Fifty-eighth Annual Diocesan Convention
November 7, 2026

Amendment A-3: Standing Committee Membership

RESOLVED: That this 58th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Central Florida amend the Canons as follows:

Original Language:

Canon IX, Paragraph 1
Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall be composed of seven members, four clerical members and three lay members. The four clerical members of the Standing Committee shall be elected for a 4 year term, with one such member's term expiring each year. The three lay members of the Standing Committee shall be elected for a 3 year term with one such member's term expiring each year. Members shall not be eligible for re-election until one Convention year shall have elapsed after the expiration of such member's term. A member serving only a partial term is eligible for reelection to a full term.

Proposed Changes to Language:

> In Canon IX, in the first sentence after the words 'four clerical members' insert the words: ", of which at least one shall be a deacon," .

Rationale:

At the end of Clergy Conference in 2022, Bishop Brewer called for clergy to consider running for election to the Standing Committee. His perspective was that the Standing Committee must have its collective ear to the ground and finger on the pulse of what is happening in the Diocese. Since the Standing Committee is the Bishop's Council of Advice, and in the absence of a Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, or Bishop Suffragan canonically authorized to act, the Standing Committee is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese, this makes sense.

Deacons are in a unique position to know what is going on in the Diocese. They are

charged to be missionaries to the world and messengers to the Church of the world's needs, hopes, and concerns. Many have spent years working with, and ministering to, folks out in the world. Having at least one Deacon on the Standing Committee will enhance its capability to be the eyes and ears of the Ecclesiastical Authority out on the streets of the Diocese.