

TO: Active Clergy, Wardens and Parish Administrators

FROM: The Rev. Gaelyn Evangreene

RE: Resources for the 103rd Annual Convention of the Diocese

Bishop José and I are grateful for the many ways you serve Jesus in your parish and the wider Church. We appreciate you taking the time to read this letter and follow the provided links in preparation for our Annual Convention in November.

As Bishop José stated in his letter in June, with our needed focus on disaster recovery and rebuilding efforts and our continued desire to be good stewards of our resources, diocesan leadership has discerned it best at this time to hold our 103rd Annual Convention as a one day in-person convention on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at Christ School in Arden, NC. We are continuing our tradition of deaneries hosting our annual convention and are deeply grateful for the clergy and lay leadership of the Western Deanery for helping to host our annual convention this year.

We also want to share that we will host a ***Pre-Convention Virtual Budget Road Tour*** by Zoom on Wednesday, September 3, 5:30 p.m. The Treasurer of the Diocese and other members of Bishop José's staff will present the proposed 2026 budget. This will be a time for clergy and lay leaders, especially lay delegates, to offer feedback and suggestions to the funding of our mission in the next year. Two weeks prior to the event, we will share the Zoom link in a separate, diocesan-wide email as well as in the Events page on our website.

The New Delegate Orientation meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, October 29 at 6 p.m. New delegates will need to register for this orientation event and we will then email all new delegates the Zoom link. More information is on our website.

Bishop José looks forward to gathering with everyone on Saturday, November 8 for our Convention worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph's Chapel at Christ School, where the bishop will offer his Convention Address. We will move to the gymnasium for the business of convention and will conclude all business by Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. to allow everyone time to enjoy refreshments, find your table, and reconnect with friends across the diocese.

This year, we continue to simplify both the process as well as all platforms used to prepare for Convention, including registration, communication and delivery of any convention materials. This year we will once again use the ***Whova*** App for communication, fun contests, voting, and posting documents or other media presentations. Likewise, information and materials will be located on the designated convention page of our diocesan website. One of the essential documents that your parish will need to complete in order to send delegates is the [Vestry Certificate of Election](#); **this will be due no later than October 24, 2025.**

On the convention webpage you will find [the primary registration link](#) for anyone who attends Convention (clergy, delegates, spouses, non-voting visitors). Please know there is a fee for each person attending Convention; this fee helps defray the costs associated with hosting this important event, including morning refreshments, snacks, and lunch. While this is a single day event, should you and your delegation wish to stay over Friday night you can find information about hotels close to Christ School [here](#).

Likewise, on the convention webpage is information and the form for nominating persons to elected positions as well as the procedure for submitting a resolution. We encourage everyone to prayerfully discern qualified and passionate individuals who are willing to serve and actively participate in the ministry of our diocese. As nominations and resolutions are received, you will find this updated information also on the convention webpage.

Again, thank you for your ministries. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at the Diocesan Offices (828-265-6656).

In Christ,

Gaelyn Evangreene

The Rev. Gaelyn Evangreene
Secretary of Convention