

Sacramental Order

	<u>Office</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Form of Address</u>
BISHOP	Archbishop	The Most Reverend John B. Smith Archbishop of Kensington	Formal: Your Grace Informal: Archbishop Smith
	Bishop	The Right Reverend John B. Smith Bishop of Kensington	Formal/England: My Lord Formal/U.S.: Your Excellency Informal: Bishop Smith
PRIEST	Archdeacon	The Venerable John B. Smith Archdeacon of Kensington	Archdeacon Smith or Father Smith (according to his preference)
	Dean – of a cathedral – of a seminary – of a deanery ¹	The Very Reverend John B. Smith	Dean Smith or Father Smith (according to his preference)
	Canon	The Reverend Canon John B. Smith	Canon Smith or Father Smith (according to his preference)
	Diocesan Priest	The Reverend John B. Smith ²	Father Smith or Mr Smith ³ (according to his preference)
DEACON	Deacon (may be Transitional or Permanent)	The Reverend Mr John B. Smith	Mr Smith

¹ In England “Rural Deans” are styled as diocesan priests.

² This refers to secular diocesan priests. Priests who are members of religious orders use the particular form of the order.

³ Some traditional priests prefer to maintain the older Northern European and English custom of addressing those holding the rank of Parish Priest, distinguished Physician (F.R.C.P.S.), and Professor as “Mister” (from Master). This usage is also preserved by some religious orders which use “Dom” (from Dominus: lord). Under no circumstances, however, is “Reverend” ever used as a form of address.

“Reverend” is an adjective, not a noun; and like “Honorable” is properly never used with solely a surname or a given name. (Because it is grammatically incorrect, this misuse is often interpreted by Anglicans as an intentional slur or insult, implying that the cleric is uneducated and/or crude.) In grammatical English it must always be preceded by the article “the”.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Representative Body</u>	<u>Members</u>
The Anglican Communion	Archbishop of Canterbury	Lambeth Conference	All Primates, Archbishops, Diocesan Bishops, and their Coadjutors of the Anglican Communion
National Anglican Church ¹	Primate (with the title of Archbishop) ²	England: General Synod U.S.: General Convention – House of Bishops – House of Deputies	Bishops, Priests, and Laity All canonically resident Bishops Priest and Lay delegates
Province ¹	Metropolitan (with the title of Archbishop) ²	England: Convocation U.S.: Provincial Synod – House of Bishops – House of Deputies	Bishops and Priests All Ordinaries and Coadjutors of the Province Priest and Lay delegates
Diocese	Ordinary (“Diocesan Bishop”) ² – Bishop Coadjutor – Suffragan Bishop – Auxiliary/Assistant Bishop	England: Diocesan Synod U.S.: Diocesan Convention (in some cases called Synod or Council)	Priest and Lay delegates All Priests of the diocese and Lay delegates
Archdeaconry ³	Archdeacon
Deanery	Dean (England: “Rural Dean”)	Chicago Diocese: Deanery Chapter	Priest and Lay delegates from each parish and mission
Parish	Rector (England: also “Vicar”) – Curate – Permanent Deacons	England: Parochial Church Council U.S.: Vestry	Rector, Churchwardens, and Vestrymen
Mission	Vicar (Ordinary is Rector)	Chicago Diocese: Bishop’s Committee	Vicar, Bishop’s Warden,

¹The American Episcopal Church has a unique structure at both the provincial and national levels as the result of historic factors dating from the American Revolution.

²The Ordinary of one of the dioceses in the province is the Metropolitan of the province. If that diocese is the fixed metropolitan see, it is an archdiocese (the case in England, Ireland, Australia, South Africa, etc.). If the Metropolitan may be named from among any of the Ordinaries in the province, his diocese is not an archdio-

cese (the case in Canada and several other national Anglican Churches).
The Metropolitan of one of the provinces is the Primate of the national Anglican Church. Here too, some archdioceses are fixed primatial sees (e.g. England), while in other Anglican Churches, any one of the Metropolitans may be named national Primate (e.g. Canada).

³Archdeaconries are subdivisions of a diocese which are seldom used in the American Church.