

## HOLY ORDERS (RECEPTION INTO MINISTRY) CANON, 2004 <sup>1</sup>

### Canon No. 17, 2007

The General Synod prescribes as follows:

#### Short title

1. This Canon may be cited as the Holy Orders (Reception into Ministry) Canon 2004.

#### Reception into ministry

2. (1) Subject to sub-section (2), where a person has been consecrated bishop or ordained priest or deacon in a Church which is not in communion with this Church by a bishop or bishops within the historic episcopate, the bishop of a diocese of this Church may receive that person into the ministry of this Church as bishop, priest or deacon, as the case may be.  
  
(2) Before a bishop of a diocese receives a person into the ministry of this Church under this section, the bishop must first be satisfied by good and credible evidence—
  - (a) that the character and mode of living of the person as attested by witnesses specified by the bishop befit an ordained minister of this Church;
  - (b) that the attainments of the person in academic and theological studies are adequate for the person's proposed ministry in this Church;
  - (c) if the diocese is in a Province and the person is a bishop, a majority of the diocesan bishops of the Province have approved the proposed reception of the person into the ministry of this Church;
  - (d) if the diocese is not in a Province and the person is a bishop, a majority of the Metropolitans have approved the proposed reception of the person into the ministry of this Church;
  - (e) that the person's reasons for desiring to be received into the ministry of this Church are sound and proper;
  - (f) that the person -

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<sup>1</sup> This Canon was provisionally made as Canon P1, 2004 and amended and passed in 2007.

- (i) has a sufficient knowledge of the doctrine, discipline and forms of worship of this Church and has a sufficient understanding of the matters in which this Church differs from the Church in which the person was consecrated or ordained; and
- (ii) accepts the doctrine, discipline and principles of worship of this Church.

#### **Form of service**

- 3. A person may be received into the Ministry of this Church in accordance with a form of service authorised by General Synod or prepared by the Liturgy Commission and approved by the Standing Committee of General Synod.

#### **Authority to minister**

- 4. A person received into the ministry of this Church under this Canon shall not exercise the ministry of bishop, priest or deacon in this Church unless pursuant to the Constitution and the ordinances of this Church and the ordinances of the relevant diocese and Province the person has been elected or appointed to an Episcopal office in this Church or is otherwise duly authorised by the bishop of a diocese to minister as a bishop, priest or deacon in that diocese.

#### **Operation of Canon in diocese that has not adopted certain Canons**

- 5. (1) Nothing in this Canon shall make it lawful for a woman ordained to the office of deacon in a Church not in communion with this Church to be received into the ministry of this Church as a deacon in a diocese in with the Ordination of Women to the Office of Deacon Canon 1985 is not in force.
- (2) Nothing in this Canon shall make it lawful for a woman ordained to the office of priest or consecrated to the office of bishop in a Church not in communion with this Church to be received into the ministry of this Church as a priest or a bishop in a diocese in which the Law of the Church of England Clarification Canon 1992 is not in force.

#### **Coming into force by adoption**

- 6. The provisions of this canon affect the order and good government of this Church within a diocese and shall not come into force in a diocese unless and until the diocese adopts this canon by ordinance of the synod of the diocese.