PROCEEDINGS of
ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINTH ~~ANNUAL~~ DIOCESAN CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 14-15, 2025

On Friday, November 14, 2025, and Saturday, November 15, 2025, the days chosen in accordance with the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Long Island, clergy and laity gathered at The Marriott Hotel, Melville, Long Island, for the 159th~~Annual~~ Diocesan Convention.

Friday, November 14, 2025

In compliance with Rule of Order 1, the delegates of the 159th ~~Annual~~ Convention assembled and the Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island, took the chair as President of Convention ("President"). Bishop Provenzano called the Convention to order and declared it organized for business at 1:26 PM on Friday, November 14, 2025, after the Secretary of the Convention (the "Secretary"), The Rev. Anthony Jones, Priest, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, reported a quorum present. The Secretary announced that only authorized delegates were allowed on the floor of the Convention.

The Bishop appointed the Canon Charles Janoff. as Parliamentarian and Chancellor James Weller, to serve as Assistant Parliamentarian.

The Secretary nominated, and the Convention confirmed, the appointment of The Rev. Jenn Pilat, Priest, St. Anselm's Episcopal Church, as Assistant Secretary to this Convention.

The Secretary moved that the following persons be admitted on the floor as necessary and authorized for the business of the Convention:

- Clergy canonically resident less than three (3) months (with seat and voice and without vote);
- Non-canonically resident clergy serving in the diocese (with seat and voice and without vote);
- The administrative staff of the diocese (with seat and voice and without vote as may be requested by the members of the Convention and its committees, but in no way changing the privileges of those who are already elected delegates to this ~~Convention ;~~Convention;
- The members of Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee with seat, voice, and without vote, but in no way changing the privileges of those who with seat are already elected delegates to this ~~c~~Convention; and
- Invited~~s~~ guests with seat and voice as may be requested by the members of this ~~c~~Convention and its committees.

The motion was properly seconded and carried.

The PresidentBishop asked that clergy and delegates remain throughout the Convention. He asked that delegates vote whenever a question was put, unless excused by the Convention, and reminded the delegates that all motions must be made from the microphones on the floor of Convention. The President also advised the Convention that the Canons of this Diocese do not allow restoration of voting privileges to any parish or mission not in compliance with the filing of reports unless reports are in hand or unless just cause is shown.

The Secretary reported on Voter Qualifications:

The Secretary reported that there were no defective delegate certificates.

The Secretary reported that the following churches had failed to file delegate certificates for 2025, and had thereby forfeited the seat and vote of their lay delegates:

Brooklyn	Queens	Nassau	Suffolk
Emmanuel	NONE	St. Elisabeth's, Floral Park	All Souls, Stony Brook

~~Insert List~~

The Secretary reported that the following congregations had failed to file parochial reports for the year 2024 or for one or more years prior, thereby forfeiting the seat and right to vote of their elected lay delegations:

None

The Secretary reported that the following congregations had failed to file audit certificates for the year 2024 or for one or more years prior, thereby forfeiting the seat and right to vote of their elected lay delegations:

Brooklyn	Queens	Nassau	Suffolk
Ascension	St. John's , Flushing	NONE	St. Peter's, East Hampton
Christ Church, Bay Ridge			St. Mary's, Hampton Bays
Grace Church			St. Boniface, Lindenhurst
St. Mary's			Trinity, Northport
St. Phillip's, Dyker Heights			St. John's, Oakdale
			Christ Church, Port Jefferson
			Iglesia San Francisco, Riverhead
			Caroline Church, Setauket
			St. John's, Southampton
			St. Andrew's, Yaphank

~~Insert List~~

According to Title V, Canon 2, Section III and Title V, Canon 3, Section II of the Diocesan Canons Pertaining to Audits and Parochial Reports, a parish who has shown good cause why such reports have not been provided may ask the Bishop to restore the seat and voting rights of the Church. The Secretary reported that the following congregations had requested restoration of seat and voting rights:

~~Insert List~~

E. Temporary Waiver of Parochial Report or Audit

Suffolk
St. Boniface, Lindenhurst~~Insert List~~

Iglesia San Francisco, Riverhead
St. John's, Southampton

F. Permanent Waiver of Parochial Report or Audit

~~Insert List~~**None**

Upon motion made, seconded, and carried, seat and voting rights for the following were restored:

E. Temporary Waiver of Parochial Report or Audit

Suffolk
St. Boniface, Lindenhurst
Iglesia San Francisco, Riverhead
St. John's, Southampton
~~Insert List~~

F. Permanent Waiver of Parochial Report or Audit

~~Insert List~~**None**

The President~~Bishop~~ called upon the Secretary for some Housekeeping items.

The President~~Bishop~~ recognized our Youth Delegates to roaring ~~applause, and~~applause and dismissed them for their pre-planned activities.

The Secretary called upon Sharon Brown-Veillard, Chair, Committee on Dispatch of Business ("Dispatch").

The Chair, Committee on Dispatch of Business, presented and moved the Agenda for the 159th ~~Annual~~ Convention as printed in the Pre-Convention Journal. Bishop Provenzano called for a second, and the motion was duly seconded and carried.

In accordance with Rule of Order Part III, Rule 1(d)(iii), of the Convention and with the assent of the President of Convention, a motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 158th ~~annual~~ Convention and move their adoption. The motion was duly seconded and passed.

Dispatch moved for suspension of Rule of Order Part I, Rule 2, to allow for the submission of written resolutions to the Secretary of Convention no later than 6:00 pm, Friday, November 14, 2025. The motion was seconded and carried by ~~a~~the required 2/3 majority.

Dispatch requested that Bishop call upon the Secretary to report on correspondence and unfinished business of the 158th Convention. The Secretary reported that there is no correspondence to report and no unfinished business from the 158th Convention.

Dispatch presented the nominations by name and office as published in the Pre-Convention Journal. The President then called for further nominations from the floor, after each office and in every category. Except as noted below, there were no further nominations.

Secretary
(until 2026)
The Rev. Anthony Jones

Treasurer
(until 2026)
Mr. Pearson Griffith

Diocesan Council
Two clergy (until 2028)
The Rev Walter Wai Lun Lau
The Rev. Kate Schneider

Diocesan Council
Two lay (until 2028)
Linda Watson-Lorde
Rebecca Maines
Bob Hendrick

Standing Committee
One clergy (until 2029)
The Rev. Darrell L. Tiller
The Rev. Sheldon N. N. Hamblin
The Rev. Keith Voets

Standing Committee
One lay (until 2029)
Jacqueline Mason
Megan J. Arnold

The Board of Managers of Camp DeWolfe, Inc.
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Jenn Pilat
Samantha Previl

The Board of Directors of Episcopal Ministries of Long Island, Inc.
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. James Reiss
Sherilee Partis
The Rev. Brendan Nee

The Board of Trustees of the George Mercer Jr. Memorial School of Theology
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Ben DeHart
Carol Oliver
The Rev. Richard Ohlsen
The Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. Brenkert

The Trustees of the Estate Belonging to the Diocese of Long Island, Inc.
Two persons (until 2029)
Carlton Mitchell
The Rev. Lu Carrie Zhang
Alisha James Graham

The Disciplinary Board
Clergy Order Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Pedro Cuevas
The Rev. Lindsay Lunnum

The Disciplinary Board
Lay Order One person (until 2028)
Lesly Galloway

Charles Janoff

Chapter of the Cathedral of the Incarnation
One Lay (until 2028)
Mia Jealous-Dank

Deputy to General Convention
Clergy Order Four Persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Darrell L. Tiller
The Very Rev. Canon Mark R. Kowalewski
The Rev. Grace Flint
The Rev. Cn. Karen Davis-Lawson
The Very Rev. Hickman Alexandre
The Rev. Jason Moskal
The Rev. Maxine Barnett
The Very Rev. Dr. Steven L. Foster
The Rev. James Ress
The Very Rev. Gideon L. K. Pollach
The Rev. Landon M. Moore
The Rev Frederick Walker
The Rev. Sarah Kooperkamp
The Rev. Denise Galloway
The Rev. Sheldon N.N. Hamblin

Deputy to General Convention
Lay Order Four Persons (until 2028)
Penny Grinage
Linda Watson-Lorde
James Olszewski
Merrick K. Williams
Daisy Orellana
Sharon Brown-Veillard

After calling for additional nominations for those offices for which a full slate of nominees had been received, of which there were seven, the President~~Bishop~~ declared nominations for those offices closed.

Nominations from the floor were opened to fill-out slates of nominees.

Larry Bickford- Diocesan Council Lay Order
Denise Agard Washington - Diocesan Council Lay Order
Christie Joan Toussaint - Diocesan Council Lay Order

Larry Bickford- Deputy to General Convention Lay Order
Denise Agard Washington- Deputy to General Convention Lay Order
Christie Joan Toussaint- Deputy to General Convention Lay Order
Dr. Dorothy J. Laffin - Deputy to General Convention Lay Order

The Secretary directed the Convention to add the names of the seven additional nominees to the paper tally-sheet.

Dispatch moved the election of all uncontested seats by office and name. Motion was properly seconded and carried with the following elections declared:

Secretary
(until 2026)
The Rev. Anthony Jones

Treasurer
(until 2026)
Mr. Pearson Griffith

Diocesan Council
Two clergy (until 2028)
The Rev Walter Wai Lun Lau
The Rev. Kate Schneider

The Board of Managers of Camp DeWolfe, Inc.
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Jenn Pilat
Samantha Previl

The Disciplinary Board
Clergy Order Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Pedro Cuevas
The Rev. Lindsay Lunnum

Chapter of the Cathedral of the Incarnation
One Lay (until 2028)
Mia Jealous-Dank

Dispatch then called on the Secretary for election of contested offices.
The following were elected:

Diocesan Council

Lay Order (until 2028)
Linda Watson-Lorde
Christie Joan Toussaint

Standing Committee
One clergy (until 2029)
The Rev. Keith Voets

Standing Committee
One lay (until 2029)
Jacqueline Mason

The Board of Directors of Episcopal Ministries of Long Island, Inc.
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. James Reiss
Sherilee Partis

The Board of Trustees of the George Mercer Jr. Memorial School of Theology
Two persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Ben DeHart
The Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. Brenkert

The Trustees of the Estate Belonging to the Diocese of Long Island, Inc.
Two persons (until 2029)
Carlton Mitchell
Alisha James Graham

The Disciplinary Board
Lay Order One person (until 2028)
Charles Janoff

At 2:56 PM Dispatch called for a recess. The President recessed Convention until 3:10 PM ~~for break.~~

At 3:12 PM, Convention reconvened, and contested elections resumed.

Deputy to General Convention
Clergy Order Four Persons (until 2028)
The Rev. Maxine Barnett

The Rev. Grace Flint
The Rev. Cn. Karen Davis-Lawson
The Rev. Denise Galloway

Alternate Deputy to General Convention
Clergy Order Four Persons (until 2028)
The Very Rev. Hickman Alexandre
The Very Rev. Gideon L. K. Pollach
The Rev. Landon M. Moore
The Very Rev. Dr. Steven L. Foster

Deputy to General Convention
Lay Order Four Persons (until 2028)
Sharon Brown-Veillard
Penny Grinage
Daisy Orellana
James Olszewski

Alternate Deputy to General Convention
Lay Order Four Persons (until 2028)
Merrick K. Williams
Christie Joan Toussaint
Linda Watson-Lorde
Denise Agard Washington

Following the conclusion of the contested elections, Dispatch asked the Bishop to call on the Secretary for some Housekeeping details.

At 4:17, the Bishop called for the Youth Delegates to lead Evening Prayer.

At 4:47 PM, after Evening Prayer concluded, the President ordered the Convention ~~to be followed by the Convention~~ to stand in recess until 9:00 AM Saturday.

~~The Bishop ordered the convention in recess at 4:47 PM.~~

Saturday, November 15, 2025

The Convention Eucharist and the Bishop's Address began at 9:00 AM on Saturday, November 15, 2025.

At 11:41 AM, after completion of the Eucharist, the President~~Bishop~~ called convention to order.

The President~~Bishop~~ took the prerogative of the chair to report that we have received greetings from the newly elected Province of the West Indies, Archbishop Phillip Wright. He also shared the results of the election of the current Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford, The Very

Rev. Miguelina Howell, as Bishop-elect of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts. He also shared that the Diocese of Eastern North Carolina has elected the Rev. Sarah Fisher as Bishop-elect on the 3rd ballot.

Bishop invited the Secretary to present a few Housekeeping items.

Dispatch introduced a video presentation by EMLI/St. Paul's Patchogue.

Dispatch invited Neal Watkins from Carter Global to present on One Mission.

Dispatch invited the UTO Coordinator to facilitate the UTO ingathering. Following Grace offered by the Chaplain (Fr. Casey Jones), the Convention stood in recess for lunch until 1:45pm.

Upon returning from lunch, the Secretary announced a few Housekeeping notes.

Dispatch invited the Youth and Young Adults Ministries, given by Chelsy DeHart to offer a presentation. This report included a video presentation regarding Camp Elevate 2025. A brief period of question and answer was held- focusing on adult volunteers, financial aid for campers, campers with special needs, non-native English speakers, the age of campers, and multiple acknowledgments of thanks for Chelsy's hard work for our youth.

Dispatch introduced a video report by Micah Breakfast Ministry at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Brooklyn.

The Bishop called upon The Rev. Maxine Barnett, Chair of the Committee on Miscellaneous Business for the Report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Business.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution 2025-R1, The Diocesan Ministry Plan. The motion was duly seconded, and Mr. Pearson Griffith was invited to speak on the Plan. A brief period of discussion followed. The motion passed.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution Number 2025-R2, Base Minimum Clergy Compensation for 2026, which was seconded. Fr Ben Shambaugh moved for an amendment to the resolution to adjust the COLA recommendation from 0% to 2.8% to align with the Social Security COLA for 2026~~recommendations.~~ This amendment was withdrawn, and Fr. Gideon Pollach proposed a similar amendment with clear language to reflect that the recommendation reflects that of the Convention (not the Bishop alone). The amendment was adopted and the amended resolution passed.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution 2025-R3, Lay Employee Compensation Guidelines for 2026, which was seconded. Fr. Gideon Pollach proposed an amendment to the resolution to reflect the COLA increase suggestion to 2.8% mirroring the amendment to the Resolution 2025-R2. ~~The amended motion passed.~~ The amendment was adopted and the amended resolution passed.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution 2025-R4, Concerning Diocesan Payroll Service Materials in EDLI. Nancy Signore spoke to the resolution. The motion passed.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution 2025-R5, The Admission of St. Andrew's by the Sea, Saltaire into Union with the Church in the Diocese of Long Island. Rev. John Mertz spoke to the Resolution. A lengthy discussion ensued, focused on the differences between Mission and Parish status. A motion from the floor was made, seconded, and passed (by a 2/3 majority) to end the debate. The original motion carried.

Mother Barnett moved to adopt Resolution 2025-R6, Support of the Diocese of Long Island for the establishment of "The Episcopal Mission in Sunnyside." Fr. Carl Adair spoke to the Resolution. A video report as to this issue was presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The President recessed the Convention at~~A break was ordered- from~~ 3:35pm to resume at 3:55pm.

Following the recess~~break~~, The Rev. Maxine Barnett, presented Courtesy Resolutions 2025-C1 and 2025-C2. Both passed unanimously.

Courtesy Resolution 2025-C1, read by Andrew Wright and Elizabeth Wright, honored the Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano from the Youth Presence of EDLI.

Courtesy Resolution 2025-C2, read by Emmanuel Hillebrand and Penny Truehart, honored Mrs. Jeanne Provenzano from the Youth Presence of EDLI.

The President~~Dispatch~~ called upon Mr. Charles Janoff to the podium to present the report from the ~~c~~Committee on the Canons and to review Propositions 2025-P1 and P-2. Both propositions passed.

Dispatch moved the suspension of Rule of Order Part III, Rule 1(d) to take business out of order to introduce the General Convention Resolutions. The motion was seconded and passed. Upon the direction of the President, Mr. Charles Janoff directed the attention of the Convention to pages 34-42 of the Pre-Convention Journal for the full text of the Resolutions passed by the General Convention concerning the Constitution of the Episcopal Church and revisions to the Book of Common Prayer in order to fulfill the requirements of the Canons of the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Provenzano, as President, ~~–~~took the prerogative of the chair to recognize all seminarians/postulants who were in the room in order to ask the Convention to remember to pray for them.

Dispatch called for the report of the Joint Oversight Committee. Chairs Rev. Jason Moskal and Jacqueline Mason presented their report, which included a video report. They provided details on how the Search/Transition for the 9th Bishop of EDLI is going. Fr. Landon Moore offered a prayer for the election of a Bishop.

Dispatch moved the suspension of Rule of Order Part III, Rule 1(d) to take business out of order to introduce the Daughters of the King special order. The motion was seconded and passed by the requisite 2/3 majority. Ms. Deborah Tyson, Province II President spoke on the Daughters of the King, with focus on the function and benefits of the Order of the Daughters of the King.

The Bishop read appointments to the Commission on Ministry:

The Rev. Maxine Barnett, Chair
The Rev. Kevin Morris
Dr. Lena Mullings
The Very Rev. Dan Ade
Ms. Janice Commentz
The Rev. Joseph Cundiff
The Rev. Diane DeBlasio
The Rev. Jimmie Sue Deppe
Ms. Jennifer Florez
The Rev. Denise Galloway
The Rev. Andrew Garnett
Ms. Brenda Innis
The Rev. Carlos Rendón
The Rev. Allen Robinson
Ms. Sharon Tucker
The Rev. Robert White
Mr. Leon M. Willis
Ex Officio: The Rev. Landon Moore

Dispatch moved that the appointments be confirmed by the Convention. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Bishop acknowledged milestone anniversaries for Deacons and Priests.

The Rev. Maxine Barnett, presented Courtesy Resolutions 2025-C3 through 2025-C6 which carried as presented in the Pre-Convention Journal (pages 32-33).

This concluded the business for the 159th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island.

The Secretary shared some housekeeping details.

Dispatch moved the date and location of the 160th Convention, which will be on Friday, November 13, 2026, and Saturday, November 14, 2026, at a location to be determined. Pursuant to Title II, Canon 4, Section 1, this will be communicated by February 1st. This motion was seconded and passed.

Following evening prayer, the Convention stood in recess, gathering again at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City on April 18th, 2026, for the ~~special~~ election of the 9th Bishop of the Diocese.