

Bishop Election Committee (continued)

Next, the people of the Diocese had the opportunity from April 1 to April 15 to offer any anonymous comments they wanted. Just over 100 people shared their thoughts, feelings, and ideas about the future of the Diocese.

Finally, from May 1 to May 16, nine Listening Sessions were held. These were a combination of Zoom and in-person gatherings. There were seven sessions for the Laity (four in-person and three Zoom) and two Zoom Listening Sessions for the Priests and Deacons. A total of ninety-four (94) people took part.

We thank all who took part in the Listening Phase. A great deal of valuable data and information was gathered that will be included in the Profile. Over the next several weeks the Election Committee will finalize the Profile and Nomination Process for Standing Committee review and approval. The goal is to release the profile and open nominations the first week of June. Nominations will close June 30, 2021.

It is with mixed emotions that we announce that the Standing Committee has accepted the resignation of Mother Sherry Black as the Chair of the Election Committee effective June 1, 2021. She is trying to discern a call to be a nominee for bishop. Mother Sherry has served as Chair of the Election Committee since April 2020. Under her leadership much was accomplished, and she leaves the Election Committee with a robust and workable Election Process about to launch.

With Mother Sherry's resignation the Standing Committee has asked Rod Matthews, the current co-Chair of the Election Committee to become the Chair going forward. Rod has broad experiences in his local church (Christ the King – Normal) and at the Diocesan level. He has collaborated closely with Mother Sherry as co-chair of the Election Committee since April of last year.

You can follow the progress of the Election Process at the Diocese's Website at the [Bishop's Election tab](#).

In Christ,

The Election Committee for the 12th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield