

# The Church of England

## Diocese in Europe

### ST ALBAN'S CHURCH, COPENHAGEN

## CONSTITUTION

#### **1 Title and address of the Chaplaincy**

The Chaplaincy takes for its title 'Saint Alban's Anglican Church, Copenhagen'. The registered address of the Chaplaincy is Saint Alban's Church, Tuborgvej 82, 2900 Hellerup, Denmark. It can be altered by decision of the Chaplaincy Council.

#### **2 The Boundaries of the chaplaincy**

The chaplaincy shall be deemed to include all members of the Churches of the Anglican Communion resident in, or visiting, the Kingdom of Denmark.

#### **3 Duration of the chaplaincy**

There is no limitation on the life of the chaplaincy.

#### **4 The Diocese in Europe**

The chaplaincy of St Alban's Church Copenhagen is a constituent part of The Church of England (Anglican) Diocese in Europe. It conforms (1) to the provisions of the laws and decrees relating to religious associations in The Kingdom of Denmark, and (2) to the regulations of The Church of England (Anglican) Diocese in Europe, and is constituted according to the canon law and other regulations of The Church of England, and the regulations of The Diocese in Europe, namely:

☐ The Canons of the Church of England (London, 6/2000) and its updated editions and supplements thereafter

☐ The Diocese in Europe Constitution (London, 1995)

☐ Church Representation Rules (London, 7/2001) and its updated editions thereafter

☐ Diocese in Europe Handbook 2001 (which includes Diocesan Constitution 1995 and other documents) and its updated editions thereafter

The Chaplaincy maintains appropriate canonical, synodical and financial rights and responsibilities in The Diocese in Europe.

#### **5 Objects of the chaplaincy**

The objects of the Chaplaincy are the public exercise of Christian worship (in the Anglican tradition) and witness in conformity with the Canon Law of The Church of England of which The Diocese in Europe is a constituent part; the proclamation of the Gospel; every pastoral activity allowed by law; the administrative, financial and legal management of the congregation; and all actions consonant with the objects of the congregation.

## **6 The Ordinary**

The Chaplaincy of St Alban's Church in Copenhagen is under the Ordinary jurisdiction of The Bishop for the time being of Gibraltar in Europe. The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe is a diocesan Bishop of The Church of England.

## **7 The Chaplain**

The Chaplain is a Priest of the Church of England, or a Church in communion therewith, and is both appointed by, and serves under a licence issued by, The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, after consultation with the relevant officers of the Diocese in Europe and the duly elected representatives of the laity in the Chaplaincy. The Chaplain represents the Chaplaincy in relation to third parties, government services and local authorities, and in legal matters. The Chaplain is responsible for the execution of Chaplaincy Council resolutions.

## **8 The Laity: membership and provision for representation**

The Chaplaincy is made up of those, of major age, whose names are registered on the Electoral Roll in accordance with the Church Representation Rules of The Church of England, and reviewed annually prior to the general annual Chaplaincy meeting. Names may be removed from the roll in accord with current diocesan regulations. Inclusion on the Electoral Roll is voluntary: a person may, at any time, state in writing the wish to have his or her name removed.

The Church Representation Rules provide for the election of lay officers and a Chaplaincy Council, the rights and obligations of whom are laid out in the documents listed above.

The Church Council must present, at least annually, a report of its activities, financial and administrative, to the general annual Chaplaincy meeting for its verification and approval.

The lay officers and council must prepare each year a financial statement for the year past and an inventory of its property, buildings and contents. (In financial and property matters the Chaplaincy Council can validly decide on such purchases and sales of properties as is necessary for the purposes of the Chaplaincy, on mortgages, leases longer than nine years, sales of possessions belonging to the Chaplaincy, and loans, without requiring the consent of the general Chaplaincy meeting but subject to consultation with the Diocese in Europe Board of Finance.)

## **9 Liturgical provision**

The liturgical rites used by the duly appointed Chaplain and other ministers in the Chaplaincy of St Alban, Copenhagen are those allowed by the canons and regulations of the Church of England, under the provisions of the Diocese in Europe Constitution.

## **10 Local law**

The ecclesiastical and canon law of the Church of England is binding on the Chaplaincy, its officers and all persons serving it holding The Bishop's Licence. The only exception is where an ecclesiastical law is in direct conflict with a local national law. In such a case the local law takes precedence to the extent of the point at issue and not further.

## **11 Authorised signatories**

- (a) The signatures of two duly authorised signatories is required to bind the chaplaincy.
- (b) The following are duly authorised signatories for the purposes of this Constitution:
  - (i) the Chaplain;
  - (ii) the Churchwardens;
  - (iii) any member of the Chaplaincy Council who has been authorised by resolution of the Chaplaincy Council (which authority may be for limited purposes only or generally, and may be for a specified period or of indeterminate duration).

## **12 Constitutional amendments**

Any changes to this Constitution shall only be authorized by The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe who shall also have sole authority in the event of any dispute or other question that arises upon the interpretation of this Constitution; and be authorized in accordance with the provisions of J3 (d) of The Bishop's Regulations (Diocesan Handbook)

## **13 Dissolution**

In the event of a dissolution being ordered by two thirds or more of the members present at a general or Chaplaincy meeting, one or more liquidators are named by the latter, and the assets, if any, shall be disposed of under any binding deed and thereafter devolve on the Church of England Diocese in Europe or its successor.

The Church of England Diocese in Europe or its successor may only dispose of these assets within the European Union or within countries in the European Economic Area.

*+ David Hamid*

The Right Reverend David Hamid  
Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe

27 March 2024

