

TEMA/TÍTULO: Fiestas y Ayunos Menores: Añadir al Rvmo. Obispo E. Thomas Demby a FAM:

PROPONENTE: Diocese of Arkansas

PÁGINA CYC:

PÁGINA LA:

1 *Se resuelve*, con la aprobación de la Cámara de _____ que esta 76ª Convención General autorice
2 que se añada al Rvmo. Obispo E. Thomas Demby al Calendario de Fiestas y Ayunos Menores:

3
4 **CONSIDERANDO QUE,**

5 En 1918, la Diocese of Arkansas eligió y consagró al presbítero afroamericano, Edward Thomas
6 Demby, como Obispo Sufragáneo para Trabajo de Color en Arkansas. El Obispo Debmy ejerció
7 autoridad no sólo sobre las cinco parroquias afroamericanas en Arkansas, sino también en otras
8 15 parroquias a través de las ocho diócesis (en aquel entonces).

9 **CONSIDERANDO QUE,**

10 Su servicio con la Comisión Conjunta para Trabajo Negro encabezó la campaña para seleccionar
11 a un obispo negro como funcionario eclesiástico nacional a cargo del evangelismo entre los
12 afroamericanos en los Estados Unidos; y

13 **CONSIDERANDO QUE,**

14 Su lucha contra la apatía de los blancos, falta de fondos y ambigüedad jurisdiccional fue
15 esencial en la reconstrucción del componente afroamericano de la Iglesia Episcopal en el
16 contexto de una iglesia segregada.

EXPLANATION:

In 1918, the Right Reverend Edward Thomas Demby (c. 1869 - 1957) became Suffragan (assistant) Bishop for Colored Work in Arkansas and the Province of the Southwest, encompassing Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and New Mexico. His episcopate was part of a series of experiments in black leadership conducted by the Diocese of Arkansas in the early twentieth century. Demby's tenure in this segregated ministry addresses the larger American experience of segregation disguised as a social good. Yet Demby accomplished much: He was demonstrated the industry and self-reliance of black Episcopalians to the church at large; he secured black priests for the diocese, baptized and confirmed communicants, and he built schools and other institutions of community service. A gifted leader and a committed Episcopalian, Demby recognized that black service institutions, such as schools, hospitals, and orphanages, would be the means to draw African Americans back to the Episcopal Church, which they had abandoned in droves after emancipation as the church of their former masters. For more than twenty years, he confronted white apathy, lack of funds, jurisdictional ambiguity, and the Great Depression. Demby persevered in establishing the credibility of a ministry that was as questionably-conceived as it was well-intended. Demby's steadfastness and nonconfrontational manner gathered allies on both sides of the color line and, ultimately, his judgment and the weight of his experience carried the church past its segregationist experiment. Collect O God, the Creator of all, we thank you and praise you for Thomas Demby who triumphed even through the blindness of segregation: Grant us the courage to persevere through prejudice and respond gloriously, creatively and faithfully to all obstacles; so that we may lead all persons to worship you, one God, in the glorious company of many races; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever and ever. Possible Commemoration dates: October 14th, 1957 d. (date already taken on Church Calendar) Suggest May 16th - when his grave was given a marker SOURCES Black Bishop, by Michael Jay Beary History of the Afro-

American Group of the Episcopal Church, by George F. Bragg
The Episcopalians, by David Hein, Gardiner H. Shattuck,
Gardiner H. Shattuck, Jr.
Episcopalians and Race, by Gardiner H. Shattuck,
Jr.
http://www.episcopalchurch.org/documents/GC2009_Resolution_Guidlines.pdf
BALLOT RESULTS: