

Elective Offices

Episcopal Diocese of Rochester

To Run for Election

To be elected at the Convention one must be nominated by either Clergy, Lay delegates, or Officers entitled to seats and votes in a forthcoming annual Convention or vestries of parishes and executive committees of missions. All nominations may be completed online by the nominee. Once completed by the nominee, the nominator will receive a confirmation email to be replied to by the Secretary of Convention. The deadline for submitting a nomination form is June 30th, and after that date, additional nominations may be made from the floor of the Convention.

Attendance

In the interest of good stewardship, committee meetings will be held on Zoom with a couple of annual in-person exceptions. Persons elected to Diocesan bodies are expected to attend all group meetings. Members who fail to attend/participate in three successive meetings without excuse by the chairperson may be removed by majority vote of the members. (*Diocesan Canon 27*)

Standing Committee: (4) year term

- The committee consists of (4) clergy and (4) lay, and may not serve concurrently on the Council, the Trustees, or the COM. After serving one term, a member must rotate off for at least one year
- Bishop's Council of Advice
- In the absence of a Bishop, the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese
- Along with the Bishop, must approve any action that may encumber the real property & equipment of the church (including all loans)
- Along with the Bishop, must approve indebtedness for current expenses over 20% of the previous year's receipts for current expenses
- Along with the Bishop, must approve candidates for Holy Orders
- The committee normally meets the 4th Wednesday of the month except in summer, from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Diocesan Office. Additional meeting times are to be determined.

Diocesan Council: (2) year term

- Council consists of; the Bishop, the Chancellor, the Secretary, and the Treasurer of the Diocese, and (16) elected members (8 clerical and 8 lay); consisting of (1) clerical and (1) lay member from each of the (5) districts, elected by the district delegates and (3) lay and (3) clergy members are elected At-Large at convention. After serving two terms, a member must rotate off for one year.
- Executive body that performs the work of the Diocese committed to it by Convention
- Assists the Bishop to implement new work between Conventions
- Formulates the annual budget and distributes funds accordingly
- Establishes the apportionment paid by each Parish and Mission to support the Diocesan Budget, and presents to the Convention for approval.
- Organizes departments and shall determine the scope and power of each
- Requests reports/statements from Parishes & Missions as needed to complete its work
- Council meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, from 4:30 - 6 p.m. Meetings will be on ZOOM to reduce our carbon footprint and travel for committee members.
- The Mission Grant subcommittee meetings are scheduled at the convenience of the group
- Congregational Development & Budget subcommittees meetings are scheduled at different times.

Trustees: (3) year term

- (9) persons are elected to serve with the Bishop, may not serve concurrently on the Diocesan Council or the Standing Committee, may serve any number of terms
- General powers, duties & responsibilities set forth by Section 5 of Religious Corporations Law of the State of NY
- Prudent management of the assets of the Diocese (real and personal property, cash, investments, etc.), administered by the rules of the Diocese, for its support and maintenance
- Trustees usually meet quarterly on Saturday mornings; Investment Review, Audit, and Prichard Scholarship sub-committees are scheduled in advance.

Commission on Ministry: (3) year term

- COM is both elected and appointed, no more than 19 nor less than 9 members, and no more than a simple majority of either clergy or lay, may not serve concurrently as a member of the Standing Committee. After serving two terms, a member must rotate off for at least one year
- Group of elected and appointed clergy and lay people primarily responsible for discernment with and formation of those in the ordination process for holy orders to the vocational diaconate and priesthood
- Concerned with supporting the discernment of the ministry of all the baptized in our congregations
- Addresses issues of formation guidelines, mentoring of newly ordained clergy, ongoing support and clergy wellness, deployment models, and administration of clergy continuing education grants
- COM meets on the 2nd Tuesday from 5 - 7 p.m. Sub-committees may have additional scheduled meetings

Disciplinary Board: (3) year term

- The board consists of (7) members – (4) clergy and (3) lay, may serve two consecutive terms
- Charged with implementing a multi-level resolution process and, if necessary, hearing cases related to violating Canon Law (non-criminal) within the church.
- Acts under Canon 21 of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester's Constitution & Canons and Title IV of the Canons for Government of the Episcopal Church
- Meets when necessary

Deputies to General Election: (3) year term

- Eight Deputies are elected every three years, (4) clergy and (4) lay. The following year, eight Provisional Deputies (alternates) are elected, up to (4) clergy and (4) lay.
- The seniority of deputies (Based on election results) is important in the Convention committee structure.
- Alternates may move to deputy status when a deputy resigns.
- Duties include reporting back to the diocese and representing it at the General Convention, which is held every three years.
- General Convention Venue: 2024 Louisville, Kentucky - July 20-29