the Little Episcopalian’s Guide

the Bishop coloring book
What's a bishop?

A bishop can be a woman or a man. Draw and color your picture of a bishop.

The bishop is a priest especially ordained to lead the diocese.

The bishop's role is to teach and care for the spiritual needs of the clergy and people of the diocese.

Bishops visit each church regularly. They confirm members and ordain priests and deacons.
The bishop’s formal clothes

A bishop wears a

mitre (hat),

cope (cloak),

pectoral cross (necklace),

and carries a
crozier (shepherd’s crook)

at formal occasions.
The cope – a shepherd’s cloak

This is a long cape, worn when the Holy Eucharist is celebrated. It is like a shepherd’s cloak that could shelter a lamb.

The cope can be quite plain or very ornate—it’s up to the bishop who wears it. Which would you like? Color and decorate them.
The mitre – a special hat

The mitre is folding, pointed, ceremonial hat with flaps called lappets that drape down the back of the neck. The top is shaped like the flames of fire on the apostles’ heads on Pentecost. We don’t know where the lappets came from. Some people say it shows the water of baptism flowing down. Like the cope, the mitre can be very simple or quite fancy, with silver, gold and jewels!

Make your mitre as plain or colorful as you want!
The crozier—a shepherd’s staff

A bishop carries a crozier to symbolize that she or he is the shepherd of a flock. The crozier is a walking stick to show that the bishop’s call is to travel near and far to preach the Gospel. The curved end is like the crook a shepherd uses to lead lambs along, and the pointed end symbolizes the bishop’s role in defending the faith.

Our bishop’s crozier was handmade for our bishop by a craftsman in our diocese, Mr. Bill Penny! It took him 3 weeks to make it. It is made in 4 sections so it can be taken apart and packed in a case when our bishop travels. A long stick can be hard to carry!

Which crozier looks like our bishop’s? Would you like a plain or fancy crozier?
The pectoral cross

The bishop’s pectoral cross is a large cross hanging from a necklace that reaches far down on the chest, below the heart. It is a big cross!

Some bishops have a plain cross. Others have a fancy one. Make yours unique!
**The bishop’s ring – a signature seal**

A bishop receives a very special ring as a gift when she or he is consecrated. Sometimes it is handed down from the previous bishop, and sometimes it is made new. Like a wedding ring, it is a symbol of commitment, the bishop’s commitment to the Church and the people under their care. Some bishops’ rings are set with an amethyst stone, which is purple - purple is the bishop’s special color. The stone, or the gold, if the ring has no stone, is often engraved with the seal of the diocese or the bishop’s personal design. The bishop may use the ring to mark a wax seal on ordination and other important documents.

Design a ring that shows your commitment to the Church!
The Episcopal Church

Your church is part of The Episcopal Church, which has churches all over the world. This is the shield of the Episcopal Church. The shield is red, white and blue, similar to the American flag.

Just like the American flag, the section in the top left corner is blue. There are nine small white crosses that symbolize the original nine dioceses of the USA in 1789. The "X" that the crosses make is in remembrance of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. This reminds us that the Church of Scotland ordained the first American bishop in 1784.

The whole background (which is called the field) is white with a red St. George's cross. St. George is the patron saint of the Church of England; this helps us remember our English roots! Color the Episcopal Church shield.
The Episcopal Church—an international church

The Episcopal Church is an international church. It’s divided into 9 provinces. Two of those provinces, Province 2 and Province 8, include dioceses outside the United States! There are 109 dioceses in the Episcopal Church!

The United States is a big place, and the dark lines on the US map show the provinces in our country. Color each Province a different color!

Dioceses are to our international church kind of like states are to the United States, but all dioceses don’t follow states or lines.

Our diocese is part of Province 8, and covers the western part of the United States and further west, including Alaska, Hawaii, Micronesia, and Taiwan!

Color our diocese and color the state of Arizona.

Our diocese has churches from small towns and big cities, and our people are diverse. Draw a picture below of who YOU see in your church!
The Seal of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

Just like the Episcopal Church has a shield as a symbol, each diocese has a seal. What symbols do you recognize? What colors would you make our diocesan seal?
Follow the maze to help the bishop reach your church!
Can you find these words?

They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, or backwards!

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l w m e r p t d e g t y s c o
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