



FAQs 228th Annual Convention

When and where will Annual Convention be held?

The 228th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia will be held November 17-19 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington.

Who can attend Annual Convention?

Because COVID continues to make large gatherings a concern, the diocesan Annual Convention will be open only to registered voting delegates (lay and canonically resident clergy), ex-officio members, and clergy under license.

Will the event be livestreamed?

Yes! Alternates, clergy under license, and all members of the Diocese are invited to watch the proceedings via livestream. There will be one livestream channel for English and one for Spanish. Links will be published on the diocesan website a few days before Convention.

Do I have to register in advance?

Yes. Due to preparations required for online voting, **on-site registration is not possible.**

All delegates must [register](#) online by November 4. Churches must have a [Certificate of Election](#) on file with the diocesan Office of the Secretary. Only those who are pre-registered and present on the day of Convention will be allowed to vote. There will not be an option to register and then vote off-site. Only in-person delegates will receive links to vote.

What are the requirements related to COVID mitigation?

- We strongly encourage delegates to be up to date on eligible vaccine boosters.
- Masks are not required but highly encouraged, especially considering that many clergy and some lay delegates will also attend the Consecration service for Bishop-Elect E. Mark Stevenson just two weeks after Convention.
- Attendees are asked to test themselves for COVID the day before or the morning of the start of Convention.
- Only delegates, diocesan staff and limited exhibitors will be allowed to attend Convention and receptions. Others are invited to view Convention proceedings via livestream.
- Protocols may be revised should the CDC publish new guidelines based on an increase in COVID infections.

How will voting be conducted?

As with recent past Conventions, all voting will be conducted electronically using the same systems. Each delegate will need to bring a mobile device – smart phone, tablet or laptop. Your mobile device must have access to internet and to your email. Please bring your device fully charged.

What if an alternate has to replace a delegate?

If an alternate is asked to fill in for their delegate, they must notify [Bill Martin](#). He will make the necessary changes in the registration and voting systems. If an alternate is asked to fill in on short notice, they should report to the check-in table no later than 8:00 a.m. to be added to the list to receive ballots.

Will there be open hearings at Convention?

No. All open hearings – resolutions, budget and amendments to Constitution and Canons – will be held online November 5. Links will be emailed to delegates closer to the date.

What else do I need to know?

Please refer to the [Annual Convention page](#) on the diocesan website for information on the following:

Registration

Hotel Reservations

Draft Agenda

Deadlines at a Glance

Rules of Order

Nominations for Governing Bodies

Proposed Resolutions

Draft Budget/Proposed Amendments

Constitution and Canons/Amendments

Please check this page regularly for newly posted documents. Beginning September 26, you should also receive weekly emails from “The Diocese of Virginia” leading up to Convention. If you are not receiving those, please check your junk folder, or contact [Bill Martin](#).