31,500 square kilometers
 - investments in a consolidated trust fund held for both parishes and synod totalling approx. \$28 million
 - an annual operating budget of \$1.95 million
- ✝ Serves as the chief fundraiser for the diocese and in response to immediate and foreseeable needs, leads major gift campaigns from time-to-time.
- ✝ Works with the executive officer, outside lawyers, experts, and others, as needed, to respond to complex litigation related to property and other matters in which the diocese is involved.
- ✝ Is responsible to see that the diocese is in compliance with federal, provincial and municipal legislation and regulations, canon law, and the policies of the diocese (in this context provides oversight for the discipline canon, and the sexual misconduct policy).
- ✝ Is responsible for the relationship of the diocese with the federal, provincial and several municipal governments with which the diocese interacts.
- ✝ Works with the leaders of diocesan supported agencies, other church and faith communities.
- ✝ Encourages good and courteous relationships with leaders of other churches and faith communities.
- ✝ Exercises the discipline of the Church in a consistent, objective and decisive fashion.



DISCERNER OF GOD'S CALL FOR THE CHURCH

visionary leader who articulates the mission and ministry of the diocese

- ✙ Serves as the chief evangelist of the diocese, teaching, preaching and interpreting the gospel of Jesus Christ both in our parishes and the wider community.
- ✙ Proclaims and embodies the hope, joy, strength and peace of the gospel message.
- ✙ Makes decisions based on the broadest possible view of a situation informed by contemporary leadership practices and guided by biblical and theological principles.
- ✙ Shares with other bishops in the leadership of the church in building relationships of the diocese with the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia & Yukon, the Anglican Church of Canada, the worldwide Anglican Communion, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and in that regard represents the diocese on committees at these levels.



GUARDIAN OF FAITH, UNITY AND DISCIPLINE

knowledge of and respect for the teaching of the church in the areas of theology, scripture, liturgy and spiritual development

- ✙ Ensures doctrinal and theological principles are developed, discussed and adhered to.
- ✙ Has a good grasp of scripture, history, tradition and theology and can transmit the traditions and teachings of the Church.
- ✙ Inspires clergy and laity to live out their baptismal covenant and helps clergy deepen their understanding of their role as theological leaders in ministry.
- ✙ Exhibits concern for the broader aspects of mission and ministry that exist within and beyond the diocese.
- ✙ Represents and fosters the unity of the Church of God.
- ✙ Encourages the flourishing of the cultural, liturgical, spiritual, and theological diversity of the diocese within the parameters of the Anglican tradition.



AMBASSADOR OF CHRIST

fosters a sense of common identity within the Church and represents that identity to the larger community.

- ✙ Integrates the national, transnational and provincial context with the local, and builds relationships with international/national, ecumenical and interfaith leaders and civil society.
- ✙ Reveals the Church's genuine care, respect and love for people and its concern for justice and equity in all aspects of their lives.
- ✙ Is a prophetic voice speaking out for the poor and powerless.
- ✙ Promotes and teaches about social justice and Christian outreach issues.
- ✙ Acts as an agent of God's work of reconciliation in the world.



WHOLESOME EXAMPLE

acknowledges limitations and balances demands so that all can see that they are a child of God

- ✙ Adheres to and lives out his/her baptismal covenant so that people see congruency between what is professed and the bishop's actions.
- ✙ Is widely trusted; is seen as direct and truthful; takes responsibility for own mistakes.
- ✙ Manages time effectively so that there is a healthy balance among the demands of self, family, diocese and community.
- ✙ Is attentive and open to his/her own spiritual pilgrimage and that of others.
- ✙ Acts prudently in relationships and maintains confidentiality, demonstrates maturity, stability and an awareness of appropriate boundaries.
- ✙ Respects the ideas and opinions of others and interacts effectively and equitably with all people.