C029

TOPIC: DOCTRINE

Access to Holy Baptism and Holy Communion

PROPOSER

Diocese of North Carolina

ENDORSED BY

SPONSORED BY

PAGE NUMBER(S) FOR REFERENCE

Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A

HOUSE OF INITIAL ACTION / LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

HD / Evangelism

CURRENT FILING STATUS

Filed

REVIEW STATUS (PB&F, CONSTITUTION, CANONS)

not yet reviewed; N/A; N/A

RESOLUTION TEXT

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, that The Episcopal Church reaffirms that baptism is the ancient and normative entry point to receiving Holy Communion and that our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to go into the world and baptize all peoples.

EXPLANATION

It is becoming increasingly common across the Church to invite any person who seeks a deeper understanding of God through Christ to partake of Holy Communion, notwithstanding the explicit provisions of Canon I.17.7.The House of Deputies of the 74th General Convention (2003) called for such a study by adopting Resolution 2003-A089. That resolution was referred by the House of Bishops to its Committee on Theology and was not enacted. Subsequently, Resolution 2006-D084 of the 75th General Convention called on the Theology Committee of the House of Bishops, in consultation with the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, to provide to the 76th General Convention a pastoral and theological understanding of the relationship between Holy Baptism and eucharistic practice. This resolution repeats these calls.