

# The Diocese of the Arctic

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



## Dean of the Diocese of The Arctic

The Bishop of The Arctic is receiving letters of applications for rector of St. Jude's Cathedral and Dean of the Diocese of The Arctic.

The Diocese of The Arctic is extremely large, covering almost 4,000,000 square kilometres. It includes the territories of Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Nunavik (Northern Quebec). Most of our communities are relatively small and remote. Both English and Indigenous languages (mostly Inuktitut) are spoken. Our Diocesan office is in Yellowknife NWT and our Cathedral is in Iqaluit NU.

Although we are an Anglican Church of Canada Diocese, our priorities differ considerably from those of the national church. Those outside the Diocese often refer to us as "conservative" or "evangelical." Those descriptions have some truth to them, but they fail to capture completely the uniqueness of Arctic faith and ministry.

Our mission statement clearly states our priorities, which are:

- A) to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God, as revealed through the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, and
- B) to enable all members of the Church to live out their Christian calling in parishes, the wider church, in society at large, and in the world.

This means that, as a Diocese, we are about evangelism. We want everyone in our community to know Jesus Christ. Following on this, we want to teach and encourage our people to become disciples who are living out in the teachings of Jesus Christ in all areas of their lives. Other priorities are secondary to the basic work of evangelism and discipleship.

Since the new Rector of St. Jude's will also be the Dean of the Arctic, it is absolutely essential that the candidate not only agree with our priorities but actively work with us to accomplish them. Must familiarize themselves with the history, cultures, and mission of the Diocese.

Specifically, we are looking for someone who will provide a Christ-centred, biblically grounded, influential ministry for the entire Diocese. This is a full-time position which involves working closely with bishops, the executive officer, regional deans, clergy, and lay leaders. We are not

looking for a “lone ranger” but a team player who will support, encourage, guide, train, and lead.

Arctic ministry is demanding. It is multi-cultural and multi-lingual. It involves ministering to people dealing with grief and struggles. It involves living in remote places with extreme weather conditions. It involves training and working to continually improve the functioning of the parish and the wider Diocese. It means working across vast distances, with many unpredictable factors that interrupt even our best laid plans. Above all, it involves a determination to not be distracted from our mission so that the focus will always be on Jesus Christ and his love for all people in our communities.

Arctic ministry is also incredibly rewarding. You will be a minister to the entire community, not only churchgoers. This is truly parish ministry. That means you will be invited into peoples’ homes and lives. You will see the richness and true diversity of the Church – different cultures, languages, mindsets, and assumptions. You will have the opportunity to minister to rich and poor, politicians and parents, the sick and the healthy, new Christians and “cradle Anglicans. You are not a minister for a group of people called “Anglicans” - you are a minister to everybody, without exception.

We seek a Rector who will be fully committed to discipleship training and compassionate outreach to all people groups in Iqaluit. The Dean will be assisted by the lay Leaders. Lay Leaders have always been an important part of our parish and other Arctic communities. The Rector will be expected to train Lay Leaders and with them develop chaplaincy to the service agencies e.g., hospital, prison, the homeless, the working poor and the soup kitchen. Another priority and a ministry where Lay Leaders can help is with elders, shut ins and the elder’s centre. The Rector will need to coordinate outreach ministry as needed and or requested by Iqaluit’s service agencies.

Since Iqaluit is the location of our theological college (Arthur Turner Training School), the successful applicant will have the opportunity to mentor postulants for ordained ministry, working together with Bishop Joey Royal, who directs the college. You will have a hand in shaping the next generation of Arctic leadership.

We are ecumenical in that we seek to work together with other churches within the borders of our Diocese. In most communities this includes Roman Catholic, Pentecostal/charismatic and other churches. We hope to keep relationships strong with orthodox Anglicans in Canada, and value in particular the work of the Anglican Communion Alliance. We also want to expand relationships with like-minded groups and organizations around the world, such as Crosslinks, GAFCON, and the Global South.

Lastly, if the successful candidate is married, it is absolutely essential that their spouse is supportive of this call. Leadership of this kind can be lonely and difficult, and the support of one’s spouse is needed every step of the way.

For the application forms and Diocesan Profile please visit our website  
<https://www.arcticnet.org>

Those desiring to apply for this position are asked to submit their applications to the Bishop of The Arctic, Rt. Rev David W. Parsons C/O the Executive Officer [exe\\_officer@arcticnet.org](mailto:exe_officer@arcticnet.org)

Please ensure that you provide the following information with your application:

- If you are resident outside of the Diocese of The Arctic a signed statement confirming that you have received permission from your bishop to make application to this diocese.
- A current curriculum vitae.
- A letter of application introducing yourself and describing your “Vision for Ministry” and why you think you are suited to this position.
- The names and contact information for three references. As a matter of courtesy and due diligence, we will be contacting the existing or former bishops of those who have been short-listed.