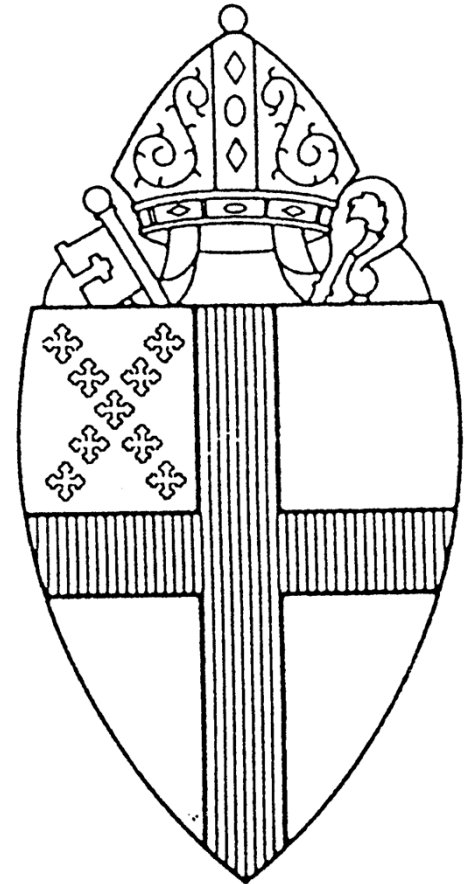


Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

- Founded in 1991 by Bishop Steven Charleston
 - Recognize, honor, and celebrate the wisdom, experience, maturity & ministry of older persons in Diocese of Alaska. (15 years as an active Episcopalian and 60 years of age)
 - Live by The Society's Rule of Life
 - Each deanery select 2 members each year for induction into the Society



Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

Threefold Rule of Life

Prayer

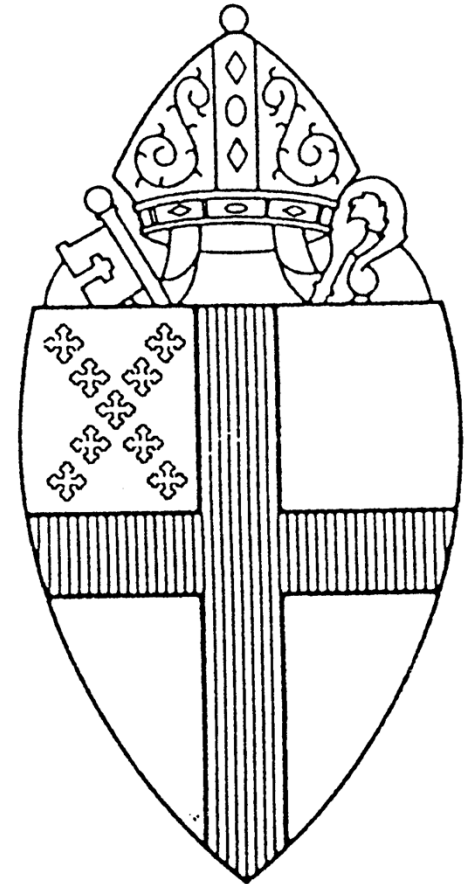
- To be constant in prayer

Ministry

- To be conscientious in ministry

Compassion

- To be compassionate in life



Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

Duties of the Society

Pray

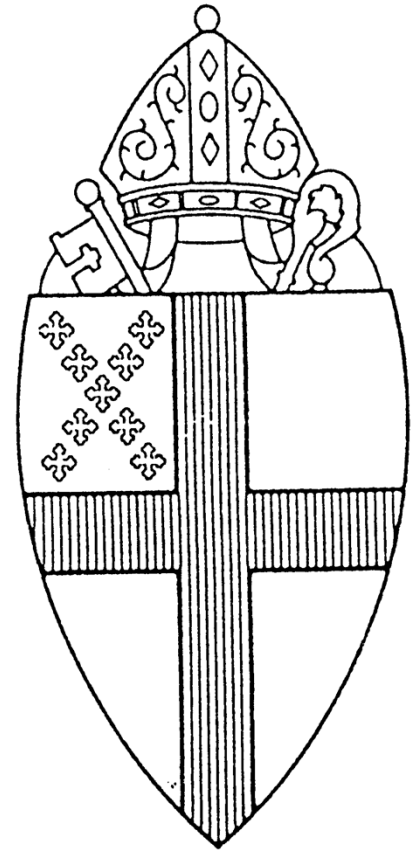
- Pray daily for the Bishop, Diocese and its people.

Council of Elders

- Stand ready to share their wisdom with the Bishop & others when asked.

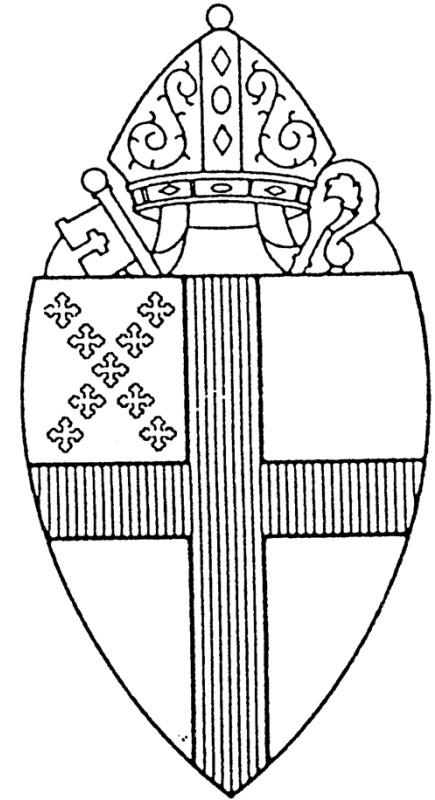
Model for Christian Living

- All persons in the Diocese are encouraged to look to the Society for images of life that are lived in imitation of Christ.



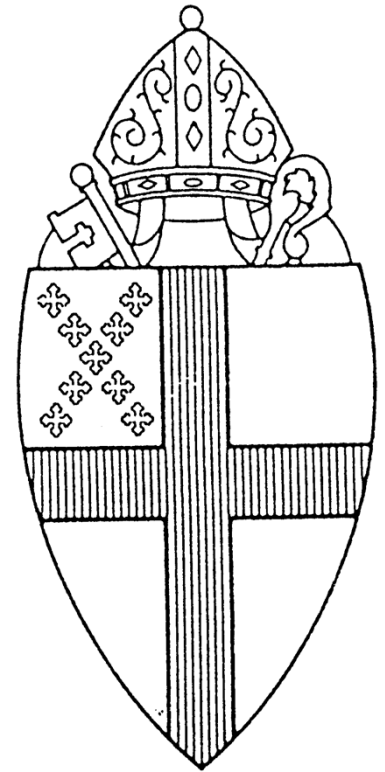
Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

- Resolution passed at 2003 Diocesan Convention
 - No limit on number of inductees by each deanery
 - Membership is open to all Elders in Alaska who have been active in the Episcopal Diocese for at least 15 years and who are 60 years of age or older.



Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

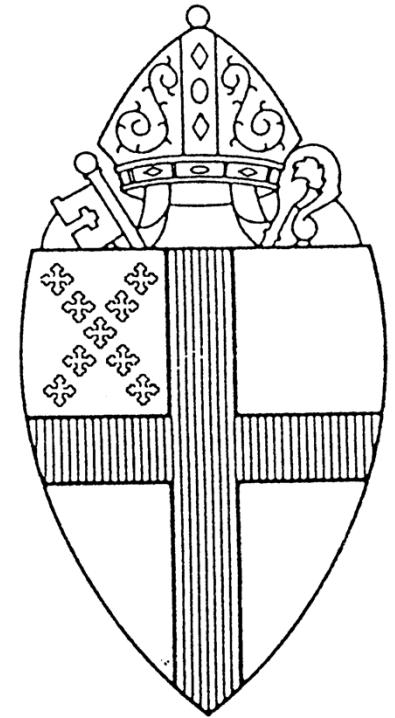
- 2019 Diocesan Convention, the Standing Committee sought advice and assistance in looking at the ongoing viability of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna, as it is currently structured.
 - Moratorium and suspension of nominees to the Society in 2020 – allowing time for discussions at deanery meetings.
- 2020 Global Pandemic – Not all deaneries were able to meet.
 - Moratorium continued in 2021.
 - Deaneries and individuals provided input & comments



Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

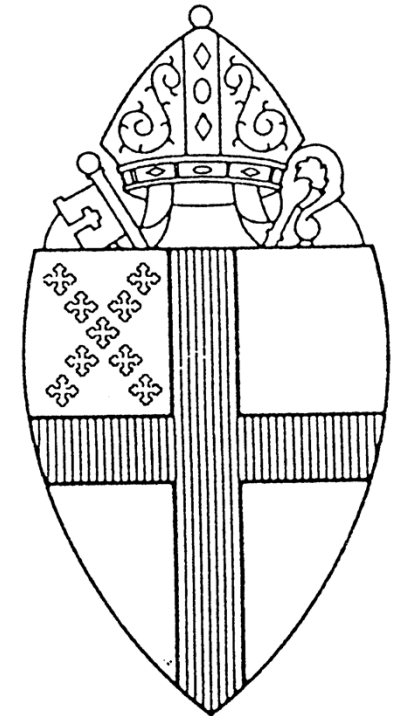
Summary of Responses received by the Standing Committee.

- Renew emphasis on the **Rule of Life**
- Administration of the Society is better served at the deanery and/or local level
- A strong desire to continue to honor, respect and value our elders
- Local traditions, customs and expression vary greatly between deaneries



Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna

The Standing Committee moves: After much discussion, prayer, and consideration that we give thanks and praise to God, for the faithful members of The Society of St. Simeon & St. Anna and recognize, as resurrection people, that it is time to close this chapter so that a new may begin. The Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna, as a diocesan society, shall not be inducting any new members going forward AND each Deanery is encouraged to develop a local expression to recognize, honor, and celebrate the wisdom, experience, maturity, & ministry of our elders, according to local traditions.



Motion Passed: 46th Diocesan Convention, October 2021