

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

PROVINCES

- The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
 The Anglican Church of Australia
 The Church of Bangladesh
 The Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil
 The Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi
 The Anglican Church of Canada
 The Church of the Province of Central Africa
 The Anglican Church of the Central America Region
 The Anglican Church of the Congo
 The Church of England
 Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
 The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean
 The Church of Ireland
 Nippon Sei Ko Kai - The Anglican Communion in Japan
 The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East
 The Anglican Church of Kenya
 The Anglican Church of Korea
 The Church of the Province of Melanesia
 The Anglican Church of Mexico
 The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)
 The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)
 The Church of North India
 The Church of Pakistan
 The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea
 The Episcopal Church in the Philippines
 The Episcopal Church of Rwanda
 The Scottish Episcopal Church
 The Church of the Province of South East Asia
 The Anglican Church of Southern Africa
 The Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America
 The Church of South India
 The Episcopal Church of the Sudan
 The Anglican Church of Tanzania
 The Church of the Province of Uganda
 The Episcopal Church (United States of America)
*includes overseas dioceses in Taiwan, Haiti, Colombia, Honduras,
 Dominican Republic and Ecuador*
 The Church in Wales
 The Church of the Province of West Africa
 The Church in the Province of the West Indies

EXTRA-PROVINCIAL DIOCESES AND OTHER CHURCHES

- The Anglican Church of Bermuda
 The Anglican Church in Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
 The Episcopal Church of Cuba
 The Lusitanian Church (Portugal)
 The Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church
 Falkland Islands

CHURCHES IN COMMUNION

The Mar Thoma Syrian Church • The Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht • The Philippine Independent Church.

The Church in China is a "post denominational" Church whose formation included Anglicans in the Holy Catholic Church in China. Anglicans/Episcopalians, in certain parts of the Communion, are in full communion with some Lutheran Churches.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL



The Cathedral Church of Christ, Canterbury, England, is the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion. Daily prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist stand at the heart of its ongoing ministry, and the Archbishop is present at Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. The work of the Cathedral was recently extended with the development of the International Study Centre, which welcomes pilgrims and students from across the world. The ministry of the Cathedral is led by the Dean (the Very Revd Robert Willis) and Chapter of Canterbury.

www.canterbury-cathedral.org
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THE COMPASS ROSE

is the symbol of the Anglican Communion. As pictured on the front of this leaflet, it is centred on the Cross of St George, and with the biblical motto "The Truth shall set you free" (John 8:32). The Compass Rose itself bears witness to the mission of the Anglican Communion as it extends this message to all corners of the globe.



*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 be with us all ever more.
 AMEN.*

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THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

OUR FAITH

Anglican/Episcopal churches uphold and proclaim the Catholic and Apostolic faith, proclaimed in the Scriptures, interpreted in the light of tradition and reason. Following the teachings of Jesus Christ, Anglicans are committed to the proclamation of the good news of the Gospel to all creation. Our faith and ministry have been expressed through the Book of Common Prayer, received and adapted by local churches, in the Services of Ordination (the Ordinal), and in the Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral, first expounded at the missionary Conference in Chicago in 1886, and revised by the Lambeth Conference of 1888. The quadrilateral sets out four essential elements of the Christian faith:

1. The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as “containing all things necessary to salvation”, and as being the rule and ultimate standard of faith.
2. The Apostles’ Creed, as the baptismal symbol; and the Nicene Creed as the sufficient statement of the Christian faith.
3. The two Sacraments ordained by Christ himself - Baptism and the Supper of the Lord - ministered with unfailing use of Christ’s words of institution and of the elements ordained by Him.
4. The Historic Episcopate, locally adapted in the methods of its administration to the varying needs of the nations and peoples called of God into the unity of His Church.

Central to Anglican worship is the celebration of the Holy Eucharist (also called the Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper or the Mass). In this offering of prayer and praise, the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ are made a present reality through the proclamation of the Word, and the celebration of the Sacrament. Anglicans celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism, with water in the name of the Trinity, as the rite of entry into the Christian Church, and celebrate other sacramental rites, including Confirmation, Reconciliation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination.

Common prayer is at the heart of Anglicanism. Its styles may vary from the simple to the elaborate, from evangelical to catholic, charismatic to traditional. The various Books of Common Prayer give expression to a comprehensiveness found within the churches, which seeks to chart a *via media* in relation to other Christian traditions.

OUR CHURCHES

Deriving from the ancient Celtic and Saxon churches of the British Isles, Anglicanism found its distinctive identity in the sixteenth and seventeenth century Reformation, when the separate Church of England, along with the Church of Ireland

and the Scottish Episcopal Church, came into being. At the time of the American Revolution, an autonomous Episcopal Church was founded in the United States, and later Anglican or Episcopal churches were founded across the globe as a result of the missionary movements of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Many of these were given autonomy as Provinces in the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In South Asia, the United Churches, formed between Anglican and several Protestant traditions, also joined the Anglican Communion, as did churches elsewhere such as the Spanish Episcopal Reformed Church and the Lusitanian Church of Portugal.

Today, the Anglican Episcopal family consists of an estimated 78 million Christians who are members of 44 different churches. These make up 34 provinces, 4 United Churches, and 6 other churches, spread across the globe.

THE INSTRUMENTS OF COMMUNION

The churches of the Anglican Communion are held together by bonds of affection and common loyalty, expressed through links with the “Instruments of Communion” - the Archbishop of Canterbury as the focus for unity, the Lambeth Conference, the Primates Meeting and the Anglican Consultative Council.



The Archbishop of Canterbury

The churches are all in communion with the See of Canterbury in the Church of England, and thus the Archbishop of Canterbury, in his person and ministry, is the unique focus of Anglican unity. He calls the Lambeth Conference, and Primates Meeting, and is President of the Anglican Consultative Council. The 104th Archbishop of Canterbury in succession to Saint Augustine, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Rowan Williams, was enthroned in February 2003.

The Lambeth Conference

Every ten years or so, the Archbishop of Canterbury invites the bishops of the Anglican Communion to join with him in prayer, study and discernment. At the last Lambeth Conference in 1998, over 800 bishops were welcomed to the Conference which was held in Canterbury. The Conference meets in July 2008 in Canterbury Cathedral and the University of Kent.

The Primates Meeting

Since 1979, the Archbishop of Canterbury has also invited the primates (the presiding bishop, archbishop or moderator) of each of the 38 provinces, to join him in regular meetings for consultation, prayer and reflection on theological, social and international matters. These meetings take place approximately every eighteen months to two years.

The Anglican Consultative Council

In 1968 the bishops of the Lambeth Conference requested the establishment of a body representative of all sections (bishops, clergy and laity) of the churches, which could co-ordinate aspects of international Anglican ecumenical and mission work. With the consent of the legislative bodies of all the provinces, the Anglican Consultative Council was established, and has met regularly since.

ACC Meetings

Limuru, Kenya (1971) • Dublin, Eire (1973) • Trinidad (1976) • London, Ontario (1979) • Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England (1981) • Badagry, Nigeria (1984) • Singapore (1987) • Lampeter, Wales (1990) • Cape Town, South Africa (1993) • Panama (1996) • Dundee, Scotland (1999) • Hong Kong (2002) • Nottingham, England (2005).

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION OFFICE

There is a permanent secretariat, based in London, which serves the Instruments of Communion. The secretariat is responsible for organising all meetings of the conciliar Instruments of Communion, as well as the Commissions and Networks of the Communion. Funding comes from the Inter-Anglican budget, supported by all member churches according to their means. They are also invited to contribute to special projects, such as the **Personal Emergencies Fund** and various other projects and emergencies that arise.

The ACO is based at St Andrew’s House, London, under the leadership of the Secretary General, the Revd Canon Kenneth Kearon. St Andrew’s House offers a small number of rooms as accommodation for pilgrims and visitors.

Communications

The ACO maintains the official prayer cycle - daily prayer intentions for the dioceses of the Communion - updated regularly on our website. The website contains a vast amount of information and resources, including Anglican Communion News Service (ACNS) which is also available by email subscription. A new feature is *Anglican World News and Notes*. A comprehensive photo library is available for your use. Reports in book form, including the Ecumenical and Inter Faith dialogues, can be ordered from the respective departments.