



Diocese of Tennessee Policy on Trial Use Liturgies

November 17, 2015

The liturgies for marriage and the blessing of a civil marriage available for use in the Diocese of Tennessee are those in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. These liturgies must be used unaltered and in accordance with the rubrical directions.

Use of the Trial Liturgies for Marriage (authorized by the 2015 General Convention Resolution A054), in whole or in part, is not permitted in the Diocese of Tennessee. The Trial Liturgies may not be used on the property of any parish, mission, chapel, or mission station of the diocese.

Clergy canonically resident in the diocese are not permitted to officiate at marriages using these liturgies, including adaptations for the blessing of a civil marriage.

Clergy serving under license in the diocese may not officiate at marriages in the diocese using these liturgies, including adaptations for the blessing of a civil marriage.

In accordance with Resolution A054, clergy of the diocese are directed to respond pastorally to those who desire to have access to these Trial Liturgies for their marriages, and to assist them in securing this access. The Bishop of the Diocese of Kentucky has indicated that clergy of that diocese are prepared to assist couples who desire access to these liturgies.