



Anglican Church of Southern Africa
Diocese of Grahamstown

The Chairperson of Advisory Committee Grahamstown
Ms Anna Welekazi Mangaliso

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Dear People of God

RE: CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS FOR SEE OF GRAHAMSTOWN

Bishop Ebenezer Ntlali, has retired and the diocese is now vacant. The diocese is thus expected to prepare for the election of a new Bishop. To that effect, an Elective Assembly will be held on 18 November, and if necessary, the 19 November 2023 at St Michael and St George Cathedral Grahamstown.

To this end we call upon clergy and confirmed communicants of the diocese to submit names of candidates that will fill this office. In the mandate, some of the qualities mentioned are: one with the blessed gift of a Ruler and Pastor stained by no fault, deserving no blame, but approved of Christ, accepted by people.

The same shall by her/his life and doctrine witness truly for her/his Lord, exercising godly discipline, feed in faith and love the flock committed to her/his care, and at last present it faultless before God whom he/she serves.

This leader is one also who will co-operate in sisterly and brotherly love and humility with the Bishops of the Province, and in a spirit of loyalty to the Order and Constitution of the Church.

You may need some guidance at this stage and I recommend that you read the attached Affirmations in Canon 4 and Canon 18 to help you discern in your nomination.

The deadline for the submission of names is 15 September 2023, 16h00. Submit your nomination to the diocesan office for attention of **The Chairperson: Bishop's Elective Assembly Advisory Committee; Diocese of Grahamstown; PO Box 181; Grahamstown; 6140 in a sealed envelope.**

Only one nomination per envelope is allowed. No late submissions will be accepted. The diocesan office will keep a register confirming the receipt of the nomination.

Please pray for all the VG, the diocesan team and advisory committee as we prepare for this process. Pray for those considering or those whose names will be brought forward.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Welekazi Mangaliso

Mrs Welekazi Anastasia Mangaliso
The Chairperson of The Elective Assembly Advisory Committee

[Attached are segments of Canons 4 and 18]

CANON 4: OF THE ELECTION OF BISHOPS

Introductory Affirmations

First: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa affirms the historic episcopate, of which the ordination of bishops is an expression of the Church's continuity within the Church of the Fathers in the Apostolic Tradition. The Church accordingly affirms its fidelity to these ancient traditions.

Second: Within the Anglican Communion, the Church upholds the principle that the Church is episcopally led and synodically governed as a faith principle that no one should disturb without just cause. For that reason, all bishops acknowledge the authority of the Metropolitan of the Province, and in the exercise of their ministry as the force for order, unity and charity.

Third: In particular, the Church embraces the unity of the Church in doctrine, social and moral practice, common worship and in public proclamation. The Church affirms that the bishop is ordained as a bishop of the Church, but assigned and installed to undertake spiritual and temporal authority in the diocese or as a suffragan or missionary bishop;

Fourth: The authority of the Church, however, is exercised through the common will of the Church through the Synod of Bishops, and from time to time, through the resolutions of Provincial Synod and Provincial Standing Committee. A bishop of the Church therefore undertakes to abide by this tradition of doctrinal and spiritual unity and common purpose so that the world may believe;

Fifth: Every bishop therefore is installed in a diocese to serve as the symbol of faith and unity, of love and pastoral care, and of the stewardship of the resources, human, physical and spiritual, bestowed upon the Church by the grace of God. The bishop therefore is the chief pastor of all that lies within the diocese assigned to his or her care as Father or Mother-in-God; to teach and to uphold sound and wholesome doctrine; to banish false teaching and error; to uphold the role as a holy and ethical leader of God's faithful, in faith, love, charity and peace and whose life shall be an example of righteous and godly living.

CANON 18: OF ADMISSION TO THE ORDERS OF BISHOP, PRIEST AND DEACON

Amended by Provincial Synod 2019

1. Bishop

[The following are to be taken into account when considering any cleric who is nominated for election to the Order of Bishops or for translation to another Diocese including the Archbishopric:

- (a) The teachings in Acts 6(1-6), 1 Timothy 3:(1-7), the Charge in the Service of Ordination and Consecration of a Bishop and the grounds for objection in Canon 7(2);
- (b) Every priest who is to be consecrated as a bishop shall:
 - (i) be at least forty years of age,
 - (ii) have at least a bachelor's degree in Theology or the equivalent,
 - (iii) have been ordained and in full time ministry for not less than ten years,
 - (iv) be leading (and to have led) a sound Christian spiritual and social life,
 - (v) have a good reputation and be a person of integrity,
 - (vi) have experience in pastoral ministry,
 - (vii) have administrative ability, and
 - (viii) have received the necessary clearances after searches of the public registers referred to in Canon 4(11)(c)(i).
- (c) any of the requirements of subsections (b)(i), (ii), (iii) or (viii) may be relaxed if this is deemed in writing by the Metropolitan, in consultation with the Metropolitan's Executive, to be in the best interests of the Diocese concerned.