

Summary of Proposed Changes to St. John's Bylaws

The Wardens and Vestry are proposing to amend the Bylaws of St. John's Parish, which were last amended in 2003. In general, the intent of the proposed amendments is to conform them with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, which were last amended in 2021, and otherwise to update them in light of current circumstances and best practices. Below is a detailed summary of the proposed amendments, as well as a redline comparison to the existing (2003) version. Most of the proposed amendments are not substantive. A few of the substantive proposed amendments are those:

- To allow the Vestry to determine the date for the Annual Parish Meeting, rather than having the exact date specified in the bylaws.
- To allow remote voting at the Annual Parish Meeting, which is not currently addressed.
- In the case of a tie vote for a Warden or Vestry member, the winner will be chosen by random selection. The bylaws do not currently address how to select a winner in the case of a tie.
- To clarify that the Wardens and Rector are members of the Vestry for purposes of determining a quorum and voting. The bylaws are currently ambiguous on whether the term "Vestry" generally includes the Wardens and Rector.
- To allow remote participation in Vestry meetings, which is currently allowed only in exigent circumstances.
- To revise the duties of the Parish Treasurer to conform with current practice, including by removing the requirement that the Treasurer have custody over church funds. The daily duties are currently handled by a member of the Staff and overseen by the Treasurer.
- To recommend that the Vestry solicit bids from multiple vendors for major Parish projects and to re-bid ongoing services contracts periodically. The bylaws do not currently address vendor bidding.