

CANON XXI

Of Deaneries

Section 1. The Diocese shall be divided into Deaneries, the number and boundaries of which shall be determined from time to time by the Ecclesiastical Authority. The presiding officer of each Deanery shall be a Dean appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to serve for one year, such appointment to be made at each Annual Convention.

Section 2. There shall be regularly scheduled meetings of the Clergy in each Deanery. (This shall include canonically resident clergy as well as other clergy, retired and/or licensed by the Bishop who reside in the Deanery). In each Deanery it shall be the duty of all Clergy to meet as a Deanery Clericus at regular times scheduled by the Dean, to discuss affairs of diocesan and regional concern, and other matters that will strengthen collegiality and further the work of the Church.

Section 3.

(1) The Deanery Convocation shall be composed of all Clergy physically residing or serving a parish or mission of that Deanery who are entitled to seat, voice and vote at the Diocesan Convention, lay deputies to the Convention from each congregation within the Deanery and lay representatives to the Diocesan Council from the Deanery. All such Clergy, deputies and Diocesan Council members from the Deanery shall have seat, voice and vote.

(2) The Convocation will meet at least two times each year, one to give input during the formation of the Diocesan Budget and at other times at the call of the Dean or of the Ecclesiastical Authority.

(3) The Deanery Convocation shall have the responsibility for the planning and financial aspects of the Deanery, including advising the Department of Congregational Development on grants and loans to congregations within the Deanery, and such other responsibilities as may be assigned to it by the Diocesan Council. It shall also be the responsibility of the Convocation to study the needs and opportunities of the deanery and to develop programs, when appropriate, consistent with those needs; to elect Deanery Representatives to the Diocesan Council; and to assist through the year all Diocesan officers, the Deans and the Diocesan Council in the work and mission of the Church.

(4) The Dean shall be the executive head of all such work and shall delegate necessary authority and responsibility as he or she deems necessary to carry out the work. The Deanery Convocation shall elect from among its own members a Vice-Chairperson, to preside at meetings in the absence of the Dean, and a Secretary/Treasurer to record all actions and maintain such records in a permanent form.

(5) Only such actions of the Deanery Convocation which are the result of a majority vote of the Convocation with a quorum present shall constitute official actions of the Deanery Convocation. A majority of clergy eligible to vote in the Convocation and lay deputies from a majority of the congregations entitled to representation, when duly assembled, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.