



Suggestions for Provincial Caucuses

The 79th General Convention

Austin, Texas

1. These caucuses are held under the authority of the following canon (highlights added):

CANON 2: Of the Presiding Bishop Sec. 1 (a)

At each General Convention the House of Deputies shall elect one Clerical and one Lay Deputy from each Province as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A Deputy from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Deputy from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Deputies, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. **Prior to the election, the Clerical and Lay Deputies from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Clerical Deputies and two Lay Deputies as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Deputies shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.** The President of the House of Deputies, after consultation with representatives of youth, shall appoint two persons, age 16-21, as members of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop.

(b) At each General Convention the House of Bishops shall elect one Bishop from each Province as a member of the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop. A Bishop from a particular Province may be nominated only by another Bishop from the same Province, but the election of each member of the Committee shall be by the entire membership of the House of Bishops, with a majority of those voting necessary for election. **Prior to the election, the Bishops from each Province shall hold a caucus, at which two Bishops as nominees shall be selected by the caucus, and these shall be the only nominees upon which the House of Bishops shall vote in electing the members of the Joint Nominating Committee.**

2. Note that there are 2 caucuses for each province — although they can meet at the same time, and generally do.
3. Each caucus, for both bishops and deputies, is essentially self-organizing. The following suggestions are offered in the interest of good order:

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- A. At the announced time of the caucus, the bishops gather in one part of the room assigned, and the deputies gather in another part of the same room.
- B. **For the Deputy Caucus:**
- A deputy (perhaps the deputy from the province who has served the longest) is appointed as the convener.
 - The convener then asks for nominations in the lay order. (Only deputies may nominate, and only deputies may be nominated.)
 - Each nominee is asked to state briefly why she or he wishes to serve and what particular gifts they bring to this ministry.
 - If more than two lay deputies are nominated, the convener calls for a vote. This may be done simply, by a show of hands, or the convener may ask deputies to write down their two choices, and two or more persons appointed by the convener then count the votes.
 - If only two lay deputies are nominated, the convener may ask the caucus to affirm these as the two lay nominees.
 - The suggested process is repeated for nominations of clergy deputies.
 - After the caucus selects its nominees, the form provided by the Secretary of General Convention is completed and signed by the convener.
 - Each nominee must provide a digital photograph and a statement (no more than 150 words) for the election. (Information about this will be provided to each caucus.)
 - The form is immediately taken to the Secretariat for filing.
- C. **For the Bishop Caucus:**
- A bishop (perhaps the bishop from the province who has served the longest) is appointed as the convener.
 - The convener then asks for nominations. (Only bishops may nominate, and only bishops may be nominated.)

- Each nominee is asked to state briefly why she or he wishes to serve and what particular gifts they bring to this ministry.
- If more than two bishops are nominated, the convener calls for a vote. This may be done simply, by a show of hands, or the convener may ask bishops to write down their two choices, and two or more persons appointed by the convener then count the votes.
- If only two bishops are nominated, the convener may ask the caucus to affirm these as the two bishop nominees.
- The suggested process is repeated for nominations of clergy deputies.
- After the caucus selects its nominees, the form provided by the Secretary of General Convention is completed and signed by the convener.
- Each nominee must provide a digital photograph and a statement (no more than 150 words) for the election. (Information about this will be provided to each caucus.)
- The form is immediately taken to the Secretariat for filing.

D. If there are any questions during the caucusing, information will be available in the Secretariat.