DIOCESE of CHRIST our HOPE

Response to the 2026 Proposed Canonical Amendment on Transfer and Permission to Serve
Diocese of Christ Our Hope College of Laity
June 15, 2026

Regarding Amendment 2026.4, "2026.4.I Clarify Transfer and Permission RE: Title III, Canon 5, Section 2":

- Regarding the phrase "domiciled in other dioceses" in the proposed language, it is pointed out that this is the first time this phrase is used in this canon. The meaning is not clear at this point (it is nicely defined in Section 6, though it seems to contradict its usage here). It could be removed and this sentence would then mirror the second sentence. It appears from the wording of Section 6 that those domiciled in other dioceses are not actually seeking transfer.
- Regarding the sentence "This Diocese only grants transfer or permission to serve as presbyters in the Diocese to presbyters who meet the requirements for ordination in this Diocese detailed in Title III, canon 2.", we ask if given that this sentence is referring to specifically presbyters, would it make sense to add Section 3 after Canon 2?
- One member of the CoL provides the following affirmation of this amendment:

This amendment provides helpful and necessary clarification regarding the relationship between the Diocese's stated requirements for ordination and the standards applied to clergy who seek either transfer into the Diocese or permission to serve within it while remaining canonically domiciled elsewhere. In particular, the amendment affirms the clear intent of Title III, Canon 2, which sets forth the qualifications for ordination in this Diocese, including requirements for those serving as presbyters.

As presently written, the canons state the Diocese's requirements for ordination, while also describing processes for reception, transfer, and permission to serve. Without the proposed clarification, however, there remains room for uncertainty as to whether a clergyperson who would not meet the Diocese's own requirements for ordination to the priesthood could nonetheless serve in a priestly capacity within the Diocese by virtue of ordination or canonical domicile in another jurisdiction. The proposed amendment seeks to close that loophole in a measured way by clarifying that transfer or permission to serve as a priest in this Diocese is granted only to those presbyters who meet the requirements for ordination as priests in the Diocese of Christ Our Hope, as described in Title III, Canon 2.

This clarification is important not only for canonical consistency, but also for the peace and good order of the Diocese. The amendment upholds the status quo within the Anglican Church in North America, in which dioceses and jurisdictions may maintain different canonical practices regarding the ordination and deployment of clergy, while walking together in charity, mutual recognition, and respect. Consistent with that spirit, the proposed amendment in no way seeks

to question the sincerity, calling, gifts, or ministry of clergy serving as priests within other dioceses or jurisdictions. Nor does it purport to pass judgment on the canonical standards of dioceses whose requirements may differ from those of the Diocese of Christ Our Hope. Rather, the amendment preserves the consistency and integrity of this Diocese's own doctrine, discipline, and order by ensuring that those who serve in presbyteral ministry within the Diocese meet the same qualifications that would ordinarily be required if seeking ordination to the same ministry by the Diocese itself. Such an approach is consistent with the Provincial posture of "dual integrities": it leaves room for other dioceses to maintain their own canonical discernment and practice within their own jurisdictions, while likewise enabling this Diocese to consistently apply its own received standards consistently within its own bounds.

The revised language addresses the underlying canonical issue in a measured and charitable manner. By referring to "presbyters who meet the requirements for ordination in this Diocese detailed in Title III, Canon 2," the language points directly to the spirit and intent of the Diocese's existing canons, thus framing the amendment as a clarifying provision rather than as a departure from the Diocese's established position.

For these reasons, the proposed amendment is affirmed as a clarification that is at once prudent and pastorally appropriate. It strengthens coherence between the Diocese's ordination standards and its practices concerning transfer and permission to serve, while doing so in a manner that respects the existing diversity of canonical practice within the Anglican Church in North America.