



## **“Do I Need a License to Offer Ministry in The Anglican Diocese of Calgary?”**

The Diocese of Calgary is launching a new Licensed Lay Ministry program in 2019, in which some ministry activities will require a license for the first time. This has been a source of confusion and anxiety for people in the Diocese: what kinds of lay ministries will need licenses now?

This small handout hopes to bring clarity to this question by way of some common examples. For each license, you'll find examples of ministries for which a license is not needed; and examples for which you will be asked to apply for a license, once the program begins.

Please don't worry. The intention isn't to cut off parishes from the valuable and valued ministry of their lay people. It is instead to enhance and invest in lay ministries for the future.

For further information, please visit the Diocesan Website:

**Calgary.Anglican.ca -> Ministries -> The Licensed Lay Ministry Program**

Or you can contact the Rev. Clara King: [cking@calgary.anglican.ca](mailto:cking@calgary.anglican.ca)

God bless you in your ministries.

**“Do I need LICENSE A to Offer Ministry  
in the Diocese of Calgary?”**

- I read the Scripture lessons on a Sunday morning
- I lead the Prayers of the People
- I assist the Priest at the Altar
- I serve the Bread or the Chalice (wine) once it has been consecrated
- I lead the first half of the service, and hand it over to the Priest at the Absolution
- If the Priest were taken sick on a Sunday morning, I could step up to lead Morning Prayer if necessary

*These are very important ministries: the Diocese of Calgary thanks you for offering your gifts and talents for the service of God. **You do not need a license to continue your ministry.** Please continue in your ministry under the leadership of your Priest or Parish Council as a liturgical assistant. And please think about other people in your Parish – especially younger people – who may also have the gifts for these ministries. Might you be called to mentor someone into this ministry, for the future of the Church?*

~~~

- I regularly lead public services of Morning Prayer or Evening Prayer for our Parish when there is no Priest present
- I lead Anglican services of worship (without Communion) for the public in our community
- I do Anglican funerals in our community if a Priest is not able to come

*Thank you for your leadership in your community. Because we value the ministry you offer, and want to help you become ever more confident and well-trained as a Lay Minister of the Diocese and a public representative of the Anglican Church, **we ask that you apply for License A: Leading Public Worship in Morning and Evening Prayer.***

**“Do I need LICENSE B to Offer Ministry  
in the Diocese of Calgary?”**

- I take Communion to the sick or elderly of our Parish who would normally come to service at our Church, but can't come at the moment.
- I take Communion to a family member who is a life-long Anglican but can't currently attend Church
- If there was an emergency, and a stranger needed Communion, I would offer to take it to them – but it's not something I do regularly for strangers.

*Your ministry of bringing Communion to the sick and shut-in is very valuable and makes a big difference in people's lives – thank you for offering your service under the leadership of your Priest or Parish Council. **You do not need a license to continue your ministry. However, parish-based training is required for this important ministry.** This training is the responsibility of your Priest or Regional Dean.*

~~~

- I take Communion to members of the public (for instance at Hospitals or Care Homes) for whom I am the face and representative of the Anglican Church
- I lead public services (for instance at Hospitals or Care Homes) which include distributing Communion
- I am a regular Pastoral Visitor at a Hospital or Care Home, and I bring Communion with me on my rounds
- I go to other communities and/or Parishes to take Communion to those in need
- When there is an emergency, I minister to anyone who is affected, whether they're Anglicans or not, and offer Communion
- I am specially authorized by the Bishop to lead parish services using Reserved Sacrament.

*You are a public minister offering amazing service on behalf of the Anglican Church – and for that we thank you. Because of how important and sensitive this ministry is, and how much we value your service, we wish to support and equip you to offer the very best ministry possible. As a result, **we ask that you apply for License B: Administering Reserved Sacrament to the Wider Public (and, with permission of the Bishop, at parish services).***

**“Do I need LICENSE C to Offer Ministry  
in the Diocese of Calgary?”**

- I’m asked to give a talk no more than once each year, during the time for the Sermon, about the work of a committee that I chair or an organization I work with or volunteer for (i.e. the annual Stewardship sermon, Church Camp sermon, Food Bank Drive sermon etc)
- If the Priest were ever taken sick on a Sunday morning, I would step up to offer a reflection on the readings, if necessary

*Thank you for being willing to address your congregation, to broaden their minds and deepen their faith in all that God is doing. **You do not need a license to continue your ministry.** Please continue giving of your time and skills under the leadership of your Priest or Parish Council.*

~~~

- I am regularly scheduled as a Preacher in my Parish, preaching more than once per year
- I interpret the Word of God for my Parish as a regular part of our public services of worship
- As an Anglican and a representative of my Parish, I preach at Funerals or Weddings or other services in our community

*By the gifts that God has given you and the ministry that you are exercising, you are already a public minister and representative of the Anglican Church – and we thank you for your ministry. You are helping others hear the Word of God and deepen in their faith and practice as Anglicans; you are also helping others in your community understand what it means to be “Anglican”. Because it is such an important and influential ministry that you’ve been called to, and because we value your ministry so highly, **we ask that you apply for License C: Preaching in Public Worship.** This will help you learn new skills for studying and understanding Scripture, new approaches for interpreting the Word of God in our current context, and new techniques for effective public speaking. All of this is designed to help you grow ever more deeply into the ministry to which God has called you, and to enhance the leadership you offer in your community.*