

Admission to Communion - Baptized

Two resolutions were passed by the House of Bishops in December 1972 on the subject of **Attendance at Services of Holy Communion**. The wording of these resolutions is as follows:

“In response to National Executive Council request #2 and in clarification of General Synod 1969 Resolution.

- 1. The House of Bishops agrees that communicants of other Christian Churches, who have been baptized with water in the name of the Holy Trinity, are welcome, if they so desire, to receive Holy Communion in an Anglican Church.*
- 2. Members of the Anglican Church of Canada may, in accordance with their conscience, receive Holy Communion in non-Anglican Churches where they are welcome.”*

These resolutions were passed in response to the resolution passed by General Synod at Sudbury in 1969 as follows:

“This General Synod respectfully requests the Diocesan Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada to permit Anglicans and members of other Christian Churches to share in Eucharistic practice with the full knowledge and consent of the proper authorities.”

It will be noted from this, therefore, that the action of the bishops was in accord with the mind and wishes of General Synod.

In accordance with these resolutions and within the spirit of love to all Christian people, the bishops of the Diocese of Toronto:

1. Authorize the clergy to administer communion to communicants of other Christian churches who have been baptized with water in the name of the Holy Trinity, when they present themselves at the communion rail.
2. Give sanction to Anglicans to receive the sacramental ministrations of other Christian traditions in non-Anglican churches where they are welcome, as their conscience will permit.
3. Do not give permission for ministers from one church to celebrate in, or after the form of, each others churches interchangeably. (See also *Ecumenical Co-operation in Parishes in the Diocese of Toronto* Section 4.5)
4. Encourage the clergy to set before persons who receive communion over a long period of time in an Anglican church, and who are likely to continue to do so indefinitely, what the expectations are for active membership.
5. Urge the clergy to show charity at all time to members of other churches, especially in the matter of the Lord’s Supper and to continue to pray that we may know and do God’s will in our relationship with other Christian people.

