

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT
TO THE 237th ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION**

- This report reflects the actions of the Standing Committee for the year 2020 (via Zoom March – December 2020). The Standing Committee of the Diocese of New Jersey held regular meetings during the past year. At the March 2, 2019 meeting, The Rev. Dr. Anne-Marie Jeffery was elected President and Ms. Ashley Maddison was elected Secretary. The Rev. Edmund W. Zelley agreed to coordinate the real estate business for the Standing Committee. They continued to serve in this capacity until the November 14, 2020 Virtual Convention. At the November 19, 2020 Standing Committee meeting, The Rev. James Matthew Tucker was elected President and The Rev. Edmund W. Zelley was elected Secretary. Mr. Paul Wolfgang agreed to coordinate the real estate business for the Standing Committee.

The following actions were taken in 2020:

Episcopal Elections, Ordinations and/or Consecrations of Bishops and Diocesan Consents

- Consented to the Election of the Reverend Canon Frank S. Logue as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Georgia.
- Consented to the Election of the Right Reverend Mark Allan Van Koevering as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Lexington.
- Consented to the Election of the Reverend Deon K. Johnson as Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Missouri.
- Consented to the Election of the Reverend Poulson Reed as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Oklahoma.
- Consented to the Election of the Very Reverend Craig Loya as Bishop Diocesan of the Episcopal Church of Minnesota.
- Consented to the Election of the Reverend Dr. Glenda S. Curry as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Alabama.

Priesthood/Diaconate

- Recommended Kyle Cuperwich for Candidacy, for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate, and for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Robin Pierre for Candidacy, for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate, and for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Shelton Nkrumah Radix for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Thomas John Szczerba, Jr. for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Catherine L. Wieczorek for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Douglas S. Worthington for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Approved the recommendations made by the Committee on the Priesthood for the first round of Financial Aid Awards in the amount of \$48,000.
- Recommended Heath Dewrell for Candidacy and for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.
- Recommended Michael Panzarella for Candidacy and for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.
- Recommended Andrew Calandriello for Reception as a Priest in The Episcopal Church.
- Recommended Jorge Martinez for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Luke Zerra for Ordination to the Priesthood.
- Recommended Eric Tuttle for Candidacy and for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.
- Approved the second round of the 2020-2021 Financial Aid Awards in the amount of \$20,200.
- Recommended Marcel Tabone for Reception as an Episcopal Priest.

Property Matters:

- Consented to the Electric Line Easement Agreement for Lot 9.09 at St. Bernard's Church, Bernardsville.
- Consented to encumber St. Luke's Church, Metuchen's property for a 5-year lease renewal utilizing the same language previously with minor edits, subject to the Chancellor's approval.
- Consented to the Option Agreement between St. John's Church in Elizabeth and the Garden State Episcopal Community Development Corp. as described in the "Diocese of New Jersey Consent to Option Agreement".
- Approved the execution of the Sales Agreement between Haddon Heights Senior Citizens Housing Corporation (HHSCHC) and St. Mary's Church in order to proceed with plans to repurpose portions of the property for development into affordable senior citizens housing in exchange for a one-time \$600,000 cash

payment to the congregation and commitment to enter into a 99-year leaseback of the sanctuary space for \$1/year.

- Approved the execution of the Sales Agreement between 3 Hillside, LLC and St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabeth, in order to proceed with due diligence towards closing contingent upon the final document review and approval by Chancellor Ambos.
- Agreed with the concept of refinancing St. David's outstanding ECBF loan with final approval expected in the fall 2020 when the exact details of the loan are available.
- Voted to record at this meeting (July 16, 2020) that at the March 19, 2020 meeting the Standing Committee consented, pursuant to the provisions of New Jersey Revised Statutes section 16:12-4, to an option agreement by The Trustees of Church Property of the Diocese of New Jersey, as successor by consolidation to the Rector Church Wardens and Vestry of St. John's Church in Elizabeth to Garden State Episcopal Community Development Corp., relating to an option to purchase the Parish Hall and Rectory, excluding the Sanctuary, of St. John's Church, Elizabeth, located at 63-71 Broad Street, Elizabeth, for a term of one year, and subject to an additional 90-day extension.
- Approved the issuance of the consent required by statute so that the Sale Agreement between Grace Church, Plainfield and Church Services Group, LLC may be signed for the sale of one set of their Tiffany windows for \$200,000.
- Ratified the email vote approving the sale of both sets of Tiffany windows at Grace Church, Plainfield, for \$290,000.
- Approved the sale of the bequeathed property located at 126 West Broad Street, Burlington, NJ for \$209,000 under the terms of the contract and the issuance of the consent required by statute.
- Approved the marketing of the former St. John's Church, Fords rectory with the understanding that any contract for sale will be subsequently presented for Standing Committee's approval before signing.

Church Classifications and Consolidations:

- Consented to the reclassification from Parish to Mission Status for Church of the Good Shepherd, Berlin, in accordance with the Diocese of New Jersey Canon 60, Section 2(b).
- Approved the Plan of Consolidation of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Berlin, New Jersey into the Trustees of Church Property of the Diocese of New Jersey pursuant to Section 16:1-20 of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.
- Approved the Plan of Consolidation of the Church of Our Merciful Saviour, Penn's Grove, New Jersey into the Trustees of Church Property of the Diocese of New Jersey pursuant to Section 16:1-20 of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.
- Approved the execution of all documents necessary to consolidate the parish corporation of St. Mary's Church, Haddon Heights into the Trustees of Church Property.
- Consented to the re-classification of Sts. Stephen and Barnabas Church, Florence, New Jersey, from Parish to Mission Status in accordance with the Diocese of New Jersey Canon 60, Section 2(b).
- Approved the Plan of Consolidation of Sts. Stephen and Barnabas Church, Florence, New Jersey into the Trustees of Church Property of the Diocese of New Jersey pursuant to Section 16:1-20 of the Revised Statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Appointments

- Endorsed Bishop Stokes' re-appointment of Canon Paul Ambos, Esq. as Chancellor for a one-year term.

Other Matters

- Received and approved the Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund Report for 2019.
- Received and approved the Report of the Relief of Widows, Widowers and Orphans Fund for 2019.
- Consented to the nominations for Honorary Canon of Trinity Cathedral:
The Rev. Dr. Francis A. Hubbard
Donna L. Freidel, Esq.
Mr. Morris Anderson
- Endorsed the formation of Episcopal Community Services.
- Concurred with the Bishop's recommendation for a Virtual Convention on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

- Approved the determination that amendments that only implement RRR Task Force requirements for tenants and licensees under agreements previously approved by the Bishop and Standing Committee do not need formal consent but should be submitted to the RRR Task Force for approval.
- Welcomed Newly Elected Members:
 - Class of 2024: The Very Rev. Lisa A. Hoffman
 - Class of 2022: The Rev. Dr. William K. Ndishabandi
 - Class of 2024: Ms. Susan Espenshade
- The Rev. James Matthew Tucker was elected President of the Standing Committee.
- The Rev. Edmund W. Zelle was elected Secretary of the Standing Committee.
- Mr. Paul Wolfgang was appointed to coordinate the real estate business for the Standing Committee.
- Affirmed the action taken at the February 20, 2020 meeting that the Standing Committee members unanimously concurred with Bishop Stokes' nomination of Canon Paul Ambos and Canon Annette Buchanan as recipients of the Bishop's Cross.
- Approved the sum of \$147,700 as the 2021 Housing Allowance for clergy employed by the Diocese of New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Dr. Anne-Marie Jeffery, President
The Rev. James Matthew Tucker, President