



## **Policy on Marriage**

1. Any minister who holds a license or permission to officiate from the Bishop of Quebec and who is duly authorized to solemnize marriages as attested to in the register of officiants maintained by the *Directeur de l'état civil du Québec*:
  - a. may marry any two persons who are permitted to marry pursuant to the laws of the Province of Quebec, provided that:
    - i. the couple has a pastoral relationship with the presiding minister; and
    - ii. at least one member of the couple is baptized; and
    - iii. the couple has actively participated in preparation for Christian marriage to the satisfaction of the presiding minister and as outlined in Schedule E of Canon XI of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada; and
    - iv. the liturgy used is authorized by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and/or the Bishop of Quebec; and
    - v. all other requirements of Canon XI of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Civil Code of Quebec for the solemnization of a marriage are met.
  - b. shall not be compelled to preside at the marriage of any particular couple.
2. If a minister does not feel called to marry couples of the same gender, but has been asked by such a couple about marriage, the minister shall refer the couple to the bishop.
3. If one or both members of the couple to be married is divorced, the presiding minister must be provided, prior to proceeding with marriage preparation, with an original copy of the divorce certificate(s) (*certificat(s) de divorce*) and be satisfied that the other provisions of Section IV of Canon XI of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada have been respected.
4. The body of the church is the appropriate place for the solemnization of a marriage. However, a marriage may be solemnized in another location if the presiding minister, *after consultation with the bishop*, is satisfied that there is a compelling reason for the wedding to take place outside of a church building; that the solemnity and public nature of the occasion will be preserved; and that the service will be conducted with dignity in godly and decent order.

*In effect July 2024*