

C-2 Amendment to CANON 6. Archdeacons and Deans.

Section 1.

- ~~(a) The Convention may elect, upon nomination by the Bishop, not more than five Priests as Archdeacons, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Convention. In the event of a vacancy occurring between meetings of the Convention, the Standing Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy, upon nomination by the Bishop, until the next regular meeting of the Convention.~~
- ~~(b) Archdeacons shall have functional titles, and shall have the duties and powers which are assigned or delegated to them by the Bishop or the Convention, which shall always be defined at the time of their nomination.~~
- ~~(c) A priest may serve as Archdeacon without resigning his cure. A Dean of a Region may not serve as an Archdeacon.~~

Section 1.

- (a) The Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, may appoint not more than three Archdeacons to serve at the Bishop's discretion.**
- (b) Archdeacons shall be Vocational Deacons and have functional titles. They will assist the Bishop in oversight of Deacons, diaconal formation and diaconal assignments.**
- (c) An Archdeacon may function in other diaconal ministries while being Archdeacon in dialogue with and at the discretion of the Bishop.**

Section 2.

- (a) The Bishop shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee, one Priest in each Region as the Dean thereof. A Dean shall serve at the pleasure of the Bishop, but in no event for more than four consecutive years, and shall be the official representative of the Bishop to the Region.**
- (b) A Priest may serve as Dean without resigning the Dean's cure.**
- (c) The Bishop may appoint an Archdean, with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee.**
- (d) The Archdean serves at the pleasure of the Bishop and shall assist the Bishop in the oversight of the Deans and carry out such other functions as may be assigned.**

(e) The Archdean may continue to be a regional Dean or may be another priest appointed especially for that purpose. An Archdean may serve for a maximum of four consecutive years.

Submitted by the Rev. Deacon Holly Hanback

Rationale for the changes in Canon 6:

Under the present Canon, which dates back some years, an Archdeacon was a priest who served in a similar capacity as our current Deans or was a priest assisting the Bishop. In the present time, using the title "Archdeacon" for a priest is anachronistic. The proposed canon restores the original intention of the title "Archdeacon" and properly refers to a vocational deacon with oversight under the direction of the Bishop.

The proposed amendment to Canon 6 updates the Canon to better align with current practices.