

THE CHURCH OF IRELAND

GENERAL SYNOD 2009

ACT

To amend Statute, Chapter V of 1944

WHEREAS it is desirable to make further provision for the regulation of the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to make provision for the appointment of lay canons to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast;

AND WHEREAS it is also desirable for the promotion of relations with other churches that provision should be made for the appointment of ecumenical canons to the said Cathedral Church;

AND WHEREAS the provisions of this Bill have the consent of the Ordinary and the approval of the Bishop of Down and Dromore and were adopted by the Dean and Chapter of the said Cathedral Church;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Armagh in the year 2009, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Section 5 of the Statute, Chapter V of 1944 shall be substituted by the following:
 5. The Chapter shall consist of the following members in the following order of precedence:-
 - (a) The Dean, who shall bear the title of “Dean of Belfast”;
 - (b) The Chancellor, who shall be the person for the time being appointed to the office of Archdeacon of Down;
 - (c) The Precentor, who shall be the person for the time being appointed to the office of Archdeacon of Belfast;
 - (d) The Treasurer, who shall be appointed by the Ordinary on the nomination of the Dean. The Dean shall only be entitled to nominate to the office of Treasurer a member of the clergy of the Church of Ireland who is on the staff

of the Cathedral staff and who, in the opinion of the Dean, has attained a sufficient degree of seniority for appointment to that office.

- (e) Ten Canons in order of seniority of appointment, who shall be appointed as follows:-
- i) Four Canons shall be appointed by the Bishop of Connor from among the beneficed or licensed clergy of such bishop's diocese;
 - ii) Four Canons shall be appointed by the Bishop of Down and Dromore from among the beneficed or licensed clergy of such bishop's diocese; and
 - iii) Two Canons shall be elected by the Dean and Chapter (or by the Chapter if the Office of Dean is vacant) from among the beneficed or licensed clergy of the Diocese of Connor and/or the Diocese of Down and Dromore.

2. The following sections shall be inserted after Section 5:

Ecumenical Canons

- 5A.** (1) In this Chapter "ecumenical canon" shall mean a minister or accredited preacher of one or other of such Christian denominations not in full communion with the Church as may from time to time be specified by the House of Bishops, appointed to office under the provisions of this section.
- (2) No person shall be eligible for appointment as an ecumenical canon unless resident in the Diocese of Down and Dromore or the Diocese of Connor at the time of such appointment.
 - (3) It shall be in the power of the Dean and Chapter, having first consulted with the Bishop of Down and Dromore and the Bishop of Connor, to appoint ecumenical canons, not exceeding three in number without salaries.
 - (4) Each ecumenical canon may be removed by the Dean and Chapter with the approval of the Bishop of Down and Dromore and the Bishop of Connor for cause shown.
 - (5) Each ecumenical canon, if not so removed, shall hold office until such person shall resign from office or cease to be a full-time minister or accredited preacher of one or other of such Christian denominations not in full communion with the Church as may from time to time be specified by the House of Bishops, whichever shall be the earlier.
 - (6) The appointment of an ecumenical canon shall not be effective unless and until that person shall make and subscribe before the Dean and Chapter the declaration contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed.
 - (7) An ecumenical canon may be invited by the Dean to perform all or any of the following duties insofar as the same are consonant with the provisions of Canon

- (a) To say or sing Morning or Evening Prayer or the Litany;
 - (b) To read the Holy Scriptures at any service;
 - (c) To deliver an address at any service;
 - (d) To assist at a Baptismal, Marriage or Funeral Service or at the Celebration of the Holy Communion; if the ecumenical canon is authorised to perform a similar duty in his or her own Church.
- (8) The Court of the General Synod shall have authority to determine all questions and disputes that may arise respecting the appointment or removal of an ecumenical canon.

Honorary Lay Canons

- 5B.** (1) In this Section “Lay Canon” shall mean a member of the Church of Ireland who, in recognition of such person’s service to the Cathedral or to the Diocese of Down and Dromore or to the Diocese of Connor or to some other aspect of the Church of Ireland, is appointed to office under the provisions of this Section.
- (2) The Bishop of Down and Dromore and the Bishop of Connor shall each appoint three Lay Canons from separate lists of nominees submitted to them by the Dean and Chapter.
 - (3) Each lay canon may be removed by the Dean and Chapter with the approval of the Bishop of Down and Dromore and the Bishop of Connor for cause shown.
 - (4) Each lay canon, if not so removed, shall hold office for life or until such person shall resign from office.
 - (5) Each lay canon shall perform such functions, if any, as are consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland and as may, from time to time, be delegated to such person by the Dean.
-

SCHEDULE

DECLARATION FOR SUBSCRIPTION

I, A.B., do hereby solemnly declare that:

- (1) I am a minister or accredited preacher of _____ Church.
- (2) I agree to be bound by the provisions of Part I of Chapter VII of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland and by the provisions of such Statutes of the Church of Ireland as shall from time to time relate to the administration and regulation of Saint Anne's Cathedral Belfast and, to that extent only, I submit myself to the authority of the Church of Ireland, and to the laws and tribunals thereof.
- (3) I A.B. do declare that I will perform Canonical obedience to the Dean of Saint Anne's Cathedral Belfast, and his successors canonically entering. The statutes and ancient customs of this Cathedral Church, so far as they are not repugnant to the laws of the Church of Ireland, I will observe, and my endeavours for their defence against all persons whatsoever will diligently use.

*I subscribe the above declaration
to be appointed to the office of
Ecumenical Canon of
Saint Anne's Cathedral Belfast
This day of 20*