

Canon 3 – Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop

Division 1 -- Election of a Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop

301. When the Bishop has given notice of her or his intent to resign or retire as Bishop within the following twelve months, the Bishop or the Synod, by three-fourths vote, may request the election of Coadjutor Bishop. The election of a Coadjutor Bishop shall take place on a date and at a place fixed by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council.

302. When the Bishop believes that the mission and ministry of the Diocese requires additional episcopal leadership, the Bishop or the Synod by three-fourths vote, may request the election of a Suffragan Bishop. The election of a Suffragan Bishop shall take place on a date and at a place fixed by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council.

303. The nomination and election of a Coadjutor Bishop shall take place pursuant to Canon 2 and any relevant Regulations with the exception that the Bishop of the Diocese, if present, shall preside over the Electoral Synod.

304. The nomination and election of a Suffragan Bishop shall take place pursuant to the provisions of Canon 2 and any relevant Regulations with the exception that

(a) the nominees for the Office of Suffragan Bishop shall be submitted to and approved by the Bishop, and

(b) the Bishop, if present, shall preside over the Electoral Synod.

Division 2 -- Duties and Privileges of a Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop

321. The Coadjutor and/or Suffragan Bishop shall perform such Diocesan duties and exercise such Episcopal authority in the Diocese as assigned by the Bishop of the Diocese.

322. The Coadjutor and/or Suffragan Bishop shall have a seat in the Synod and the same right of voting therein as any other voting licensed Clergy registered for a Synod.

(a) In the absence of the Bishop of the Diocese, the Coadjutor Bishop shall be the presiding officer.

(b) In the absence or unwillingness of the Coadjutor Bishop to preside, then the Suffragan Bishop shall be the presiding officer pursuant to the provisions of Canon 2 and any relevant Regulations.

323. The Coadjutor and/or Suffragan Bishop shall be a member of the Diocesan Council.

324. The Coadjutor Bishop shall become and be the Bishop of the Diocese without any further election when any vacancy occurs in the See.

325. The Coadjutor Bishop has seniority over any Suffragan Bishop.