

The Rev. Canon Cornelia K. Eaton

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Education

Virginia Theological Seminary
Master in Divinity, MDiv, 2018

San Juan College, Farmington, NM
Associate of Arts, Liberal Arts, 2009

Kirtland Central High School, Kirtland, NM
Class of 1989

Ordinations and Canonical Status

Diocese of Canonical Residence: Navajoland
Canonical Status: Priest in Good Standing

Priest

February 7, 2015 (Saint Cornelius the Centurion)
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Farmington, NM
The Rt. Rev. David E. Bailey, Ordaining Bishop

Deacon

December 21, 2013 (Saint Thomas the Apostle)
All Saints' Episcopal Church, Farmington, NM
The Rt. Rev. David E. Bailey, Ordaining Bishop

Ministry Experience

Canon to the Ordinary (CTO), 2014–Present

- Serve alongside Bishop Barry Beisner, 3 years. Served as Canon to the Ordinary for 8 years alongside Bishop David Bailey, 8 years.
- Work collaboratively with the bishop, the diocesan staff and diocesan leaders, both lay and ordained to faithfully prepare faithful disciples to serve and build up God's church in Navajoland.
- Lead staff meetings in the administration of the office of the bishop.
- Served on the elders' advisory board to the bishop during Bishop Bailey's episcopacy, empowering the women elders in Navajoland to offer advice to the bishop.
- Oversee continuing education and spiritual support for clergy, and to assist with congregational and leadership development.
- Plan and facilitate clergy and laity (both employed and volunteer) retreats. Involve outside experienced facilitators to lead workshops on certain topics.
- Work alongside congregational leaders on clergy transition and conflict resolution with the focus to develop and strengthen relationships with lay and ordained leaders. Transition

ministry was carried out through intentional individual and group conversations by way of prayer, and clear and consistent communication.

- Respond to matters of conflict that arise between clergy and congregation leaders.
- Build healthy relationships.
- Ensure that activities and expectations of diocesan staff are consistent with diocesan handbook, constitution and canons, with best practices.
- Raise up leadership, sustain the faith of the people both in Diné spirituality and Christian spirituality, and sustain the economic needs of the Area Mission to empower laity to use their gifts to serve God's church in variety of ways.
- Lead and celebrate Eucharist worship services and make time for pastoral visitation.
- Lead prayer and blessing of buildings in public forum in the community and in other dioceses.
- Lead the Hozhó Center as the Program Director
 - Chair the board of directors (5 board members)
 - Offer programs on recovery and healing ministries related to historical grief trauma – Wellbreity Ministries, Alcoholic Anonymous, Al-anon, Winter Stories
 - Assist with spiritual growth and wellness for communities
 - Networking – building relationships
- Accepted a call to Vancouver School of Theology Native American Ministries Summer Consortium, Canada for ministry education and training, 2012-2013, 2013-2014
- Served as deacon and priest in the New Mexico region; appointed priest in charge at All Saint's and St. Michael's from February 7–August 1, 2015; accepted a call to attend Virginia Theological Seminary in August 2015-2018. During the summer I returned to Navajoland, I served in the Utah region for a field education experience where I offered liturgical skills and pastoral education to develop my pastoral leadership.
- Lead with commitment to pray for diocesan staff and for all employees, and congregations throughout the Diocese.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA – Field Education Placement 2017-2018

- Assisting priest to the Rev. John Weatherly
- Prepared sermons and liturgical planning
- Led and taught spiritual formation forums
- Taught Native Spirituality
- Assisted with a worship service at the Pentagon
- Assisted with youth ministry and fundraising- led the youth on a pilgrimage in Navajoland
- Learned to be present in St. Mark's challenges, hopes and dreams. Broadened my walk in two worlds.
- Built relationships in a diverse congregation.

Communication

Over the past 30 years in ministry as laity and ordained:

- Invited to speak at diocesan conventions and gatherings on Diné and Christian Spirituality
- Invited to preach in other dioceses in The Episcopal Church
- Mentor folks seeking ordination
- Led prayer pilgrimage retreat in Navajoland for the House of Bishop's spouses, 2013

- Led ceremonial four directions prayer and healing retreat in Navajoland for Province 8 bishops, 2014
- Led pilgrimages with mission groups throughout the decades in building strong and long-term relationships
- Led Anglican Communion Pilgrimage – New Zealand, Brazil, Canada, Minnesota, Polynesia, 2025
- Led presentations in dioceses of TEC on the Doctrine of Discovery
- Led healing circles by zoom in Navajoland and abroad during the covid pandemic
- Led worship and liturgical services of hope during the covid pandemic
- Assisted with the food ministry during the covid pandemic and post pandemic
- Assisted with pastoral ministry during the pandemic with numerous graveside services, too many to name
- Continue to offer healing in areas of grief and loss, recovery and offer hope for many battling spiritual illness affected by The Long Walk, known as historical grief trauma
- Engage in ministry development and Christian formation across The Episcopal Church
- Work closely with the Communications Office in Navajoland and in building networks and making ECN stories known world-wide
- Write poetry, short stories, essays, and spiritual curricula

Published Works

Hozhó'jii – Blessing Way, Lifting Women's Voices: Prayers to Change the World. Morehouse Publishing, 2009.

Communion as a Discipleship of Mutuality, God's Church for God's World: A Practical Approach to Partnership in Mission, Church Publishing, 2020.

The Beauty Way, Episcopate: The Role of Bishops in a Shared Future, Church Publishing, 2022.

Leadership

- Youth Ministry, San Juan Mission 2002-2004
- Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries of The Episcopal Church (TEC), 2005-2012
- Board Member of Indigenous Training Institute, TEC 2007-2012
- Planning Team Native Indigenous Ministries Youth Event, 2012
- Member of the Anglican Indigenous Network, 2007-2009
- Chaplain to the House of Deputies, 77th General Convention 2012
- Member on the Program, Budget and Finance Budget Committee of TEC, 2015
- Administration and Financial Bookkeeper, ECN 2010-2013
- Secretary to the Bishop, 2011-2015
- Canon to the Ordinary, 2014-Present
- Deacon, ECN, 2013-2015
- Priest, ECN, 2015-Present
- Served on Hooghan Learning Circle

- Finance Committee
- Building and Grounds Committee
- Economic Development Corporation
- Navajoland ECN Council 2013-present
- Assisting Priest–Field Education, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA, 2017-2018
- Seminary Education, 2015-2018 VTS
- TEC Indigenous Advisory Board, 2018- 2021
- Selected to serve on United Nations on Indigenous Forum leadership, New York, 2019
- Elected Board Member of the Executive Council of TEC, 2018-2024
- Board Member of the Finance Committee of the Executive Council of TEC, 2018-2024
- Chair of Navajoland Deputation to the General Convention, 2021-2022
- Chair of the Task Force on Native American Liturgy and Resource Committee, 2022-2024
- Co-Chaplain on Prayer Book, Liturgy, and Music Legislative Committee, 2021-2023
- Member on Committee of Constitution and Canons, 80th General Convention, 2022
- Assessment Review Committee of the Executive Council of TEC, 2025
- ECN Standing Committee President, 2022- Present