



Dear Diocese of Virginia,

It is an honor and pleasure to serve on the Standing Committee for the Diocese of Virginia. The Standing Committee (SC) functions as the Bishop's "council of advice" and, in the absence of a Bishop, is the ecclesiastical authority in the diocese. The SC also consents to the election of Bishops, ordination of Priests and Deacons, and property transfers within the Diocese.

The work of the SC is important and requires a time commitment to prepare for and attend one-day monthly meetings. In exchange for this effort, however, is the privilege of not only seeing the current workings of our Diocese but participating in the future of the church through, among other things, the approval of the ordination of Priests and Deacons. It is encouraging and inspiring to hear the stories of those preparing for orders and to see how God is working within the diocese. Meetings encourage open and thoughtful discussion of diocesan events and pending decisions.

In this year, the Standing Committee has

- Consented to the confirmation of four Bishops.
- Interviewed eleven candidates for ordination to the priesthood or vocational diaconate.
- Issued eleven letters of consent for ordination to the priesthood, vocational or transitional diaconate.
- Issued eight consents for property transactions or encumbrance.
- Acted upon numerous other items, including
 - A renunciation of ordination vows;
 - Approval to hire a second Assistant Bishop; and
 - Approval for reunification of two dioceses.

The Standing Committee is required by Article IV of the Constitutions and Canons of the Episcopal Church. In the Diocese of Virginia it is comprised of twelve members (six lay and six clergy), each elected at Annual Convention for a 3-year term. Terms are staggered, with four new members rotating on each year.

If you are interested in serving and participating in the life of the diocese through this work, we encourage you to complete a nomination form (the appropriate form will be found on the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia's Annual Convention website page, available close to the date of the Convention).

We welcome people from all walks of life, with diverse skills and differing opinions. We promise you that if elected you will find the work educational, spiritually rewarding, and new relationships will be formed.

Sincerely,
Your Standing Committee

[Learn more about the Standing Committee](#)

September 2025