

Resolution R-9 Report for Diocesan Convention

Resolution R-9's charged the formation of a committee to discuss and discern pathways for discernment for mono-lingual and bi-lingual Spanish speakers. The committee has been appointed, co-convened by The Rev. Daniel Vélez-Rivera and The Rev. Dr. Sarah Kye Price and who subsequently invited participation of committee members listed below.

The co-convenors recognized that before the work could be fully engaged by the committee, we needed a more thorough understanding of the resources and pathways available for mono- and bi-lingual Spanish speakers in the wider church and neighboring dioceses. In August, we contacted and/or met with several other dioceses engaging in this work and began to catalog resources, formation pathways and materials available for this work.

We feel that this is a critical juncture of time, during our diocesan Bishop transition as well as in transitions in diocesan staff members, to revisit and discuss hopes and intentions for both vocational discernment and formation as well as deployment options and priorities. It is essential for future discerners to know the landscape of their discernment, and then to work to put processes in place. This is our present moment priority as co-convenors.

We would like to acknowledge and recognize the work of several members of this group and its co-convenors in bringing together a bilingual Spanish liturgy and celebration of the Ordination of Deacons on September 10. We note this because the involvement of Spanish speaking people who may be future seekers and aspirants was an important consideration in the planning of the liturgy and its inclusive expression. We felt the work of the Holy Spirit in moving that forward, and we know that more beautiful and holy moments will be unfolding with time.

The intention of the R-9 task force co-convenors is to bring our committee members together in early 2023 to discuss what we've learned thus far, and to create priorities for our future work.

Grace and Peace/Paz y Gracia
Daniel and Sarah

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Task Force Appointees (June 2022):

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The Rev. Nina Bacas
Interim Associate Rector, Grace Episcopal Church Alexandria

The Rev. Deacon Katherine Ferguson
La Iglesia de Santa Maria, Falls Church

The Ven. Holly Hanback
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