

Introductory Chancellor's Report

1. Authority for Zoom Diocesan Convention.

Under Canon 28(2)(a) this 89th Diocesan Convention may be held remotely on-line through Zoom. The section reads:

“(a) Any meeting required under the Constitution and Canons, other than a hearing at which evidence may be taken and examined, may be conducted either in person or, in whole or in part, through telephonic or other electronic communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time.”

2. Amendment to Rules of Order to remove the celebration of Holy Communion for this 89th Convention.

Diocesan Conventions are governed by EDR Rules of Order. Canon 1(5)(e) provides that “The Rules of Order in force at the preceding annual Convention shall be in force for the organization of the Convention and shall until changed by action of the Convention.” The current Rules of Order in force consist of 21 rules. Rule 19 provides that “No rule of order shall be suspended, varied, amended or rescinded unless by a majority vote of the delegates present.”

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, and in light of the associated health risks and government and Diocesan restrictions on gatherings and services, this 89th Convention is being held remotely by Zoom. Accordingly, Bishop Singh has requested that Holy Communion not be celebrated as part of this Convention.

Rule 1 provides that “The Convention shall include a celebration of the Holy Communion and an address by the Bishop, either of which shall be in order at any time.”

Accordingly, as Chancellor I move that for this 89th Convention, and for this 89th Convention only, Rule 1 be amended to delete the words “a celebration of Holy Communion and” and “either of” such that Rule 1 for this 89th Convention will read:

“1. The Convention shall include an address by the Bishop, which shall be in order at any time.”

Respectfully submitted, for action by the delegates present.

Philip R. Fileri, Esq., Chancellor

