

STANDING COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP: Three clerical and three lay members; one each elected to 3-year term.

DUTIES: In addition to serving on the Diocesan Council (see below), the Standing Committee normally meets separately to conduct business that is specifically theirs in connection with the Council meeting, and on call of the Bishop or President, if necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES of the Standing Committee include:

1. Approval of each transaction involving the sale, mortgaging, or encumbrance of church-owned real estate, which leads to a review of any construction or transfer of real property of any church in the Diocese.
2. Consent to the election of Bishops anywhere in the Church, which leads to concern for the structures and distribution of authority in the Church.
3. Consent to certification of Canonical Requirements met for Ordination to the Diaconate or the Priesthood, which leads to a concern for the Ministry generally throughout the Church.
4. Serve as a Council of Advice for the Bishop in such matters as the Bishop may choose to bring before the Committee; and, rarely, of matters which the Diocese, through the Standing Committee, wishes to bring before the Bishop.
5. Serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the case of prolonged absence or disability of the Diocesan, if there be no other Bishop to whom authority has been temporarily given.
6. Serve as the Diocesan Review Committee in cases of Title IV Presentments.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

MEMBERSHIP: Members of the Standing Committee, together with three clerical and six lay members; and ex-officio members: The Bishop, the Treasurer, the Secretary of Convention, and the Chair of the Finance Committee.

MEETINGS: The Diocesan Council meets four to six times per year; the meeting times are usually Friday afternoon or evening through Saturday at 3 pm.

RESPONSIBILITIES of the Diocesan Council include:

1. To be a body whose primary purpose is to carry out the program and policies adopted by the Diocesan Convention, and to have general oversight of the work of the Diocese.
2. To exercise all the powers of the Diocesan Convention, not expressly reserved to the Convention, between meetings thereof: setting goals, priorities, strategy, and program policy, overall, and for designating the appropriate bodies to implement them.
3. To be responsible for the financial stewardship of the Diocese in budgetary matters, including grants to local congregations and proposal of financial assessments to Convention.
4. To build ongoing evaluation of program, structure, and policy, and of its own functioning.
5. To provide support services to units and churches.
6. To provide effective management procedures for coordinating this work.
7. To develop a network of two-way communication among: Convention and Bishop -- Diocesan Council -- planning or coordinating areas -- congregations.