



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

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THE RT. REV. JACK. LEO IKER, Bishop

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For immediate release

Ryan Reed consecrated Bishop Coadjutor

FORT WORTH, Texas – A congregation of over 1,200 witnessed the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Ryan S. Reed, newest bishop in the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), on Saturday, Sept. 21. The clergy and people of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, along with church leaders from around North America and as far away as Africa and the Far East, gathered along with members of the Reed family at Arborlawn United Methodist Church in central Fort Worth for the two-and-a-half-hour service of consecration.

Elected from a field of four candidates on June 1, the Rt. Rev. Ryan Spencer Reed received the ancient gift of the laying on of hands by other bishops, which has been a sign of sacred ministry since biblical times. In addition, he was anointed with oil and presented with gifts of the office, including a ring, cross, shepherd's staff, and vestments.

Before his election, Bishop Reed served as Dean of the diocesan Cathedral for 17 years. He holds an undergraduate degree from Texas A&M University, where he belonged to the Corps of Cadets, and a Master's Degree from Trinity School for Ministry in Pennsylvania. The Most Rev. Foley Beach, Archbishop of the ACNA, was chief consecrator. Co-consecrators were the Rt. Rev. William Wantland, Assisting Bishop of the Diocese; the Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman, retired Bishop of Quincy; and the Rt. Rev. Jack Iker, third Bishop of the Diocese.

The Most Rev. Ray Sutton, Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church, preached the sermon at the service, observing that a Bishop needs "a wisdom greater than Solomon's. ... God promises, just like He did to Solomon, to give wisdom to Jesus' apostles and their successors (bishops) and the whole people of God. God promises it; He never lies. ... The good news of joy today is that the Holy Spirit will give to you the wisdom of God." Through this grace, he concluded, Bishop Reed will be found worthy of his calling.

The title "Bishop Coadjutor" refers to Bishop Reed's status as next in line to assume leadership of the Diocese upon Bishop Iker's retirement on Dec. 31, 2019.

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth was founded in 1982 and has 56 congregations primarily in 24 North Central Texas counties. It is a constituent member of the worldwide Anglican Communion and the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and a founding Diocese of the ACNA, which has a total Sunday worship attendance of about 100,000. Fort Worth is the second-largest Diocese in the province.

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