

Requirements Prescribed by Canon Law for Membership in the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Chicago

Initiation

- *Baptised Member*: has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism in the Episcopal Church, or has validly received the Sacrament of Baptism in another ecclesial body and has been Canonically Received as a Baptised Member of the Episcopal Church by a Priest of this Church
- *Confirmed Member*: in addition to the above, has received the Sacrament of Confirmation from a Bishop of this Church, **or** has validly received the Sacrament of Baptism and has received the Sacrament of Confirmation from a Bishop [validly ordained in the Apostolic Succession] of another branch of the Catholic Church and has been Canonically Received as a Confirmed Communicant by a Bishop of the Episcopal Church

Worship

- is present at the Eucharist each Sunday and weekday Holy Day of Obligation (Christmas Day, Epiphany, Ascension Day, and All Saints' Day)
- prays for the spread of the Kingdom of God
- Fasts on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (i.e. reduces the amount of food eaten to one full meal and two half meals)
- practices Abstinence from flesh meat (beef, pork, poultry, game) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent
- *if a Communicant Member*: receives Holy Communion at least at Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost

Community Life

- attends the public liturgies of the Church normally in the Parish in which he/she is canonically resident
- is recognized as a parishioner by the Rector and at least one of the Churchwardens
- *to be eligible to vote and hold canonical office*: in addition to the above, is 16 years of age or older, has pledged and contributed to the Parish for at least the preceding six months, and has declared his/her willingness to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Episcopal Church

Mission

- works and gives for the spread of the Kingdom of God: “the minimum standard of giving in the Episcopal Church is the tithe of time, talent, and treasure”
- is faithful to the Baptismal Vows

Termination

Canonical membership in the Episcopal Church is terminated automatically after two years of “Inactive” status.

Requirements for Canonical Residence in St Paul's Parish, Riverside

- fulfills the Canonical requirements for Membership in Good Standing in the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Chicago
- has a demonstrated commitment to weekly participation in the community life and Sunday Eucharist of the St Benedict Congregation of St Paul's Parish
- has successfully completed the Adult Theology Class and its prerequisites
- assumes responsibility in some area of St Paul's parish ministry
- has made the commitment to living out the full three levels of the parish Rule of Life