GS 1709

AMENDING CANON No. 30

(Of the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, Of holy orders in the Church of England, Of the consecration of bishops, Of the consecration of women as bishops, Of ministers exercising their ministry, Of admission and institution, Of the Oaths of Obedience, Of the Declaration of Assent, Of admission to the order of deaconesses, Of the nomination and admission of readers, Of the licensing of readers and Of the admission and licensing of lay workers)

- 1. Canon A 4 (Of the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons) shall be amended as follows.
- 2. All the words following the words "the Word of God;" shall be omitted and the remaining words shall become paragraph 1 of the Canon.
- 3. After paragraph 1 there shall be added the following paragraphs
 - "2. Those who are made, ordained or consecrated bishops, priests or deacons in accordance with the Ordinal, or in accordance with any form of service alternative thereto approved under Canon B 2 or authorised by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York under Canon C 4A, are lawfully made, ordained or consecrated bishops, priests or deacons and are to be accounted as such by all.
 - 3. Those who, having been lawfully made, ordained or consecrated as described in paragraph 2, are duly appointed to any office in the Church of England are the lawful holders of any such office and are to be accounted as such by all.
 - 4. The Church of England affirms that its members may, with a good conscience, hold theological convictions which render them unable to receive the ministry of female bishops or priests. In making arrangements to respect those theological convictions, the Church of England nevertheless accounts and affirms those who are made, ordained or consecrated as described in paragraph 2 to be truly bishops, priests or deacons.".
- 4. Canon C 1 (Of holy orders in the Church of England) shall be amended as follows.
- 5. After paragraph 3 there shall be inserted the following paragraph
 - "3A. Any priest or deacon holding any office or serving in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises episcopal functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese in accordance with arrangements made under section 4 of the Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of

Women) Measure 20.... shall also owe canonical obedience in all things lawful and honest to that bishop.".

- 6. In paragraph 4 at the end there shall be added the words "and to the complementary bishop (if any)".
- 7. Paragraph 5 of Canon C 2 (Of the consecration of bishops) shall be omitted.
- 8. After Canon C 2 there shall be inserted the following Canon –

"Canon C 2A Of the consecration of women as bishops

- 1. A woman may be consecrated to the office of bishop if she otherwise satisfies the requirements of Canon C 2 as to the persons who may be consecrated as bishops.
- 2. In the forms of service contained in *The Book of Common Prayer* or in the Ordinal words importing the masculine gender in relation to bishops shall be construed as including the feminine.".
- 9. In Canon C 8.2(a) (Of ministers exercising their ministry) all the words after the word "officiates" shall be omitted.
- 10. In Canon C 10 (Of admission and institution) paragraph 2A shall be omitted.
- 11. Canon C 14 (Of the Oaths of Obedience) shall be amended as follows.
- 12. For the form of Oath of Canonical Obedience set out in paragraph 3 there shall be substituted an Oath in the following form –

I, AB, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

- 13. After paragraph 3 there shall be inserted the following paragraph
 - "3A. Any person who is to be ordained priest or deacon and who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese, shall also take an Oath of Canonical Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.".

14. For the form of solemn affirmation set out in paragraph 4 there shall be substituted an affirmation in the following form –

I, AB, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.

- 15. After paragraph 4 there shall be inserted the following paragraph
 - "4A. Any person who is to be ordained priest or deacon and who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese may also make a solemn affirmation instead of the Oath of Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.".

- 16. For paragraph 5 there shall be substituted the following paragraphs -
 - "5. Every priest or deacon who is to be instituted, installed, licensed or admitted to any office in the Church of England or otherwise to serve in any place shall re-take the Oath of Canonical Obedience or re-affirm the solemn affirmation taken or made at his ordination to the bishop of the diocese by whom he is to be instituted, installed, licensed or admitted in the presence of that bishop or his commissary in the form set out in paragraph 3 or 4 of this Canon, unless the priest or deacon has been ordained on the same day and has already taken the Oath or made the affirmation.
 - 6. Where the office to which the priest or deacon is to be instituted, installed, licensed or admitted or the place in which he is to serve is an office or place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese he shall also take an Oath of Canonical Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

7. Any person who is to be instituted, installed, licensed or admitted to any office in the Church of England or otherwise to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese may also make a solemn affirmation instead of the Oath of Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of D and any

other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.".

- 17. Canon C 15 (Of the Declaration of Assent) shall be amended as follows.
- 18. In paragraph 2 the words "or provost", in each place where they occur, shall be omitted.
- 19. In paragraph 3
 - (a) for the words from "who" to "investiture" there shall be substituted the words "shall on the occasion of the commencement of his public ministry in the diocese"; and
 - (b) for the word "archbishop" in the second sentence there shall be substituted the words "bishop of the diocese".
- 20. Canon D 2 (Of admission to the order of deaconesses) shall be amended as follows.
- 21. For the form of Oath of Obedience set out in paragraph 5 there shall be substituted an Oath in the following form –

I, AB, swear by Almighty God that I will give due obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

- 22. After paragraph 5 there shall be inserted the following paragraphs -
 - "5A. Any woman who is to be admitted to the order of deaconesses and who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese shall also take an Oath of Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do swear by Almighty God that I will give due obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

5B. Instead of taking the Oath of Obedience set out in paragraph 5 a solemn affirmation may be made in the circumstances mentioned in section 5 of the Oaths Act 1978 in the following form:

I, AB, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will give due obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.

5C. Any woman who is to be admitted to the order of deaconesses and who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese may also make a solemn affirmation instead of

the Oath of Obedience in the presence of the complementary bishop in the following form:

I, AB, do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will pay true obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.".

- 23. Canon E 5 (Of the nomination and admission of readers) shall be amended as follows.
- 24. For the second form of declaration set out in paragraph 4 there shall be substituted a declaration in the following form –

I, AB, will give due obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.

- 25. After paragraph 4 there shall be inserted the following paragraph
 - "4A. Any person who is to be admitted to the office of reader and who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese shall also in the presence of the complementary bishop make a declaration in the following form:

I, AB, will give due obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.".

- 26. Canon E 6 (Of the licensing of readers) shall be amended as follows.
- 27. In paragraph 2, for the words after "welfare of" to the end of the paragraph there shall be substituted the following words –

"all people. I will give due obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me and the minister in whose cure I serve in all things lawful and honest."

- 28. After paragraph 2 there shall be inserted the following paragraphs
 - "2A. Any reader who is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese shall also in the presence of the complementary bishop make the declaration in the form set out in paragraph 2 except that, for the words beginning with the words "I will give due obedience" to the end of the declaration there shall be substituted the words "I will give due obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me and the minister in whose cure I may serve in all things lawful and honest.".

- 2B. If the declarations of assent and of obedience have been made on the same occasion in pursuance of paragraph 4 or 4A of Canon E 5 it shall not be necessary to repeat them in pursuance of paragraph 2 or 2A and in the form of declaration set out in paragraph 2 the words "the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and" and in the form of declaration set out in paragraph 2A the words "the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me and" shall be omitted.".
- 29. Canon E 8 (Of the admission and licensing of lay workers) shall be amended as follows.
- 30. For the second form of declaration set out in paragraph 4 there shall be substituted a declaration in the following form –

I, AB, will give due obedience to the Bishop of C and [his][her] successors and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.

- 31. After paragraph 4 there shall be inserted the following paragraph
 - "4A. Any person who is to be admitted as a lay worker and is to be licensed to serve in any place in relation to which a complementary bishop exercises functions delegated to him by the bishop of the diocese shall also in the presence of the complementary bishop make a declaration in the following form:

I, AB, will give due obedience to the Bishop of D and any other bishop for the time being set in authority over me in all things lawful and honest.".

- 32. This Canon shall come into force as follows -
 - (a) paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 and this paragraph shall come into force forthwith;
 - (b) paragraphs 9 and 10 shall come into force on the day on which Schedule 2 to the Bishops and Priests (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure 200... comes into force; and
 - (c) all other paragraphs shall come into force on the day on which section 1 of that Measure comes into force.

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