



Anglican Diocese of Western Newfoundland

Election of a New Bishop for the Anglican Diocese of Western Newfoundland.

Answers to some frequently asked questions related to the election of our next Bishop.

1. When will a new bishop be elected?

Our new bishop will be chosen at a special synod (known as an Electoral Synod) on Saturday, **April 25, 2026**. The date was chosen in consultation with Archbishop David Edwards, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, who will preside over the Electoral Synod. It will take place at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Corner Brook. This bishop-elect will become diocesan bishop on being consecrated and seated formally in the bishop's chair in the Cathedral. Those events will take place in June.

2. What is the governing legislation of the Electoral Synod.

Canon 11 of the diocesan canons requires that episcopal elections be conducted in accordance with Canon 3 of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada. Thus, Canon 3 provides the authoritative framework for the election. The full text of Canon 3 is available on our diocesan website, under electoral synod 2026.

3. Who is eligible to be a nominee in the episcopal election?

Any priest or bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada or of a church in full communion therewith, in good standing and at least 30 years of age, and no older than 69 years, may be elected (or in rare cases appointed) as a bishop.

4. How many people can be nominated for bishop?

There is no fixed limit to the number who may be nominated in an episcopal election.

5. Is there room for more nominations after the first deadline?

Names are proposed to the Search Committee using official nomination forms. These nomination forms have been sent to all voting members of the 2024 Synod of Diocese of Western Newfoundland. They have also been made available on the diocesan website. First Nomination Deadline was March 6, 2026, 4 pm.

In accordance with Provincial Canon 3, s.15, once the Committee has made known its list of nominees, any **two members** of the Synod may propose for nomination any person who meets the canonical requirements for election and who has consented in writing to be nominated, **at least 72 hours** before the commencement of the electoral synod, such members have provided

to the Secretary of the Search Committee written notice of their intention to propose, the intended nominee's written consent to nomination, and a brief curriculum vitae of the intended nominee in a form prescribed by the Council or approved by the Search Committee.

These can be sent to the Secretary of the Episcopal Search Committee at the following address:

Rhonda Green.

P. O. Box 753

St. Anthony,

NL A0K 4S0

Email: rhonda.green@live.ca

6. How can we learn more about the nominees?

Any names the Search Committee puts into nomination will already have satisfied the Committee that they meet the position's requirements as to consent, denominational status, good standing, age, and police record check. Each of them will have provided a summary curriculum vitae, which will be circulated to all Synod members. In addition, the Committee will give its nominees an opportunity to express their views on a number of points, a process intended to assist members in discerning whom the Holy Spirit is calling to be our next diocesan bishop. This information, when prepared, will be circulated not later than April 10th to all Synod members, as well as being posted on our Facebook page and the Diocesan website.

7. How was the Search Committee selected?

Provincial Canon 3 requires that the Synod Executive form a Search Committee of at least 6 members (3 Clergy and 3 Lay). In December 2025, at a regular meeting of the Synod Executive, 8 members were elected to undertake this important task, 4 Clergy and 4 Lay.

8. Who is entitled to vote in the election of the new bishop?

All lay members of the Fortieth Session of the Diocesan Synod (Eighth Biennial Session) held September 2024 (or the alternate Synod delegates elected at the parish annual meeting prior to Diocesan Synod 2024 if the lay delegates are unable to attend the Electoral Synod) are eligible to vote in the Electoral Synod, as are all active clergy in our diocese and all retired clergy residing in the Diocese of Western Newfoundland.

Voting is conducted by orders. In other words, the votes of clergy and laity are counted separately. To be elected, a nominee must receive **2/3 of votes both among the clergy and among the laity**. If a round of balloting does not achieve this, more rounds of balloting follow until a nominee has achieved a majority in both houses.

Please continue to check our diocesan website for more updates.