



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN

Requirements for Participation in Diocesan Special Convention

All interested parties are welcome to attend, but the Presiding Bishop and the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese set forth requirements for the full participation of individuals as delegates and officers of the Special Convention. The Steering Committee has appointed the Credentials Committee to assist in determining the satisfaction of these requirements and certification (see contact info below). Below is a general outline of those requirements.

1. All persons intending to participate as delegates, elected office, or appointed office must be members and communicants in good standing of the Episcopal Church. Said persons will be required to sign an oath of conformity to obey and be bound by the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Constitution and Canon of the Diocese (as they existed in 2003).
2. Canonically resident clergy, who wish to be seated with voice and vote, will also be required to sign an oath of conformity to obey and be bound by the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese (as they existed in 2003).
3. Canons of the diocese require congregations be represented by elected delegates. The lay delegates to the last annual meeting shall be entitled to seats and votes at the Special Convention, unless delegates shall have been chosen therefore by regular or special parish or vestry meetings. The election of alternate delegates is also permitted under the Canons and Constitution. Usually the delegates should be elected 21 days prior to the Special Convention; non-compliance may be waived at convention.
4. Delegates elected to the December Annual Convention are qualified to serve as delegates for the Special Convention. However, all delegates will be required to sign an oath of conformity, attesting to their understanding that to represent their parishes they must accede fully to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, as well as Constitution and Canons of the Diocese (as of 2003).
5. The number of delegates for each parish will remain unchanged from the last Annual Convention.
6. If a parish or mission has voted to depart from the Episcopal Church or has taken other action to depart from the Episcopal Church or otherwise has repudiated the Constitutions and Canons of the Episcopal Church and/or of the Diocese, and wishes to reverse this action and

affirm its obligations and membership to remain in the Episcopal Church, further resolutions from the vestry or parish will be required

7. If a parish or mission has voted to depart from the Episcopal Church or has taken other action to depart from the Episcopal Church or otherwise has repudiated the Constitutions and Canons of the Episcopal Church and/or of the Diocese, and there is an organized remaining element of that parish or mission, the loyal remaining element may be able to otherwise represent the congregation. Please consult with the Credentials Committee.
8. Consideration will also be made to admitting newly formed faith communities in the Diocese, provided they meet the provisions of the Constitution and Canons.
9. Congregations are required to be current in assessment payments in order to vote at convention. Because of the unusual circumstances of this convention, this provision of the canon will be fulfilled by those congregations that have held their assessments in reserve since the vote at last convention to depart the Episcopal Church; provided however such reserved assessments may be required to be deposited in an account for the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin. For congregations that have determined that they wish to remain in the Episcopal Church and have not timely paid their assessments, the Credentials Committee shall make recommendations to the Special Convention with respect to these congregations.

The Credentials Committee is continuing its review of the relevant provisions of the Canons and Constitution. The Committee will make further information and materials (including the Declaration of Conformity) available prior to the Special Convention and during the registration. Questions and concerns should be directed to Michael Glass (mikeglass@inreach.com) and Juanita Weber (juanitaweber@comcast.net). Please provide the Credentials Committee with the identity and contact information for all lay and clergy delegates ASAP and no later than March 8, 2008.

The Presiding Bishop's goal—and that of the continuing Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin—is to reconcile and bring together in the fullness of Christ all the faithful of San Joaquin.