

1 **Canon Law**
2 *of the*
3 **Charismatic**
4 **Episcopal Church**

5
6 *Preamble: With a founding vision to "make visible the Kingdom of God*
7 *to the nations of the world; to bring the rich sacramental and liturgical*
8 *life of the early church to searching evangelicals and charismatics; to*
9 *carry the power of Pentecost to our brothers and sisters in the historic*
10 *churches; and finally, to provide a home for all Christians who seek a*
11 *catholic, evangelical, charismatic church and a foundation for their*
12 *lives and gifts of ministry", we the Bishops and Priests of the*
13 *International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church do*
14 *hereby present these Canons as a guide for our church. These Canons*
15 *speak to the particular needs of our present ecclesiastical life and are to*
16 *be observed under the loving care of our Bishops.*

17

1 Canon One:

2 On the International
3 Communion of the Charismatic
4 Episcopal Church

5 *Summary: The International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal*
6 *Church, encompassing all of the National Churches and International*
7 *Territories throughout the world, shall have as its Patriarchal See the*
8 *See of San Clemente, California, USA, the resident See of the Primate of*
9 *the United States. The Patriarch shall chair the Patriarch’s Council and*
10 *the International College of Archbishops, working with all Bishops to*
11 *establish and prosper the Church of God.*

12 I. The International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church

13 A. The International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal
14 Church (hereafter also referred to as the ICCEC, the Charismatic
15 Episcopal Church and the Church) encompasses all National
16 Churches, International Territories, Provinces, Dioceses, Parishes
17 and Congregations in communion with its Patriarch.

18 B. The Patriarchal See is the See of San Clemente, California, United
19 States of America.

20 II. The Patriarchate

21 A. The Patriarch

22 1. The spiritual head of the Charismatic Episcopal Church is the
23 Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The chief pastor is the Archbishop
24 of San Clemente, who serves as the Patriarch or “First Father”
25 of the Church.

1 2. The Patriarch of the ICCEC shall also serve as the Primate of
2 the Charismatic Episcopal Church in the United States of
3 America, as the Archbishop of the Province of San Clemente,
4 California, as the Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of San
5 Clemente, California, and as the Rector of St. Michael's
6 Cathedral, San Clemente, California.

7 3. The Patriarch is the ordinary authority on all matters of doctrine,
8 worship, pastoral care, church order and discipline within the
9 Church. The duties of the Patriarch include

10 a. Speaking God's Word to the Church and to the world;

11 b. Leading the Charismatic Episcopal Church in the initiation,
12 development and implementation of vision and strategy;

13 c. Serving as the chief guardian of the faith and liturgies of the
14 Church;

15 d. Visiting the International Territories, National Churches,
16 Provinces and Dioceses of the Church for the purpose of

17 i. Holding pastoral consultations with the Bishops and
18 Archbishops, and, with their advice, with the Clergy and
19 people of their jurisdictions;

20 ii. Preaching the Word of God; and

21 iii. Celebrating the Sacraments.

22 4. The Patriarch is an *ex officio* member of all the Councils of the
23 Church.

24 5. The Patriarch shall have patriarchal authority to administer
25 guidance and discipline over all Archbishops, in conformance
26 with Holy Scriptures, apostolic tradition, and the Canon Law of
27 the Charismatic Episcopal Church. In like manner he may
28 administer guidance and discipline at any level of the Church,
29 when necessary.

30 B. The Office of the Patriarch

- 1 1. The Office of the Patriarch is the ecclesiastical and
2 administrative headquarters of the ICCEC. The Office of the
3 Patriarch serves the Patriarch by facilitating the implementation
4 of the decisions of the Patriarch's Council and the International
5 College of Archbishops, supporting the ministry of the Patriarch
6 and promoting the unity of the whole Church.
- 7 2. The Patriarch shall appoint a General Secretary who shall serve
8 as special advisor and administrative assistant to the Patriarch.
9 He shall oversee, under the Patriarch's direction, the Office of
10 the Patriarch.
- 11 3. All staff of the Office of the Patriarch serve at the Patriarch's
12 pleasure. He is the official employer of the Office of the
13 Patriarch.
- 14 4. The Patriarch has the responsibility and authority in the
15 disbursement of all funds of the Patriarchal See. The Patriarch
16 may confer with the Patriarch's Council for advice and counsel
17 in this regard. The Office of the Patriarch administrates the
18 collection and disbursement of the funds of the Patriarchal See.

19 C. Councils

- 20 1. The Patriarch's Council
 - 21 e. The Patriarch's Council, comprised of the Patriarch , the
22 General Secretary of the ICCEC, and other Archbishops
23 chosen by the Patriarch in consensus with his Council, is the
24 authoritative Council for the ICCEC.
 - 25 f. The Patriarch's Council is the corporate and governing body
26 of the ICCEC, the guardian of the vision of the whole church,
27 and the final decisional authority under the headship of the
28 Patriarch who sits as the first among equals.
 - 29 g. The Patriarch's Council shall
 - 30 i. Establish canons, policies and standards for the ICCEC;
 - 31 ii. Review regular financial reports from all National
32 Churches and International Territories;

1 iii. Present to the International College of Archbishops a
2 regular budget for the Patriarchal See, proposed and
3 modified Canons, and other items for review, input, and
4 affirmation; and

5 iv. Oversee all budgets, activities and ministries of the
6 Agencies, Offices, International Societies, and
7 Committees of the Patriarchate.

8 h. The Patriarch's Council shall operate by the rules of
9 government by consensus.

10 i. Between meetings of the Patriarch's Council the Patriarch
11 has authority to make executive decisions and to act on
12 behalf of the ICCEC.

13 2. The International College of Archbishops

14 j. The International College of Archbishops is comprised of all
15 the Archbishops of the ICCEC. It is chaired by the Patriarch
16 and shall confer for the development of worldwide vision,
17 mutual support, and the business and mission of the ICCEC.
18 It is to ensure the conformity of all Archbishops to the faith,
19 practice and standards of the ICCEC.

20 k. The Patriarch's Council shall discern the agenda of the
21 International College of Archbishops.

22 i. The agenda shall then be presented to the College for
23 deliberation and consideration of additional items. The
24 College shall then seek to voice the mind and word of the
25 Lord concerning the issues presented to them.

26 ii. The Patriarch's Council shall have final authority to
27 determine the outcome of each issue before the church,
28 taking care to heed the voice of God's Spirit uttered by the
29 members of the College.

30 iii. This paradigm is to be followed at every level of
31 governance in the ICCEC (Primate's Council and House
32 of Bishops, Archbishop's Council and Provincial Council,

1 Bishop's Council and Diocesan Council, Rector's Council
2 and Parish Council).

- 3 1. The International College of Archbishops is first and
4 foremost a house of prayer.
- 5 m. The International College of Archbishops serves as the
6 administrative and advisory council of the ICCEC. It shall
- 7 i. Affirm all new and revised international canons;
8 ii. Review and give input to the Patriarch's Council on
9 reports made.
- 10 3. Executive Committees of the Patriarch's Council are established
11 to support the ministries of the Patriarch's Council.
- 12 4. International Convocations shall be called by the Patriarch, for
13 the gathering of the people of the ICCEC together with its
14 Bishops and Priests, as a family, for prayer, preaching,
15 inspiration and instruction.

16 **D. Agencies**

- 17 1. An agency is an arm of the Patriarchate authorized by the
18 Patriarch's Council to facilitate a specific ministry within the
19 overall vision of the ICCEC.
- 20 2. The International Development Agency
- 21 n. The International Development Agency (IDA) is the mission
22 and development arm of the Patriarchate and of the ICCEC.
- 23 o. The Patriarch holds jurisdiction of the Church throughout the
24 world. Where local jurisdiction is not established, the IDA
25 serves the Patriarchate in developing and establishing the
26 Church.
- 27 p. The IDA is authorized by the Patriarch to
- 28 i. organize Congregations, Parishes, Dioceses, Provinces,
29 National Churches and International Territories;
- 30 ii. legally establish and constitute the ICCEC in a nation or
31 group of nations;

1 iii. coordinate the extra jurisdictional ministries of the many
2 Mission Development Agencies to areas where there is no
3 local jurisdiction.

4 iv. utilize, deploy, administrate, and coordinate Bishops,
5 Clergy and Missionaries of the ICCEC to effect the
6 emergence of National Churches and International
7 Territories.

8 q. The Supervising Archbishop of the IDA

9 i. The Patriarch, in consensus with his Council, shall appoint
10 a Bishop to serve as the Supervising Archbishop and
11 Executive Director of the IDA.

12 ii. The Supervising Archbishop of the IDA shall be available
13 to the Patriarch's Council.

14 iii. The Supervising Archbishop of the IDA shall serve the
15 Patriarch as an apostolic legate.

16 r. Funding for the IDA shall be provided by:

17 i. A tithe from the Patriarchate;

18 ii. A tithe from the National Church and International
19 Territory Mission Development Agencies;

20 iii. Contributions from the budgets of National Churches,
21 Provinces, Dioceses, Parishes and Congregations of the
22 ICCEC;

23 iv. Designated offerings as authorized by the Patriarch's
24 Council;

25 v. Contributions from individual partners.

26 s. The IDA is the licensing agency for all trans-national
27 missionaries and missionary societies of the ICCEC.

28 t. The IDA and the International Agency on Education will
29 coordinate in the establishment of institutions of theological
30 education.

31 3. The International Agency on Education

1 u. The International Agency on Education (IAE) is the
2 education and formation arm of the Patriarchate to oversee
3 the training of clergy in the ICCEC.

4 v. The IAE is authorized by the Patriarch to

5 i. establish and regulate educational standards for clergy
6 formation;

7 ii. accredit seminaries established by International
8 Territories, National Churches, Provinces or Dioceses;

9 iii. organize, in cooperation with the IDA, institutions of
10 theological education in undeveloped and developing
11 areas where there is no local jurisdiction;

12 iv. coordinate transnational establishment of satellite
13 campuses of accredited seminaries;

14 v. design and implement specific curriculum for the
15 education of clergy.

16 w. Supervising Bishop

17 The Patriarch shall appoint a Bishop as the Supervising
18 Bishop. He shall serve as

19 i. chairman of the Executive Committee, and

20 ii. Executive Director of the IAE.

21 x. Committees

22 i. Executive Committee of the IAE, consisting of the
23 Supervising Bishop and two other Bishops, shall oversee
24 the activities of the IAE and serve as the accrediting board
25 for all seminaries.

26 ii. The Supervising Bishop may establish other committees
27 as necessary for administration, curriculum design,
28 standards, etc.

29 4. The International Office of Communications

30 y. The International Office of Communications (IOC) is the
31 communications arm of the Patriarchate to provide a voice

1 for the Patriarch and the ICCEC to the public at large and to
2 the media in particular.

3 z. The IOC is authorized by the Patriarch to serve in the areas
4 of

5 i. Press Relations

6 (i.) As the Media Spokesman for the Patriarch and
7 the ICCEC;

8 (ii.) To manage a database of major media outlets,

9 ii. Church Relations

10 (i.) To provide artwork of CEC logos, trademarks and
11 other layouts;

12 (ii.) To produce sample press releases and press
13 release templates;

14 (iii.) To serve as consultant to National Church,
15 International Territories, Provinces, Dioceses, and local
16 congregations in public relations and media strategies.

17 iii. Print and Related Media

18 (i.) To design and produce various publicity
19 materials, booklets and brochures for the CEC in
20 multiple languages;

21 (ii.) To provide language translation of documents and
22 materials for the church at large;

23 (iii.) To produce materials in print, CD-ROM or other
24 formats as needed.

25 iv. World Wide Web

26 (i.) To maintain the official web site for the ICCEC
27 and oversee all future developments;

28 (ii.) To regulate Internet activities for the ICCEC,
29 International Territories, National Churches, Provinces,
30 Dioceses and local congregations, including monitoring
31 local web sites for consistency and consulting in the
32 design and development of new web sites.

1 v. Radio/Television

2 (i.) To produce public service announcements and
3 commercials for radio and television;

4 (ii.) To provide radio and television programming and
5 consultation;

6 (iii.) To provide specialized audio/video production.

7 aa. Supervising Archbishop

8 The Patriarch shall appoint a Bishop to serve as the
9 Supervising Archbishop and Executive Director of the IOC.

10 i. He shall serve as a spokesman for the Patriarch.

11 ii. He shall serve as the official journalist for the Patriarch's
12 Council, the International College of Archbishops, the
13 U.S. Primate's Council and the U.S. House of Bishops.

14 iii. He shall provide coverage of the above meetings for
15 *Sursum Corda*.

16 iv. He shall appoint staff as necessary to carry out the work of
17 the IOC.

18 E. International Societies

19 1. International Societies are authorized by the Patriarch's Council
20 to provide particular ministry on behalf of the ICCEC
21 throughout the world, and may function as non-geographic
22 ecclesiastical jurisdictions.

23 2. The Director of a Society

24 bb. The Director is under the supervision of the Patriarch.

25 cc. The Director shall be selected by the Patriarch and his
26 Council in the spirit of consensus.

27 3. All Canons and Rules of Societies must be approved by the
28 Patriarch's Council.

29 4. The Patriarch's Council may authorize licensing or ordination in
30 a Society. Such ministries are recognized and function only
31 within the context of said societies.

1 dd.Should an ordained minister of the Society desire to operate
2 sacerdotally within a diocese, permission must be obtained
3 from the Diocesan Bishop and the Director of the Society or
4 his representative.

5 ee.Should an ordained minister of the Society desire to transfer
6 canonical residency into a particular diocese, he shall make
7 application with the Diocesan Bishop under the guidelines of
8 the Canon on Ministry.

9 5. Societies shall tithe to the Office of the Patriarch.

10 F. Funding

11 1. The Patriarchal See shall be funded by:

12 ff. A tithe from the National Cathedral of each National Church
13 or International Territory;

14 gg.A tithe from each National Church or International Territory;

15 hh.Special offerings, grants, and bequests.

16 ii. Designated offerings as authorized by the Patriarch's
17 Council.

18 2. The Patriarchal See shall tithe to the International Development
19 Agency.

20 G.Record Keeping

21 1. Financial Accountability

22 jj. The Office of the Patriarch shall keep accurate records of
23 financial contributions.

24 kk.The Patriarch's Council is responsible for the oversight and
25 review of the international budget of the Office of the
26 Patriarch.

27 ll. The Patriarch, as the chief levite, has the first right to the
28 tithe and specific oversight thereof in consultation with the
29 Patriarch's Council.

1 mm. Offerings may be administered by the Patriarch or his staff
2 at the discretion of the Patriarch in consultation with the
3 Patriarch's Council.

4 nn. A review of accounts by the Patriarch's Council may be
5 conducted at any time should it be the consensus of the
6 Council.

7 oo. An audit of the accounts of the Office of the Patriarch may
8 be requested by the Patriarch's Council at its discretion.

9 2. International Report

10 pp. The Office of the Patriarch shall present an annual report
11 including a financial report to the Patriarch's Council.

12 qq. The annual report shall contain a sufficient description of the
13 state of the Church.

14 III. The Organization and Procedures Manual of the International 15 Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church is an 16 authoritative description of the governance of the Church.

17

1 Canon Two:

2 The National Church or 3 International Territory

4 *Summary: The National Church or International Territory,*
5 *encompassing all Provinces, Dioceses, Parishes or Congregations of a*
6 *specified nation or territory, shall be under the direction of a National*
7 *Bishop or Primate. The National Bishop or Primate shall chair his*
8 *Council, and the Clergy and People shall work in consensus to establish*
9 *and prosper God's Church in the nation or territory.*

10 I. The National Church or International Territory

11 A. The National Church

- 12 1. The National Church is comprised of one or more Dioceses
13 within the boundaries of a nation, duly organized, authorized by
14 and in communion with the Patriarch of the ICCEC.
- 15 2. The presiding ecclesiastical authority of a National Church
16 depends on the size and development of the church.
 - 17 a. A National Church comprised of a single Diocese shall have
18 as its ecclesiastical authority the Diocesan Bishop.
 - 19 b. A National Church comprised of a Province shall have as its
20 ecclesiastical authority the Provincial Archbishop.
 - 21 c. A National Church comprised of multiple Provinces shall
22 have as its ecclesiastical authority the National Primate.

- #### 23 B. The International Territory is comprised of two or more National 24 Churches under the jurisdiction of a territorial Primate, which is 25 duly organized, authorized by, and in communion with the 26 Patriarch of the ICCEC.

1 II. Government

2 A. When a National Church is a Diocese it shall follow the Canon on
3 Diocesan Government.

4 B. When a National Church is a Province it shall follow the Canon on
5 Provincial Government.

6 C. When a National Church or International Territory is comprised of
7 multiple Provinces it shall follow the following Canon.

8 D. The Primate

9 1. The Primate of the National Church or International Territory
10 shall not only have oversight of the National Church or
11 International Territory, but shall have particular leadership in
12 the life of his Province, Diocese and Parish.

13 2. The Primate is the ordinary authority on all matters of doctrine,
14 worship, pastoral care, church order and discipline within the
15 National Church or International Territory.

16 3. The Primate is an *ex officio* member of every Council of his
17 jurisdiction.

18 E. The Office of the Primate

19 1. The Office of the Primate is the ecclesiastical and administrative
20 headquarters for the National Church or International Territory.

21 2. The Office of the Primate serves the Primate by facilitating the
22 implementation of the decisions of the Primate's Council and the
23 House of Bishops, supporting the ministry of the Primate and
24 providing coordination with the agencies of the National Church
25 or International Territory.

26 3. The Office of the Primate administrates the collection and
27 disbursement of the National Church funds.

28 4. The Primate may appoint a General Secretary who shall serve as
29 special advisor and administrative assistant to the Primate. He

1 may oversee, under the Primate's direction, the office of the
2 Primate.

3 5. All National Church staff members serve at the pleasure of the
4 Primate. He is the official employer of the National Church
5 Office.

6 6. The Primate has the responsibility and authority in the
7 disbursement of all National Church or International Territory
8 funds. The Primate may use the Primate's Council and/or the
9 Executive Finance Committee for advice and counsel in this
10 regard.

11 F. Councils

12 1. The Primate's Council, comprised of all acting Archbishops and
13 the General Secretary, is the authoritative Council for the
14 National Church. The Primate's Council shall follow the rules of
15 Government by Consensus.

16 d. The Primate's Council is the corporate and governing body of
17 the National Church or International Territory.

18 e. The Primate's Council shall

19 i. Establish canons, policies and standards for the National
20 Church or International Territory;

21 ii. Review annual financial reports from all Provinces;

22 iii. Present to the House of Bishops an annual national
23 budget, proposed and modified canons, and other items for
24 review, input and affirmation; and

25 iv. Oversee all budgets, activities and ministries of the
26 agencies and councils of the church.

27 f. The Patriarch is an *ex officio* member of all Primate's
28 Councils in the Church. When present, it is the Patriarch's
29 privilege to preside.

1 2. The House of Bishops, comprised of all acting Bishops of the
2 Church, represents all Provinces and Dioceses of the National
3 Church.

4 g. The House of Bishops is first and foremost a House of
5 Prayer.

6 h. The House serves as the administrative and advisory council
7 of the National Church. It shall

8 i. Affirm all new and revised National Church and
9 International Territory canons;

10 ii. Review and give input to the Primate's Council on reports
11 made.

12 i. Chaplaincy to the House of Bishops

13 i. A Priest, with the approval of the ecclesiastical authority
14 of the Diocese in which he is canonically resident, may be
15 appointed by the Primate to serve as Chaplain to the
16 House of Bishops.

17 ii. The Chaplain to the House of Bishops shall retain
18 canonical residence and remain under the ecclesiastical
19 jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Diocese.

20 iii. The Chaplain shall serve for a specified or open term, at
21 the discretion of the Primate.

22 iv. Duties of the Chaplain may include leading prayers,
23 presiding at Eucharists during sessions of the House of
24 Bishops, and other ministry functions designated by the
25 Primate.

26 v. At the discretion of the Primate, the Chaplain may attend
27 open sessions of the House of Bishops.

28 G. Committees and Agencies

29 1. The Mission Development Agency is the missionary arm of
30 the National Church or International Territory. The MDA
31 exercises it's ministry

- 1 j. within the jurisdiction of the National Church or International
2 Territory,
- 3 k. with other National Churches or International Territories by
4 the invitation of the respective ecclesiastical authority,
- 5 l. in undeveloped and developing areas where there is no local
6 jurisdiction, under the auspices of the International
7 Development Agency.
- 8 2. Executive Committees or Agencies are established to supply
9 and support the responsibilities of governance of the Primate's
10 Council.
- 11 H. National Convocations are gatherings of the people of a
12 National Church or International Territory, together with its Priests
13 and Bishops, as a family, for prayer, preaching, inspiration, and
14 instruction. The purpose of the Convocation is to feed, equip and
15 build up the Body of Christ.
- 16 I. The Primate may appoint officers to assist him in the
17 administration of his duties.

18 III. Funding

- 19 A. The National See and the National Church Budget shall be
20 funded by:
- 21 1. Sixty percent of the tithes of every Diocesan Cathedral
22 2. The tithe of each Provincial Cathedral
23 3. The tithe of each Province
- 24 B. The National See shall tithe to the Office of the Patriarch.

25 IV. Record keeping

- 26 A. Financial Accountability
- 27 1. The National Church shall keep accurate records of financial
28 contributions.

1 2. The Primate's Council is responsible for the oversight and
2 review of the National Budget.

3 m. The Primate, as chief levite, has first right to the tithe of the
4 National Church and general and specific oversight thereof in
5 consultation with the Primate's Council.

6 n. Offerings may be administered by the Primate or Staff at the
7 discretion of the Primate in consultation with the Primate's
8 Council

9 o. A review of the books by the Primate's Council may be
10 conducted at any time should it be the consensus of the
11 Primate's Council that such a review is necessary.

12 p. An audit of the National Church's books may be requested by
13 the Patriarch at any time.

14 **B.** National Report: the Office of the Primate shall present an
15 annual report including a financial report to the Primate's Council.
16 A copy shall also be forwarded to the Patriarch.

17

1 Canon Three:

2 On The Province

3 *Summary: Provinces, consisting of all the Dioceses in a given*
4 *geographic area, shall be formed under the direction of an Archbishop.*
5 *The Archbishop shall chair the Archbishop's Council, and the Bishops,*
6 *Priests and Deacons shall work in consensus to establish and prosper*
7 *God's Church in the area.*

8 I. The Province

9 A. A Province is comprised of two or more Dioceses within a
10 geographic area designated by the jurisdictional Archbishop and
11 his national or territorial Council. Multinational Provinces may
12 exist.

13 B. A Province shall be directed by an Archbishop.

14 II. The Archbishop

15 A. The Archbishop of the Province shall be appointed by the
16 jurisdictional Archbishop, in consensus with his national or
17 territorial Council and ratification by the House of Bishops.

18 B. The Archbishop shall not only have archiepiscopal authority
19 over the Province, but shall have particular leadership in the life of
20 his Diocese and Parish.

21 C. The Archbishop is the ordinary authority on all matters of
22 doctrine, worship, pastoral care, church order and discipline within
23 the Province. The duties of the Archbishop include

24 1. The development of dioceses with the province;

25 2. The spiritual care of the whole province;

1 3. The pastoral care of the Diocesan Bishops within the
2 province;

3 4. Oversee the establishment and implementation of the vision
4 and work of the Church at provincial, diocesan, and parish
5 levels.

6 D. The Archbishop shall be an *ex officio* member of every
7 Council under his jurisdiction.

8 E. The Archbishop shall be under the authority of the Primate,
9 and shall look to him for pastoral oversight and shared vision.

10 F. All Provincial staff members serve at the pleasure of the
11 Archbishop. He is the official employer of the Provincial Office.

12 G. The Provincial Archbishop has the responsibility and
13 authority in the disbursement of all Provincial Funds. The
14 Archbishop may use the Archbishop's Council and/or an Executive
15 Finance Committee for advice and counsel in this regard.

16 H. The Archbishop may appoint a General Secretary who shall
17 serve as special advisor and administrative assistant to the
18 Archbishop. He may oversee, under the Archbishop's direction,
19 the Office of the Archbishop.

20 III. Councils

21 A. The Archbishop's Council, comprised of the Archbishop,
22 other Bishops chosen by the Archbishop in consensus with his
23 Council, and the General Secretary, is the authoritative Council of
24 the Province. The Canon to the Ordinary and/or the Archdeacon
25 may serve at the discretion of the Archbishop.

26 1. New members shall be confirmed by the consensus of the
27 Archbishop's Council.

28 2. The Primate of the Church is an *ex officio* member of all
29 Archbishop's Councils. When present, it is the Primate's
30 privilege to preside.

1 3. The Archbishop's Council shall follow the rules of
2 Government by Consensus.

3 B. The Provincial Council is the administrative and advisory
4 council of the Province and is comprised of all Bishops within the
5 Province.

6 IV. Funding

7 A. The Province shall be funded from the Tithe of the Dioceses
8 and forty percent of the tithe of the Diocesan Cathedrals within the
9 Province.

10 B. The Province shall tithe to the Office of the Primate.

11 V. Record Keeping

12 A. Financial Accountability

13 1. The Province shall keep accurate records of financial
14 contributions

15 2. The Archbishop's Council is responsible for oversight and
16 review of the Provincial Budget.

17 a. The Archbishop, the chief levite, has first right to the tithe of
18 the Province and general and specific oversight thereof in
19 consultation with the Archbishop's Council.

20 b. Other funds may be administered by the Archbishop or Staff
21 at the discretion of the Archbishop in consultation with the
22 Archbishop's Council.

23 c. A review of the books by the Archbishop's Council may be
24 conducted at any time should it be the consensus of the
25 Archbishop's Council that such a review is necessary.

26 d. An audit of the Province's books may be requested by the
27 Primate at any time.

28 B. Provincial Report

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1. The Province shall submit a written and oral report of Provincial life to the biannual meeting of the Primate's Council.
2. The Province shall present an Annual Report including a financial report to the Office of the Primate based on the compilation of Diocesan Reports and including other information concerning Provincial life.

1 Canon Four:

2 On the Diocese

3 *Summary: Dioceses, consisting of at least five parishes and/or missions,*
4 *shall be formed under the direction of a Diocesan Bishop. The Bishop*
5 *shall chair the Bishop's Council, and the Bishops, Priests and Deacons*
6 *shall work in consensus to establish and prosper God's Church in the*
7 *area. It is the goal of the Charismatic Episcopal Church that the*
8 *Diocese shall be of such size and organization as to facilitate*
9 *meaningful pastoral oversight of the Parishes and Clergy by the*
10 *Diocesan Bishop.*

11 I. The Diocese

- 12 A. A Diocese is comprised of a minimum of five parishes and/or
13 missions within geographical boundaries established by
14 jurisdictional Archbishop and his Council.
- 15 B. A Diocese shall be under the direction of a Bishop.
- 16 C. A Diocese may be formed from
- 17 1. A geographic region within a Province;
18 2. The formation of a Diocese from the whole or any part of one
19 or more Missionary Districts; or
20 3. The division of an existing Diocese when such division
21 would better facilitate the ministries of the Church.
- 22 D. It is recommended that a Diocese not exceed the number of
23 twenty five parishes.
- 24 E. A geographic area may be designated a Missionary District
25 with a Canon Missioner being appointed by the Diocesan Bishop

1 until the development of sufficient Parishes and Missions to
2 constitute the formation of new Dioceses.

3 F. Deaneries may be established within the Dioceses with
4 Deans being appointed by the Diocesan Bishop to administer
5 oversight in his jurisdiction. The Deanery shall receive a portion of
6 funds from the tithes of the Parishes to the Diocese, that portion
7 being established by the Diocesan Bishop.

8 II. The Diocesan Bishop

9 A. The Bishop of the Diocese (also known as the Ordinary) shall
10 not only have oversight of the many Parishes of the Diocese, but
11 shall have particular leadership in the life of his Parish.

12 B. The Parish of the Diocesan Bishop shall be recognized as the
13 Cathedral Church of the Diocese.

14 C. The Bishop is an *ex officio* member of all Councils in his
15 jurisdiction.

16 D. The Bishop is the ordinary authority on all matters of
17 doctrine, worship, pastoral care, church order and discipline within
18 the Diocese. He may appoint, for assistance in his ministry the
19 following officers:

20 1. The Archdeacon, appointed from among the Priests and
21 Deacons of the Diocese. He is the Bishop's Deacon and serves
22 as his representative in all doctrinal, pastoral and liturgical
23 matters.

24 2. The Chancellor, the Bishop's representative in all business
25 and legal matters.

26 3. The Dean of the Cathedral Church, a Priest who serves as the
27 primary pastor, under the Bishop, of the Cathedral Church.

28 4. The Dean of a designated geographic Deanery.

29 5. The Canon Missioner of a Missionary District.

30 6. Other officers to assist in the execution of his duties.

1 E. The Diocesan Bishop shall be under the authority of the
2 Archbishop and shall look to him for pastoral oversight and shared
3 vision.

4 F. All Diocesan staff members serve at the pleasure of the
5 Diocesan Bishop. He is the official employer of the Diocesan
6 Office.

7 G. The Bishop has the responsibility and authority in the
8 disbursement of all Diocesan Funds. The Bishop may use the
9 Bishop's Council and/or the Executive Finance Committee for
10 advice and counsel in this regard.

11 H. No Bishop may perform Episcopal ministry in a Diocese
12 without the express permission of the Diocesan Bishop.

13 III. Councils

14 A. The Bishop's Council, comprised of the Diocesan Bishop and
15 Priests chosen by the Bishop in consensus with his Council, is the
16 authoritative Council of the Diocese.

17 1. New members shall be confirmed by the consensus of the
18 Bishop's Council.

19 2. The Archbishop is an *ex officio* member of all Bishop's
20 Councils within the Province. When present, it is the
21 Archbishop's privilege to preside.

22 3. The Bishop's Council shall follow the rules of Government
23 by Consensus.

24 B. The Diocesan Council is the administrative and advisory
25 council of the Diocese and is comprised of all Priests within the
26 Diocese.

27 IV. Funding

28 A. The Diocese shall be funded from the tithe of member
29 Parishes and Missions. The Diocese shall in turn tithe to the
30 Archdiocese.

1 B. The Cathedral of each Diocese shall tithe from its tithes and
2 general offerings.

3 1. In a single province church the Cathedrals shall tithe to the
4 office of the Archbishop.

5 2. In a multiprovincial church, the Cathedrals shall send sixty
6 percent of the tithe to the Office of the Primate and forty
7 percent of the tithe to the Office of the Provincial Archbishop.

8 V. Record Keeping

9 A. Financial Accountability

10 1. The Diocese shall keep accurate records of financial
11 contributions.

12 2. The Bishop's Council is responsible for oversight and review
13 of the Diocesan budget.

14 a. The Bishop, the chief levite, has first right to the tithe of the
15 diocese and general and specific oversight thereof in
16 consultation with the Bishop's Council.

17 b. Other funds may be administered by the Bishop or Staff at
18 the discretion of the Bishop in consultation with the Bishop's
19 Council.

20 c. A review of the books by the Bishop's Council may be
21 conducted at any time should it be the consensus of the
22 Council that such a review is necessary.

23 d. An audit of the Diocese's books may be requested by the
24 Archbishop or Primate at any time.

25 B. The Diocese shall present an Annual Report including a
26 financial report to the Archbishop, based on the compilation of
27 Parochial Reports and including other information concerning
28 Diocesan life.

1 Canon Five:

2 On the Parish

3 *Summary: The Parish, as the local expression of the Charismatic*
4 *Episcopal Church, shall consist of at least twelve families, under the*
5 *direction of the Bishop, which covenants to share in the life of the*
6 *Diocese through worship, ministry, financial support and prayer.*

7 I. The Formation of the Parish

8 A. A Parish shall not have geographical boundaries, but shall
9 consist of all persons enrolled as communicants therein.

10 B. Any congregation desiring to be received into union with the
11 Church shall declare its desire thereof, duly certified by the
12 authorities of said congregation, by means of the Letter of Intent.
13 This being done, it shall be at the discretion of the Bishop to admit
14 the Parish into union with the Diocese as either a Mission Church
15 or Parish Church.

16 1. A Mission Church is one under development; it is thus non
17 self-supporting and dependent upon either diocesan support,
18 other outside support, or cost saving strategies, such as utilizing
19 bivocational clergy. A Mission consisting of fewer than twelve
20 families shall be designated a Mission Station. The Bishop is the
21 Rector of all Mission Churches. The Priest-in-Charge of the
22 Mission is the vicarious Rector, i.e., the Vicar.

23 2. A Parish Church is a fully self-supporting congregation, able
24 through tithes and offerings to fund the Priest-in-Charge,
25 programs, facilities, and all other requirements and ministries of
26 parish life. It shall have a Rector's Council that is fully
27 functioning to the Bishop's satisfaction. To be considered a
28 Parish Church, a congregation must be received as such by the

1 Bishop of the Diocese. The Priest-in-Charge of a Parish Church
2 is the Rector of the Parish.

3 C. In the organization of a new congregation, the congregation
4 shall be a Mission Church for a period of time set at the Bishop's
5 discretion.

6 D. The Congregation shall begin tithing to the Diocese upon
7 beginning a formal relationship. Missionary Priests who serve a
8 church that has not yet been received into the Charismatic
9 Episcopal Church shall personally tithe to the Diocese until the
10 church has been received.

11 II. The Full Communion Parish

12 A. A new congregation, having participated in the life of the
13 Diocese for at least six months, and having maintained at least
14 twelve households, and having covenanted to tithe to the Diocese
15 from the tithes and general offerings collected, shall be received as
16 a Full Communion Mission Church.

17 B. A Mission Church, having participated in the life of the
18 Diocese for at least six months, having reached self-support status,
19 and having demonstrated faithfulness in tithing to the Diocese
20 from the tithes and general offerings collected, with the Bishop's
21 approval, may be received as a Full Communion Parish.

22 C. Before a congregation is received as a Full Communion
23 Parish, it is required that the leadership be instructed by the Bishop
24 or his representative concerning the three streams of Christian faith
25 (catholic, evangelical, and charismatic), principles of tithes and
26 offerings, government by consensus, and the canons and
27 organizational structure of the Charismatic Episcopal Church.

28 D. The reception of the Parish into Full Communion shall be
29 witnessed by the visitation of the Bishop for the confirmation
30 and/or reception of the communicants.

31 III. Ownership of Property

1 A. While Parishes may own their property, it is strongly
2 recommended that Parishes bring their properties under the
3 ownership of the Charismatic Episcopal Church, thus protecting
4 both Priests and Congregations from possible future difficulties.

5 B. The Rector's Council shall be the Trustees of Parish-owned
6 properties and Charismatic Episcopal Church owned properties
7 held in trust for that parish.

8 IV. Parish Government

9 A. The chief pastor of the parish shall be the Diocesan Bishop.

10 B. The Bishop shall be represented by Priests and Deacons
11 serving under the Bishop.

12 C. The Rector of the Parish has full authority in all Parish
13 concerns, in conformance with the Holy Scriptures, Apostolic
14 Tradition, and the Canon Law of the Charismatic Episcopal
15 Church.

16 1. All staff members serve at the pleasure of the Rector. He is
17 the official employer of the Parish.

18 2. The Rector has the responsibility and authority in the
19 disbursement of all Parish Funds. The Rector may use the
20 Rector's Council and/or an Executive Finance Committee for
21 advice and counsel in this regard.

22 3. The Rector is an *ex officio* member of every Council in his
23 jurisdiction.

24 D. Councils

25 1. The Rector's Council, comprised of the Rector, Priests
26 appointed by the Rector, and other men who serve at the
27 discretion of the Rector, is the authoritative body of the Parish.

28 a. New members shall be confirmed by the consensus of the
29 Rector's Council.

1 b. The Diocesan Bishop shall be an *ex officio* member of all
2 Rector's Councils within the Diocese. When present, it is the
3 Bishop's privilege to preside.

4 c. The Rector's Council shall follow the rules of Government by
5 Consensus.

6 2. The Parish Council shall be the administrative and advisory
7 body of the Parish and shall be comprised of those serving in
8 various leadership roles within the Parish.

9 E. The spirit of government in every Parish should be that of
10 government by consensus, with the Clergy and other leadership
11 working together in a spirit of concord, a bonded community freely
12 and generally consenting to the Lord's leadership under the
13 guidance of the Holy Spirit.

14 V. Funding

15 A. The Parish shall be funded from the tithes and offerings of
16 parishioners.

17 B. The Parish shall tithe to the Office of the Diocesan Bishop.

18 VI. Record Keeping

19 A. Parishes shall keep an accurate Parish Register, recording
20 baptisms (with parentage, date of birth, sponsors or witnesses, date
21 of rite, etc.), confirmations, marriages, burials, number of
22 communicants, and other important information. This book shall
23 be presented to the Diocesan Bishop for his inspection annually.

24 B. Financial Accountability

25 1. Parishes shall keep accurate records of financial
26 contributions.

27 2. The Rector's Council of each Parish is responsible for the
28 oversight and review of the budget.

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- d. The Rector, as chief levite, has first right to the tithe of the parish and general and specific oversight thereof in consultation with the Rector's Council.
- e. Offerings may be administered by the Rector or Staff at the discretion of the Rector in consultation with the Rector's Council.
- f. A review of the books by the Rector's Council may be conducted at any time should it be the consensus of the Rector's Council that such a review is necessary.
- g. An audit of the parish's books may be requested by the Bishop at any time.

C. Parochial Reports

1. It shall be the duty of every Rector to deliver to the Diocese a report of the preceding year including the following information: the number of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials and other official acts; the number of baptized persons and the number of communicants within his cure; the Treasurer's report for the past year; and other information concerning the state of Parish life.
2. The year reported shall be the calendar year.

1 *Canon Six:*

2 *On the Ministry*

3 *Summary: The Charismatic Episcopal Church shall be served by*
4 *Bishops, Priests and Deacons in Apostolic Succession under the*
5 *spiritual headship of Jesus Christ with the Patriarch serving as chief*
6 *pastor. Other offices of ministry are recognized, and the priesthood of*
7 *all believers is to be exercised in the whole Church.*

8 I. Ordained Ministry

9 A. Defined

- 10 1. The term clergy refers to the ordained ministries of Bishops,
11 Priests and Deacons.
- 12 2. The ordained ministry is responsible for the liturgical,
13 sacramental and teaching ministries of the Church.
- 14 3. The ordained ministry is called chiefly to equip and lead the
15 Church which is the royal and priestly company who offer to
16 God the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving through the
17 stewardship of time, energy, finances and spiritual gifts.

18 B. The Episcopal Office

- 19 1. Bishops are the successors of the apostles.
 - 20 a. The office of the Bishop contains the full sacramental grace
21 of the Church.
 - 22 b. The Bishop is the sacramental sign and symbol of the
23 government of God in the earth.
 - 24 c. Bishops enjoy the fullness of the sacrament of orders, and
25 both presbyters and deacons are dependent upon them in the
26 exercise of their authority.

1 2. Pastoral Ministry

2 d. All Bishops shall be first and foremost shepherds of the
3 flock.

4 e. No one shall be consecrated Bishop unless he be a Priest in
5 the Charismatic Episcopal Church, having attained thirty
6 years of age.

7 f. Election of a Bishop

8 i. In a national church, Candidates for the office of Bishop
9 shall be recommended to the House of Bishops by the
10 national council at a regular meeting of the House.

11 ii. The recommendation shall be affirmed by the clergy of
12 the Diocese in which the recommended Bishop shall
13 serve, and by the Parish in which he is rector.

14 iii. Upon said affirmation, the recommended Bishop may
15 be elected at a subsequent meeting of the House, with the
16 consecration following as determined by the House.

17 iv. Any elected Bishop must be approved by the Patriarch.

18 v. The Bishop may serve in his office for life, or until
19 retirement.

20 3. Diocesan Bishops

21 g. Diocesan Bishops shall maintain the oversight of a parish
22 (with the assistance of a Dean), developing and initiating its
23 vision and strategy, the said parish being recognized as the
24 Cathedral of the Diocese.

25 h. A Bishop shall confine the exercise of such office to the
26 Diocese in which elected, unless requested to perform
27 Episcopal acts in another Diocese by the Ecclesiastical
28 Authority thereof, or unless authorized by the House of
29 Bishops, or by the Archbishop, to act temporarily in case of
30 need within any territories not yet organized into Dioceses of
31 the Church.

32 i. The duties of the office of Bishop include

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- i. The setting of vision for the Diocese, serving as a "Father in the Lord" to the clergy and laity.
- ii. The calling and oversight of meetings with the Clergy of the Diocese, both publicly and privately, for their spiritual nourishment and mutual edification.
- iii. Serving *ex officio* on all Rector's Councils within the Diocese.
- iv. The ordination of Priests and deacons.
- v. The regular visitation of every parish in the Diocese for the purpose of
 - (i.) The administration of the Sacraments
 - (ii.) The preaching of the Word of God.
- vi. The administration of the Diocese.
- j. The Bishop may appoint Diocesan officers to assist him in the administration of his duties, but shall by no means diminish the pastoral responsibilities of his calling.
- k. All Bishops, including the Archbishops and the Primate, shall labor together according to the spirit and mandates of government by consensus.

4. Archbishops

- l. Archbishops shall serve as pastors and overseers of the Provinces of the Church, working with the Diocesan Bishops to care for and strengthen the church of God.
- m. In National Churches or International Territories the Archbishop of a Province shall be selected by the jurisdictional Archbishop and his national council, in the spirit of consensus, and confirmed by the House of Bishops.
- n. Any elected Archbishop must be approved by the Patriarch.
- o. The duties of the Archbishop include
 - i. The setting of vision for the Province, serving as a "father in the Lord" to the Diocesan Bishops, other clergy and laity of the Province.

1 ii. The calling and oversight of meetings with the Bishops
2 and other clergy of the Province for the purpose of
3 spiritual nourishment, mutual edification and the
4 implementation of vision for the Province.

5 iii. Serving as an *ex officio* member of the Bishop's
6 Councils within the Province.

7 p. The Archbishop may appoint Provincial officers to assist in
8 the administration of his duties.

9 5. Primate

10 ¶ In National Churches or International Territories where there
11 are two or more Provinces, one of the archiepiscopal sees is
12 designated by the Patriarch as prime. The Archbishop of said
13 Province is designated as Primate.

14 r. The Primate serves in the office for life or until retirement.

15 s. The duties of the Primate include

16 i. Leading the National Church or International Territory in
17 the initiation, development and implementation of vision
18 and strategy;

19 ii. Presiding over meetings of the Primate's Council and
20 from time to time assembling the Bishops of the Church to
21 meet together for the benefit of the Church;

22 iii. Visiting the Provinces and Dioceses of the National
23 Church or International Territory for the purpose of

24 (i.) Holding pastoral consultations with the Bishop or
25 Bishops and, with their advice, other leaders of the
26 jurisdiction;

27 (ii.) Preaching the Word; and

28 (iii.) Celebrating the Sacraments.

29 iv. Serving as an *ex officio* member of all Archbishop's
30 Councils.

- 1 v. Annually reporting to the Church through the House of
2 Bishops concerning the state of the Church, and from time
3 to time publishing Pastoral Letters.
- 4 t. The Primate shall have archiepiscopal authority to administer
5 guidance and discipline over all Archbishops, in
6 conformance with Holy Scriptures, apostolic tradition, and
7 the Canon Law of the Charismatic Episcopal Church. Any
8 disciplinary action deemed necessary must be presented to
9 the Primate's Council for ratification by consensus.
- 10 u. To be better enabled to perform such duties and
11 responsibilities, the Primate may appoint officers to positions
12 established by the House of Bishops, and may delegate to
13 these officers such authority as he shall deem appropriate.
- 14 6. Patriarch: The Archbishop of San Clemente serves as the
15 Patriarch or "First Father" of the International Communion of
16 the Charismatic Episcopal Church.
- 17 7. Auxiliary and Coadjutor Bishops
- 18 v. Auxiliary Bishops shall be nominated by Diocesan Bishops,
19 Archbishops, or the Primate and elected by the consensus of
20 the House of Bishops. The Auxiliary Bishop serves at the
21 direction of the Bishop Ordinary and shall not possess the
22 right of succession.
- 23 w. Coadjutor Bishops are in all ways like Auxiliary Bishops,
24 except they shall possess the right of succession in
25 accordance with Canon Law.
- 26 8. The House of Bishops
- 27 x. The House of Bishops is comprised of all active Bishops of a
28 National Church or International Territory, and additional
29 members appointed by the consensus of Bishops.
- 30 y. The House of Bishops shall meet at least annually.
- 31 C. Priests

1 1. The candidate for Priesthood shall be a male communicant in
2 good standing in the Charismatic Episcopal Church, having
3 reached the age of 24 years, holding an earned Masters degree
4 (or equivalent) and having completed the preparatory
5 requirements for Priesthood during a period of postulancy.

6 2. Before ordination to the Priesthood, there shall be submitted
7 to the Diocesan Bishop a letter of application from the
8 Candidate and a letter of recommendation from the Priest(s)
9 giving pastoral oversight during the postulancy. The Candidate
10 shall be recommended to the Bishop by Priests within the
11 Diocese who attest to the call of God on the Candidate's life and
12 his abilities to respond to the call.

13 3. The ministry of the Priest shall include:

14 z. According to the office and authority of the Bishop, and in
15 the name of the Bishop, gathering the family of God together
16 as a people enlivened by one Spirit;

17 aa. Offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice which is a full and
18 complete participation in the Sacrifice of Christ once offered.

19 bb. Pastoral oversight of a Parish and/or other cure;

20 cc. Teaching and preaching the Word of God;

21 dd. Hearing sacramental confessions and granting absolution;
22 and

23 ee. Administering the sacrament of Holy Unction.

24 D. Deacons

25 1. Deacons are ministers who are ordained for the tasks of the
26 service of the Church through the ministry of the Word, divine
27 worship, and services of charity which are carried out under the
28 pastoral authority of the Bishop.

29 2. The candidate for the Diaconate, must be a male
30 communicant, at least 21 years of age, in good standing in the
31 Charismatic Episcopal Church, holding an earned Bachelor's

1 degree (or equivalent), and having completed the preparatory
2 requirements for the Diaconate during a period of postulancy.

3 3. Before ordination to the Diaconate, there shall be submitted
4 to the Bishop a letter of application from the Candidate and a
5 letter of recommendation from the Priest(s) giving pastoral
6 oversight during the postulancy.

7 4. The ministry of the Deacon includes

8 ff. Caring for the sick, poor and needy;

9 gg. Assisting the Priest or Bishop in the administration of the
10 Sacraments;

11 hh. Teaching and preaching the Word of God; and

12 ii. Assisting in parochial administration

13 E. Candidacy for Holy Orders

14 1. Upon reception of application for Holy Orders, the Bishop
15 and at least two Priests shall interview the applicant. Upon the
16 acceptance of the application for Holy Orders, the Bishop shall
17 admit the applicant to Postulancy, working closely with the
18 Postulant to develop and monitor a program of preparation for
19 Holy Orders.

20 2. Preparation for Holy Orders shall include theological
21 training, practical experience, psychological evaluation, and
22 spiritual formation, with pastoral guidance provided throughout
23 the period of preparation.

24 3. If the Postulant does not hold the appropriate degree, but has
25 shown such proficiency in an occupation or profession as gives
26 promise of usefulness in Holy Orders, the Postulant shall be
27 required to obtain the appropriate degree, or to read for Holy
28 Orders and pass an examination on essential subjects.

29 F. Receiving Clergy from Other Christian Bodies

30 1. Non-apostolic Succession

1 jj. If a person ordained or licensed by another Christian body
2 not in apostolic succession of Bishops should apply to the
3 Charismatic Episcopal Church for Holy Orders, the Bishop
4 and at least two Priests shall interview said clergy, giving
5 consideration to his knowledge of Scripture, theology,
6 Church history, liturgy and practical pastoral experience.

7 kk. The Candidate having fulfilled the requirements of
8 postulancy, the Bishop may ordain the Candidate to the
9 office to which he is called.

10 2. Apostolic Succession

11 ll. If a person ordained in apostolic succession should apply to
12 the Charismatic Episcopal Church for Holy Orders, the
13 Bishop and at least two Priests shall interview said clergy. If
14 the Candidate has met the requirements for ordination, his
15 orders shall be received.

16 mm. If the candidate has not met the requirements for ordination,
17 he may be received as a postulant.

18 II. Non-ordained Ministries

19 A. Every baptized believer is a minister in the Body of Christ.
20 The public installation of qualified persons in positions of ministry
21 is encouraged.

22 B. Licensed Ministries: Non-ordained ministries including
23 Catechists, Lay Readers, Lay Preachers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers,
24 Subdeacons and Exorcists may be licensed by the Bishop, with
25 guidelines for the training and selection of such persons being
26 established by the Bishop.

27 C. Commissioned Ministries: Those serving in non-ordained
28 ministries (e.g.: evangelists, prophets, teachers, etc.) who derive a
29 significant portion of their income from said ministry, or who are
30 in full time non-stipendiary ministry, may, with the approval of the
31 Rector's Council and the Bishop, be installed as Commissioned

1 Ministers, thus giving official legal and tax status to those in
2 full-time ministry who are non-ordained.

3 III. Membership

4 A. A Baptized Member is one baptized in water in the name of
5 the Trinity who maintains fellowship in a particular congregation
6 and who is enrolled in the parish register.

7 B. A Communicant is a Baptized Member who regularly
8 participates in the life of the congregation, including sharing in the
9 sacraments.

10 C. A Confirmed Member is a Communicant who has been
11 confirmed by the laying on of hands of a Bishop in the Charismatic
12 Episcopal Church, or has been received by a Bishop of the
13 Charismatic Episcopal Church, having been previously confirmed
14 in a communion in apostolic succession. Only confirmed members
15 may hold canonical offices.

16 D. Responsibilities of Members

- 17 1. Regular participation in the life of the Church;
- 18 2. Contributing tithes and offerings;
- 19 3. Submission to the vision of the leadership;
- 20 4. Serving through various gifts and ministries for the building
21 up of the Church;
- 22 5. A commitment to the Great Commission and the Great
23 Commandment.

24 IV. Discipline and Disposition of Orders and Ministry

25 A. The correction of Communicants, Deacons, Priests and
26 Bishops shall be administered by the responsible Ecclesiastical
27 Authority (Rector, Bishop, Archbishop, Primate or Patriarch) in
28 consultation with his Council (Rector's Council, Bishop's Council,
29 Archbishop's Council, Primate's Council or Patriarch's Council).

1 B. Grievances shall also be heard by the responsible
2 Ecclesiastical Authority in consultation with his Council.

3 C. All corrections and grievances may be appealed to the next
4 immediate level of authority, and may, at that authority's
5 discretion, be entertained or dismissed.

6 D. The purpose and goal of all discipline is restoration.

7 E. Extraordinary Discipline

8 1. Circumstances requiring extraordinary discipline are:
9 divergence from creedal vows, licentious lifestyle, unlawful
10 acts, or violation of the church's confessions.

11 2. In such cases the responsible Ecclesiastical Authority along
12 with his council will function as an ecclesiastical court.

13 3. Should the court find cause to institute discipline such
14 measures may include removal from positions of ministry,
15 excommunication, removal from membership, removal of
16 license, and deposition of orders.

17 4. The person under disciplinary measures may appeal to the
18 next immediate level of authority.

19 F. Disciplinary Measures of a Patriarch

20 1. Disciplinary action may be taken against a Patriarch for
21 divergence from creedal vows, licentious lifestyle, unlawful
22 acts, or violation of the church's confessions.

23 2. The Patriarch's Council shall serve as the Ecclesiastical
24 Court under the direction of the most senior Bishop by order of
25 tenure.

26 3. The Patriarch shall have the right of appeal.

27 ~~nn.~~The Patriarch's court of appeal shall be made up of seven
28 members of the College of Archbishops, chosen by lot. No
29 representative of the court of appeal shall have sat on the
30 previous Ecclesiastical Court.

1 oo. The most senior Bishop by order of tenure shall serve as the
2 President of the court.

3 V. Vacancy and Succession

4 A. The Parish

5 1. In the event of a vacancy in the position of the Priest in
6 charge, the Diocesan or Missionary Bishop shall insure the
7 availability of priestly ministry to said Parish, and shall initiate
8 and oversee the process of filling the vacancy.

9 pp. The Bishop shall provide supply clergy to said Parish, or
10 shall appoint an interim Rector to serve during the period of
11 the vacancy.

12 qq. The Bishop shall convene, in a special session, the Rector's
13 Council of the Parish. The purpose of the special session(s) is
14 for the search and call of the new Rector of the Parish. The
15 Bishop is the chairman of the special session(s), and works
16 with the Council to fill the vacancy.

17 rr. Should a candidate be serving in another Diocese, permission
18 from his Diocesan Bishop must first be obtained before
19 contacting the candidate.

20 ss. Candidates from outside the communion of the Charismatic
21 Episcopal Church must first be received in accordance with
22 the Canons and local Diocesan practices before receiving a
23 call as Rector.

24 tt. Visits to the Parish by a candidate shall be paid for by the
25 Parish.

26 uu. Once a candidate has been selected, the Bishop, in regular or
27 special session, presents the name of the prospective Rector
28 to the Bishop's Council for affirmation. Once affirmation has
29 been given, the Rector's Council may issue a call and the
30 Bishop proceed with the appointment of the new Rector.

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vv. At an appropriate time, to be determined jointly by the Bishop and the Rector's Council, the new Rector shall be installed in a public service of worship.

ww. The Transfer of Priests and Deacons between Dioceses

- i. A transfer of a Priest or deacon from one Diocese to another shall not take place unless he has received an authorized call from the other Diocese.
- ii. A letter dimissory shall be initiated by the transferring Diocese and sent to the Bishop of the receiving Diocese.

xx. If the vacancy is due to death, the Bishop shall confer with the deceased Rector's wife.

- i. The Ordinary shall provide pastoral care to the widow and shall be assured of the care and livelihood of the widow and the under-aged children of the deceased Rector.
- ii. The Parish shall be responsible to assist in the care and livelihood of the widow and her under-aged children.
- iii. The Ordinary is encouraged to consult with the widow concerning the period of vacancy in the Parish, and also concerning the selection and call of a new Rector. The Bishop may invite the widow to be an advisor to the special session(s) of the Rector's Council concerned with the selection of the new Rector.

yy. If the vacancy is caused by disability, the Bishop shall assure himself of the care and livelihood of the disabled Rector and his family.

- i. The Parish shall be responsible to assist in the care and livelihood of the disabled Rector and his family.
- ii. To the extent possible, the disabled Rector and his wife may serve as advisors to the Bishop during the period of vacancy and the search process.

2. If the congregation is a Mission, all the above applies with these modifications:

1 zz.The appointment of a new Vicar is by the Bishop in
2 consultation with the Bishop's Council.

3 aaa.In the event of death or disability, the Diocese shall be
4 responsible to assist in the care of the family.

5 **B. The Diocese**

6 1. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Diocesan
7 Bishop, the Archbishop of the Province shall assume the
8 responsibilities of the Diocesan Bishop. He may also appoint an
9 existing Auxiliary Bishop, Retired Bishop, or Bishop of a
10 diocese within the same Province, to serve in an interim
11 capacity. In the event there is a Bishop Co-adjutor, plans shall
12 proceed for his installation as the new Diocesan Bishop.

13 2. If there is no Co-adjutor, the Archbishop shall convene a
14 special session(s) of the Bishop's Council. Also represented
15 shall be two members, chosen by consensus, from the Rector's
16 Council of the Cathedral. The candidate selected by this special
17 session of the Bishop's Council must be confirmed by the
18 Archbishop's Council. Upon confirmation, the candidate is
19 submitted by the Archbishop to the Primate's Council, and to
20 the entire House of Bishops to be considered for nomination.

21 3. Procedures then continue in accordance with Canon Law in
22 regard to the election and installation of Bishops.

23 **C. The Province**

24 1. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of the Provincial
25 Archbishop, the Primate shall assume the responsibilities of the
26 Office.

27 2. The Primate shall appoint an existing Auxiliary Bishop, a
28 Retired Bishop or a Bishop of a Diocese in the same Province to
29 serve in an interim capacity as Diocesan Bishop.

30 3. The Primate shall convene a special Archbishop's Council.
31 Also represented shall be two members chosen by consensus
32 from the Bishop's Council and two members chosen by

1 consensus from the Cathedral's Rector's Council. The name of
2 the candidate agreed upon by consensus shall be submitted to
3 the House of Bishops for affirmation. The Primate shall then
4 submit the candidate to the Primate's Council for nomination
5 and election to the office of Archbishop.

6 4. Procedures then continue in accordance with the Canon Law
7 in regard to the election and installation of Archbishops.

8 D. National Church or International Territory

9 1. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a Bishop presiding
10 over a National Church or International Territory, the Patriarch
11 shall assume the responsibilities of the Office. He may also
12 appoint the supervising Bishop of the International
13 Development Agency or another Bishop to serve in an interim
14 capacity.

15 2. The Patriarch shall convene a special session of the presiding
16 council of that National Church or International Territory. Also
17 represented shall be two members, chosen by consensus, from
18 each of the councils over which said Bishop presided. The name
19 of the candidate agreed upon by consensus shall be submitted to
20 the College of Archbishops for affirmation. The Patriarch shall
21 submit the candidate to the Patriarch's Council for election to
22 the office.

23 3. Procedures then continue in accordance with Canon Law in
24 regard to the election and installation.

25 E. International Church

26 1. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Patriarch, the
27 senior member of the Patriarch's Council shall convene a
28 special session of the Patriarch's Council. The Patriarch's
29 Council shall appoint an existing Auxiliary Bishop, Retired
30 Bishop, or Bishop of a Diocese within the same Province to
31 serve the Diocese of San Clemente in an interim capacity.

1 2. The senior member of the Patriarch’s Council shall convene a
2 special session of the College of Archbishops in conclave.

3 bbb.The College of Archbishops shall commit itself to a period
4 of prayer and fasting.

5 ccc.Members of the College shall not confer with one another
6 concerning recommendations or the eventual nomination of
7 candidates for the Office of Patriarch.

8 ddd.The College of Archbishops shall submit in secret written
9 form recommendations for the office of Patriarch.

10 3. During that time, the Patriarch’s Council shall convene. Also
11 represented shall be two members, chosen by consensus, from
12 the Primate’s Council of the Charismatic Episcopal Church in
13 the United States of America, the Archbishop’s Council of the
14 Province of San Clemente, the Bishop’s Council of the Diocese
15 of San Clemente, and the Rector’s Council of St. Michael’s
16 Cathedral of San Clemente.

17 eee.The Patriarch’s Council shall commit itself to a period of
18 prayer and fasting.

19 fff.The recommendations from the College of Archbishops shall
20 be received and examined.

21 ggg.The name of the candidate agreed upon by consensus shall
22 be submitted to the College of Archbishops for affirmation.

23 4. The senior member of the Patriarch’s Council shall submit
24 the candidate to the Patriarch’s Council for election to the office
25 of the Patriarch.

26 5. The newly elected Patriarch shall be installed in a service of
27 public worship at the Patriarchal See at a time appointed by the
28 Patriarch’s Council.

29 VI. The call of a ruling elder (Rector, Bishop, Archbishop, Primate or
30 Patriarch) shall be considered a lifetime call and subject to the
31 canonical directives for reevaluation, resignation, or removal.

1 VII. The Call of ordained staff: The same procedures and criteria for
2 calling a ruling elder shall be used in the calling of ordained staff,
3 with the following exceptions:

4 A. The ruling elder with his Council shall be responsible for the
5 calling of a candidate.

6 B. The ruling elder shall preside at all meetings and interviews
7 conducted with candidates.

8 VIII. On Pastoral Relationships

9 A. Evaluation of a ruling elder's call

10 1. At any time during the tenure of a ruling elder his Council
11 may call for a special meeting with his Ecclesiastical Authority
12 sitting as Chairman for the purpose of evaluating his ministry.

13 2. If deemed necessary by the Ecclesiastical Authority, he may
14 call for his Council to conduct the evaluation. Such an
15 evaluation may take place only if the ruling elder's Council
16 believes the situation to be unresolvable on a local level.

17 3. Any subsequent actions shall conform to the Canon on
18 Correction and Grievances.

19 B. Resignation or Removal of a ruling elder

20 1. Resignation

21 hhh. A normal vacancy occurs when the Ecclesiastical Authority
22 receives a letter of resignation from the ruling elder. The
23 Ecclesiastical Authority shall convene a meeting of the ruling
24 elder's Council at which the letter of resignation shall be read
25 and discussed.

26 iii. The resignation shall take effect no earlier than 30 days after
27 the date submitted, except if agreed upon by the
28 Ecclesiastical Authority and the ruling elder's Council.

1 jjj. At the time of a ruling elder's resignation, all ordained and
2 commissioned staff must also submit their resignations to the
3 ruling elder's Council and the Ecclesiastical Authority.

4 i. Resignations shall reflect the desired intentions of the
5 staff, whether they desire to be re-appointed or resign.

6 ii. The ruling elder's Council may place a temporary hold
7 on staff resignations, if agreed upon by the staff member.

8 iii. Final disposition of staff resignations shall be made by
9 the newly appointed ruling elder in consultation with his
10 Council and his Ecclesiastical Authority.

11 kkk. Until the selection of a new ruling elder the Ecclesiastical
12 Authority shall preside over the ruling elder's Council.

13 2. All clergy who have resigned from their local appointments
14 shall automatically be placed in non parochial status with the
15 Diocese of their canonical residency.

16 C. Renunciation of Orders

17 1. A clergyman who desires to renounce his ordination with the
18 Charismatic Episcopal Church must submit his request in
19 writing to his canonical superior.

20 2. Except in the case of disciplinary action, the canonical
21 superior, in coordination with his Council, may accept his
22 renunciation.

23 3. A report of the renunciation of orders must be forwarded in
24 writing to the Provincial office and Office of the Primate.

25 4. Any ordained man who becomes divorced and chooses to
26 remarry must lay down his orders.

27

1 Canon Seven:

2 On Worship

3 *Summary: Worship in the Charismatic Episcopal Church shall be both*
4 *liturgical and charismatic, with suitable vestments worn by the Clergy.*

5 I. Liturgical

6 A. The principal worship service in the Charismatic Episcopal
7 Church shall be the weekly Celebration of Holy Eucharist on the
8 Lord's Day.

9 1. The service shall follow the shape of the historic liturgy of
10 the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

11 2. The Eucharist shall be celebrated with the elements ordained
12 by Jesus Christ himself, bread and wine.

13 B. The Approved Rites of the Church include those found in the
14 Book of Common Prayer (USA, 1928 or 1979), the Anglican,
15 Roman and Eastern rites as approved by the Diocesan Bishop.
16 Other traditional/historic rites may also be approved by the Bishop.

17 C. In keeping with the spirit of the early church, the shape of the
18 historic liturgy shall be followed, always maintaining "that blessed
19 liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free". We reject the
20 introduction or use of any modern liberal liturgical revisions which
21 detract from the historic faith of the One, Holy, Catholic and
22 Apostolic Church.

23 D. Vestments which are suitable to an occasion of high praise
24 should be worn by the Clergy. The normative attire for the
25 principal Sunday service is:

26 1. Priests: Alb and Stole

- 1 2. Deacons: Alb and Stole or Cassock, Surplice and Stole.
- 2 3. Celebrant: In addition to Priest's attire, the Celebrant may
- 3 wear a Chasuble.
- 4 4. Other forms of traditional vesture are suitable.

5 II. Charismatic

- 6 A. The worship offered to God in the Charismatic Episcopal
- 7 Church is not only liturgical but also charismatic. As such, the
- 8 worship event should lend itself to the activity of the Holy Spirit in
- 9 the midst of the congregation. This includes freedom of prayer and
- 10 praise, operation in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and regular prayer
- 11 for the sick accompanied by anointing with oil.
- 12 B. All worship music should bring glory to God. Recognizing
- 13 the various backgrounds and cultures of the individual Parishes, it
- 14 is nevertheless desirable that the worship music should represent
- 15 both the rich tradition of the historic faith and the contemporary
- 16 expressions of praise.
- 17 C. The authorized calendar of the Charismatic Episcopal Church
- 18 is that of the Book of Common Prayer (USA, 1979). Additional
- 19 feasts must be approved by the Diocesan Bishop.

20

1 Canon Eight:

2 On Doctrine

3 *Summary: The Charismatic Episcopal Church holds to the San Clemente*
4 *Declaration of 1999 as the minimum standard of catholicity, and seeks*
5 *for theology to be not only an intellectual assent, but a living experience*
6 *with the Holy Trinity and the Church. The Church affirms the Holy*
7 *Scriptures as the inspired, inerrant Word of God.*

8 I. The Authority of Holy Scriptures

9 A. The Charismatic Episcopal Church recognizes the Holy
10 Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired,
11 inerrant Word of God.

12 B. The Holy Scriptures serve as the final authority on all matters
13 of faith and practice.

14 1. Scripture is to be understood in light of apostolic tradition
15 and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

16 2. Where Scripture does not speak, we defer to apostolic
17 tradition.

18 II. San Clemente Declaration of 1999

19 In earnest anticipation for a future revelation of the fullness of the
20 unity of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, the International
21 Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church adheres to these
22 articles of unity exemplified by the undivided Catholic Church during
23 the first eleven centuries:

24 A. The Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the
25 written Word of God, the chief witness to apostolic teaching, the
26 source of the Church's nourishment and strength.

1 B. The Apostles' Creed as the Baptismal Symbol; and the
2 Nicene Creed as the sufficient statement of the Christian faith.

3 C. The Seven Sacraments of the Church, including: Baptism,
4 Eucharist, Confirmation, Confession/Reconciliation, Holy
5 Matrimony, Holy Orders, Healing/Unction.

6 D. The Historic Episcopate in Apostolic Succession, the gift of
7 Christ's authority to the Church and the trustee of the Church's
8 fidelity to apostolic teaching.

9 III. The Spirit of Theology

10 A. The Charismatic Episcopal Church recognizes that doctrine is
11 not only intellectual assent, but a living relationship with Almighty
12 God and His Church.

13 B. It is incumbent upon the leadership of the Charismatic
14 Episcopal Church to develop and maintain an atmosphere for
15 growth and understanding in theology and doctrine. We adhere to
16 the classical statement of ecumenicity: "In essentials unity, in
17 nonessentials liberty, in all things charity." While celebrating the
18 diversity within orthodoxy, we also strive to avoid a schismatic
19 spirit which would elevate nonessential or nonconsensual beliefs
20 and practices above the Father's will that there be a spiritual and
21 visible unity of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

22

1 Canon Nine: Religious Orders, 2 Communities, and Societies

3 *Summary: Religious Orders, Communities and Societies may be*
4 *established and maintained according to the approval of the Primate*
5 *and his Council, and under the direction of a Bishop Visitor or*
6 *Protector.*

7 I. Formation of Religious Orders, Communities and Societies

8 A. Before an Order, Community or Society can be established in
9 the Church, each must go through a formation period under the
10 direction of the Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Visitor and Abbott
11 General.

12 B. A group seeking to be established as an Order, Community or
13 Society shall first make its intent known to the Bishop of the
14 Diocese in which it is located, outlining the plan of establishment.
15 The plan presented to the Bishop must be in accordance with the
16 Canons of the Church. Once the Bishop of the Diocese has
17 prayerfully examined the plan, he shall submit his written approval
18 to the leader of the Order, Community or Society within sixty
19 days. He shall also submit his letter of approval, along with the
20 group's plan, to the Abbott General for final approval. During this
21 formation process the group shall prayerfully seek out a Bishop
22 Visitor (also called Bishop Protector) who may or may not be the
23 Diocesan Bishop, and who must be willing to serve in such
24 capacity.

25 C. During the formative stages, the Abbott General will work
26 with the Diocesan Bishop, the Bishop Visitor, and the Order,
27 Community or Society. The formation period will vary dependent
28 upon many pastoral factors. The normative period of formation for
29 an Order or Community shall be a minimum of three years,

1 affording individuals time to test their call before making their
2 profession. The normative period of formation for a Society shall
3 be a minimum of twelve months.

4 D. Upon completion of the formation process, the Order,
5 Community or Society shall petition both the Bishop of the
6 Diocese and the Bishop Visitor for permission to make application
7 through the Abbott General to the Primate's Council and the House
8 of Bishops to be admitted as a Religious Order, Religious
9 Community or Religious Society.

10 E. The Primate's Council shall petition the Patriarch for a letter
11 of recognition affirming that the new order, community or society
12 and its members are in communion with the Patriarch.

13 II. Directives for Religious Orders, Communities and Societies

14 A. All Religious Orders, Communities and Societies, being in
15 communion with the Patriarch, shall be instituted under the
16 administration of the Primate of a National Church or International
17 Territory.

18 B. At such time as a rule of life has been developed, the Order,
19 Community or Society shall submit it for approval to the Bishop
20 Visitor and the Abbott General.

21 III. Religious Orders

22 A. A Religious Order of this Church is a group of Christians
23 who voluntarily commit themselves for life, or a term of years:

- 24 1. To holding their possessions in common or in trust;
- 25 2. To live a celibate life according to the Rule of the Order;
- 26 3. To live a life of stability in a Community setting;
- 27 4. To live in obedience to their Rule and Constitution.

28 B. Distinctive Habits may be designed and worn with the
29 approval of the Bishop Visitor. Such Habits, when adopted, should

1 be appropriate dress for all public and private occasions.
2 Adaptations for work and other situations may be implemented.

3 C. Recognition of a Religious Order

4 1. To be officially recognized, a Religious Order must have at
5 least six professed (vowed) members (unless the order is within
6 a Religious Community).

7 2. A request for recognition must be submitted to the Abbott
8 General at least three months prior to the House of Bishops
9 Meeting whereby such request is to be presented and considered
10 by the Primate's Council.

11 3. A written notification of the Council's decision will be given
12 the applicant within three weeks after the Primate's Council
13 meeting where the request was presented.

14 4. The Order shall be officially registered with the Patriarch's
15 Council upon receipt of the letter of recognition from the
16 Patriarch.

17 D. Each Order shall have a Bishop Visitor who shall not of
18 necessity be the Bishop of the Diocese in which the Order is
19 established.

20 1. If the Bishop Visitor is not the Bishop of the Diocese in
21 which the Mother House of the Order is situated, the selection
22 of the new Visitor shall be done in consultation with the Bishop
23 of the Diocese.

24 2. The Bishop Visitor shall be the guardian of the Constitution
25 of the Order and shall serve as an arbiter in matters which the
26 Order or its members cannot resolve through its normal
27 processes.

28 E. Dispensation of Vows

29 1. Any persons under vows in a Religious Order, having
30 exhausted the normal processes of the Order, may petition the
31 Bishop Visitor for dispensation from those vows.

1 2. In the event the petitioner is not satisfied with the ruling of
2 the Bishop Visitor on such petition, he may file a petition with
3 the Primate of the Church who shall appoint a Council of three
4 Bishops, chaired by the Abbott General, to review the petition
5 and the decision thereon and to make recommendations to the
6 Primate.

7 3. The Primate shall have the highest dispensational power for
8 the Religious Orders, and his ruling on the petition shall be
9 final.

10 F. A Religious Order may establish a house in a Diocese only
11 with the permission of the Bishop of the Diocese.

12 1. This permission, once granted, shall not be withdrawn by him
13 or any succeeding Bishop.

14 2. Permission may be withdrawn only by the Primate in
15 consultation with the Abbott General and the Primate's Council.

16 G. The Constitution of every Religious Order shall make
17 provisions for the legal ownership and administration of the
18 temporal possessions of the Order and in the event of the
19 dissolution of the Order, or should it otherwise cease to exist, to
20 provide for the disposition of its assets according to the laws
21 governing nonprofit religious organizations in the State wherein
22 the Order is incorporated. The Constitution shall make provision
23 for the care of any Life-Professed Members who have placed their
24 life in the trust of God and under the care of the Order.

25 H. It is recognized that a Religious Order is not a Parish,
26 Mission, Congregation or Institution of the Diocese and the
27 canonical provisions thereof shall not apply to Religious Orders.

28 I. Finances

29 1. Should the Order receive non-restricted gifts or income, a
30 tithe shall be made to the Office of the Abbott General.

1 2. Religious Orders shall be financially responsible for the
2 visitation expenses of the Abbott General or Bishop Visitor.
3 Due to possible variations in Rule and the subsequent impact
4 upon the financial status of a Religious Order, financial
5 responsibilities to the Abbott General shall be decided by the
6 consensus of the Order and the Abbott General.

7 J. Since a Call to a Religious Order is not common, and
8 whereby duplication of Orders in a small geographic area could
9 prove harmful to the spiritual life, growth, development and
10 ministry of an existing Order, there shall be a restriction imposed
11 upon the various regions of the Church, limiting the number of
12 Orders within those regions. Decisions with regard to duplication
13 of Orders in a small geographic area shall be made by the Abbott
14 General. Appeals may be made to the Primate's Council. The
15 decision of the Primate's Council in such case is final.

16 IV. Religious Communities

17 A. A Religious Community of this Church is a society of
18 Christians who voluntarily commit themselves for life or a term of
19 years in obedience to their Rule and Constitution. Such a
20 Community may include married couples with or without children
21 and single celibates who may or may not be part of a Religious
22 Order, who are living a life of stability and chastity within a
23 Community setting, sharing all of life together. Those Members
24 may or may not hold possessions in common or in trust, depending
25 on their Constitution.

26 B. Only Members of such Communities who have also taken
27 vows in a Religious Order may also adopt the use of a habit in
28 accordance with the above Canons on Religious Orders, but only
29 those in a Religious Order within a Religious Community.

30 C. In all matters of government, Christian Communities shall
31 follow the above Canons on Religious Orders (letters C through J).

32 V. Religious Societies

- 1 A. A Religious Society as defined by this Church is a group of
2 Christians who voluntarily commit themselves for life, or for a
3 term of years, in obedience to their Rule and Constitution.
- 4 B. Such a group may be within a Diocese, or scattered abroad,
5 but is held together by prayer and the elements of their Rule.
- 6 C. Such Society members shall not be habited (for their call is in
7 and to the world). They may be married or celibate, according to
8 their Rule and Constitution.
- 9 D. In all matters of Government, Religious Societies shall
10 follow the above Canons on Religious Orders (letters C through J).

11 VI. Admission of Existing Religious Orders, Communities and
12 Societies

- 13 A. Any established Religious Order, Religious Community or
14 Religious Society seeking admission into the Charismatic
15 Episcopal Church must apply through the local Diocesan Bishop
16 and the Abbott General of their National Church or International
17 Territory.
- 18 B. Approval will be given by the Diocesan Bishop and the
19 Abbott General at their prayerful discretion, and when all the
20 requirements of the above Canons are met.
- 21 C. In the event that no local Diocesan Bishop or national Abbott
22 General exists, application may be made to the Archbishop of the
23 IDA who may work in conjunction with the Abbott General of a
24 National Church or International Territory to establish the process
25 by which said Order, Community or Society may be admitted. In
26 any event, all of the applicable Canons will apply.

27 VII. The Abbott General

- 28 A. The Abbott General shall represent the Primate and Primate's
29 Council and shall serve at their bidding in matters pertaining to
30 Religious Orders, Religious Communities and Religious Societies.

1 He shall report to the Primate's Council at each regularly
2 scheduled meeting of the House of Bishops.

3 **B.** The Abbott General shall be appointed by the Primate and
4 shall be a Priest or Bishop who is a Life-Professed member of a
5 Religious Order or a Religious Community.

6 **C.** It shall be the responsibility of the Abbott General to receive
7 applications from persons seeking to establish Religious Orders,
8 Communities or Societies within the Church. He shall review the
9 documents of the proposed body making application, and make
10 whatever recommendations to the leadership of that body that may
11 seem appropriate to the purposes intended. The Abbott General
12 shall then make his recommendations to the Primate's Council as
13 to the acceptance or rejection of the request. He may also
14 recommend to the Primate and the Council further modifications
15 which shall be their prerogative to accept or reject, and such
16 decisions shall be binding upon said Order, Community or Society.

17 **D.** The Abbott General shall serve as the Chairman of a
18 Committee of Bishops appointed by the Primate to mediate any
19 disputes directed to him by any Abbott of a Religious Order,
20 Community or Society. It shall be his responsibility to report the
21 findings of the Committee to the Primate for his final dispensing of
22 the matter.

23 **E.** The Abbott General may, from time to time, conduct Retreats
24 for the purpose of prayer, study, unification, and instruction of
25 those involved in founding, and/or leading Religious Orders,
26 Communities and Societies.

27 **F.** The Abbott General shall serve when called upon to assist or
28 advice Bishop Visitors, Superiors, or Founders. He shall not be
29 available to members of Religious Orders, Communities, or
30 Societies except through their proper authorities.

31 **G.** The Abbott General shall be available to the Patriarch to
32 assist Archbishops and Bishops within the International

1 Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church who are
2 desirous of establishing Religious Orders, Communities and
3 Societies. In all international works, the role of the Abbott General
4 shall be totally advisory.

5 H. The term of office for the Abbott General shall be at the
6 discretion of the Primate. It may be for life, until retirement, or
7 until such time as, in the wisdom of the Primate, the office is no
8 longer needed, or, in the interest of the Church, a change in office
9 is deemed necessary.

10

1 Canon Ten:

2 On Catholic Concord

3 *Summary: It is the desire of the Charismatic Episcopal Church to have*
4 *dialogue and fellowship with all Christian bodies everywhere, and to*
5 *enjoy inter-communion with those bodies which hold to the catholic*
6 *faith.*

7 I. Dialogue and Fellowship

8 Recognizing that God desires a spirit of unity and concord among His
9 people, the Charismatic Episcopal Church shall be committed to
10 nurturing such relationships with other Christian bodies and sharing
11 with them the riches of Christ in His Church.

12 II. Inter-communion

13 The Charismatic Episcopal Church may, after sufficient dialogue and
14 fellowship, seek a more formal relationship with those bodies which
15 hold to the catholic faith as expressed in the San Clemente
16 Declaration of 1999.

17

1 Canon Eleven:

2 On Secret Societies

3 *Summary: Secret Societies are contrary to the witness of Holy Scriptures*
4 *and the Church, and confirmed members of the Charismatic Episcopal*
5 *Church may not hold membership in such societies.*

6 I. A Secret Society is a lodge, club, association or society that
7 requires its members to make sacred vows, oaths, or obligations
8 and invoke secret practices or espouse information not allowed for
9 public distribution.

10 II. The Word of God is clear in its repudiation of such practices,
11 calling upon believers to avoid oaths and secrecy (Ex. 20.3,4; Mt.
12 5.33-37; Ja. 5.12; Col. 2.8,18-22). Further, the Word of God does
13 not accept any universality of brotherhood or sisterhood except
14 through creation and redemption.

15 III. The Church has consistently stood against membership in such
16 societies, believing such organizations to offer a counter-Christian
17 worldview, substituting a new state of things drawn from
18 naturalism. The Church Catholic has stood upon the conviction that
19 such societies openly transgress the First and Second
20 Commandments of God.

21 IV. Membership in Secret Societies

22 A. Membership in the Charismatic Episcopal Church is
23 inconsistent with membership in secret societies.

24 B. The Charismatic Episcopal Church calls for its confirmed
25 communicants to abstain from membership in secret societies.

1 Members of such societies shall, in the presence of a Priest,
2 renounce their vows before confirmation or reception.

3 **C.** Those in holy orders in the Charismatic Episcopal Church are
4 prohibited from holding membership in secret societies.

5

1 **Canon Twelve:**

2 **On Amendments**

3 *Summary: The Canons of the Charismatic Episcopal Church can be*
4 *amended by the Patriarch's Council in consultation with the College*
5 *of Archbishops.*

6 I. Recommended amendments of the canons shall be presented by
7 the Committee on Canons to a regular meeting of the Patriarch's
8 Council.

9 II. The Patriarch's Council shall consider the recommended
10 amendments and present the matter to the College of Archbishops
11 for discussion and affirmation.

12 III. The Patriarch's Council, after presentation to the College of
13 Archbishops, shall establish the recommended amendments as
14 canon, following the rules of government by consensus.

15

1 *This is to certify that this edition of the Canons of the International*
2 *Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church has been compared*
3 *with the official copy of the canons held by the Chairman of the*
4 *Committee on Canon Law, and that it is in agreement therewith.*

5
6 *The Right Reverend Kenneth N. Myers*
7 *Chairman, Committee on Canon Law*

8
9
10 *The Most Reverend A. Randolph Adler*
11 *Patriarch*
12

The
Canon Law
Of The
Charismatic Episcopal Church

Adopted by
The Patriarch's Council
in consultation with
The International College
of Archbishops

October 22, 1999

