



Episcopal Diocese of Northern California

Timeline and procedures regarding the process for electing the 8th bishop of the Diocese

Important Dates

October 14 – November 12, 2017	Open call for nominations to serve on the Search Committee
November 4, 2017	The Rt. Rev. Barry L Beisner addresses Diocesan Convention, announces his intention to retire and call for the election of a new diocesan bishop. A resulting resolution affirms the Bishop's address.
Late November, 2017	The Standing Committee names the Search Committee
December 2, 2017	Mandatory retreat for the Search Committee, St. John's, Roseville
Spring 2018	Search Committee posts Diocesan Profile
Summer 2018	Transition Committee is named
Late fall 2018	Search Committee announces slate of candidates
January 2019	Walkabouts of the Diocese
February 9, 2019	Special Electing Convention, location TBA
June 29, 2019	The Rt. Rev. Barry L Beisner retires
June 29, 2019	Consecration of 8th Bishop of The Diocese of Northern California, location TBA

Search Committee

The Standing Committee will name the Search Committee late November, 2017.

Bishop search committees generally have 12-18 people.

The ideal search committee is made of "citizens of the diocese" who have the essential skills needed to carry out these assigned duties and responsibilities:

- Gather information from around our diocese as to the qualities we seek in our next bishop
- Develop a diocesan profile for potential candidates to consider as they discern whether to place their names in nomination
- Screen and interview potential nominees through a series of stages
- Recommend final nominees for the approval by the Standing Committee

The ideal search committee is made of persons who are competent in one or more of the following skill sets:

- Ability to listen and elicit information from others; organizing such learnings
- Ability to write a profile that accurately describes the diocese and articulates a call for the next bishop
- Ability to develop screening tools such as written essay questions, questions for Skype interviews, questions and discussion topics for a discernment retreat, and instruments for evaluating information provided
- Event planning and management skills for planning a discernment retreat
- Ability to work collaboratively with others.
- Education and communication skills
- Experience with current technology, social media, video recording skills, etc.
- Robust and well-established prayer life
- Knowledge of diocesan policies, procedures, and the functioning of a Bishop in a diocese

The Search Committee will have a **mandatory** one day retreat on December 2, 2017 with consultant at St. John's, Roseville.

If you wish to be considered for the Search Committee, nomination forms are available at Deanery Convocations on October 14th, 2017 and on the Diocesan Website. Forms are due no later than November 12, 2017 to **The Rev. Cookie Clark, Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, 350 University Avenue, Suite 280, Sacramento, CA 95825-6517, or cookie.clark@sbcglobal.net**

Transitions Committee

The Standing Committee will name the Transitions Committee in summer 2018.

Bishop transitions committees generally have 10-15 people.

The Transitions Committee:

- Conducts walkabouts of the Diocese
- Educates the Diocese
- Supports the electing convention
- Supports those planning the consecration
- Provides pastoral support to the Diocese and to candidates not elected
- Arranges for a smooth transition for the bishop-elect into the Diocese

The Standing Committee will announce a procedure for accepting self-nominations for the Transitions Committee in the summer of 2018

Special Electing Convention

Convention delegates and alternates elected at 2018 parish annual meetings **will serve as the delegates and alternates for Diocesan Convention and the Electing Convention on February 9, 2019.**

Important: All delegates and alternates are required by Canon to be certified at least 90 days before a convention (You don't want to be the church that can't vote for the next bishop!)

Other information

The Standing Committee will name both the Search Committee and Transitions Committee and govern the process. The Standing Committee takes on a similar role to the vestry in a rector search process.

The Standing Committee has ecclesiastical authority/responsibility in the absence of a bishop.

The Office of the Bishop will not be involved in the search process for a new bishop, except minimally for necessary administrative tasks to assist and support the Search, Transitions, and Standing Committees' work.

The creation of the Diocesan Profile will solicit input from the entire Diocese. The 2018 Congregational Leadership Conferences (CLC) may be used by the Search Committee to gather information for the Profile. Dates and locations: 2/10/18 Incarnation, Santa Rosa, 2/24 St. Albans, Arcata, 3/10 St. John's, Roseville.

Stay tuned through the Diocesan website for forthcoming information and updates:

<http://www.norcalepiscopal.org>



Episcopal Diocese of Northern California Search Committee Application

The Rt. Rev. Barry L. Beisner has indicated his intention to retire and call for the election of a new diocesan bishop. Under the oversight of the Standing Committee of the diocese, the Search Committee will be charged with a minimum of the following responsibilities:

- gathering information from around our diocese as to the qualities we seek in our next bishop
- develop a diocesan profile for potential candidates to consider as they discern whether to place their names in nomination
- screen and interview potential nominees through a series of stages
- recommend final nominees for the approval by the Standing Committee

It is anticipated that the work of the committee will begin shortly after this year's diocesan convention and continue until a final slate is named in the late fall of 2018.

Please note: Attendance at a day-long retreat to be held at St. John's (Roseville) on December 2, 2017 is a mandatory requirement for serving on the Search Committee.

In deciding who to appoint to the Search Committee, the Standing Committee will be looking for persons who are able to demonstrate competency in one or more of the following skill sets:

- Ability to listen and elicit information from others; organizing such learnings
- Ability to write a profile that accurately describes the diocese and articulates a call for the next bishop
- Ability to develop screening tools such as written essay questions, questions for Skype interviews, questions and discussion topics for a discernment retreat, and instruments for evaluating information provided
- Event planning and management skills for planning a discernment retreat
- Ability to work collaboratively with others.
- Education and communication skills
- Experience with current technology, social media, video recording skills, etc.
- Robust and well-established prayer life
- Knowledge of diocesan policies, procedures, and the functioning of a Bishop in a diocese

If you are interested in being considered for appointment to the Search Committee, please fill out the information on the reverse side and forward it by **November 12, 2017** to **The Rev. Cookie Clark, Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, 350 University Avenue, Suite 280, Sacramento, CA 95825-6517** or cookie.clark@sbcglobal.net

**Application for Search Committee
(Due no later than November 12, 2017)**

Name _____ Please mark one: ____Clergy ____Lay

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Congregation: _____ City of Congregation: _____

I understand that my appointment to the Search Committee will be contingent upon my ability to physically attend a day-long retreat in its entirety at St. John's (Roseville) on December 2, 2017.

Signature: _____

Please provide information with regard to your past service within the diocese, your congregation or The Episcopal Church (attach additional pages as necessary).

Please describe for us why you would like to serve on the Search Committee, and the gifts, skills, and abilities you would bring to this work (please limit your response to 500 words (attach additional pages as necessary)).
