

CANON 25
DIOCESAN MISSIONS

1. Designation

Where following:

- (a) a request by a Parish or area of work or interest, either in the form of a resolution or request in writing from the organization involved, or
- (b) a recommendation by a Bishop's Commission, or
- (c) a situation determined by the Diocesan Council to require it,

it appears that a geographical area or area of special mission work or interest should be designated as a Diocesan Mission, the Diocesan Council in consultation with the Bishop may so designate. Any mission so designated shall be a mission pursuant to Section 2 of the Constitution.

2. Board of Management

Any mission or work so designated shall be managed by a Board of Management which shall assume the rights and responsibilities normally assumed by churchwardens and advisory boards of parishes.

3. Changing Designation

The designation of a Diocesan Mission may be changed or revoked at any time by the Diocesan Council with the consent of the Bishop.

4. Composition of Board

The composition of the Board of Management which shall normally consist of the Incumbent together with a maximum of 8 (eight) clergy or laity, either elected by the congregation of the Mission, or partly elected and partly appointed, shall be determined by the Diocesan Council.

5. Churchwardens

If the Diocesan Council deems it necessary or desirable to have Churchwardens, the Board of Management shall appoint 2 (two) of its members to be Churchwardens who shall function under the direction of the Board of Management and shall be deemed to be properly appointed under Canon 15.

6. Conflict with Other Canons

In any conflict between this and any other Canon, the provisions of this Canon shall apply.

7. Deemed Parish

A congregation attached or forming part of a Diocesan Mission, at the discretion of the Diocesan Council, be deemed to be a Parish pursuant to the terms of Canon 4, in which case such congregation shall also be deemed to be a Parish pursuant to the Constitution and entitled to elect lay members of Synod pursuant to the terms of the Constitution.

8. York Rectory

The Incumbent of a Diocesan Mission who is functioning within the area covered by The York Rectory Commission shall be deemed to be an Incumbent of a church and entitled to a share in the surplus income distributed.

9. Alternative to Disestablishment

Where a Parish might otherwise be disestablished, the Diocesan Council and the Bishop may, as an alternative to disestablishment, designate the Parish as a Diocesan Mission under the control of a Board of Management.

10. Continuance of Parish Structure

Where it is necessary or desirable and with the consent of the vestry of the Parish involved, a Parish may be designated as a Diocesan Mission, in which case the Parish structure shall continue, but the management functions of the Churchwardens and Advisory Board shall be assumed by a Board of Management, which in this case shall have half of its members elected by the vestry of the Parish and one-half appointed by the Diocesan Council with the chairman appointed by the Bishop.

11. Report to Diocesan Council

In any case, a Board of Management shall report annually to the Diocesan Council and shall report more frequently if so requested by the Diocesan Council.

12. Supervision

Any Diocesan Mission shall be under the supervision of the Bishop and Diocesan Council of the Diocese.

13. Staff

All staff of a Diocesan Mission shall be deemed to be Diocesan staff, unless otherwise directed by the Diocesan Council and the Bishop.

14. Review

All designations of Diocesan Missions will be reviewed at least every three years by the Diocesan Council.

15. Further Duties of Board

The Board of Management shall also perform those functions of a Diocesan administrator of Parishes as set out in Canon 24, Section 2, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 14.