

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany



The Very Reverend Tom Malionek, *President*
Janet Papa, *Secretary*

October 3, 2023

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese while the office of Bishop is vacant. Visit <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/standing-committee/> for a list of Committee members.

These are highlights only. Some matters and details are sensitive, personal, or not ready to report. We do not comment on deliberations.

We welcome communication from around the diocese. Please view us as people of good will, and trust the Holy Spirit to guide us all.

At its meeting on **Monday, October 2, 2023**, the Standing Committee took up, among others, the following matters:

- 1. Consents to the Election of the Rev. Jeremiah Williamson as Bishop of Albany.** As of the time of the meeting, 70 Bishops (53 needed) and 40 Standing Committees (of 56 needed) had consented to Fr. Jeremiah's election. Standing Committee meeting schedules have still to catch up with the request for consent. The window for consents remains open until February 4, 2024.
- 2. Advised** Fr. Jeremiah, at his request, on venues for a planned listening session with clergy during the time he and Jennifer will be in the Diocese to search for housing. Further details will be forthcoming as arrangements are made.
- 3. Referred** to the Trustees of the Diocese an insurance question regarding diocesan property.
- 4. Approved** a charitable disbursement from discretionary funds.
- 5. Began preparations** for the negotiation and conclusion of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Diocese, as Ecclesiastical Authority, and the Bishop-Elect, in anticipation of signing in the near future. Appointed Fr. Tom Malionek to represent the Diocese, assisted by Assistant Chancellors Jim Prout and Tom Bell; Terry Mumby, Treasurer of the Diocese Christopher Cassidy (lay member of the Standing Committee); one lay and one clergy member of Diocesan Council yet to be named by the Council; and a representative of the Trustees of the Diocese yet to be named by the Trustees.
- 6. Established** an initial team to meet with the Office of the Presiding Bishop regarding planning for the consecration of the Bishop. The Presiding Bishop's office will direct the planning process.
- 7. Ordered** the establishment of a dedicated e-mail address to which offers of gifts for the new Bishop can be directed. The address — BishopXGifts@albanydiocese.org — will be activated in the next few days. Anyone desiring to offer a gift, fund a gift in whole or in part, donate to the Bishop's discretionary fund, or donate funds for use toward the Consecration celebrations, should send an e-mail to that address.
- 8. Appointed** an *ad hoc* committee (Mtr. Elizabeth Papazoglakis; Fr. Brad Jones; and Fr. Art Garino) to explore ways to recognize, honor, and thank individuals who have served the Diocese with distinction.
- 9. Directed** the Convention Planning Committee, with Janet Papa as chair, to research dates and venues for the 156th Annual Convention, at which the Tenth Bishop of Albany is expected to preside.

Disciples Making Disciples

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10. Instructed the Administration Subcommittee, in collaboration with Fr. Alistair Morrison and a representative of the Trustees of the Diocese, to address repairs, renovations, and arrangements for the use of properties on South Swan Street by the Diocese and the Cathedral of All Saints.

11. Granted letters dimissory to Fr. Ian Montgomery to the Anglican Diocese of Peru, where he serves as Dean of the Cathedral. We are grateful to Fr. Ian for his service to the Diocese and pray the Lord's blessing on him and his ministry going forward.