



OFFICE OF
DEVELOPMENT

The Episcopal Church at Work: A Newsletter from the Office of Development / November 2023

‘OORAH!’

MARINE CORPS VETERAN CONSECRATED





ARMED FORCES
AND FEDERAL
MINISTRIES

A resigned U.S. Marine Corps major, the Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonias is ready for her new deployment.



On Sept. 30, Ritonias was ordained and consecrated The Episcopal Church's bishop suffragan for armed forces and federal ministries. The bishop suffragan is a member of the presiding bishop's staff and is elected by the House of Bishops. Her charge is to recruit, counsel, and advocate for the more than 100 Episcopal chaplains who serve in the military, veterans' hospitals, and federal prisons. Her consecration, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Lafayette Square, Washington, D.C., brought together bishops, chaplains, family, and friends to witness the spiritual laying on of hands.

What does a bishop suffragan do for armed forces ministries? In addition to representing The Episcopal Church to the Department of Defense, the bishop certifies that clergy are qualified and in good standing with The Episcopal Church to serve as chaplains within the armed services.

Go Deeper

- **Marine Corps veteran ready for 'best job in the church' as bishop overseeing military chaplains**
- **Armed Forces and Federal Ministries**
- **Watch this video about the chaplains of The Episcopal Church**

Doing this work:

- **Watch the consecration of the Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonias**





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Did you know?

The Episcopal Church's website has ready-made inserts for your parish's services. **You can download them in full or half sheets.** The service bulletins will connect your parish to the work of the broader church. They are available in both English and Spanish.



Ways to Give: BLESS Appeal

Your gifts to The Episcopal Church BLESS Appeal and other ministries make a significant difference.

We are so thankful for your generosity as we seek to walk in the way of Jesus through our missions and ministries. Below are some ways to partner with us financially.

Text to give:

Text 'Appeal' to 91999

Call:

800-334-7626 ext. 6002

Online:

The Episcopal Church

Make a gift of securities:

Contact T.J. Houlihan

212-716-6271 for information.





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Feast Days

Dec 3 First Sunday of Advent

Dec 14 St. John of the Cross, mystic and reformer

Dec 28 The Holy Innocents



Prayer/Meditation

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us.



Featured Podcast

Prophetic Voices - Advent



Featured Video

Meet the Chaplains of the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries

Give Today – Please support the BLESS:Annual Appeal with a gift today.