

Guidelines for Parishes Affiliating with *Anglican Essentials Federation*

We are delighted to provide information at any time about the process of becoming a member parish of the Federation. We look forward to working with your parish and to sharing in the mission and work of defending and recovering Anglican Christian orthodoxy.

In the application package, you will receive this cover letter containing information on the application process, information sheets about the identity, principles and purposes of the **Federation**, and a bundle of information brochures for parish members.

Application criteria:

Any Anglican parish church in Canada may make application for status as a duly recognized and represented *Anglican Essentials Federation* “member parish”.

In preparing to apply for affiliation with the *Anglican Essentials Federation* (AEF), it will be important that all members of the parish understand the principles, mission and goals of AEF. This will be essential to establishing an enduring consensus within the parish family in favour of affiliation with AEF and of standing with AEF in its mission.

For a parish’s application to be approved, the Executive Committee of *Anglican Essentials Federation* must be satisfied that the motion to join the AEF as a member parish will not seriously divide the parish family.

The motion to apply for AEF membership should thus receive a substantial majority in a vote taken at a general parish meeting. Votes of 80 to 85 percent and even higher would generally be recommended.

However, each parish’s application will be considered within its own situation. While the Executive Committee might accept a lower majority, it would do so only with the clear understanding that the integrity of the parish family would be maintained.

Procedure for application:

Following approval by the Parish Corporation, the rector and wardens should arrange one or more information meetings for the whole parish. The final vote approving the motion to apply for Federation membership should be taken once the parish family feels sufficiently informed and has called for the vote.

Minutes of the parish meeting at which the motion of application is considered and approved must be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Federation. The General Secretary will present the application to the Executive Committee for its final approval.

Motion of application for membership:

Moved by _____, seconded by _____, that, whereas this parish of _____, (city/town) in the Diocese of _____, is committed to the faithful support of the principles and objectives of the *Anglican Essentials Federation* and desires to work with and support the mission of the *Federation*, application for affiliation with the *Anglican Essentials Federation* as a member parish be hereby approved.

For further information and assistance, contact Michael Edward, General Secretary, *Anglican Essentials Federation*;

Phone (902) 659-2584; FAX (902) 659-2574; Email: gensec@anglicanessentials.ca

Information sheets:

What is the Federation?

Anglican Essentials Federation is a self-governing body representing Canadian Anglicans who seek the recovery of faithful biblical orthodoxy within their church.

The Federation is –

a constituent part of the Anglican Essentials movement.

a national organization representing Canadian Anglicans from coast to coast to coast.

a grassroots response to the current crisis facing our church.

a rallying place for faithful Anglicans who want to see the Anglican Church of Canada embrace and live by the principles of its orthodox Christian heritage.

a coordinating centre to help its members, be they individuals, organizations, or parishes, to understand and act in unity.

a channel of identity and communication with the global Anglican Communion.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

The Federation -

is committed to the foundational principles of Anglicanism as set forth in the Solemn Declaration of 1893 (page viii, Book of Common Prayer).

upholds faithful biblical orthodoxy as understood by the teaching of our Anglican Christian heritage.

believes Anglicanism must be defined by, and centered on, the classic principles on which it was founded.

acknowledges the supremacy of the Holy Scriptures in all matters of faith and conduct.

affirms the Book of Common Prayer as the foundational standard of doctrine and worship.

promotes the Montreal Declaration of 1994 as an affirming statement of the essential teachings of classic Anglican Christianity.

WHO DO WE REPRESENT?

The Federation represents Canadian Anglicans who -

- a) are deeply concerned about the drift away from orthodoxy and from the foundational principles and formularies¹ of their church.
- b) believe it is their mission to pray and work for renewal of the commitment to Jesus Christ and his Church and the recovery of a lively orthodoxy in the Anglican Church of Canada.
- c) are thus able, in conscience, to participate fully in the life of their parish families, their dioceses and the ACC.
- d) wish the General Synod of the ACC to commit to full membership in the Anglican Communion in accordance with The Solemn Declaration of 1893 (Page viii, BCP), the principles and recommendations of the Windsor Report and the terms of the draft Anglican Covenant.

WHAT ARE OUR PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES?

The Federation will seek to -

- be a voice for faithful Canadian Anglicans to the wider Communion.
- be a vehicle of communication for its membership across the country.
- support the establishment of local Federation support groups.
- provide information and news services via our website and newsletters.
- coordinate the work of presenting a strong voice at General Synod 2007.
- develop materials to help understand the issues and events happening in our church.
- generate teaching materials utilizing the latest technology to help learners grasp the principles of their faith and the story of their church.
- establish a national assembly to represent all Federation members.

¹ The **formularies** of the Anglican Church of Canada are generally understood to be the Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, the Book of Common Prayer as the standard of doctrine and worship, the Ordinal (containing the forms for ordaining deacons, priests and bishops), the Thirty-Nine Articles, and the Solemn Declaration of 1893.