

2026 St. James' Parish: Vestry, Junior Warden & Diocesan Convention Delegate Nominations

The congregation is seeking nominations of parishioners to serve in representing our parish family. The positions are: Vestrypersons (3), Junior Warden (1), and Delegates (5) to Diocesan Convention. An explanation of each is below. Elections will be held at our Annual Parish Meeting, on Friday, January 23rd at 4:30 PM in person at St. James'.

Vestrymember (2 positions for a 3-year term)

Description and duties: The Vestry of St. James' Parish is our church council of members from our parish that helps to govern. In the Episcopal Church, the vestry is a body of elected lay people (members) with the primary task of: Overseeing the lay ministries of church; Ensuring the parish has a rector/priest-in-charge (approved by the bishop); Ensuring the church building and grounds are cared for; And, ensuring parish funds are administered appropriately. The following is the criteria for nomination to and service on the Vestry of St. James' Parish:

- The person shall be baptized and at least fourteen years of age.
- Communicants (member) in good standing: "Faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the kingdom of God." (St. James' by-laws)
- Able to attend the once-a-month vestry meeting (day and time is set by vestry) and other "called" meetings.
- Able to attend a vestry day retreat on Saturday, February 7th. At this vestry retreat we will review and make changes (if needed) to the current Vestry Covenant.
- Willing to chair and serve on committees of the church and/or head special projects.
- Develop a healthy, daily prayer life, which includes praying for the members and mission of our parish 'ohana, and specifically your fellow vestry member.
- Because you will be making decisions that have impact on our parish as a whole, it is vital that vestry members remain familiarized with all major aspects of our mission and ministry including but not limited to worshipping at all four weekend worship services, the Thrift Store, at the Community Meal Ministry, and with the Youth Ministries Coordinators and our parish staff. In addition, vestry members need to remain familiar with our parish properties, finances and budget (by meeting with our Parish Treasurer) of which we are stewards

Junior Warden (1 position for a 1-year term)

Description and duties: Wardens are laypersons (church members) who help lead at more senior level in the care of the physical facilities of the parish or mission, finances, and other temporal duties. The wardens are also leaders of the parish vestry. For all practical purposes, it is easy to think of the rector/priest-in-charge as the spiritual leader of the parish and the wardens and vestry as the administrative leaders of the parish, though the rector also has many administrative duties as well. The wardens and the rector work closely together in oversight of the parish. Wardens have charge of the parish in absence of a rector under the authority of the diocesan bishop. An important task of a warden is listening to the needs, concerns and hopes of the congregation, being present at Aloha (Coffee) Hour is vital to accomplishing this as well as regularly attending different worship services. The Senior Warden, in some churches, is referred to as the rector's warden for she/he serves also to make sure the clergy are being cared for. At St. James', the Senior Warden is appointed by the rector/priest-in-charge. The Junior Warden is elected by the parish at the Annual Meeting. The Junior Warden has specific oversight of the care and upkeep of the property. She/he is the chairperson of the Building & Grounds Committee. Because we have a part-time Sexton, our Junior Warden works with the Sexton, coordinating special projects and addressing immediate needs. Persons to be elected as Junior Warden shall meet the same qualifications as those eligible to serve as a vestry member.

Delegates to Convention (5 positions, to attend ALL three meetings)

Description and duties: A delegate attend and represents his/her parish at the Diocesan Convention, which is scheduled to convene on **October 16 & 17, 2026** at 'Iolani School. Delegates are expected to attend the Education Day, the whole day of Convention and vote on amendments. The Annual Meeting of Convention is a business meeting. Delegates will come prepared having reviewed the budget and the resolutions.

In addition to the regularly scheduled annual meeting in October, this year elected delegates must commit to and be able to participate in two additional gatherings: 1) the special Convention to be also at 'Iolani School, Honolulu on Saturday, **May 16, 2026**; and 2) the "meet the bishop candidates" on Sunday, **April 26 at 1:30 PM** at St. James'.

Persons to be elected as Delegates shall be communicants (members) in good standing: "Faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the kingdom of God." (St. James' Parish By-Laws)

The Episcopal Parish Congregations of St. James', PO Box 278, Kamuela, HI 96743

Nomination Form

In order to make the election process for the ministry of Vestry, Junior Warden and Delegates to Convention, as thoughtful a process as possible and to ensure that those nominated for election to these vital positions of leadership meet the criteria, members of St. James' Parish congregations are asked to use the form below to make nominations which will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in January.

Although nominations will be received from the floor, it is strongly encouraged that names be submitted on this form by end of day Sunday, December 28. Each nominee will be asked to submit a short (maximum 300 word) biography and a statement of why they are willing/wanting to serve in this ministry. Please include a digital picture. Email bio and picture to the Parish Office by end of day, Sunday, Dec 28th at Office@stjameshawaii.org. They will be made public before the Annual Meeting.

Before making a nomination, please ascertain the nominee's consent and that they are in compliance with the criteria for nomination to the Vestry, as Junior Warden, or Delegate to Diocesan Convention. Note: You may nominate yourself. You may also nominate a person for either vestry member, Junior Warden, Delegate to Convention, or all three, provided they meet the requirements for all.

After prayerful consideration and after consulting with the nominee, I request that:

(Name of Nominee)

be placed in nomination for election to the position(s) circled below
at the Annual Parish Meeting (January 23, 2026)

Name of Parish Member Making the Nomination

For (circle one, two or all three)

Vestrymember

Junior Warden

Delegate to Diocesan Convention

Return this form to the Parish Office on or before end of day, Sunday, December 28, 2025

In addition, a reminder to those nominated, please email the Parish Office (Office@StJamesHawaii.org) your bio, with a statement of your willingness to serve (300 words max), and a digital picture, by the end of day, Sunday, December 28, 2025.