

CANON 14

LAY READERS

1. A candidate for the office of lay reader shall either
 - (a) Be recommended to the Bishop by the incumbent and the churchwardens of the parish to which the candidate belongs, or
 - (b) Be appointed on the initiative of the Bishop for special work.
2. The qualifications of a lay reader shall be determined by the Bishop.
3. Admission to the office shall be in such form as the Bishop may from time to time direct.
4. The licence of a lay reader shall terminate on the thirty-first of December of each year, and application must be made for a renewal if a renewal is desired. The Bishop may revoke the licence of a lay reader at any time or on the written request of the incumbent.
5. In the absence or at the request of an officiating member of the clergy, a lay reader may:
 - (a) Read any portion of Morning or Evening Prayer and the Litany except the Absolution.
 - (b) Read the Old Testament lesson or the Epistle or both in the Order for Holy Communion.
6. A lay reader may assist at the Holy Communion if specially licensed thereto by the Bishop following a request by the incumbent and churchwardens of the parish in which the lay reader is serving.
7. If so licensed by the Bishop, a lay reader may preach, catechize and perform any other specified duties.
8. Lay readers shall be under the direction and control of the Bishop when engaged in Diocesan service, and under the direction and control of the incumbent when engaged in a parish.
9. Lay readers are members of the Deanery and entitled to attend meetings of the Deanery.