

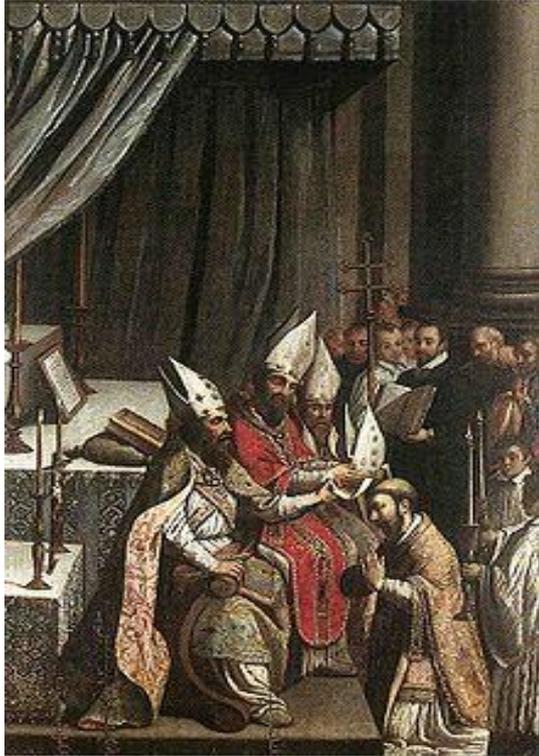


Grace Anglican  
CHURCH

Wednesday Evening Bible Study  
Session 6

# ~The 39 Articles~

Articles 23, 26, 32, and 36  
Anglican Ministers  
(Whom Do You Trust?)



## The Articles Assume “Apostolic Succession”

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- ❖ Originated by Paul’s Pastoral Epistles to Timothy and Titus
- ❖ Article 23: Church leadership, preaching and sacraments must be officiated by ones “lawfully called and sent” (deacons and priests/pastors) = Holy Orders
- ❖ “chosen by (bishops) with public authority... in the Congregation”
- ❖ Processes varied in the centuries



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## ACNA and ADOC Leaders

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- ❖ Archbishop Foley Beach
- ❖ Bishops: Steve Wood; David Bryan; Thad Barnum; and, Terrell Glen
- ❖ Priests, Rectors, Deacons
- ❖ Chosen through examination process:
- ❖ Parish approval; Bible & theological knowledge; health in the areas of marriage and family, as well as in spiritual, mental, physical, financial, and interpersonal matters
- ❖ See <https://adoc.church/clergy>





## XXVI – The Validity of the Sacraments

- ❖ Article 26 recognizes and addresses an important issue: Christ's sacraments are divine; ministers of them are human
- ❖ Obvious, but far-reaching in the world of evil intentions
- ❖ Key: In whose name? (See Mark 9:38-40)
- ❖ No cult leader using his/her own name ministers for Jesus; their sacraments have no eternal recognition or validity
- ❖ No minister who offers salvation and the sacraments in the Name of Jesus, even if that minister is evil, can ruin the value and validity of the Lord's divinely commanded sacraments
- ❖ However, the Church is admonished to hear witnesses, investigate charges, find guilt (or innocence), and "depose" faithless "evil Ministers" to keep the Bride of Christ spotless



## XXXII – Marriage of the Clergy

- ❖ “Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, are not commanded by God’s Law, either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage: therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christian men, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve better to godliness.”
- ❖ Paul’s clear teaching is found in 1 Corinthians, chapter 7
- ❖ One notorious example illuminates both the wisdom of affirming the validity of sacraments performed by evil clergy (A26) and the acceptance of godly marriage for Christian ministers (A32):
- ❖ Pope Alexander VI (Rodrigo Borgia 1431 - 1503), whose many illicit affairs were publicly known. Primary among them was with Vanozza who produced four favored children, notably Lucretia, on whom he conspicuously lavished wealth and positions in nations and in RC church.



## XXXVI – Consecrations

- ❖ Article 36 relies upon the portion of the BCP called the “Ordinal,” (pp. 469-522), which is actually a separate formulary or foundational document of instruction for the Anglican communion
- ❖ Following the instructions in the Ordinal, Anglicans ordain (give orders to) deacons, priests, and bishops
- ❖ The college of bishops are responsible to choose an archbishop
- ❖ Neither the RC nor the Eastern Church recognizes Anglican ordination; Pope Leo XIII in 1896 declared them all “null and void”
- ❖ This made Anglicans unrecognizable (*anathema*) as fully Christian in the eyes of Rome and the Eastern Orthodox churches
- ❖ “High church” Anglicans’ (Anglo-Catholics) attempts to have this rejection reversed and receive recognition of the “catholicity” of Anglicanism by RC have been repeatedly, unconditionally refused

# Words, Words, Words – Clergy

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## Official terms of address:

Priests (presbyters) and deacons,  
after ordination — *The Reverend*

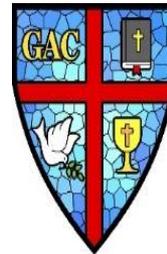
Priests and deacons appointed  
as canons— *The Reverend Canon*

Deans (or Provosts) of a cathedral  
church— *The Very Reverend*

Archdeacons of a province, diocese,  
or region— *The Venerable*

Bishops (diocesan, suffragan, or  
coadjutor)— *The Right Reverend*

Archbishops (*primus inter pares* or  
primate)— *The Most Reverend*



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# Words, Words, Words – Robes

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## Ecclesiastical vestments:

Cassock – Ankle-length single-breasted coat, 39 front buttons are traditional

Cincture – Belt, sash, or cord at the waist

Clerical collar – Separate, single white rim under a tabbed collar, often detachable

Alb – Voluminous, usually white, collarless blouse worn over the cassock

Chasuble – Collarless, embroidered poncho-style topmost garment

Stole – Long scarf-like band of colored, often embroidered cloth, draped around the neck, falling down the front of robes



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# Words, Words, Words – Church Areas

Vestry – Up to 1894, Church of England and local government were under “select vestry” members; authority over nearly 20% the total English budget (with many abuses). Also, a room for sacred vessels and clothing.

Sacristy – Room or chest where sacred items (even the Eucharist elements) are kept; also called vestry closet

Narthex – porch, vestibule, lobby; originally for penitent or unbaptized persons

Sanctuary or Nave – worship area

Refectory – church dining hall or cafeteria

Diocese (Bishopric) – area encompassing several churches, headed by a bishop

Diaconate – communion of deacons (“servants, ministers”)

Parish – diocesan territory headed by a presbyter/priest (“stranger dwelling beside”)

Province – semi-autonomous region outside the capital or cathedral city; unsophisticated



*The Vestry Room of the Parish Church of  
St. Peter, aforesaid, on the first Day of May  
at Ten O'clock in the forenoon, for the  
purpose of rating and assessing the Inhabi-  
tants and Parishioners of the said Parish, and  
Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments situate  
within for and towards the necessary Repairs of  
the said Parish Church and for providing Pen-  
dents thereto and other necessary Goods and  
Utensils thereof for the present Year.*

*Dated this twenty seventh Day of April 1693.*