

Outline of Elective Offices

THE 183rd ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Diocesan Officers

NOTE: Traditionally, Article 12 of the Constitution of the Diocese of Chicago has been “unanimously dispensed with” in filling the offices of: Secretary of Convention, Parliamentarian of Convention, Treasurer of the Diocese, Registrar/Historiographer.

The Standing Committee

- Consists of three canonically resident priests or deacons AND three communicant and resident lay persons.
- One clergy person and one lay person are elected each year to serve a 3-year term.

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Chicago is a council of advice for the bishop. They serve as a sounding board for any topic or issue that the bishop would like to address.

The Standing Committee is elected by representatives from every congregation in the Diocese, gathered in Diocesan Convention. Every Episcopal Diocese (the regional body of the Episcopal Church, under the authority of a bishop) has a Standing Committee, with responsibilities assigned by the [Canons of the Episcopal Church](#). A majority of the Standing Committees of all dioceses have to consent when any diocese elects a new bishop. If a diocese does not have a bishop, the Standing Committee has the authority to make certain decisions for the diocese.

To be ordained as a deacon or priest in the Episcopal Church requires the approval of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, so in the Diocese of Chicago, the Standing Committee works closely with the Commission on Ministry from the time a person is nominated by their congregation until they are ordained. See the [Commission on Ministry's website](#) for a full description of this process. Standing Committee is also legally required to approve decisions about clergy leaving the Episcopal Church for any cause.

In the Diocese of Chicago, the members of the Standing Committee elect a President each year, who is also automatically a member of the Trustees of the Endowment during their term.

Duties – As listed in the *Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church* (available online in English and Spanish at <https://www.episcopalarchives.org/learn/digital-archives/governance-documents-of-the-church>)

1. Is to be the Bishop’s Council of Advice
2. In the absence of the Bishop, the Standing Committee shall take charge of the Diocese as prescribed by General Convention.
3. Same if the Bishop is disabled.
4. Concurs in the election of all other Bishops.
5. Gives consent when a Bishop resigns or is elected to another jurisdiction.
6. Certifies the ordination of priests and deacons in the Diocese.
7. Approves modification or revision of judicial sentences.
8. Approves encumbrance of real property.
9. Recommends ordination of candidates and deacons.
10. Has responsibilities in the area of clerical misconduct.

From the *Constitution of the Diocese of Chicago, Article 10* ([available online](#))

The Standing Committee:

1. Shall elect officers from among its members
2. Shall have power to fill any vacancy in its membership
3. Has power between Conventions to authorize the payment of such claims and accounts as may have not been acted upon by the Convention- with approval of the Board of Financial Review.

For more information on the Standing Committee, read Article 10 of “The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.”

The 167th Annual Convention in 2004 amended the Constitution to permit Standing Committee members to be elected to a second consecutive full term before being barred from standing for election for consecutive term.

The terms for the following Standing Committee members expire November 2020. Both candidates are eligible for re-election

Clergy

The Rev. Miguel Briones

Lay

Mr. Rory Smith

The Bishop and Trustees

- Corporation consisting of 13 members comprising the Bishop, 3 canonically resident priests or deacons and 9 communicant and resident lay persons. Other Bishops shall be members.
- 1 priest or deacon and 3 lay persons elected each year for a 3-year term.

The Bishop and Trustees hold title to and oversee the use of the real property of the Diocese of Chicago including St. James Commons, mission congregations, and closed properties. They approve purchases, sales, construction projects involving mortgages and real estate, and the diocesan budget. The Bishop and Trustees also hold title to St. James Commons. In addition to making decisions regarding the maintenance and purchase or sale of property, each Trustee is the liaison to at least one mission congregation. The Trustee works with the Vicar and lay leadership on matters relating to the physical plant. Also, in partnership with congregational liaisons, they may address questions regarding developing congregational mission. Thus, knowledge of property issues is important, but the ability to think creatively about congregational development is also crucial. Trustees also work in small teams to address broader challenges.

Duties and Powers

1. Fill any vacancy in its membership until the next convention.
2. Make laws of the Corporation.
3. Receive gifts, monies, bequests, etc. and manage and administer these as financial agents of the Diocese.
4. Assure the use of proper business methods in the management of money and property.
5. Borrow money and provide for payment.
6. Submit a budget for all expenses of the Diocese for the ensuing year.
7. Serve as liaison to one or more Mission Congregations.

For more information on Bishop and Trustees, read Canon 35 in “The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.”

Bishop and Trustees meet bimonthly on the third Tuesday of the month from 11 am – 2 pm. The July meeting is held on the third Saturday of the month at a mission congregation.

The terms for the following members of Bishop and Trustees expire November 2020. Upon expiration of their terms, members of Bishop and Trustees ARE eligible for reelection.

Clergy

The Rev. Peg Williams

Lay

Mr. Michael Mattson

Mr. James Barrett

Mr. Robert Neal III

The Cathedral Chapter

The Cathedral is the elected governing Board for the Cathedral Congregation. One clerical or lay person is elected for a 3-year term. Following the end of the term, members must wait at least one year before seeking re-election. The Cathedral Chapter meets in the evening on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Duties: Members of the Chapter give voice to a vision for the congregation's life together and set policy. They oversee resource development, people, property, and finances, to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Chapter meets in the evening on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

For more information on The Cathedral Chapter, read Canon 34 in [The Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago](#).

Trainings for those Elected

All persons elected or appointed to diocesan bodies are required to participate in the 2 ½ day Understanding and Analyzing Systemic Racism training provided by Chicago Regional Organizing for Antiracism (Chicago ROAR) and subsidized by the Diocese of Chicago Anti-Racism Commission. Until in-person 2 ½ day trainings resume, all are encouraged to participate in day long on-line trainings. Dates can be found on the diocesan webpage.

Also, there will be an online orientation for all newly elected or appointed persons on Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM. More information will be sent following elections

Secretary of Convention
Diocese of Chicago
65 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611
secretary@episcopalchicago.org

183rd CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

NOMINATIONS ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

2020 NOMINATION FORM

FOR CANONICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE

(Please type) _____ Date _____

I nominate _____ as a _____
Clerical or Lay candidate

for _____

Nominee's mailing address _____

Nominee's Parish or Mission _____

**All nominations must include the signatures of at least two clerics entitled to seats at Diocesan Convention and three lay persons who are either delegates to the Convention or members of their Vestry or Bishop's Committee. (Canon 53, Section 1)

Clergy Signatures

1. _____

2. _____

Lay Signatures

1. _____

Congregation _____

2. _____

Congregation _____

3. _____

Congregation _____

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name _____

Mailing address _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ (home) (____) _____ (work) (____) _____

Congregation _____

Occupation/Employer (if applicable) _____

Present Parish offices (please list no more than 3) _____

Past Parish Offices (up to 3) _____

Diocesan/Church-Wide Offices (Indicate dates of service within last 5 years)

***All candidates must complete this form fully. Incomplete Nomination forms will not be accepted by the Committee on Nominations of the Convention. If able, candidates are encouraged to submit nomination documents in both English and Spanish.

Signature of Nominee

Candidate Statement: Each person nominated is asked to prepare a statement of two paragraphs. In one paragraph (100 words or less) describe why you are seeking this particular office; what challenges or opportunities you see for the Church; and how this body can address those. In the second paragraph (100 words or less), state how your gifts of talent or experience make you a good candidate for the office you seek. Please note that just the first 100 words of each paragraph will be printed in the convention booklet.

Signed nomination forms may be sent or emailed to:

Secretary of Convention
secretary@episcopalchicago.org
Diocese of Chicago
65 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Nominations must include a photograph (jpg format preferred).

Digital photographs and candidate statements may be emailed to **Secretary of Convention** at: secretary@episcopalchicago.org.