

Parish & Congregational Models

The Constitution of the Diocese of Adelaide recognises Parishes (Chapter V of the Constitution) as an essential element of the Diocese of Adelaide, together with The Bishop (Chapter II), the Synod (Chapter III), and Diocesan Council (Chapter IV). In particular, the majority membership of The Synod is comprised of *lay representatives* derived from Parishes and Congregations.

The Constitution allows for "...the conditions for registration and termination of registration of a parish, the qualifications for membership of a parish and the conditions for registration of changes in the composition or name of a parish..." to be determined by The Synod.

The *Registration of Congregations & Parishes Ordinance* (RCPO) provides the mechanism to register, alter, and terminate Congregations & Parishes.

The *Parochial Administration Ordinance* (PAO) provides the rules under which Parishes, and optionally Congregations, to operate.

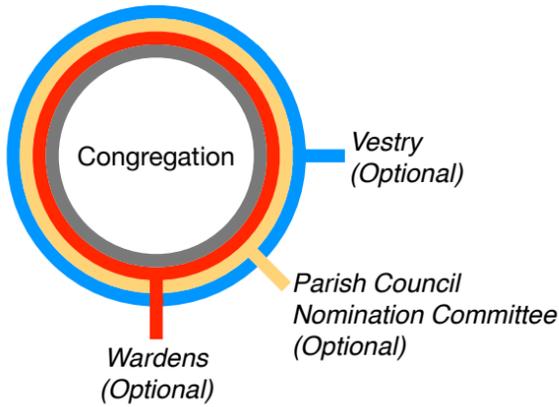
The governance models of *registered* Congregations and Parishes is illustrated below citing the authority in Ordinance.

The requirements for a **Registered Congregation** (RCPO Part 2, Div. 1, S.4(1))

- (a) the congregation has a unifying identity;
- (b) the congregation will meet regularly for worship, which will include the ministry of the word and sacrament;
- (c) there are sufficient members to ensure ongoing viability of the mission of the congregation;
- (d) the registration will contribute positively to the mission and ministry of the Church;
- (e) the views of the Area Archdeacon in relation to the application have been considered;
- (f) the Bishop is willing to license clergy to the congregation.

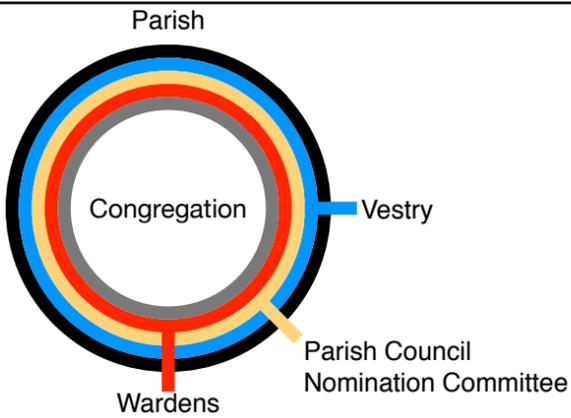
The requirements for a **Parish** (RCPO Part 3, Div. 1, S.9(1))

- (a) any parish to be formed by the proposal is able to be an effective functioning part of the Church in worship, service and responsibility;
- (b) proper pastoral care can be provided within any parish to be formed by the proposal;
- (c) mission and pastoral care within the Diocese will not be adversely affected by the registration of any parish to be formed by the proposal;
- (d) the pastoral care and leadership of any parish to be formed by the proposal has been or will, on approval of the proposal, be committed to one or more members of the clergy licensed to the parish by the Bishop;
- (e) the conditions of section 26 of the Constitution are complied with in respect of any parish to be formed by the proposal;
- (f) if there is no estate or interest in land for the purposes of any parish to be formed by the proposal, the parish has agreed to be governed by rules approved by the Diocesan Council.



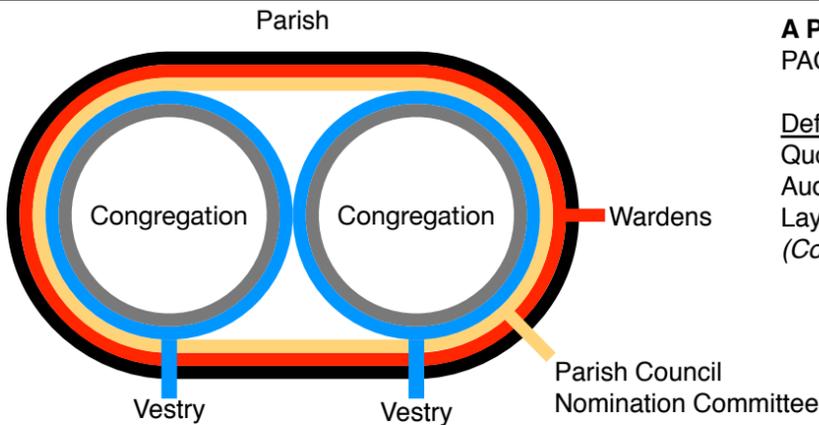
A Congregation RCPO Part 2 Division 1

A Congregation *may* be registered by Diocesan Council, and need not form part of a Parish (RCPO Part 2, Div 1, S.4(6)(b))
Elements of the PAO *may* apply to the Congregation, E.g. Vestry, Wardens, Parish Councils (RCPO Part 2, Div 1, S.4(3)(d))
Lay Synod Representation of 1, if granted by Diocesan Council (Constitution Chapter III, S.10(d3))



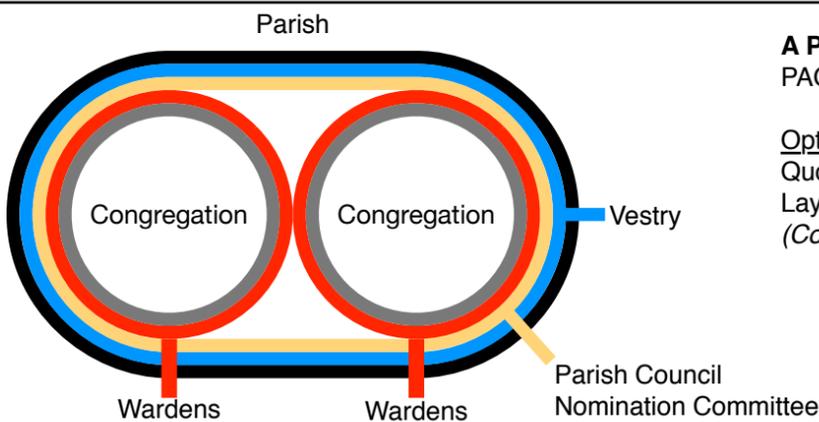
A Parish with a Single Congregation PAO Part II Division I

The model for a Parish comprised of a single congregation (PAO Part II, Div. I, S.5)
Quorum for Vestry Meetings is 15 (PAO Part II, Div. I, S.5)
Lay Synod Representation 1 - 5 according to scale (Constitution Chapter III, S.10(d))



A Parish with two or more congregations, each with a separate Vestry PAO Part II Division II

Default for parishes comprising two or more congregations (PAO Part II, Div. II, S.8)
Quorum for Vestry Meetings is 5 (PAO Part II, Div. II, S.9(2))
Audited statement required for each congregation (PAO Part II, Div. IV, S.17(3))
Lay Synod Representation 1 - 5 according to scale or 1 per congregation, whichever is greater (Constitution Chapter III, S.10(d))



A Parish with a single Vestry, and two or more congregations, each with separate Wardens PAO Part II Division III

Opt-In for parishes comprising two or more congregations (PAO Part II, Div III, S.12)
Quorum for Vestry Meetings is 15 (PAO Part II, Div. III, S.13(2))
Lay Synod Representation 1-5 according to scale or 1 per congregation, whichever is greater (Constitution Chapter III, S.10(d))

