



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

Statement from The Rev. Justin Yawn, President of the Standing Committee The Episcopal Diocese of Florida

It is with profound gratitude and genuine hope that the Standing Committee shares the slate of nominees who will stand for election as the next Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Florida. This moment has been long prepared for, prayed over, and shaped by the faithful labor of many across our diocese, and I could not be more encouraged by the caliber of the persons discerned to us by the Search Committee.

The Reverend Randy Alexander Jr., The Reverend Dorian Del Priore, and The Very Reverend Tom Purdy each bring gifts our diocese needs at this particular threshold of our common life. Their vocations, their pastoral instincts, and their evident love for the Church resonate deeply with the hopes our people have expressed throughout this discernment process. Any one of them would serve the people of North Florida with wisdom, warmth, and integrity, and I trust that the Holy Spirit will guide our electors as we move toward the September electing convention.

I want to name something equally important. The work of these past several years has not merely been logistical or procedural. It has been, at its heart, the work of healing, of rebuilding trust, of listening carefully to one another, and of recovering a shared sense of who we are called to be as the Body of Christ in this region. The Standing Committee, in partnership with our assisting bishops, our diocesan staff, the Search Committee, and the wider people of God across our congregations, has committed itself to preparing the ground so that whomever is elected will be received into a diocese ready to walk forward together in mission.

The next chapter of our common life will be written in partnership with our new bishop, and I believe with all my heart that the Diocese of Florida is prepared to receive that partnership with grace, humility, and joy. Please continue to hold this diocese, Fr. Alexander, Fr. Del Priore, Fr. Purdy, and our electors in your prayers as we prepare for the September 2026 electing convention.

Faithfully,
The Rev. Justin Yawn
President, The Standing Committee
The Episcopal Diocese of Florida