# Week 12 Episcopal Formation Chapters 13 and 14

**Scripture Reading: Psalms 100; 1 Corinthians 14**

**Instructor – Archbishop Thomas Henry Jr**

# The Bishop and The Liturgy

Worship should flow from the Altars and Chancel areas of our churches. It should be one of the things besides preaching that a clerics concern himself with. We are the senior worship leaders and as bishops we are the president or presider over the worshipping assembly.

## Worship with the Congregations under your care

All bishops should make it their priority to worship with all congregations in their diocese. This is hard to do when you are the primate unless your communion is rather small. The point is, however, that convocation should not be the only time that your people see you.

## The Bishop as Chief Liturgist and Regulator of the Sacraments

Recall early in this class we spoke of the 3-fold ministry of every bishop one of which is to sanctify the people of God. This is done through sanctioning clergy that will minister, preach and lead the worship in your diocese or communion.

Teaching your clergy how to properly according to the prescription of your communion celebrate the sacraments of our redemption in Christ Jesus.

Making resources available to your clergy for the proper celebration of those rites among in your communion and etcetera.

## What is the 3-fold ministry of the Bishop? (You will have to go back to a previous lesson for this one) (Homework)

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## The Episcopal Ceremonial

Major Celebration in the life of Bishop, Diocese and Communion

Celebration connected to the office of the bishop such as Ordination – 1 Timothy 4:14, Acts 13:1-4, Acts 14:23

When the Bishop presides and when the attends but does not preside over the liturgy.

The Episcopal Blessing and how it is done.

# The Cathedral

The most important church in the diocese is the Cathedral. It is the church where the bishop seat or chair called a cathedra is located. It is from his cathedral and Cathedra that the bishop pastors the diocese and oversee the work of the community of the faith assigned to him. It is for this reason that the cathedral, even if it is not the founding church of the diocese is called the mother church of the diocese because of its importance and rank.

## Size doesn’t matter

I know many of you are laughing at this one, but it is true about a cathedral. The size of the building does not matter. It is not the size of a building that makes it a cathedral. It is not the splendor of the architecture that makes a church a cathedral either. So what then makes the church a cathedral?

The Bishop and his cathedral makes the church a cathedral and nothing else. A church receives its episcopal and apostolic dignity because the seat of a bishop or apostle is located within it. It is called a cathedral because of the cathedra.

## Center of Worship in the Diocese

The words of St Ignatius are “where the Bishop is there let the church be gathered.” It is in the cathedral where the bishop does most of his preaching and leading of worship. It is in the cathedral that major events of the diocese or communion are held. It is in the cathedral where clergy are ordained for service in the church and the world.

## The Cathedral Clergy

The cathedral clergy acquire a special dignity because of their attachment to the cathedral church. In processions in the Clergy. They have the place of honor after all of the diocesan clergy. There cassocks can be a different color from those in the diocese, though that special color is only used in the cathedral and not outside of it. They clergy are traditionally called canons and are considered Canon Pastors. The bishop being the senior pastor and traditionally the Executive Pastor was called the Dean of the Cathedral.

The clergy of the Cathedral had other special names that were ancient and spoke to their duties in the cathedral.

## The Cathedral Tax

Just like Jesus paid a temple tax in his day, traditionally the cathedral didn’t have a parish or congregation assigned to it. So to support the cathedral, the congregations in the diocese paid a cathedral tax to help support the ministry of the cathedral of the diocese in addition to the diocesan assessments.

## The Cathedral Chapter

The board of directors or board of the elders of the cathedral is traditionally called the Cathedral Chapter made up of the clergy of the diocese and a few lay representatives. In some areas, the cathedral chapters elected the new bishop who was then confirmed by the synod and given the stamp of approval by the primate/metropolitan of the ecclesiastical province. Technically, no action became legal without the bishop or dean. Our the most senior cleric, if it was the election of a new bishop.

## There are 3 main usages of the cathedral (Homework)

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## The Bishop as Chief minister of the Cathedral has the power to: (Homework)

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## The removal of the Bishop’s cathedra from a church deprives it of its dignity as a cathedral. Some Churches maintain “cathedral” in their names for historical reasons though they are no longer cathedrals because the Cathedra has been removed.