March 28, 2023

At its meeting on March 20, 2023, the Standing Committee took up, among others, the following matters:

1. **Accepted with regret** the upcoming retirement of Fr. Jacob Evans from the position of director of the Loaves and Fishes feeding ministry based at Saint Francis’ Mission in Albany, and thanked Fr. Evans for his work in directing the ministry;
   
   and

2. **appointed** Gail Truchard of Saint Stephen’s, Delmar, to succeed Fr. Evans as Director of the Loaves and Fishes feeding ministry, both effective upon announcement at the Convention of the Diocese in June 2023.

3. **Consented** to the election of the Rev. Cn. Dr. Sally French as Bishop of New Jersey.

4. **Granted licenses** to the Rev. Anne Meigs Ross, the Rev. Gary Ross, and the Rev. Cooper Conway to serve as supply priests in the Diocese of Albany.

5. **Accepted with regret** the impending retirement of the Rev. Julia Mudge, effective August 1, 2023.

6. **Initiated** consideration of members of the Election Procedures Committee to assist the Secretary of the Diocese with preparation for a special electing convention.

7. **Learned** that the Rev. Cn. Victor Lee Austin, Canon Theologian in Residence in the Diocese of Dallas, will conduct the priests’ retreat for the Diocese of Albany in November.

8. **Received word** from the Diocesan Life subcommittee that a grant application to the Lilly Foundation is being prepared to enable the Diocese to provide programming in support of congregational vitality.

9. **Reminds deacons (and clergy who supervise deacons)** that deacons are required by Canon III.7.4(b) of the Episcopal Church to report annually on their life and work. This report should be submitted on or before the deacon’s birthday each year. A form has been designed and approved by the Deacons’ Council of the Diocese for this purpose (click here to access the form). It can be printed and filled out by hand, or filled out on line, printed, and then mailed.

10. **Further reminds deacons (and clergy who supervise deacons)** that, in accordance with Canon III.7.7 of the Episcopal Church, any deacon reaching the age of 72 must resign from all positions of active...
service. Deacons over the age of 72 may request to continue serving. It is the responsibility of the deacon to initiate this request each year; it is not automatic. Assignments run until the deacon’s next birthday. For convenience, this request can be made by checking the appropriate box on the Deacon’s Annual Report.