

**GENERAL SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**  
**AMENDING CANON NO. 43 (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS)**

**PART 1**

**THE DEMISE OF THE CROWN**

**The Church of England**

1. In each of Canons A1 and A6 (the Church of England and its government), for “the Queen’s Majesty” substitute “the King’s Majesty”.
2. In Canon A7 (the Royal Supremacy), for “the Queen’s excellent Majesty” substitute “the King’s excellent Majesty”.

**The Bidding Prayer**

3. (1) In Canon B19, the Bidding Prayer is amended as follows.
  - (2) In the second paragraph—
    - (a) for “the Queen’s most excellent Majesty our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth” substitute “the King’s most excellent Majesty our Sovereign Lord Charles”,
    - (b) for “her other realms and territories, Queen” substitute “his other realms and territories, King”, and
    - (c) for “Philip Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales” substitute “Queen Camilla, William Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales”.
  - (3) In the third paragraph—
    - (a) for “Queen’s” substitute “King’s”, and
    - (b) for “her people” substitute “his people”.
  - (4) In the sixth paragraph, for “Queen” substitute “King”.

**The Oath of Allegiance**

4. In Canon C13, in the Oath of Allegiance set out in each of paragraphs 1 and 3, for “Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, her heirs and successors” substitute “His Majesty King Charles III, his heirs and successors”.

**Archbishops**

5. In Canon C17 (archbishops), in paragraph 7, for “the Queen’s Majesty” substitute “the King’s Majesty”.

**PART 2**  
**MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS**

**Services in parish churches**

6. (1) In Canon B 11 (morning and evening prayer), after paragraph 2 insert—

“2A. In making a decision as to how to give effect to paragraph 1 or 2, the person or persons doing so shall ensure that no church ceases altogether to be used for public worship.”

(2) In Canon B 14 (Holy Communion), after paragraph 1 insert—

“1A. In making a decision as to how to give effect to paragraph 1, the person or persons doing so shall ensure that no church ceases altogether to be used for public worship.”

**Marriage**

7. (1) In Canon B 31 (impediments to marriage), in paragraph (1), for “16” in each place it appears substitute “18”.

(2) In Canon B 32 (impediments to solemnization of matrimony)—

(a) omit “(not being a widow or widower)”, and

(b) omit from “otherwise” to the end.

(3) The amendments made by this paragraph do not affect the validity of a marriage made before 27th February 2023 (the date of the commencement of section 1 of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022).

8. (1) In Canon B 34 (preliminary requirements for solemnization of matrimony), in paragraph 1, for sub-paragraph (d) substitute—

“(d) on the authority of a marriage schedule issued under Part 3 of the Marriage Act 1949.”

(2) In Canon B 36 (service after civil marriage), in paragraph 2, for “licence or certificate authorizing a marriage” substitute “licence authorizing a marriage nor any marriage schedule under Part 3 of the Marriage Act 1949”.

**Lay residentiary canons**

9. In Canon C 21 (deans and residentiary canons), in paragraph 1, at the end insert “; but this is subject to section 14A of the Cathedrals Measure 2021 (which enables the constitution of the Chapter of a cathedral to provide that a person who has been admitted to the office of reader or as a lay worker for at least six years and is licensed to exercise office or serve as such may be appointed as a residentiary canon of that cathedral)”.

**Rural deans**

10. (1) In Canon F 17 (keeping a record of property of churches), in paragraph 2, after “rural dean” insert “or some other deputy”.

(2) In Canon F 18 (survey of churches), after “rural dean” insert “or some other deputy”.

**Ecclesiastical Courts**

11. In Canon G 4 (registrars), after paragraph 2 insert—

“2A. The qualifications for appointment as the deputy of such a registrar under section 29(1) or 31(1) of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 are the same as those for the appointment of such a registrar under paragraph 2; and the registrar making the appointment must be satisfied that the appointee is a communicant.”

**Interpretation**

12. In Canon I (interpretation of the Canons), after paragraph 2 insert—

“3. A reference to a Canon includes a reference to an instrument made under a Canon.”

**PART 3****UPDATING STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES****Section B (divine service and the administration of the sacraments)**

13. (1) In Canon B 2 (approval of forms of service), in paragraph 2B—

(a) in sub-paragraph (2), for “Part 1 of the Cathedrals Measure 1999” substitute “the Cathedrals Measure 2021”, and

(b) omit sub-paragraph (3).

(2) In Canon B 42 (language of divine service), in paragraph 4—

(a) in sub-paragraph (2), for “Part 1 of the Cathedrals Measure 1999” substitute “the Cathedrals Measure 2021”, and

(b) omit sub-paragraph (3).

**Section C (ministers, their ordination, functions and charge)**

14. In Canon C 22 (archdeacons), in paragraph 5, for “the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955” substitute “sections 45 to 47 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018”.

**Section E (the lay officers of the Church)**

15. In each of the following provisions, for “advisor” substitute “officer”—

- (a) in Canon E 6 (licensing of readers), paragraphs 6(6)(a) and 7(5)(a) and (10)(g), and
- (b) in Canon E 8 (admission and licensing of lay workers), paragraphs 8(6)(a) and 9(5)(a) and (10)(g).

**Section F (things appertaining to churches)**

16. In Canon F 18 (survey of churches), for “the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955” substitute “sections 45 to 47 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018”.

**Section G (the ecclesiastical courts)**

17. In Canon G 4 (registrars), in paragraph 2, for “have a general qualification within the meaning of section 71 of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990” substitute “be a solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales or a barrister in England and Wales”.