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CIVIL INTAKE

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JANET FREY  
CLERK OF COURT  
FAIRFAX, VA

**VIRGINIA :**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY**

**IN RE:**

**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY  
3301 Hidden Meadow Drive  
Herndon, Virginia 20171**

**CIVIL NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**2007 556 - -**

**REPORT OF CONGREGATIONAL  
DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO VA. CODE §57-9**

Pursuant to Va. Code §57-9, the Church of the Epiphany, Herndon, Virginia (“Epiphany Church”), a non-stock religious corporation organized under the laws of Virginia, respectfully submits this report in support of its petition for approval of its congregational determination.

**OVERVIEW**

1. A division has occurred in the broader “church or religious society” to which Epiphany Church was attached prior to its congregational determination. The denomination is now divided in structure as well as doctrine, and this division is present at the global level (the Anglican Communion), the national level (the Episcopal Church in the U.S.A., or “TEC”), and the local level (the Diocese of Virginia, or “the Diocese”). The division has been acknowledged by authorities throughout the Anglican Communion, including in the Diocese of Virginia.

2. By majority vote of 282-80 conducted in accordance with Va. Code §57-9, the members of Epiphany Church over 18 years of age have determined to disaffiliate from TEC and the Diocese and to reaffiliate with another branch of the Anglican Communion. The adult members of 12 other congregations—which, together with Epiphany Church, comprise roughly 15 percent of average Sunday attendance and 19 percent of congregational operating revenue, in

the Diocese—have likewise severed ties with the denomination, as has at least one other congregation in the Diocese of Southern Virginia and more than 100 other Episcopal congregations in various Episcopal dioceses throughout the United States.

3. Ten of these 14 Virginia congregations have affiliated with the Church of Nigeria, a branch of the Anglican Communion, by joining the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (“CANA”), a United States-based structure, and the Anglican District of Virginia (“District”), an association of Virginia congregations under CANA’s jurisdiction. CANA is a missionary initiative of the Church of Nigeria, and by virtue of that affiliation CANA’s districts, bishop, constituent churches, and missions are members of the Anglican Communion just as are any other Church of Nigeria districts, bishops, churches, and missions; however, CANA is separate from (and no longer in active communion with) TEC. CANA and the District were formed in response to the division within TEC and the Diocese that led to this petition, and CANA and the District now provide episcopal oversight and an ecclesiastical structure for Anglican congregations that have divided from TEC. The remaining four Virginia congregations that have severed ties with TEC and the Diocese as a result of the division have reaffiliated with dioceses of the Province of Uganda, also a branch of the Anglican Communion that is no longer in active communion with TEC. These four congregations are in the process of obtaining “affiliate member” status in the Anglican District of Virginia.

#### **THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION IN VIRGINIA BEFORE THE DIVISION**

4. Epiphany Church was established in 1986 as a church plant of Truro Church. The Epiphany Church congregation immediately became financially self-sufficient. After worshipping in the Franklin Middle School, Chantilly, Virginia, for three years, in 1987, Epiphany Church purchased its real property on Hidden Meadow Drive, and built and moved into its current

