

Michael R. Williams is an American Anglican bishop and retired United States Air Force chaplain whose ministry has spanned parish leadership, military chaplaincy, and episcopal service. From 2018 to 2025, he served as bishop suffragan in the Anglican Church in North America's Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy (SJAFC). Following his retirement, he joined the newly formed Anglican Reformed Catholic Church in January 2026.

Early Life and Education

Williams earned a B.A. in political science from Iowa State University in 1977. Shortly after graduation, he was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He married his wife, Becky, in 1976, and together they have three daughters and five granddaughters.

Ordained Ministry and Parish Service

Sensing a call to ordained ministry while serving in the Air Force, Williams attended Trinity School for Ministry. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church in North Pole, Alaska, during his assignment at Eielson Air Force Base. From 1991 to 1995, he served as rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Chaplaincy Career

Williams entered the U.S. Air Force Chaplain Corps in 1995, serving in a variety of pastoral and leadership roles until his retirement in 2009. That same year, he joined the staff of the SJAFC, contributing to the jurisdiction's work of endorsing and supporting military and institutional chaplains.

Since 2009, Williams has also served as priest—and later bishop-in-residence—at St. George's Anglican Church in Colorado Springs, a congregation affiliated with the SJAFC.

Episcopal Ministry

On April 12, 2018, Williams was consecrated bishop suffragan of the SJAFC in Birmingham, Alabama, alongside Bishop Mark Nordstrom. In addition to his episcopal oversight, he served as director of education, training, and formation for Anglican chaplains.

Like other bishops of the jurisdiction, his canonical residence was initially held in the Church of Nigeria North American Mission until 2021, when he left and became the SJAFC a special jurisdiction to provide training and endorsements for the chaplains of the Anglican Church in North America.

Williams retired from active episcopal service in 2025, succeeded by newly elected bishops Jay Cayangyang and Marshall MacClellan. He formally retired in December 2025.

Later Ministry

As of 2026, Williams serves as bishop of the Diocese of St. Andrew in the Anglican Reformed Catholic Church, a continuing Anglican body founded by former SJAFB bishop Derek Jones.