

THE DIOCESE OF MARYLAND
SPECIAL RULES OF ORDER FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION
FOR THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF
THE FOURTEENTH BISHOP OF MARYLAND *

The Annual Convention of the Diocese of Maryland adopts the following Special Rules of Order for the nomination and election of the Fourteenth Bishop of Maryland to be held at St. James, Lafayette Square in Baltimore, Maryland on Saturday, March 29, 2008.

1. The Convention shall be opened with Divine Service or appropriate prayer, as designated by its President.
2. The Convention, upon its first assembling, shall be called to order by the Bishop-In-Charge or, if he be absent, by the President of the Standing Committee or by some member of that body appointed by those of its members who may be present.
3. (a) An identifying badge will be received at registration identifying each person as a clerical delegate, a lay delegate, an individual who, under the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese has the privilege of the floor, without vote, a member of the Search Committee, or a member of the Convention staff. An appropriate portion of the building shall be reserved and designated as the floor of the Convention. Delegates shall be seated on the floor of the Convention by Parish, Separate Congregation or Mission. No person shall be admitted to the floor of the Convention without such an identifying badge. All other persons including alternates, guests, etc., shall be seated outside of and shall not enter upon the floor of the Convention during its deliberations.
 - (b) Each member of the clergy entitled to a seat in the Convention shall register at the Secretary's desk by delivering to the secretary the prescribed registration blank duly executed, which shall be checked against a roll furnished by the Bishop or other Ecclesiastical Authority, which roll shall be evidence of the right of the clergy to seats until the Convention shall have formally acted on the question.
 - (c) Each lay delegate shall also register at the Secretary's desk by delivering to the Secretary the prescribed registration blank duly executed, which shall be checked against a roll prepared from the certificates received from vestries. The lay delegates whose certificates have not already been forwarded to the Secretary shall then present their certificates with the subscribed declaration prescribed by the Constitution and the prescribed registration blanks duly executed.

* These Rules are proposed and are subject to adoption, with or without amendment, at the pleasure of the Convention.

(d) If by means of such registration a quorum of both Orders appear, the President shall announce the fact, shall also announce the number of delegates in each Order who are present in the Convention, and shall declare that the Convention is organized and ready for business. Whenever it is necessary to call the roll of the clergy and lay delegates, the surname only shall be called except where there may be two or more of the same name, in which case they shall be designated by the addition of their Christian names.

4. In case of the absence of the Bishop-In-Charge, the person who called the Convention to order shall announce that there is a quorum present and the Convention shall then proceed to elect a President according to the Seventh article of the Constitution; who shall, so soon as his or her election is completed, take the chair and declare that the Convention is organized and ready for business.

5. The Secretary of the Convention shall be elected. The President shall announce the President's appointments of the Sergeants-at-Arms, the Chief Teller, the Dispatcher of Business, and the Parliamentarian. None of the tellers need be members of the Convention, but they shall be communicants in good standing as defined in the National Canons.

6. After the election of the Secretary and the appointment by the President of those officers of the Convention whose appointment is the prerogative of the President, the Order of Business shall be submitted to the Convention for adoption, with or without amendment at the pleasure of the Convention.

7. Thereafter, these Special Rules of Order shall be submitted to the Convention for adoption, with or without amendment at the pleasure of the Convention.

8. Only members of the Convention or those individuals who, under the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese have the privilege of the floor without vote, may make or second any nomination or motion, raise any point of order, or enter into any debate on any of the foregoing. Only members of the Convention may vote. When any member is about to speak or deliver any matter to the Convention, he or she shall rise and, with due respect, address the President, giving his or her name and parish, if any.

9. If two or more members shall arise at the same time to speak, the President shall decide who shall speak.

10. No member shall speak more than twice in the same debate, nor longer than five (5) minutes at one time, without leave of the Convention.

11. No motion shall be debated until the same be seconded, and, if desired by any member, reduced to writing and read by the Secretary.

12. When a motion is made and seconded, no other motion shall be received, except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to postpone to a certain time, to postpone indefinitely, to commit or to amend; and motions for any of these purposes shall have

precedence in the order herein named. If a motion to lay an amendment on the table be carried, the matter before the Convention shall proceed as if no such amendment had been offered. The motions to lay on the table and to adjourn shall be decided without debate. The motion to adjourn shall always be in order, if the mover has the floor.

13. When a proposed amendment is under consideration, a motion to amend the same may be made. No other amendments shall be in order, but a substitute for both amendments may be received, which, if adopted, shall operate as an amendment to the original proposition. No proposition on a subject different from the one under consideration shall be received under color of an amendment or substitute.

14. If a question contains several distinct propositions, the same shall be divided at the request of any member, and a vote taken separately, except that a motion to strike out and insert shall be indivisible.

15. All questions of order shall be decided by the President, without debate; but any member may appeal from such a decision, and on such appeal no member shall speak more than once, without leave of the Convention.

16. When any member rises to a point of order, the member who has the floor shall take his or her seat until the point of order is decided by the President.

17. A question, being once determined, shall stand as the judgment of the Convention, and shall not be again drawn into debate during the session, except with the consent of two-thirds of the Convention, upon a motion to reconsider made by a member who voted with the majority and seconded by a member who also voted with the majority.

18. When the President shall announce that it is in order to receive the nominations for the election of the Fourteenth Bishop of Maryland, the President shall first recognize the Chairperson or other member of the Search Committee to present, by name only, the nominations of that Committee which have been published and distributed to the members of the Convention as nominees of the Search Committee or by Petition, whereupon such persons shall be deemed to have been duly nominated and seconded. No other nominations shall be permitted. No person shall be nominated without the person's consent.

19. The form of the ballots to be used and the method of use shall be as stated to the Convention by the President or by a person appointed for this purpose by the President.

20. Any nominee may withdraw his or her name from nomination at any time by so notifying the President from the floor of the Convention; provided that no withdrawal shall be permitted if it would have the effect of leaving only one candidate remaining on the ballot. If such request is made and disallowed for that reason, the President shall recess the Convention for a period of time to be determined in the President's discretion after which the Convention shall consider the question whether it

wishes to continue the balloting. If that question is resolved affirmatively by a separate vote by Orders, the Convention shall proceed to the next ballot; if, however, the question is resolved negatively, then the Convention shall stand adjourned, without an election, until reconvened at the call of the Standing Committee.

21. Upon a motion passed by a majority of the members of the Convention present and voting separately by Orders, any candidate who fails to receive at least 10% of the total votes cast in both orders on any ballot after the fourth shall be eliminated from the slate of candidates on the next ballot.

22. The President may at any time in the President's discretion interrupt the proceedings of the Convention for discussion, prayer, meditation or such other form of Divine Service as the President may deem necessary or appropriate to keep the mood of the Convention oriented to the important spiritual task confronting it. The President may also declare a recess of the Convention at any time.

23. The election of a Bishop shall be made by concurrent vote of the clergy and the laity, the two Orders voting by ballots separately. When all the votes of both Orders shall have been deposited, the tellers of the clerical and of the lay Order, respectively, shall proceed to count the votes.

24. After the votes have been counted, the Chief Teller shall announce the result of each ballot to the Convention by reading out the total number of votes cast in the clerical Order and the total number necessary for an election in that Order, and the total number of votes cast in the lay Order and the total number necessary for an election in that Order. Then the Chief Teller shall read out the name of each person nominated and the number of clerical and of lay votes for each person. If among those voted for, one shall be found to have received a majority in each Order of the votes cast, he or she shall be declared duly elected.

25. After the President shall have declared that an election has taken place, the President shall notify the elected person, if the person is not present in the Convention. The President shall direct all Delegates to sign the Canonical Testimonials to the election of a Bishop before leaving the floor of the Convention, and the President shall ask that a motion be made from the floor that the Standing Committee of the Diocese be instructed to forward to the Standing Committees of the several Dioceses the Canonical Testimonials and certificates required by the National Canons evidencing the election, and to do all other things necessary to ensure the Ordination and Consecration of the Bishop -elect.

26. Two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be required to amend or suspend any of these Rules of Order or to make any change in the Order of Business.

27. The several Sergeants-at-Arms shall enforce good order and the observance of the restrictions upon seating provided by these Annual Rules. Upon the declaration of the President that an election has taken place, the Sergeants- at-Arms shall

take special care that no delegate leaves the floor of the Convention without first having signed the Canonical Testimonials to the election of a Bishop.

28. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary guide in all cases not provided for in the foregoing rules.

29. If an election of a Bishop shall be accomplished, then after the passage of such courtesy and other resolutions as the President may deem appropriate the Convention shall stand adjourned without formal action after the Canonical Testimonials have been signed.

30. The foregoing Annual Rules of Order shall be applicable only to the Convention of the Diocese of Maryland to be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008, or any postponement or adjournment thereof.