2018 Convention – Nominations Report 144AC–R07

LATE Nominations accepted until noon on January 19th, 2018
(due to print production considerations, nominations made after December 30th, will be write-ins on ballots, not pre-printed)

Contact John A. King, Secretary of Convention, for further details.
(973)430-9919 or jking@dioceseofnewark.org
Submit nominations online via https://dioceseofnewark.org/form/convention-nominations

ACTS/VIM Board

To be Elected: Class of 2021 - 1 Clergy/ 2 Lay (3 year terms)
Class of 2019 - 1 Lay (1 Year Vacancy)

In the Lay Order:

Arnold Peinado, Christ Church, Short Hills
I have served on the ACTS/VIM and Alleluia Fund boards since the Fall of 2016, having been appointed to fill out a vacancy. I currently also serve on the Executive Committee of these boards. I hope to continue serving on these boards for a full term as I believe the mission of making grants in the diocese to needy faith based organizations is an important ministry.

I have been chairman of the Christ Church, Short Hills Outreach Grants Committee for over 20 years so I understand the grants making process and am familiar with many of the entities that are applying to these diocese funds. As a member of these boards and my church’s grants committee, I have felt a keen responsibility to thoroughly review grant requests, research funding needs and intelligently allocate annual grants moneys. As additional relevant experience, I have been a business attorney in a large Wall Street law firm for 35 years and recently retired as a senior partner. I believe my many years of transaction practice provide me with the analytical skills to thoughtfully consider grants applications.

In sum, I have enjoyed my experience on these two grant making boards and look forward to continuing to assist the diocese by being elected to serve a full term as part of the class of 2021.

Armantina Pelaez, Atonement, Tenafly
My past management and administrator experience on various human services projects is a resource to all the participant and board members. As an educator and trainer in the field multicultural and multi-lingual leaders, I can foster a better communication as ACTS/Vim Board members serve God’s people. Currently, I am seminarian at Drew University and serving at the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Tenafly, NJ. The seminarian experience has broadened my vision on a responsibility of stewardship as we move forward in persevering God’s gospel and the church to future generations.

I am seeking to serve a second term on the ACTS/Vim board given a gleaming of justice back to the community and the society. I am a firm believer in the mission of the ACTS/Vim in creating a vision for the church witness and presence in the community as they connect congregational development and community outreach.

Michael Otterburn, Messiah, Chester
Served on ACTS/VIM and Alleluia Boards
Member and Vice Chair Senior Ministries of the Diocese
Member of Bishops search Committee
Past Vestry Member of St Peters Morristown

In the Clergy Order:

The Rev. Cathie Studwell, St. Alban’s, Oakland/Franklin Lakes
It would be an honor to serve on the ACTS/VIM Board. During the time I had served in the past I was able to learn about the wonderful ministries and programs that our diocese offers. I enjoy bringing my knowledge of grant writing and fundraising to help applicants understand different ways to raise the monies they need and increase their awareness in the community.

Trinity & St. Philip’s Cathedral Chapter

To be Elected: Class of 2021 - 1 Clergy/ 1 Lay (3 year terms)

In the Lay Order:

No Candidates.
No candidates have stepped forward. Could God be calling you?
Submit your nomination before January 19th, 2018.

https://dioceseofnewark.org/form/convention-nominations
Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral Chapter
To be Elected: Class of 2021 - 1 Clergy/ 1 Lay (3 year terms)

In the Clergy Order:

The Rev. Dcn. Erik Soldwedel, St. Paul's, Paterson
I am seeking to serve on the Cathedral Chapter because I believe I offer a broad sense of our diocese having served on Diocesan Council; currently a trustee; Six years a member of Episcopal House Staff; former Deacon of Christ Hospital; and worked with and visited in the past twelve years over 40 congregations where I have preached; led education forums; consulted and facilitated mutual ministry reviews. My passion is people and learning their stories. Through these stories I learn about what is valuable to our church and in those values we find a deeper connection with God and the community.  The cathedral is the home of our bishop and in the city of Newark Trinity/St. Philips sits in the center of a busy park and a revived neighborhood of commerce; residences and two universities.  Our Cathedral is more than a house of worship it is the home where all are welcome and our stories become our common language. I welcome the opportunity to serve on the Cathedral Chapter.

Constitution & Canons Committee
To be Elected: Class of 2019 - 10 Members (Clergy or Lay) to a one year term

T. Donald Cairns, St. Clement's, Hawthorne

Joseph LaVela, St. Paul's, Chatham
I would be honored to continue on the Constitution and Canons Committee. The relevant experience I bring includes drafting an update of our parish By-Laws, studying the national Canons with respect to issues arising in the Commission on Ministry and revising and updating the Commission on Ministry's Guidelines for Priestly Ordination, revising and updating the constitutional documents of an international relief and development NGO on whose board I sit, as well as over 30 years practicing law.

John Sogliuzzo, Christ Church, Short Hills
I've been a practicing attorney for well over 36 years; a former vestry member of Christ Church Short Hills and presently a board member of the Ward J. Herbert Fund. This background should complement the issues addressed by the Committee and I therefore seek election to the Constitution & Canons Committee.

Thomas A. Bisdale, Grace, Westwood
I have served on the Constitution & Canons Committee for many years and am also currently serving on the Disciplinary Board. I chair the Diocesan Budget & Finance Committee and have served on Diocesan Council and participated on several ad hoc committees. I currently serve as Warden at Grace, Westwood. I am a member of the NY and NJ bars. I would like to continue applying my experience on this committee.

John C. Garde, Grace, Madison
Experience: Trustee - Member and President, Trustees of Episcopal Funds and Diocesan Properties, 2000 to 2018; Vice Chancellor - 1998 to present; Committee on Constitutions and Canons - 1998 to present; Convention Deputy - 1992 to present; Senior Warden and Vestry Member Grace Madison and St. Thomas Lyndhurst; Ward J. Herbert Board - present; Presiding Judge Ecclesiastical Court 1987 to 2002; Attorney and Partner - McCarter & English, 1986 to present

Statement: I look forward to continuing service on this important committee as we continue to move the church forward and address a variety of issues including church status, discipline, accountability and the structure and mission of the Diocese. My experience both as a lawyer and in various capacities in the Diocese and at the church level brings an important perspective to this Committee.

Richard Bollon, St. John's, Passaic
I believe in god. I am an attorney. Je crois en dieu. Je suis avocat. I am proud to be an episcopalian. Je suis fier d’être un épiscopalien.
Constitution & Canons Committee
To be Elected: Class of 2019 - 10 Members (Clergy or Lay) to a one year term

Jennifer Arlin, Holy Trinity, Hillsdale
I am a lifelong Episcopalian and currently a parishioner of Holy Trinity Church in Hillsdale, the church where I grew up and was confirmed. I serve on the Altar Guild and lead the children's bell choir. I am a practicing attorney with more than 25 years’ experience in statutory interpretation and drafting of contracts; in addition, I am an adjunct professor at Pace Law School, where I teach an upper-level course on appellate litigation and coach the school's national moot court teams. I seek reappointment to a second term on the Constitutions & Canons Committee. I believe my legal experience is useful to the committee in its periodic review of the documents that govern our church and diocese, and I have enjoyed serving on the committee in the past. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

The Rev. Joseph A. Harmon, Epiphany & Christ Church, Orange
I welcome the opportunity to return to service on the Constitutions and Canons Committee where I have served for many years. I bring to this committee my background as a licensed attorney, pastoral and administrative experience as a priest and rector and prior experience with canon law.

Not enough candidates,
Not enough candidates have stepped forward (we need 10). Could God be calling you? Submit your nomination before January 19th, 2018.

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Disciplinary Board
To be Elected: CLERGY Class of 2024 (1 - Six year term)
LAY Class of 2023 (1 - Five year term)
LAY Class of 2022 (1 - Four year Vacancy)

In the Lay Order:
James Cramer, Grace, Newark
A member of Grace Church in Newark since 2011, I have had an active role in our parish community and an active participant in our Church ministries. I have been on the vestry since 2012 and served as Treasurer from 2012 through 2016 becoming a Warden in 2017 and serve in that role today. In 2017, I was appointed to serve on the Cathedral Chapter. I was also elected by the Disciplinary Board to fill a vacancy on the Board which is a role I would be very interested in continuing.

George F. Mackey, St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood
I have the honor to serve presently on the Disciplinary Board and would like to continue to complete and serve as needed on this important function. I have served on the Constitution and Canons, my parish vestry, and as the presiding Judge of the Provincial Court of Appeals for Province II.

In the Clergy Order:
The Rev. Dr. Karen Rezach, St. Thomas, Lyndhurst
I have served on the Disciplinary Board for the past three years, and would be honored to continue on the Board as a member of the Clergy Class of 2024. I am currently serving as the Extended Supply Priest at St. Thomas Church in Lyndhurst, in addition to being the Head of the Middle School and the Head of the Ethics Institute at Kent Place School in Summit, NJ. My work with the Ethics Institute has prepared me for this position on the Disciplinary Board, as I am able to understand a complex situation from the perspectives of the many stakeholders involved. Additionally, my experience as a school administrator has helped me to develop skills to assess complicated situations, and then provide the leadership to bring them to resolution and to make necessary difficult decisions. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on this Board.
The Standing Committee

To be Elected: CLERGY Class of 2022 (1 - Four year term)
LAY Class of 2022 (1 - Four year term)
LAY Class of 2020 (1 - Two year Vacancy)

In the Lay Order:

John C. Garde, Grace, Madison

Experience: Trustee - Member and President, Trustees of Episcopal Funds and Diocesan Properties, 2000 to 2018; Vice Chancellor - 1998 to present; Transition Committee 2017 to present; Committee on Constitutions and Canons - 1998 to present; Convention Deputy - 1992 to present; Senior Warden and Vestry Member Grace Madison and St. Thomas Lyndhurst; Ward J. Herbert Board - present; Presiding Judge Ecclesiastical Court 1987 to 2002; Attorney and Partner - McCarter & English, 1986 to present

Statement: The role of the Standing Committee is of critical importance in this time of Episcopal transition. The essential issue facing the Standing Committee is the same one facing many of our congregations - how do we rationally and responsibly address the needs of our diocese, its congregations and people in light of the changing environment in which we live and the resources available to us now and in the future? In light of my other service in various capacities at the Diocesan and Parish level I feel called to run for the Standing Committee at this time to assist in the transition process and in working with the next Bishop to address these critical issues.

Naomi Horsky, St. Gabriel's, Milton/Oak Ridge

Past: Warden, St. Gabriel's Church, Milton/Oak Ridge; Chair, Diocesan Nominating Committee; Justice Board; Diocesan Council member
Present: Junior Warden, St. Gabriel's Church; Arrangements Committee Diocesan Convention; Standing Committee member (Presently President); District 2 Convener.

I am presently on the Standing Committee and would like to be able to continue on the Committee as we travel the road ahead with our search for our new Bishop. I have been privileged to be part of this committee for the last 4 years and have found the experience to be very fulfilling. It has expanded my knowledge of the workings within our diocese and I feel I can bring that insight to the forefront of the committee.

In the Clergy Order:

The Rev. Joseph A. Harmon, Epiphany & Christ Church, Orange

I have completed an unexpired term on the Standing Committee and would like to continue to serve a full term. In addition to pastoral experience as a priest, I also share my experience as a licensed attorney in my work with the Standing Committee. During my current term, I have served on the Property subcommittee and also served as interim Vice President during the incumbent's sabbatical. The work of the Standing Committee as the bishop's council of advice, its important function in assisting and giving consent to churches regarding property matters, as well as its responsibility to review and determine whether to consent to admission to and ordination of persons seeking holy orders, including consent to the requests and calls in episcopal elections, demonstrate the importance of the Standing Committee in the life of our diocese and of the larger church. It has been exciting to work with the other talented and dedicated members of this committee and I would be honored to continue to serve with them.

Trustees of The Episcopal Fund & Diocesan Properties

To be Elected: Class of 2023 - 3 Members (5 year term)

Thomas A. Bisdale, Grace, Westwood

Having served on Diocesan Council, 2 years as Vice President, Constitution & Canons Committee, the Disciplinary Board and as chair of the Budget & Finance Committee, I believe I have the experience, skills and integrity to contribute as Trustee. I have also participated in leadership of my parish and am a member of the NY and NJ Bars.

The Rev. Laurie Jean Wurm, Grace Van Vorst, Jersey City

As the former Director of the Jubilee Center in Hoboken and the current President of Grace Community Services, I have over twenty years of experience in providing financial oversight, cultivating donors and discerning how resources can be used for mission. I want to help the Trustees make decisions about how use Diocesan resources to further our mission to: "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to the whole creation," (Mark 16:15) while we remain responsible to the secondary mission of securing our financial future as an institution.

Patricia Yankus, St. Paul's, Paterson

I have served on Diocesan Council, Standing Committee - President, Fund Development, Nominating, and Resolutions. At St. Paul's I have served on the Vestry - Treasurer and am the founding Executive Director of St. Paul's Community Development Corporation. I have also served on the Board of the YWCA nationally and locally. Presently I am a congregational consultant and a companion to congregations engaged in Joining God in Shaping Our Future. My experience in the diocese, St. Paul's and the YWCA gives me a background in the financial responsibilities of the Trustees and well as a understanding of the challenges the diocese faces in dealing with property issues. It would be an honor to serve on the Trustees.