

From the Bishop

The Right Reverend Robert L. Fitzpatrick
The Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i



July 24, 2025

Bishop's Reminders to the Diocese

Bea and I are preparing to fly out on the 1st of August to see our grandchildren (and, I guess, their parents as well) in Germany. The Army recently transferred my son from Vicenza to Stuttgart. We'll be home the week of August 19.

I promised to drop the Diocese a note to remind God's people to sign up for [our Diocesan Education Day](#) on Friday, October 24, and the [Annual Meeting of Diocesan Convention on Saturday, October 25](#).

This year's Convention theme comes from a collaborative effort involving three Diocesan ministries: Kahuaola (formerly the Creation Care and Environmental Justice Task Force), the Hō'imi Pono Racial Reconciliation Task Force, and the Native Hawaiian Ministry Committee. The team was awarded a Creation Care Grant from The Episcopal Church and named their year-long project Huli, which means to turn, to change.

Everyone in the Diocese is invited and truly welcome! Education Day will be implementing the final phase of the Diocese's year-long HULI project and living into its theme. Folk will be able to take part in "hands-on" volunteer work at different sites, carefully selected for its meaningful work to mālama 'āina. Folk can also choose to stay at 'Iolani School and take part in several activities throughout the day.

Following the HULI activity, we will gather for the Convention Eucharist and Aloha Reception. Join us for a day of fulfilling activity, joyful worship, and fellowship that brings our Diocesan 'ohana together.

I hope all Delegates and voting Clergy have already registered for the Annual Meeting of Convention. Volunteers and guests are also welcome.

You can register for Education Day, the Convention Eucharist, the Aloha Reception, and/or the Business Meeting of the Annual Meeting of Convention at: [CONVENTION 57: Huli ka lima i lalo ~ Turning our hands to the 'āina](#).

As a reminder, any resolutions need to be submitted by September 10: The following explains the process to file a resolution:

- [Call for Resolutions Cover Letter](#)
- [Guidelines on how to write a resolution in this Diocese](#)
- [Online form to file a resolution](#)

Likewise, please submit your nomination(s) for elective office by September 10: The following explains the process to file a nomination:

- [Nominations Cover Letter](#)
- [Nominations Office Descriptions](#)
- [Online Nomination Form](#)

Finally, the Diocese of Hawai‘i will be holding its annual Clergy Conference on August 25-27, at the Grand Naniloa Hotel in Hilo, Big Island. All clergy in the Diocese are encouraged to attend ([Clergy Conference Registration](#)). Our guest speaker will be the Rev. Canon Charles “Chuck” Robertson, Ph.D., who has served for many years as Canon to the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church as well as Distinguished Visiting Professor at General Theological Seminary. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the development board of Durham University, Chuck previously served on the governing board of the National Council of Churches USA, and was Vice President of the board of the Anglican Theological Review (ATR) and guest editor of several ATR issues, as well as General Editor of Peter Lang Publishing’s “Studies in Episcopal & Anglican Theology” series. I have specifically asked him to reflect on the following:

- What is the state of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, and how that might impact the calling of a Bishop for Hawai‘i (here, I mean our context in the Pacific in relation to Oceania/Asia/The Episcopal Church/Anglican Communion)?
- From his experience in broad leadership in the Church, what are the virtues/characteristics of the pastoral leadership in a bishop needed for the next decades of the 21st century?
- Considering his work in New Testament (especially around leadership), what would he challenge clergy to consider theologically when discerning the calling of a bishop?

I’m inviting him to reflect out loud with the clergy of the Diocese of Hawai‘i on the episcopate as a scholar/ecclesiastical diplomat/denominational leader from his unique perspective. I have invited him to help us ruminate theologically on the calling of a bishop as something beyond parochial self-interest. What does it mean to call a bishop for a Diocese, The Episcopal Church, and the whole Anglican Communion in the world as it is now?

These next few months will be very important to our Diocese. The more we can gather, the better!

Please keep Bea and me in your prayers. You will certainly be in ours!

Yours faithfully,
+Bob