

## Standing Committee Charge to the Search Committee

*“Pray regularly for God’s guidance in the work of this committee, and exercise conscientious personal decision-making within an overall accountability, individually, and collectively, to the Holy Spirit and the people of the diocese.”*

The Search’s Committee’s responsibility to nominate candidates for election as the third bishop of El Camino Real is of primary importance to the diocese. It is understood that each person on the committee will be available for all meetings and will devote the necessary time to do what is required to represent the diocese in this process.

A task of the Search Committee is to understand and communicate the requirements, hopes, and dreams of the people of the diocese of El Camino Real. The committee will use the information gathered during our 2 ½ year reflection and study to create a profile that reflects the needs and desires of the diocese. All constituencies of our diverse community are to be considered. The Search Committee job is to guide the diocese through the process.

An executive summary of the profile will then be sent to Bishops and Standing Committees throughout the country notifying them that the completed profile is available on the website. The Search Committee’s primary responsibility then becomes the selection and presentation of appropriate nominees for the third bishop of El Camino Real. The Search Committee’s function is to nominate, not elect. No fewer than four and no more than six nominees should be presented to the Electing Convention of the diocese, which will then elect one individual. It is expected that the timeline for the process will be published shortly after the Search/Transition retreat in August.

The Search Committee shall ensure that all nominees meet the constitutional and canonical requirements set forth by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America:

1. Individuals must be at least 30 years of age. The compulsory retirement age for bishops is 72.
2. Suffragan Bishops are eligible nominees; those currently serving as Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of a Diocese must have served in that Diocese for at least five years to be eligible.

The Search Committee shall be mindful of General Convention Resolution B033.

Much confidential information will be gathered by the Search Committee about individual applicants and nominees. All personal information must be kept in confidence. It is expected that the Search Committee or the President of Standing Committee will issue updates from time to time.

During the entire process, the Search Committee will take the opportunity to educate the diocese about the role and responsibilities of bishops and will foster unity of purpose among the people of the diocese. It will be their responsibility to prepare and issue the official report of the Committee to the diocese and convention.

Revised August 14, 2006