ANGLICAN DIOCESE IN NEW ENGLAND

Supplement to Application for Ordination

**Personal Background:**

* What/who have been your primary theological teachers or influences?
* Apart from the Bible, what authors, theologians, teachers, movements, denominations, or schools of thought have most influenced your theology?
* Describe how your Christian faith shapes your everyday life.
* What role does Scripture play in your daily life?
* Have you been divorced? If so, please explain the circumstances.
* If you have been divorced and remarried, please state the date of your remarriage and the name of your current spouse.

**Doctrine & Interacting with the Anglican Formularies**

Thomas Cranmer wrote the Articles at the same time as the other great Protestant confessions, with the same purpose in mind. The Thirty-nine Articles can be organized and divided into three sections: the catholic (as in “universal”), the Protestant, and the Anglican. [Articles 1-8](https://www.anglicanism.info/articles-of-religion), the catholic Articles, define and describe what is to be believed by all Christians, everywhere and in every age. [Articles 9-34](https://www.anglicanism.info/articles-of-religion) are the Protestant Articles that describe how Anglicanism is distinctly Protestant and not Roman Catholic. The last ones ([Articles 35-39](https://www.anglicanism.info/articles-of-religion)) are considered the Anglican Articles, describing aspects of Anglicanism that are distinctive from other parts of Protestantism. [Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) Constitution and Canons](https://anglicanchurch.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/CURRENT-C-and-C-2019.pdf) states: We receive the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion of 1571, taken in their literal and grammatical sense, as expressing the Anglican response to certain doctrinal issues controverted at that time, and as expressing fundamental principles of authentic Anglican belief. [Jerusalem Declaration (Gafcon, 2008)](https://www.gafcon.org/jerusalem-2018/key-documents/jerusalem-declaration) states that “We uphold the Thirty-nine Articles as containing the true doctrine of the Church agreeing with God’s Word and as authoritative for Anglicans today.” Those who want to know what Anglicans believe about Scripture, predestination, transubstantiation, and whether or not the sacrament’s efficacy depends on the holiness of their minister need only to read the 39 Articles (see the Center For Reformational Anglicanism: anglicanisminfo.com).

Authority of Scripture

* Read the Jerusalem Declaration (Book of Common Prayer 2019, pg. 791-3). Can you agree with it? What article strikes you the most? Respond to the statement in Article 2: “We confess the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God, containing all things necessary for salvation, and to be the final authority and unchangeable standard for Christian faith and life.”

The Church

* Read Article XIX about “the church” according to the Anglican Reformers. How does that compare with your experience so far? What do you believe the church to be and what is the church’s function in the world?

The Sacraments

* Article XXV (pg.781) describes Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in the Anglican Communion. How are they similar or different than your experience growing up? What role have the sacraments played in your devotion and formation?

What is the Gospel to you?

* Articles IX, XV, XVI describe our original sin. Articles XVII describes how God intervenes to save sinners by choosing us. Article XVIII describes how Christ alone saves us, not our good works. Articles I, II, III, IV describes the nature of the Trinity and their work to save us from sin. St. Paul wrote, “Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners” (1 Timothy 1: 15). How would you summarize the Gospel? What is familiar, bringing comfort to you? What is new or difficult for you? How have you experienced the grace of Jesus Christ in your areas of sin? How do you continue to?

Briefly describe your philosophy of ministry.

* Reflect on the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19 – 20)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them inthe name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

How do you describe mission? How should it impact the life of an individual and the ministry of a local church? Do you see any unique challenges for mission in New England? Decribe.

**Leadership**

* Describe a time when you personally brought someone to a belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
* Describe an instance in which you personally discipled another person.
* Describe your spiritual disciplines and how you walk, hear and learn from God.
* If you have children, how are you raising them up in the Christian faith?
* Please explain why you are drawn to the Anglican way of following Jesus?
* Have you ever been involved in an Anglican church? If so, please elaborate, including a description of ministries you have led or participated in.
* Have you ever been disciplined or dismissed from a Christian congregation or denomination? Have you ever been denied or removed from an ordination or credentialing process with the ACNA or another Christian congregation or denomination? If so, please provide an account of the circumstances and your assessment of the matter according to Scripture.