

# 'Anglican Church International Communion'

## History and the foundation of ACIC

[A confederation of autonomous Anglican churches in full communion with each other.]

The Rt. Rev. Vincent Thakore was consecrated Bishop of Anglican Episcopal Diocese South and Metropolitan of Church of India Anglican Episcopal by  
The Rt. Rev. Lafond Lapointe, Archbishop of Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti,  
The Rt. Rev. Melvin H. Pickering of Diocese of Good Shepherd,  
The Rt. Rev. Larry Johnson, Bishop of Virginia and  
The Most Rev. Stephen C. Reber, Sr. of United Episcopal Church of North America, by intention.

The Anglican Bishops met as a Council after the consecration of Bishop Vincent Thakore and laid the foundation of a global Anglican Church made up of these four bishops and their parishes associated with them.

The following was determined and continues to stay the same:

The name of the Church shall be the Anglican Church International (ACI) now ACIC (Anglican Church International Communion).

As the Apostolic Church brought both Jewish and pagan peoples to Christ WE DECLARE that the Church today must be Church on Mission, reaching out to non-believers and neo-pagans with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This Church declares itself to be a part of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. It further states itself to be of Anglican doctrine, discipline and worship, adhering to the historical, basic requirements of Anglicanism.

This Church consists of congregations in communion with bishops, who have been admitted to this Church, said bishops being admitted on the basis of their standing in an Anglican jurisdiction.

Jurisdictions of this Church shall be in communion with each other, giving mutual recognition in all respects.

Admission to this church will be by the bishop signing the Declaration of Principles, and 75% vote of the College of Bishops at the Council (Synod). Bishops unable to attend a given meeting may attend by teleconference and vote on the election of officers and other agenda items.

The bishops shall meet at least annually with the presiding bishop's or president's jurisdiction. The term of office for the presiding bishop or president shall be one year, and a presiding bishop elect shall serve as a vice chair. A secretary to the College of Bishops will also be elected annually. The national synod shall elect a President - limited 1 year term; presiding bishop elect (Vice President) - limited 1 year term; and secretary - limited one year term, who will serve with the presiding bishop as an executive advisory committee for the ACIC.

The various jurisdictions may elect two delegates to the General Convention of Global Church,

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which should meet every third year at the time of the stated annual meeting of the College of Bishops.

The President of the College of Bishops, the presiding bishop of the Anglican Church International Communion (ACIC) shall have no authority from his position, except that of moral and spiritual influence he may exercise. Jurisdictions may request bishops of ACIC to serve on Church Courts within their diocese.

If in the opinion of 75% of the members of the College of Bishops a diocese has become apostate, that diocese shall be removed and its apostate bishops shall be removed from the ACIC and from membership in the College of Bishops.

Alterations and additions to this document may be made by a three-fourths vote of the College of Bishops, and of the elected clergy and lay delegates to a national synod of this Church.

- 1- Leadership time should be limited to prevent anyone assuming the office of the Presiding Bishop of ACIC for life. The Presiding Bishop will hold office for only a year. Yet it does not prevent Bishops to be Primus of their own jurisdiction.
- 2- Bishops will not have to contribute any money to the Presiding Bishop or any other Bishop. The Presiding Bishop will use his own resources.
- 3- Bishop's will not covet clergy or sheep of each other, nor trample over each other's jurisdiction. If such charges are brought against a bishop, ACIC Executive Council (President, Vice and Secretary) will convene a court of more than 50% of the ACIC bishops to reach a decision.
- 4- Each participating Bishop will stay independent and follow high-church or low-church Worship service according to their own jurisdictional tradition.

A basic Declaration of Principles was developed and adopted that is attached at the end.

[The Rt. Rev. Lafond Lapointe was the first organizational Presiding Bishop elected for 2001. The Rt. Rev. Larry Johnson has served as the second President of 2002 ACIC. The Rt. Rev. Melvin H. Pickering became the President for 2003 and The Rt. Rev. Vincent Thakore has been elected to be the Presiding Bishop for 2004. (The 2004 Executive Council consists of Presiding Bishop (Bishop Vincent Thakore), Vice President (Bishop Jorge Martinez) and Secretary (Bishop Larry Johnson). For ACIC 2005 Bishop Jorge Martinez has been elected as the ‘President elect’.]

The 2004 Synod of the College of Bishops will meet in Atlanta in September, 2004.

The Declaration of Principles is attached, with the list of bishops and jurisdictions who are members of ACIC (Anglican Church International Communion) at present, the year 2004:

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1. The Organizational President of ACIC 2001 - Bishop LaFond LaPointe of Haiti is now at home with the Lord. (Haiti)
2. Bishop Choppin Cusachs of The American Anglican Convocation [cusachs@beelsouth.net](mailto:cusachs@beelsouth.net). (US)
3. Bishop Luther Pierre Toussaint of Orthodox Apostolic Church of Haiti - [bishopluther@yahoo.fr](mailto:bishopluther@yahoo.fr) or [mgrlpt@caramail.com](mailto:mgrlpt@caramail.com) (Haiti)
4. Bishop Larry Johnson - Bishop of Haiti, and Ordinary of Anglican Church of VA - [cgci@shentel.net](mailto:cgci@shentel.net) (US)
5. Bishop Dennis Massey, Assistant to the Ordinary ADGS - [frmassey@yahoo.com](mailto:frmassey@yahoo.com) (US)
6. Bishop Mel Pickering, Bishop Ordinary Anglican Diocese of Good Shepherd, [mpickmhp@aol.com](mailto:mpickmhp@aol.com) (US)
7. Bishop Martin Sigillito \_ UK connection and AEC - [m.sigillito@att.net](mailto:m.sigillito@att.net) (US)
8. Bishop Vincent Thakore, Anglican Episcopal Diocese South, Presiding Bishop of The Church of India Anglican Episcopal and President 2004 of ACIC, [thakore@mail2Priest.com](mailto:thakore@mail2Priest.com) (US & India)
9. Bishop Michael Newman, Suffragan Windlesham, United Kingdom (UK)
10. Bishop L. John Whiting, Bishop of Silchester, United Kingdom (UK)
11. Bishop John Keep, Suffragan, Armodale, Australia (Australia)
12. The Most Rev. Dr. H. Reginald Hammond Presiding Bishop and Ordinary of The Anglican Episcopal Church, Ventura CA - [rhammond@anglican-west.org](mailto:rhammond@anglican-west.org), (US)
13. Bishop Robert Godfrey - Suffragan for Bishop Hammond of AEC - MI no e-mail (US)
14. Bishop Smith, MD - Suffragan for Bishop Marty (St. Louis) AEC - no e-mail (US)
15. Bishop Robert W. Baker, Missionary District of NW ADGS. (US)
16. Bishop Ernest Kelly of Australia (Australia)
17. Bishop Jorge Martinez Zendejas – Presiding Bishop of Independent Episcopal Church of Mexico - [conbates@Prodigy.Net.mx](mailto:conbates@Prodigy.Net.mx) - President elect ACIC 2005 (Mexico)
18. The Rt. Rev. Victor Manuel Cruz Blanco, Presiding Bishop of the Province/Diocese Of The Caribbean and New Granada (The Anglican Rite Catholic Church of Columbia, South America). (South America)

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## **DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES**

As the Apostolic Church brought both religious and non-religious peoples to Christ, WE DECLARE that the Church of today must be a church on mission, reaching out to believers and non-believers with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

WE FURTHER DECLARE that we adhere wholly to biblical teaching and to the following principles, and thus shall not accept any action or compromise that would weaken or change the faith and traditions of these principles and beliefs, which we hold to be essential to an unimpaired relationship with Jesus Christ and His one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

1. We believe in the authority of the HOLY SCRIPTURES as the inerrant Word of God, as summarized by the Creeds, taught by the Fathers, and defined in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, and the Authorized (King James) Version of The Holy Bible, it being the standard translation into the English language.
2. We believe the Nicene and Apostles' CREEDS are binding on every member of the Church as the expression of their specific personal commitment and conviction.
3. We believe HOLY BAPTISM as ordained by Christ, as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer, is the seal of our Salvation, and Confirmation by a bishop in the apostolic line is the means whereby we receive the strengthening gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Apostolic tradition.
4. We believe HOLY COMMUNION shall be validly celebrated by a bishop of the Apostolic Line, or by a priest ordained by such a bishop, and properly received by those confirmed or ready and desirous to be confirmed. Holy Communion will not be refused to believing baptized Christians of other traditions.
5. We believe HOLY ORDERS of Bishop, Priest, and Deacon are open only to believing men, following Biblical practice, the universal practice of the Holy Catholic Church, and as intended by our Book of Common Prayer.
6. We believe the integrity of the sacramental functions of the EPISCOPATE, and according to the Apostolic model, as evangelists, guardians of the faith, and caring shepherds of the flock, shall be placed above the administrative responsibilities that have so often caused mischief in the churches of former years.
7. We believe the historic BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER is regarded as a doctrinal standard and our common liturgy. We worship according to the 1928 American edition of the Book of Common Prayer, the 1962 Canadian edition, or the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer. We respect liturgical expression established by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in 1549, and the 1552 version as set forth by the Act of Uniformity, and other national equivalents so far as the faith is kept entire by them.

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8. We believe in the unique salvation of Jesus Christ and pledge our commitment to the words of Our Lord Jesus Christ about Himself: *"I am the WAY, the Truth, and the Life: and no man cometh to the Father, but by me."*

WE GIVE OUR WITNESS BEFORE GOD, to all believers in Christ, unbelievers and those who claim the name of Christ for themselves while disdaining Our Lord's own words about Himself.

SIGNED, In the Name of GOD the FATHER, GOD the SON and GOD the HOLY GHOST, the Bishops of THE ANGLICAN CHURCH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNION.

**Request to join**

I(we) the Bishop(s) of the Province/Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_(parish(s)

\_\_\_\_\_, of, \_\_\_\_\_( Country/Nation/ or State),

do request and pray to come into the Anglican Church International Communion. I(we) pledge and affirm my(our) agreement to the *Declaration of Principles* by my(our) signature(s) and seal(s) to this document, this \_\_\_\_\_Day of \_\_\_\_\_(month), two-thousand and four, in the year of Our Lord.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

The Rt. Rev. Vincent Thakore,  
Presiding Bishop of ACIC  
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