



Episcopal Diocese

— OF CENTRAL FLORIDA —

FIFTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION **The Diocese of Central Florida**

TO: The Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Central Florida

FROM: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop

DATE: October 2024

I hereby give notice that the Fifty-Sixth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Central Florida will be held Friday, January 24 and Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Trinity Episcopal Church & School, 2365 Pine Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida 32960.

❖ MEMBERS of THE CONVENTION

Canon II of the Canons of the Diocese, stipulates that:

Section 1. The Convention shall be composed of the Bishops, together with the other clergy and lay persons of the Diocese, as provided for in the following sections of this Canon.

Section 2. (a) Each canonically resident, member of the clergy who serves as Bishop, Rector, Vicar, Assistant, Deacon assigned to a congregation or other community of faith, or member of the Ecclesiastical Authority's staff shall have seat, voice and vote.

(b) Each canonically resident member of the clergy who is licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority for the performance of sacerdotal and/or pastoral ministry shall have seat, voice and vote.

(c) All clergy, canonically resident and not qualifying under section (a) or (b) above, shall have seat and voice but no vote.

(d) All other clergy, not canonically resident who are licensed by the Ecclesiastical Authority for the performance of sacerdotal and/or pastoral ministry, shall have seat and may, at the discretion of the chair, be extended the courtesy of voice, but no vote.

Section 3. Each canonically organized **Mission** of the Diocese shall be entitled to **two lay delegates**.

Section 4. Every **Parish** in union with the Convention of this Diocese shall be entitled to **three lay delegates**.

Section 5. At least one lay delegate from each Parish or Mission shall be a Vestry or Church Committee member

Section 6. Lay delegates shall be chosen by the Vestry or Church Committee of each congregation, or if there be no Vestry or Church Committee, or if the Vestry or Church Committee fail to act, then by the Congregation of the Parish or organized Mission, duly convened. Only confirmed communicants who are at least 18 years of age and entitled to vote as set forth in Canon XVII, Section 3, shall serve as lay delegates for the Parish or Mission.

Section 7. The Chancellor is ex-officio a voting member of the Convention.

Section 8. The lay members of the Diocesan Board and the Standing Committee are voting members of the Convention.

Section 9. All lay delegates chosen in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 6 above are voting members of the Convention.

❖ **LAY DELEGATES MUST BE:**

- At least 18 years of age
- Confirmed communicant in good standing
- At least one lay delegate shall be a member of the Vestry or Vestry Committee

❖ **RESOLUTIONS**

- ◆ All proposed resolutions must be submitted on or before Tuesday, December 10, 2024. This will allow their distribution to all clergy and lay delegates prior to the pre-convention deanery meetings and is in accordance with Canon IV, Section 5(b). A form for submitting a Resolution is posted on the Convention website.
- ◆ Proposed Resolutions may be submitted after December 10, 2024 only if the bishop is satisfied that the delay in submission was for good cause. Deviation from these requirements may be waived only by a majority vote of the delegates to the Convention.

❖ **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND CANONS**

- ◆ Proposed Amendments to the Constitution or Canons must be submitted to the Committee on Constitution and Canons on or before Monday, November 25, 2024. A form for submitting an Amendment is posted on the Convention website.