

**Changes to Constitution and Canons  
of the  
Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh**  
as recommended by the Committee on Constitution and Canons

**1. Proposed change to Article X, Section 1. of the Constitution.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Board of Trustees shall consist of the Bishop, five Lay persons appointed by the Bishop, and one Lay person from each District and five other persons without limitation as to District, elected in the manner and for the term specified by Canon duly enacted. The Bishop shall appoint the President of the Board of Trustees each year, and the Board of Trustees shall elect other officers as it shall deem appropriate.

b) **Amend to read:**

- The Board of Trustees shall consist of the Bishop, five Lay persons appointed by the Bishop, and one Lay person from each District and five other lay persons without limitation as to District, elected in the manner and for the term specified by Canon duly enacted. The Bishop shall appoint the President of the Board of Trustees each year, and the Board of Trustees shall elect other officers as it shall deem appropriate.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to clarify that the “five other persons” elected to the Board of Trustees must be lay persons.

**2. Proposed change to Canon III, Section 2a.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Parochial Report of every Parish of this Diocese shall be prepared annually for the year ending December 31st preceding, upon the forms prepared by the Executive Council of the Church, and shall be returned in duplicate not later than March 1st to the Bishop of the Diocese, or upon his request, to the Secretary of the Convention. In every Parish the preparation and delivery of this Report shall be the joint duty of the Minister and Vestry.

b) **Amend to read:**

- The Parochial Report of every Parish of this Diocese shall be prepared annually for the year ending December 31st preceding, upon the standard forms, and shall be returned in duplicate not later than April 15th to the Bishop of the Diocese, or upon his request, to the Secretary of the Convention. In every Parish the preparation and delivery of this Report shall be the joint duty of the Minister and Vestry.

c) **Rationale:** See 2. below.

**3. Proposed change to Canon III, Section 2b.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- In case of failure to present the Parochial Report to the Bishop or Secretary of Convention on or before March 1st any and all Clergy and Deputies of such delinquent Parishes shall not be entitled to Seats in the Convention.

b) **Amend to read:**

- In case of failure to present the Parochial Report to the Bishop or Secretary of Convention on or before April 15th any and all Clergy and Deputies of such delinquent Parishes shall not be entitled to Seats in the Convention.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to more clearly reflect the current practice of the diocese (ie, relatively few parishes find themselves administratively able to meet the current March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, and thus this canon is never enforced. It is felt that moving the date back and announcing the intention to enforce the canon will result in compliance.

4. **Proposed change to Canon IV, Section 2:**

a) **Currently reads:**

- Trustees At-large. Those persons who are to be elected to the Board of trustees as Trustees At-large as provided in Article X of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in a position on the Board of Trustees being filled by a person elected by the Convention, the Nominating Committee shall present nominations of at least two Lay persons to fill such vacancy. From among those nominated, a successor shall be elected at the Diocesan Convention.

b) **Amended to read:**

- Those persons who are to be elected to the Board of trustees as Trustees At-large as provided in Article X of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in a position on the Board of Trustees being filled by a person elected by the Convention, the Nominating Committee shall present nominations of one or more Lay persons to fill such vacancy. From among those nominated, a successor shall be elected at the Diocesan Convention.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

5. **Proposed change to Canon IV, Section 4.**

a) **No current canon.**

b) **Amended to Read:**

- **Section 4.** In the event a vacancy shall occur in a position on the Board of Trustees during the unfilled term of said position, such vacancy shall be filled as provided by Article IX, section 5 of the Constitution.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to clarify a procedure that has been in question in the recent past.

6. **Proposed change to Canon V, Section 3.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- Those persons who are to be elected to Diocesan Council as provided in Article XI of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy shall occur or will occur be about to occur in a position on the Diocesan Council being filled by a person from a particular District established pursuant to Canon XVIII hereof, the District Commission shall nominate at least two persons, Clergy or Lay as appropriate , who are Deputies to the Convention and who are canonically resident within such District. From among those nominated, a successor shall be elected by the members of such District Commission at the annual meeting of the Commission held during the Convention. Deputies elected prior to the Convention for a term beginning immediately upon adjournment of Convention, or upon recess of the first Session of Convention, shall be included with the Deputies eligible for election to Diocesan Council.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- Those persons who are to be elected to Diocesan Council as provided in Article XI of the Constitution shall be elected in the following manner. Whenever a vacancy occurs or is about to occur for any reason in a position on the Diocesan Council being filled by a person from a particular District established pursuant to Canon XVIII hereof, the District Commission shall nominate one or more persons, Clergy or Lay as appropriate, who are Deputies to the Convention and who are canonically resident within such District. A successor shall be elected by the members of such District Commission at the annual meeting of the Commission held during the Convention.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

7. **Proposed change to Canon VI.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and the Convention, shall have the authority to appoint a member of the Clergy to assist the Bishop in respect to pastoral and counseling functions, visitations to Parishes and relationships with Parishes and Districts, including continuation of the special relationship to Aided Parishes. Unless such person be a Bishop-Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop, such person so appointed shall bear such title as shall be deemed appropriate by the Bishop.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- The Bishop, with the consent of the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council and the Convention, shall have the authority to appoint one or more members of the Clergy to assist the Bishop in respect to the mission of the diocese. Said authority shall include the authority to appoint an Assistant Bishop. The mission of the diocese shall include but is not limited to pastoral and counseling functions, visitations to Parishes, development of these parishes, the planting of new congregations, and relationships with and among Parishes and Districts, including continuation of the special relationship to Transitional Parishes. Unless such person be a Bishop-Coadjutor, Suffragan Bishop, or Assistant Bishop, such person or persons so appointed shall bear such title as shall be deemed appropriate by the Bishop.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to clarify role of assistant bishop; to clarify that the Diocesan Bishop may appoint more than one person under said canon; and to clarify that the role of any such assistant may encompass “the mission of the diocese.”

8. **Proposed change to Canon XI**

a) **Currently reads:**

- **Registrar/Historiographer**

**Section 1.** Election. At each annual session of Convention, a Registrar/Historiographer shall be elected to serve for one year.

**Section 2.** General Duties. It shall be the duty of the Registrar/ Historiographer to provide for the safekeeping and preservation of the Diocesan records and other materials that relate to the history of the Episcopal Church in this Diocese and any parish therein, and to transmit such materials into the custody of the Diocese to be kept in the Diocesan Archives.

**Section 3.** Duties at Trials and Inquiries. The Registrar/Historiographer shall act as clerk at all ecclesiastical trials and inquiries held in the Diocese.

**Section 4.** Convention Responsibilities. The Registrar/ Historiographer shall serve as custodian of records for the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese; shall see that all changes or additions to the Constitution or Canons authorized at any convention are entered in the official copy of the Constitution and Canons which the Registrar shall place in the Diocesan Archives, and that a current copy of the Constitution and Canons as revised be supplied to the President of the Convention, the Chancellor of the Diocese, the Secretary of the Convention, and the Committee on Canons.

**Section 5.** Preservation Ordination Records. It shall be the duty of the Registrar/Historiographer to preserve in a proper registry book a record of the ordination/consecration of the successive bishops of the Diocese, designating accurately the time and place of the same with the names of the ordaining/ consecrating bishops and the others present and assisting, and to record such additional facts as may be worthy of preservation.

**Section 6.** Historical Responsibilities. It shall be the responsibility of the Registrar/Historiographer to note any facts which illustrate important aspects of

diocesan and parish history. Such historical information may be reported to convention each year.

**Section 7.** Appointment. There shall be a Diocesan Archives and Historical Commission appointed by the Bishop with the approval of the Diocesan Council. The members shall be persons concerned with and knowledgeable about the keeping of diocesan records. The chairman shall be designated by the Bishop. The Registrar/ Historiographer shall be *ex officio* voting members of the Commission.

**Section 8.** General Duties. The Commission shall set policy for the Diocesan Archives. It shall nominate the Diocesan Archivist and set forth the terms and conditions with regard to the work of the Diocesan Archivist. It shall also serve as a committee of advice and support for the Registrar/Historiographer and for individual parishes. The Commission shall adopt such procedures consistent with the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese for its organization and functioning and shall establish such plans and mission objectives that will advance an appreciation of the recorded history of the Episcopal Church in this Diocese. The Diocesan Archives and Historical Commission shall report to the Diocesan Convention.

**Section 9.** Appropriation for the Diocesan Archives. The diocesan convention may each year make an annual appropriation toward the expense of the Diocesan Archives as recommended by the Diocesan Archives and Historical Commission.

#### **Archivist**

**Section 10.** Selection. The Chairman of the Diocesan Archives and Historical Commission, with the consent of the Commission, may nominate to the Bishop a person trained in archival management. The Bishop may appoint the person nominated as the Diocesan Archivist.

**Section 11.** General Duties. The appointed Archivist shall be responsible for the direct day-to-day supervision of the Archives and management of all aspects of that work, and shall propose policies and make other recommendations as appropriate.

**Section 12.** Archival and Records Management Duties. The Archivist shall organize and preserve the journals, files, papers, reports and other documents that have been deposited in and are under the custodianship of the Diocesan Archives. The Archivist shall also undertake responsibility for managing the non-current records of the Diocese by carrying out records retention and disposition practices in consultation with the creating officers and agencies.

**Section 13.** Certification of Records. It shall be the duty of the Archivist to issue, on request, proper certification of records in the Archives including, but not limited to the following: Consecration, Ordination, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriages and Burial Records.

#### **Records**

**Section 14.** Diocesan and Parish Records. The Archivist shall document and preserve the history of the Diocese and Parishes which provides for historical continuity and promotes an understanding of our common life.

**Section 15.** Closed or Dissolved Churches. Records, including vestry minutes

and parochial registers, of officially closed or dissolved missions and parishes shall revert to the custody of and be preserved in the Diocesan Archives.

**Section 16.** Disposition of Records. The Archivist, with the consent of the Diocesan Historical Commission, may dispose of duplications and other materials which do not fall within the scope of the established Collection Agreement.

**Section 17.** Confidentiality of Diocesan Records. The Bishop may direct that documents, which for pastoral or other reasons should be kept in confidence, shall be placed under seal. The Bishop shall specify for what period each security shall continue, who shall have access, and for what purpose.

**Section 18.** Accessibility. All books, papers, and documents in the Archivist's charge, not previously sealed under Section 16, shall be subject to the call of the Convention and shall be open to the inspection of the Bishop, the Standing Committee, and any committee or officer of the Convention or Diocese.

b) **Amended to Read:**

• **Canon XI**

**Of the Archives and History of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh**

**Section 1.** The Bishop may appoint an Archivist who shall administer the Diocesan archives, including the historical documentation of the Diocese and Parishes, and perform such other duties as directed by the Bishop or Standing Committee. It shall be the duty of the Archivist to issue, on request, proper certification of records in the archives including, but not limited to, Consecration, Ordination, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Burial Records.

**Section 2.** The Bishop may appoint a Historiographer who shall provide for the safekeeping and preservation of all Diocesan records not otherwise under the custody of the Archivist, and perform such other duties as directed by the Bishop or Standing Committee.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices and make the descriptions more concise.

9. **Proposed change to Canon XII, Section 2.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Bishop shall cause to be prepared for review by Diocesan Council and submission to the Convention for its approval, a comprehensive budget for the ensuing year. Such budget shall be based on clearly specified work programs, evaluation of program accomplishment and determined priorities.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- The Bishop shall cause to be prepared for review by Diocesan Council and submission to the Convention for its approval, a comprehensive budget for the ensuing year. Such budget shall be based on clearly specified missionary objectives, evaluation of program accomplishment and determined priorities.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

**10. Proposed change to Canon XIV, Section 4.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- At each Annual Convention there shall be elected one member of the Clergy and one Lay person to serve as members of said corporation for a period of three years.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- At each Annual Convention there shall be elected one member of the Clergy and one Lay person to serve as members of the Cathedral Chapter and its corporation for a period of three years.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

**11. Proposed change to Canon XV, Section 6.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Convention may, by a two-thirds vote, dissolve its union with any Parish. Provided, however, that, except in such cases as may fall under Canon XXV, Section 5, notice of said proposed action shall have been given in the preceding Annual Convention.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- The Convention may, by a two-thirds vote, dissolve its union with any Parish. Provided, however, that, except in such cases as may fall under Canon XXV, Section 5, notice of said proposed action shall have been given in a preceding Convention.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to clarify intent of canon.

**12. Proposed change to Canon 17, Section 5.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- All accounts of the Diocese shall be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant. All accounts of Parishes or other institutions shall be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or independent Licensed Public Accountant, or such audit committee as shall be authorized by the Judge of Audits of the Diocesan Council or other appropriate diocesan authority.

All reports of such audits, including any memorandum issued by the auditors or audit committee regarding internal controls or other accounting matters, together with a summary of action taken or proposed to be taken to correct deficiencies or implement recommendations contained in any such

memorandum, shall be filed with the Bishop or Ecclesiastical Authority not later than 30 days following the date of such report, and in no event, not later than September 1 of each year covering the financial report of the previous calendar year.

**b) Amended to Read:**

- All accounts of the Diocese shall be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant. All accounts of Parishes or other institutions shall be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or independent Licensed Public Accountant, or such audit committee as shall be authorized by the Judge of Audits of the Diocesan Council or other appropriate diocesan authority.

All reports of such audits, including any memorandum issued by the auditors or audit committee regarding internal controls or other accounting matters, together with a summary of action taken or proposed to be taken to correct deficiencies or implement recommendations contained in any such memorandum, shall be filed with the Bishop or Ecclesiastical Authority not later than 30 days following the date of such report, and in no event, not later than September 1 of each year covering the financial report of the previous calendar year. In any case of failure to file such audits, memorandum, or summary as required herein, any and all Lay Deputies of such delinquent Parishes shall not be entitled to Seats in the Convention.

**c) Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to assist diocese in enforcing preparation and filing of required audits in order to protect the financial integrity of diocesan parishes.

**13. Proposed change to Canon XIX. The Ecclesiastical Trial Court.**

**a) Currently reads:**

- **Section 1.** The Ecclesiastical Trial Court shall consist of five (5) priests or deacons and four (4) lay persons, to be elected by the Diocesan Convention to serve three (3) year terms on a staggered basis. At the 1994 Convention, two (2) clergy persons and one (1) lay person shall be elected to serve three (3) years; one (1) clergy person and two (2) lay persons to serve two (2) years, and two (2) clergy persons and one (1) lay person to serve one (1) year. At each Diocesan Convention thereafter, three (3) persons in the appropriate orders shall be elected to serve three (3) years.
- **Section 2.** Each member shall serve until his or her successor is elected or until the conclusion of any trial being heard by said member and the rendering of a Verdict thereon, whichever is later. No person who has served two consecutive full terms shall be eligible for election until a full year has elapsed. Eighteen or more months shall be treated as a full term.
- **Section 3.** If a vacancy occurs by reason of any of the following events, the Standing Committee shall appoint a replacement from the appropriate order; i.e., clerical or lay: death; disability rendering the member unable to act;

resignation; declination to serve; in the case of a priest, election as a bishop or, in the case of a lay person, ordination, subject to Title IV, Canon 4 (6) of the National Canons.

- **Section 4.** Within two months after each Diocesan Convention, the Court shall elect one of its members to serve as Presiding Judge. When the need arises, the Court shall designate a Court Attorney, who shall not be a member of the Court.
- **Section 5.** The powers, duties and procedures of the Court and the definition of terms used herein shall be governed by Title IV of the National Canons as revised in September, 1994, as if the revision had taken effect immediately

**b) Amended to Read:**

- **Canon XIX. Diocesan Review Committee and Ecclesiastical Trial Court (Array)**
- **Section 1.** The Standing Committee shall serve as the Diocesan Review Committee.
- Original **Sections 1** through **5** are renumbered as **Sections 2** through **6**.
- **Section 6.** The powers, duties and procedures of the Court and the definition of terms used in this Canon shall be as set forth in the Disciplinary Appendix, attached to these Canons.

**c) Rationale:**

- This Canon is retitled to reflect the expanded purpose of the Canon, that of establishing a Diocesan Review Committee. A new Section 1 is offered to provide for the creation of the Diocesan Review Committee, and all existing sections are renumbered. Section 6 (as renumbered) is amended to provide for the source of powers, duties, and procedures of the Court and definition of terms.

**14. Proposed change to Canon XX, Section 4**

**a) Currently reads:**

- The call of the Clergy-elect shall be in writing in a letter of agreement between the member of the Clergy and the Vestry (and in the case of an Aided Parish, the Bishop and Diocesan Council) and must express distinctly job description and any special conditions, together with the stipulations of salary or support, which salary when the member of the Clergy is settled shall be held a valid legal contract, and the salary as accruing to be an acknowledged debt, recoverable by process of law, if necessary, of which said call shall be held as substantial evidence. Provided, that the salary may be increased or diminished, as the parties may from time to time agree; due notice of which shall be given to the Ecclesiastical Authority by the Clerk of the Vestry.

**b) Amended to Read:**

- The call of the Clergy-elect shall be in writing in a letter of agreement between the member of the Clergy and the Vestry (and in the case of a Transitional Parish, the Bishop and Diocesan Council) and must express distinctly job description and any special conditions, together with the stipulations of salary or support, which salary when the member of the Clergy is settled shall be held a valid legal contract, and the salary as accruing to be an acknowledged debt, recoverable by process of law, if necessary, of which said call shall be held as substantial evidence. Provided, that the salary may be increased or diminished, as the parties may from time to time agree; due notice of which shall be given to the Ecclesiastical Authority by the Clerk of the Vestry.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to conform language to other canons.

**15. Proposed change to Canon XXI, Section 4.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The annual salary and other compensations of full time resident Clergy shall be no less than the minimum established for Clergy of Aided Parishes except in special cases as determined by the Bishop and the Standing Committee.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- The annual salary and other compensations of full time resident Clergy shall be no less than the minimum established in the Clergy Compensation Guide, recommended by Diocesan Council and approved by the Annual Convention, except in special cases as determined by the Bishop and the Standing Committee.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

**16. Proposed change to Canon XXIII, Section 1c.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- A Priest-in-Charge or a Deacon-in-Charge is a Priest or Deacon settled in an Aided Parish and whose settlement in the Parish is subject to a specific agreement as to time and other conditions. These Titles also apply to all members of the Clergy appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to the cure of souls.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- A Priest-in-Charge or a Deacon-in-Charge is a Priest or Deacon settled in a Transitional Parish and whose settlement in the Parish is subject to a specific agreement as to time and other conditions. These Titles also apply to all members of the Clergy appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to the cure of souls.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to conform language to other canons.

**17. Proposed change to Canon XXIII, Section 1d.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- **Minister-in-Charge** is a Lay person appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to conduct the religious affairs of an Aided Parish having no Priest or Deacon-in-Charge.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- **Minister-in-Charge** is a Lay person appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority to conduct the religious affairs of a Transitional Parish having no Priest or Deacon-in-Charge.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to conform language to other canons.

**18. Proposed change to Canon XXV, Section 1.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Bishop shall be assume ecclesiastical oversight of each vacant Parish.

b) **Amended to read:**

- The Bishop shall assume ecclesiastical oversight of each vacant Parish.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to clarify meaning of canon by correcting grammatical error.

**19. Proposed change to Canon XXV, Section 3.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Bishop shall take order for supplying vacant Parishes with occasional services, at the expense of the Parish so supplied.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- In the event of a vacant parish, the Bishop shall takes such action as the Bishop deems appropriate to supply said parish for appropriate services, and such supply expenses shall be borne by said parish.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

**20. Proposed change to Canon XXVI, Section 1.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- Deputies to the Provincial Synod of the Province of Washington shall be elected concurrently with Deputies to the General Convention at the Annual Diocesan Convention which is held within two years preceding the regular General Convention in the following manner: The member of the Clergy receiving the highest number of votes as a Deputy to the General Convention

shall be declared the Clerical Deputy to the Provincial Synod, and the member of the Clergy receiving the next highest number of votes shall be declared the Supplemental Clerical Deputy. The two Lay persons receiving the two highest number of votes as Deputies to the General Convention shall be declared the Lay Deputies to the Provincial Synod, and the two Lay members receiving the next two highest number of votes shall be declared the Supplemental Lay Deputies, with priority of right in rotation according to plurality of the aggregate vote received by them respectively.

**b) Amended to Read:**

- Deputies to a Provincial Synod in which the diocese shall be a participating member shall be elected concurrently with Deputies to the General Convention at the Annual Diocesan Convention which is held within two years preceding the regular General Convention in the following manner: The member of the Clergy receiving the highest number of votes as a Deputy to the General Convention shall be declared the Clerical Deputy to said Provincial Synod, and the member of the Clergy receiving the next highest number of votes shall be declared the Supplemental Clerical Deputy. The two Lay persons receiving the two highest number of votes as Deputies to the General Convention shall be declared the Lay Deputies to said Provincial Synod, and the two Lay members receiving the next two highest number of votes shall be declared the Supplemental Lay Deputies, with priority of right in rotation according to plurality of the aggregate vote received by them respectively.

**c) Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect status of diocese.

**21. Proposed change to Canon XXVII.**

**a) Currently reads:**

- The site of any Church, or Chapel, shall not be changed to a place nearer the site of any other Church, or Chapel, without the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese and the approval of the Standing Committee. One months notice of any application to the Standing Committee for such approval shall be given to the Rectors or Priests/ Deacons/Ministers-in-Charge and Vestries of the three Churches or Congregations nearest to the proposed site, and action shall not be taken until such Rectors or Priests/ Deacons/Ministers-in-Charge and Vestries have had an opportunity to be heard thereon.

**b) Amended to read:**

- The site of any Church, or Chapel, shall not be changed without the consent of the Bishop, who shall have consulted with the leadership of nearby parishes (as determined by the Bishop) and the Standing Committee.

**c) Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to simplify canon.

**22. Proposed change to Canon XXIX, Section 2.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- The Bishop of this Diocese shall appoint annually, upon the opening of the Convention, a Committee of the Church Pension Fund to consist of four Presbyters and four Lay persons, for a term of one year and until their successors shall have been appointed or qualified, and the Bishop may from time to time fill by appointment any vacancies in said Committee caused by resignation, death or inability to act. The duties of said Committee shall be as follows: (subsections a through d omitted).

b) **Amended to read:**

- Section 2 is deleted in its entirety.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect current practices.

**23. Proposed change to Canon XXIX, Sections 3, 4, and 5.**

a) **Amended to Read:**

- Sections 3, 4, and 5 are renumbered as Sections 2, 3, and 4.

b) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect deletion of original Section 2.

**24. Proposed change to Canon XXXI, Section 1.**

a) **Currently reads:**

- There shall be a Commission of the Diocese, to be known as the Commission on Church Architecture, which shall consist of the Bishop, together with the Bishop-Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop, if there be any, together with three Clergy and three Lay persons, of which number two shall be architects skilled or experienced in ecclesiastical design, residing within or without the Diocese, to be appointed annually by the Bishop.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- The Bishop, with approval of the Standing Committee, may appoint a Commission on Church Architecture (“Commission”). Such Commission shall have such duties as included in this Canon or as otherwise directed by the Bishop or Standing Committee. If a Commission is appointed, the Bishop shall serve as one of its members.

c) **Rationale:**

- Amendment is offered to reflect that the canon does not reflect practice and to make committee workable by simplifying its structure and reducing potential cost of committee.

**25. Proposed change to Canon XXXIII.**

a) **A new canon to provide for definition is proposed.**

b) **Amendment to Read:**

- **Canon XXXIII. Definitions**

- Except as may otherwise be provided within these Canons, for purposes of the Canons of the Diocese of Pittsburgh:
- a. “constitution” shall mean the Constitution of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
- b. “The Bishop” shall mean the Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

c) **Rationale:**

- This new Canon is offered to create the opportunity to define terms that may otherwise cause ambiguity. This Canon may be expanded in the future.

**26. Proposed change to Rules of Order:**

a) **Currently reads:**

- **C. Parliamentary Procedure**

- **4.** On a question being put by the President, it shall be determined by the sound of voices for or against it; but any member may require the count of votes, and Tellers for that purpose shall be appointed by the President; or any twenty members, of whom at least ten must be Clergy and at least ten must be Lay Deputies, may, previous to a decision by count, require the ayes and nays to be taken, which shall be done by calling the names of the Clerical members and then of the Parishes and the number of Lay Deputies to which each is entitled, and all votes by ayes and nays shall be entered upon the minutes.

b) **Amended to Read:**

- **4.** On a question being put by the President, it shall be determined by the sound of voices for or against it; but any member may require the count of votes, and Tellers for that purpose shall be appointed by the President; or a majority of the members present, may, previous to a decision by count, require the ayes and nays to be taken, which shall be done by calling the names of the Clerical members and then of the names of the lay deputies of each parish, and all votes by ayes and nays shall be entered upon the minutes.

c) **Rationale:**

- This amendment is offered to insure the possibility of roll call votes, but to guarantee that it is the will of the majority that the Convention’s precious time be spent in this manner. The “count of votes” earlier provided for in the rule in question insures the accuracy of any vote by requiring that everyone voting must signal (either by hand or standing) whether his or her vote is an “aye” or a “nay”.

## Disciplinary Appendix

### Of Offenses for Which Bishops, Priests, or Deacons May Be Presented and Tried, and Of Inhibitions

- Sec. 1. A Bishop, Priest, or Deacon of this Church shall be liable to Presentment and Trial for the following offenses, viz.:
- (a) Crime.
  - (b) Immorality.
  - (c) Holding and teaching publicly or privately, and advisedly, any doctrine contrary to that held by this Church.
  - (d) Violation of the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer.
  - (e) Violation of the Constitution or Canons of the General Convention.
  - (f) Violation of the Constitution or Canons of the Diocese in which the person is canonically resident.
  - (g) Violation of the Constitution or Canons of a Diocese of this Church wherein the person may have been located temporarily.
  - (h) Any act which involves a violation of Ordination vows.
    - (i) If a Charge against a Priest or Deacon alleges an act or acts which involve a violation of ordination vows and specifies as the act that the Priest or Deacon has disobeyed or disregarded a Pastoral Direction of the Bishop having authority over such person, the Charge must be made by the Bishop giving the Pastoral Direction or by the Ecclesiastical Authority of that Diocese or by another Bishop if the Bishop who issued the Pastoral Direction has resigned, retired, died or is unable to act and shall set out the Pastoral Direction alleged to have been disregarded or disobeyed and wherein the disregard or failure to obey constitutes a violation of ordination vows. Unless the Charge by the Bishop and the Presentment by the Diocesan Review Committee comply with the foregoing provisions, no finding of a violation based on an act of disregarding a Pastoral Direction of or failing to obey the Bishop having authority over the person charged may be made.
    - (ii) In order for the disregard or disobedience of a Pastoral Direction to constitute a violation of ordination vows the Pastoral Direction must have been a solemn warning to the Priest or Deacon; it must have been in writing and set forth clearly the reasons for the Pastoral Direction; it must have been given in the capacity of the pastor, teacher and canonical overseer of the Priest or Deacon; it must have been neither capricious nor arbitrary in nature nor in any way contrary to the Constitution and Canons of the Church, both national and diocesan; and it must have been directed to some matter which concerns the Doctrine, Discipline or Worship of this Church or the manner of life and behavior of the Priest or Deacon concerned. Upon Trial under any such Presentment, the question of

whether the disregard or disobedience of the Pastoral Direction specified constitutes a violation of ordination vows is a matter of ultimate fact upon which testimony may be offered.

- (i) Habitual neglect of the exercise of the Ministerial Office, without cause; or habitual neglect of Public Worship, and of the Holy Communion, according to the order and use of this Church.
- (j) Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy.

Sec. 2.

- (a) If a Priest or Deacon is charged with an Offense or Offenses or serious acts are complained of to the Bishop that would constitute the grounds for a Charge of an Offense, and, in the opinion of the Bishop, the Charge or complaint of serious acts is supported by sufficient facts, the Bishop may issue a Temporary Inhibition.
- (b) Any Temporary Inhibition shall:
  - (i) be in writing,
  - (ii) set forth the reasons for its issuance,
  - (iii) be specific in its terms,
  - (iv) define the Offense or Offenses charged or serious acts complained of,
  - (v) describe in reasonable detail the act or acts inhibited,
  - (vi) be promptly served upon the Priest or Deacon to be inhibited, and
  - (vii) become effective upon being served upon the Priest or Deacon to be inhibited.
- (c) A Temporary Inhibition may be issued without prior written or oral notice to the Priest or Deacon.
- (d) Any Priest or Deacon against whom a Temporary Inhibition has been issued, modified, or extended may request a hearing concerning the Temporary Inhibition before the Diocesan Review Committee, which shall hear the same at the earliest possible time, but not later than fourteen days after the date of receipt of the request. The Diocesan Review Committee by a two-thirds vote may dissolve or modify the Temporary Inhibition. The Bishop and the Church Attorney shall be given notice of such hearing and shall be permitted to attend and be heard or to designate a representative to attend and be heard.
- (e) At any time, a Bishop may dissolve or modify the terms of a Temporary Inhibition.
- (f) A Temporary Inhibition shall continue in force and effect until the earlier of
  - (i) the issuance of an Inhibition as otherwise permitted by this Title,
  - (ii) the withdrawal of the Charge or the allegations,
  - (iii) the refusal of the Diocesan Review Committee to make a Presentment on the Charges alleged,

- (iv) dissolution of the Temporary Inhibition,
  - (v) imposition of Sentence following a voluntary submission to discipline under Canon IV.2., or
  - (vi) a period of ninety days measured from the date of service of the Temporary Inhibition; *Provided, however*, the ninety-day period may be extended by the Bishop for additional ninety-day periods upon good cause.
- (g) In the event that the Temporary Inhibition is dissolved, reduced, or otherwise expires, the Ecclesiastical Authority shall so notify all persons to whom notice of the Temporary Inhibition was given.

Sec. 3. If a Presentment has been made by the Diocesan Review Committee against a Priest or Deacon, or if a Priest or Deacon has been convicted in a criminal Court of Record in a cause involving immorality, or if a judgment has been entered against a Priest or Deacon in a civil Court of Record in a cause involving immorality, the Bishop in whose jurisdiction the Priest or Deacon is canonically resident or of the jurisdiction wherein the conviction or judgment has been entered may issue an Inhibition to the Priest or Deacon until after the Judgment of the Ecclesiastical Trial Court becomes final.

Sec. 4. No Bishop shall issue an Inhibition or Temporary Inhibition except as expressly permitted by this Title.

**Sec. 5.**

- (a) If a Bishop is charged with an Offense or Offenses or serious acts are complained of to the Presiding Bishop that would constitute the grounds for a Charge of an Offense and, in the opinion of the Presiding Bishop, the Charge or complaint of serious acts is supported by sufficient facts, the Presiding Bishop may issue a Temporary Inhibition. The consent of a majority of All the Members of the Standing Committee is required for Bishops with jurisdiction.
- (b) Any Temporary Inhibition shall: (i) be in writing, (ii) set forth the reason for its issuance, (iii) be specific in its terms, (iv) define the Offense or Offenses charged or serious acts complained of, (v) describe in reasonable detail the act or acts inhibited, (vi) be promptly served upon the Bishop to be inhibited, and (vii) become effective upon being served upon the Bishop to be inhibited.
- (c) A Temporary Inhibition may be issued without prior written or oral notice to the Bishop.
- (d) Any Bishop against whom a Temporary Inhibition has been issued, modified, or extended may request a hearing concerning the Temporary Inhibition before the Review Committee, which shall hear the same at the earliest possible time, but not later than thirty days after the date of receipt of the request. The Review Committee by a twothirds vote may dissolve or modify the Temporary Inhibition. The Church Attorney and Presiding Bishop shall be given notice of such hearing and each shall be permitted to attend and be heard or to designate a representative to attend and be heard.
- (e) At any time, the Presiding Bishop may dissolve or modify the terms of a Temporary Inhibition. If the Bishop is a Bishop with jurisdiction, the consent of

a majority of All the Members of the Standing Committee shall be required for such a dissolution or modification.

- (f) A Temporary Inhibition shall continue in force and effect until the earlier of
  - (i) the issuance of an Inhibition as otherwise permitted by this Title,
  - (ii) the withdrawal of the Charge or the allegations,
  - (iii) the refusal of the Review Committee to make a Presentment on the Charges alleged,
  - (iv) a dissolution of the Temporary Inhibition,
  - (v) imposition of Sentence following a voluntary submission to discipline under Canon IV.2.9, or
  - (vi) a period of one year measured from the date of service of the Temporary Inhibition.

Sec. 6. If a Presentment has been made by the Review Committee against a Bishop, or if a Bishop has been convicted in a criminal Court of Record in a cause involving immorality, or if a judgment has been entered against a Bishop in a civil Court of Record in a case involving Immorality, the Presiding Bishop may issue an Inhibition to the Bishop until after the Judgment of The Court for the Trial of a Bishop becomes final. The consent of a majority of All the Members of the Standing Committee is required for Bishops with jurisdiction.

Sec. 7. The Temporary Inhibition shall be an extraordinary remedy, to be used sparingly and limited to preventing immediate and irreparable harm to individuals or to the good order of the Church.