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2018 PRELIMINARY REPORT  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

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The Committee on Resolutions received two proposed resolutions by the January 15, 2018 deadline for submissions. The proposals are reported below, having been edited as to form. The proposers may make additional revisions prior to submission to Convention.

Following hearings at preconvention meetings and at the formal hearing of the Committee to be held beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 17, 2018, in the Matthews Room at Diocesan House, 808 West State Street, Trenton, the Committee will prepare its Final Report with its recommendations, if any, with respect to the proposals. It is the Final Report that will be submitted to Convention for consideration.

As provided by the Rules of Order, proposed resolutions not timely submitted to the Committee on Resolutions, and not required by canon to be submitted to some other committee, may be brought to the floor of Convention for consideration only upon a two-thirds vote of Convention.

*Respectfully submitted,*

The Rev. Terry Martin, Chair  
Committee on Resolutions

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RESOLUTION 2018-1:

*Subject: The celebration of the life and work of Dorothy Day, Christian activist*

*Be it resolved,* That the 234th Convention of the Diocese of New Jersey celebrate the life and work of Dorothy Day, Christian activist and commend the example of her life work and ministry to and among the poor and further commend the remembrance of her witness in the prayers and calendar of The Episcopal Church; and be it

*Further resolved,* That this Convention submit the following Resolution to the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church in 2018:

*Resolved,* the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, that this 79th General Convention recognize Dorothy Day, Christian activist, and her ministry among and to the poor, and as a Servant of God by adding her to the calendar of Lesser Feast and Fasts (or such other calendar as may be adopted for the use of The Episcopal Church) with the following text and propers:

**Dorothy Day, Christian activist.**

**Suggested date of commemoration:** November 29

**Collects**

O Lord, whose grace raises up Thy servants among Thy people: Thou hast given us the life of Dorothy Day, who fed and sheltered the urban poor; who planted hope amidst rural people; and who steadfastly advanced the cause of social justice and peace over greed and war; stir up Thy grace amongst us; that we, too, may provide shelter, food, and hope to those in need; and that we may pursue the justice and peace proclaimed by

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Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; who dwells with Thee and the Holy Spirit in Thy kingdom that would come amongst us. Amen

O Lord, whose grace raises up your servants among your people: you have given us the life of Dorothy Day, who fed and sheltered the urban poor; who planted hope among rural people; and who steadfastly advanced the cause of social justice and peace over greed and war; stir up your grace among us; that we, too, may provide shelter, food, and hope to those in need; and that we may pursue the justice and peace proclaimed by your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in your eternal kingdom that would come among us. Amen.

**Propers:**

1 Samuel 2: 1–10 (Song of Hannah)

or Isaiah 25: 1–5

Sirach 34: 14–20

or Romans 12: 1–16

Matt: 10 9: 34–42

Psalm 107: 1–9

**The Life of Dorothy Day**

Dorothy Day was born in Brooklyn in 1897, to a middle-class family. She experienced an early life of social activism as a journalist, editor, novel and screenplay writer very much tossed on the seas of contemporary ideological currents. Not until her reception into the Roman Catholic faith in December 1927 did she find the disciplined focus of an ardent Christian faith to fuel her social activism. In 1933 she was the co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement.

Attending daily local worship for prayer and the sacraments, Day launched a passionate career of radical Christian social action during the Great Depression, focusing on housing and the food needs of unemployed urban workers and their families in New York City. She used her pen to champion their needs. Criticized by some, including the leaders in her own beloved church, and often arrested for her activism, political labels never took hold as she consistently passed on government assistance for her work relying instead on the good will of donors and help from those who could find work.

Propelled by the economic conditions of the 1930's, Day's program—typified by iconic soup kitchens—spread to other large cities across the U.S. and in at least 19 countries abroad. She also helped start a rural commune farm movement, emphasizing the values of community and fellowship over productivity. Today, there are over 200 "hospitality houses" world-wide. Her Catholic Worker newspaper served as a channel of information and encouragement selling always for a penny a copy.

Day's faith also expressed itself in her pacifism. She challenged U.S. participation in World War II and all subsequent conflicts up to the Vietnam War. She took up the cause of migrant workers, working with Cesar Chavez in the 60s and 70s.

The winner of numerous awards for her leadership and personal example, she chose deliberately to live in voluntary poverty among those whom she served. In 2015 Pope Francis in an address to the United States Congress cited her activist passion for justice and service to the oppressed and called her a "Servant of God". She died, beloved and admired, in a hospitality house for women in New York City at the age of 83. Her gravestone simply lists her name, the dates of her life, and her proclamation, "*Deo Gratias*".

EXPLANATION

At the heart of who we are, as that part of the Jesus Movement that we call The Episcopal Church, is reaching out to those in need. By our Baptismal Covenant we promise to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving [our] neighbor as [ourselves]." We promise to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." Acting on her faith, Dorothy Day provides for us a contemporary example of Christian witness and life, responding to the challenges she encountered, that should resonate with our own promises and encourage us to answer the challenges that we face.

*SUBMITTED BY: Samuel V. Wilson, Jr. (Church of the Advent, Cape May), the Rev. Dr. John P. Mitchell (Church of the Advent, Cape May), the Rev. Peter De Franco (St. John the Baptist, Linden), the Rev. Lisa A. Hoffman (St. Barnabas-by-the-Bay, Villas), the Rev. Brian K. Burgess (Christ Church, Woodbury), the Rev. Gretchen Zimmerman (Holy Trinity, Ocean City), the Rev. Martha McKee (Church of the Holy Spirit, Tuckerton), the Rev. Daniel Hall (Church of the Advent, Cape May), and the Rev. Terry Martin (St. Stephen, Waretown).*

*Statement in Support of Resolution 2018-1 by Proposers:*

This resolution, if adopted, would not only honor Dorothy Day in our own diocese but also request the forthcoming General Convention of The Episcopal Church to have her included in the calendar of observances of the church. The reasons for this commemoration are included in the description of her life and work and in the Explanation to be submitted to the General Convention.

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RESOLUTION 2018-2:

*Subject: Prudent Use of Trust Funds*

*Be it resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Diocese be hereby directed to prepare in February of 2019 for publication and distribution at the 2019 Diocesan Convention a financial report for each and every trust fund of the Diocese, separately, showing the following information:

- (a) The value of the principal of each fund as of January 1 of the previous year,
- (b) The value of the principal of each fund as of December 31 of the previous year.
- (c) The value of the interest and/or dividend income paid into each fund during the previous year,
- (d) The value of any amount drawn down from the capital growth portion of the total return of each fund and added to income during the previous year,
- (e) A detailed report of disbursements from each fund during the previous year, and
- (f) The amount of income held in reserve in each fund as of December 31 of the previous year.

Said reports may, at the Treasurer's discretion, be listed in groups according to the corporations that have oversight of them, and in each group totals shall be shown for the six categories listed above; and be it

*Further resolved*, That the Treasurer may delegate this task to some member of the Diocesan Staff, if the Bishop shall so permit.

*SUBMITTED BY: The Rev. Elmer L. Sullivan (retired)*

*Statement in Support of Resolution 2018-2 by Proposer:*

For several years it has been the practice of trustees to supplement the income from the interest and dividends of the various trust funds with an additional draw from the capital growth portion of total return. There is no doubt

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that this practice is permitted by both civil and canon law. However, reasonable people differ about the prudence of such a practice.

Opinions on this subject should be based on facts. The people of the Diocese are entitled to know how much money is being drawn down from the principal of the various trust funds so that their opinions on the subject may be properly informed.

The people of the Diocese are also entitled to know the purposes for which trust fund money is being spent.

I have submitted a proposal similar to this one to the Standing Committee on Constitution and Canons, and they have not recommended its adoption because it "is duplicative of existing requirements." In this respect they are correct; present canons call for such reports. The problem, however, is that complete reports of this kind are not being issued, and requests for this information have been denied.

The purpose of this resolution is to direct that proper reports be issued in the future.

#### CANONICAL REFERENCES BY PROPOSER

Canon 13, Section 5 (emphasis added): "The trustees shall present to each annual meeting of the Convention *separate reports of the various trusts* under their control. These reports shall contain a *detailed statement* of the names and properties in *each fund*, with all additions and changes therein, *including appropriations made therefrom*."

Canon 76, Section 3 (emphasis added): "*Complete financial reports* shall be made to the Convention of *all funds* of the Diocese and of *all funds* under the control of any board of trustees, committee, commission, or other agency of the Diocese."

Constitution Article IV, Section 4: ". . . The Treasurer . . . shall present a statement of the Treasurer's accounts to each annual meeting of the Convention."

Canon 22, Section 1 (emphasis added): "The Treasurer, elected annually by the Convention . . . , shall serve as the executive financial overseer of trust funds and other funds for which the Convention is responsible."