

The structure and polity of the Anglican church world

A. The structure of the Episcopal Church

- 1. Ordained and lay ministry in parishes: priests, deacons, and laity**
- 2. The Diocese: Bishops, Council, Trustees, Standing Committee, Conventions, staff**
- 3. The national church: General Convention, with House of Bishops and House of Deputies; Presiding Bishop, Executive Council and other national bodies; the bureaucracy at 815**
- 4. Legal structure – Canons, state law, other**
- 5. Financial structure: parish, diocese and national church**
- 6. Related organizations: CPG, ECF, ER&D, seminaries, great cathedrals, cardinal parishes, religious orders**

B. The Anglican Communion and the place of the Episcopal Church in it

- 1. Archbishop of Canterbury; Lambeth Conference – now 800+ bishops (1867); Anglican Consultative Council (1969); Primates' Meetings – now 38 provinces (1979); ACO Secretariat**
- 2. Demographics**
- 3. Issues facing the Anglican Communion**
 - a) Global South vs. traditional centers of power**
 - b) What to do about TEC, the Anglican Church of Canada, and their new directions?**

(1) Consecration of Bishop Robinson, 2003

(2) Windsor Report recommending a moratorium on consecrating gay bishops and on authorization of same-sex blessings, penalties for participants in Robinson consecration (2004)

January 29, 2017

(3) TEC and Canada only permitted to attend ACC as observers (2005)

(4) A woman primate elected in TEC (2006)

(5) Authorization of same sex marriages

Additional Reading

Christopher L. Webber, *Welcome to the Episcopal Church: An Introduction to Its History, Faith and Worship*, Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse Publishing, 1999.

David L. Holmes, *A Brief History of the Episcopal Church*, Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press International, 1993

John N. Wall, *A Dictionary for Episcopalians*, Cambridge, MA: Cowley Publications, 2000.

On-line glossary:

http://www.episcopalchurch.org/19625_19610_ENG_HTM.htm

Internet reference:

Official sites:

<http://www.slechurch.org/>

<http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/>

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/>

Unofficial sites

<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~lcrew/rel.html>

<http://anglicansonline.org/>