



Convocation of Anglicans in North America Missionary Diocese of CANA West

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The Rt. Rev'd Dr. Felix C. Orji, Bishop

Diocesan Policy Concerning Politics and the Church

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The practice of partisan politics has no place in our parishes. The United States Constitution guarantees the separation of Church and State, which separation I extend to the expression of partisan political statements in God's houses of worship in this diocese. One's exercise of the right of political expression, however appropriate it may be in other circumstances, is not appropriate in the context of our sanctuaries.

As Christians, we must love all our brothers and sisters in Christ, our neighbors, and especially those members of the family with whom we may not agree in matters of politics.

It is our responsibility as Christians and citizens to pray for all in authority at all levels and sections of government, to preach against government policies and practices that contradict the Word of God, to participate as individuals under divine authority in the politics of our country, and to proclaim the gospel of Christ to everyone, including those in authority, without fear, favoritism, or prejudice.

The Church is a place where Jesus is enthroned as King of kings and Lord of lords, a place where all God's people are edified through God's Word and the dominical Sacraments, and a place where we are challenged to serve one another in humility and fraternal love irrespective of our political affiliations. It is an act of idolatry to disrupt the worship of God or the ministry of the gospel by political partisanship of any sort.

Let us, therefore, abide in Jesus, forbear one another in love, and build up our respective parish families.