

## **The Third Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real**

### ***FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS***

#### **ELECTING OUR THIRD BISHOP**

##### **Who gets to vote for our next bishop?**

All lay delegates who are members of parishes and missions in good standing, were elected at their congregation's latest annual meeting, and whose names were submitted to the diocesan office by February 20, 2007 are eligible to vote in the Electing Convention. All clergy who are members of Convention or have been approved by majority vote of Diocesan Council are eligible to vote in the Electing Convention.

##### **How is the number of delegates from each congregation determined?**

The formula for congregational representation is proportional to the church's membership. This is spelled out in detail in the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of El Camino Real.

##### **What percentage of the votes is needed for a nominee to be elected?**

Voting at the Electing Convention takes place "by order," i.e. with the clergy and laity voting as separate bodies. A majority of both orders, on the same ballot, is required to elect.

##### **What happens after the Electing Convention?**

Canon law of the Episcopal Church requires that our Standing Committee ask diocesan bishops and Standing Committees of every diocese across the church must be asked for their consent to the election results in El Camino Real. The consent of a majority of both diocesan bishops and Standing Committees is required for election. This process usually takes at least ten weeks.

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### **When will the bishop-elect become our bishop?**

Pending the approval of the majority of bishops and Standing Committees, the ordination of our third bishop is scheduled for November 10, 2007 at St. Andrew's Church in Saratoga.

The Episcopal Church ordains bishops by the "laying on of hands" of other bishops. This tradition goes back to the New Testament church, in which the apostles of Jesus used this practice to set aside individuals to perform specific tasks and assume authority and responsibilities in and for the whole community of Christians.

The "laying on of hands" is a symbolic invocation of the Holy Spirit upon the person being ordained; it re-enacts the reception of the Holy Spirit by the apostles at the first Pentecost.

***We cordially invite all members of our diocese to attend one of our Presentation Tour events to meet our slate of nominees for our third bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real.***

Wednesday, June 6 – St. Barnabas', 501 Trinity Avenue,  
Arroyo Grande 6-10 p.m.  
Thursday, June 7 – York School, 9501 York Road,  
Monterey 6-10 p.m.  
Friday, June 8 – St. Stephen's School, 420 Allegan Circle,  
San Jose 6-10 p.m.  
Saturday, June 9 – St. Paul's, 1071 Pajaro Street,  
Salinas 1-5 p.m.  
Sunday, June 10 – St. Andrew's, 13601 Saratoga  
Avenue, Saratoga 1-5 p.m.

Childcare is available; register by sending an email one week in advance to: [bishopsearch@edecr.org](mailto:bishopsearch@edecr.org). Please provide names, ages, genders of the children and parent's full name and phone #.

Dinner will not be provided at the evening meetings. Please "brown bag" it. Thank you.

**For more information on the nominees go to:**  
[www.edecr.org/bishopsearch](http://www.edecr.org/bishopsearch)

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