

□ □ EDITORIAL CONTACTS:

Brian Nordwick, Diocesan Administrator  
Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real  
+1 831 394 4465  
[brian@edecr.org](mailto:brian@edecr.org)

Edy Unthank, Communications Coordinator  
Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real  
+1 408 227 4324  
[edyunthank@yahoo.com](mailto:edyunthank@yahoo.com)

The Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real Announces  
Nominees for the Third Bishop of the Diocese

*Candidates chosen following a one-year search and discernment process*

MONTEREY, Calif., April 2, 2007 – The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real announced the nominees for election as the third bishop of the diocese today. The four nominees presented to the Standing Committee were selected by a search committee that began work in early 2006 from a field of 58 names that were received for consideration. A petition process also begins today, where additional candidates may petition to be added to the slate of nominees. The petition process ends on April 12, 2007.

In early June all nominees will tour the diocese so that they may be introduced and interviewed by the lay delegates and clergy who will participate in the election of the next bishop. On June 16, 2007, a special electing convention will be held in Monterey, CA where delegates and clergy representing the 51 parishes and missions of the diocese will choose their next bishop.

The following nominees for the third bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real have been submitted by the Search Committee and approved by the Standing Committee:

- The Reverend Paige Blair, PhD – The Rev. Paige Blair, 36, is currently serving as rector of St. George's Church, York Harbor, Maine. She is married and has a teenage stepdaughter.
- The Venerable Mary Gray-Reeves, Bachelor of Theology – The Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, 44, is currently serving as the Archdeacon for Deployment for the Diocese of Southeast Florida. She is married and has two teenage children.
- The Reverend Gale Davis Morris, DMin – The Rev. Gale Davis Morris, 60, is currently serving as rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton, Massachusetts. She is divorced with four grown children, 2 in-law children, and three grandchildren.

- The Reverend John Palarine, MDiv – The Rev. John Palarine, 58, is currently serving as rector of the Episcopal Church of Our Savior, Jacksonville, Florida. He is married and has two grown children.

More information is available at <http://www.edecr.org/bishopsearch/>

### **Selection Process**

Routine background checks on the nominees will be completed soon. The process leading to the selection of the Diocese's third bishop began in mid-2004 following the resignation of The Rt. Rev. Richard Shimpfky. Understanding that the process could not be rushed, the diocese has proceeded intentionally with enhanced diocesan communications and deliberation. "We have moved slowly and deliberately through our interim time in order to build a solid foundation for future ministry," said Ann Wright, President of the Standing Committee. She continued "In this time we have met in a variety of venues and undertaken in-depth projects to determine who we are as a diocese and to discern where we believe God is calling us to go in the future. Our work continues in a spirit of candor and trust as we accept differences that exist in our community."

Since 1789 the Episcopal Church in the United States has democratically elected bishops to shepherd its dioceses. Both lay people and clergy share in this prayerful discernment. In the Diocese of El Camino Real, there have been two elections since 1980.

### **About The Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real**

The Diocese of El Camino Real includes the coastal California counties of Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo. The youngest Episcopal diocese in California, it was created in 1980, having formerly been a part of the Diocese of California. Trinity Cathedral in San Jose serves as the Diocesan Sea while the diocesan offices are located in Seaside, CA on the Monterey Peninsula. For more information, please visit [www.edecr.org](http://www.edecr.org)