

### **Can Bp Iker take the diocese with him?**

That depends to some degree on Texas courts. Church canons say he cannot; he claims differently and has set in motion steps to remove the diocese and its real estate from the ownership (in trust) of The Episcopal Church

### **What is The Southern Cone?**

The Province of the Southern Cone is a small province that serves mostly English-speaking Anglicans in South America. It has a population of about 22,000 communicants spread thinly over seven dioceses in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

### **What will happen to my church building?**

Again, that may soon depend on Texas courts. Episcopal Church canons say the property is held in trust for the whole Episcopal Church.

### **What about mission congregations?**

That can't be answered until our convention votes the second time to leave The Episcopal Church. In any arrangement, their relation to the diocesan structure likely remains the same.

### **Who will be my priest if the one at my church now goes with Bp. Iker?**

FW Via Media, North Texans Remain Episcopal, and others in the diocese are at work now to identify people who will need priestly ministry if and when there really is a split. The national church also will assist in providing priests for remaining Episcopalians.

### **If we stay in The Episcopal Church, will we be forced to have a woman priest? A gay priest?**

Absolutely not. Parishes elect rectors. Bishops send vicars. But no one can be forced to accept the ministry of any priest, male or female. No bishop can be forced to ordain anyone, male, female, gay or straight.

### **Has TEC abandoned Scripture?**

At every Episcopal Church, two or three lessons from the Bible and a psalm are read at almost every Eucharist, two lessons and yet more psalms at Morning or Evening Prayer. You likely could not find an Episcopal Church where the Bible is not read at every service of public worship.

### **Do they still teach Scripture in TEC seminaries?**

All Episcopal seminaries require scripture studies, usually in every semester of study during a seminarian's entire career there.

### **Has the Presiding Bishop denied that Jesus is the only way to salvation? If so, why should we evangelize about Jesus?**

The Presiding Bishop said only what the prophets and even St. Paul also said, that God speaks to good people everywhere. We Christians believe that all the goodness of God dwells in Christ Jesus, that he is the perfect and complete revelation of God's love, and we send missionaries so everyone who does not know him yet may learn that Good News-- which surpasses all the good things they already know about God.

### **What is this revisionist theology I keep hearing about?**

That's hard to say, because those who talk about it never quite pin it down. They perhaps mean the church's ongoing effort, continuous in Christian theology since its earliest days, never to stop trying to deepen our understanding of God as Christ reveals him, never to stop trying to share that knowledge with the rest of the world in terms it can understand and respond to. It is blasphemy to say God cannot lead us to ever-deeper knowledge of him.

### **Why should I be concerned or get involved in this controversy?**

Depends on what "get involved" means. Every Episcopalian in the diocese is already involved by virtue of our sacramental and canonical ties to the bishop of the diocese, no matter who that bishop is. Not every Episcopalian need be a trench fighter, but we are all involved, like it or not. What our bishop and our convention do affects us all.

### **What is "Orthodoxy"?**

The word is Greek for "right opinion." Opinion, of course, is hard to pin down, so we usually think about what most people have believed most of the time in most places. But that is still slippery. Most Christians in history, for example, have believed that priests may not marry, yet ours may. The use of the word among us these days implies a resistance to changing certain practices and support for a selective reading of Holy Scripture.