

# Rules of Order

These Rules of Order shall be established by the Synod of The Gulf Atlantic Diocese for conducting the business of the Synod. These rules shall not be amended, suspended or repealed except by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

## *A. Parliamentary Procedure*

1. No motion shall be considered or debated until it is seconded, and, when seconded, it shall be stated by the President before it is voted on; and every motion, when required, shall be reduced to writing.
2. If the motion in debate contains several distinct propositions, any member may have the same divided.
3. When a motion is under consideration, no further motion shall be received unless to lay upon the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, to commit, or to amend; and motions for any of these purposes shall have precedence in the order herein named. If the motion to lay upon the table be carried, the Synod shall proceed as if no such motion had been offered. The motion to lay on the table and to adjourn shall be decided without debate. The motion to adjourn shall always be in order.
4. On a question being put by the President, it shall be determined by the sound of voices for or against it; but any member may require the count of votes, and Tellers for that purpose shall be appointed by the President; or a majority of the members present, may, previous to a decision by count, require the ayes and nays to be taken, which shall be done by calling the names of the Clerical members and then of the names of the Lay Delegates of each Parish, and all votes by ayes and nays shall be entered upon the minutes.
5. A question once decided shall not be reconsidered during the same session without an affirmative vote of two-thirds, nor without a motion for that purpose being made by one of the majority on the prior decision; nor shall any question be reconsidered more than once.
6. All decisions determined by vote within the Synod shall be by simple majority with the exception of the election of a bishop (Canon I) or unless an exception be made by a two-thirds vote of the Delegates, or unless otherwise established by Canon or by the Rules of Order.
7. All questions of order shall be decided by the President, subject to an appeal to the Synod. A simple majority is required to overrule the President.