

CONSTITUTION OF THE CATHEDRAL

of the

DIOCESE OF OLYMPIA

Whereas, St. Mark's Church of Seattle is designated and declared by the Constitution of the Diocese of Olympia to be the Cathedral Church of the Diocese, and

Whereas, a close relationship between the Cathedral and the Diocese is mutually beneficial, now therefore

By the authority of the Bishop of Olympia; of St. Mark's Cathedral Parish; and of the Convention of the Diocese of Olympia, this Constitution is adopted, replacing any and all former Constitutions, effective upon approval of the said three parties.

ARTICLE ONE

Section 1. The corporation named "St. Mark's Cathedral Parish" and situated in the City of Seattle and the State of Washington, hereby declares its adherence to the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and conforms to its Constitution and Canons and also to those of the Diocese of Olympia, or of any Diocese of which the City of Seattle may be territorially a part.

ARTICLE TWO

Section 1. Pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the Diocese of Olympia wherein "St. Mark's Church of Seattle is designated and declared to be the Cathedral Church of the Diocese, and official seat of the Bishop of the same," the Cathedral shall be governed by a Vestry composed and selected as provided in Article Three.

ARTICLE THREE

Section 1. The Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral shall have fourteen to twenty-three members, consisting of the Dean of St. Mark's *ex officio*, the Bishop of Olympia *ex officio*, nine to fifteen members from the parish of St. Mark's, zero to six members from the Diocese of Olympia, and zero to three members from the wider community. Within these limits, the Bylaws of St. Mark's Cathedral Parish may fix or change the number of parish, diocesan, and community members, provided that any amendment to the Bylaws regarding diocesan members shall require the prior consent of the Bishop.

Section 2. The Bylaws of St. Mark's Cathedral Parish shall establish rules for Vestry membership within the following limitations:

- a. Nine to fifteen members shall be elected from among parishioners at St. Mark's who are Communicants in Good Standing, one-third to be elected at each annual meeting of the parish.
- b. With the advice and consent of the Bishop, the Vestry may annually appoint one or two diocesan members to a three year term, and any such appointments shall be announced at the annual meeting of St. Mark's. Zero to six members may be Communicants in Good Standing at congregations other than St. Mark's within the Diocese of Olympia, including one who may be a member of the clergy in good standing canonically resident in the Diocese.

- c. The Vestry may annually appoint one community representative to a three year term, whose appointment shall be announced at the annual meeting of St. Mark's. A person so appointed shall be a person of demonstrated qualities of dedicated commitment to a faith community, leadership and vision, and responsiveness to the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world as to mark them as a desirable candidate for service on the Vestry.
- d. The terms of Vestry members shall commence at the first meeting of the Vestry following their election or the announcement of their appointment at the annual parish meeting and shall continue for three years and until their successors are selected and qualified. In the event of ambiguity in the timing of election or selection of Vestry members, it is the intent that all Vestry terms of the same class year commence and expire at the same time.
- e. In the event of a resignation or vacancy occurring prior to the end of a full three year term, the Vestry may fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, but the unexpired term of a diocesan member of the Vestry shall be filled with the advice and consent of the Bishop.

Section 3. A nominating committee shall be appointed each year. At least a majority of the committee members shall be appointed by the Vestry from the parish of St. Mark's. The Vestry may appoint persons from the outside community and, with the advice and consent of the Bishop, persons from the Diocese. And, the Dean shall also serve on the committee.

- a. For persons to be elected from among parishioners of St. Mark's, the nominating committee shall present to the annual meeting of St. Mark's at least one nominee for each position of parish member to be filled. Nominations from the floor shall also be called for prior to balloting.
- b. For community and diocesan members to be appointed by the Vestry, if any, the nominating committee shall timely present to the Vestry at least one nominee for each position to be filled by community and diocesan members.

Section 4. There shall be one senior warden, who shall be chosen by the Dean from among parish members on the Vestry. There shall be one or more junior wardens, at least one of whom shall be selected from among parish members on the Vestry. All junior wardens shall be selected by vote of the Vestry.

Section 5. At any Vestry meeting, the Dean shall preside unless s/he delegates this responsibility to a warden and may vote to break a tie. The Bishop may designate one representative each year to attend meetings as needed in the Bishop's stead. The Bishop may elect whether to have the rights to move motions and vote, and the Bishop's Representative shall have the same rights as the Bishop elects. Neither the Dean, nor the Bishop, nor the Bishop's representative shall be counted in determining the presence of a quorum or in determining how many votes are required to pass any measure, except that if the Bishop has elected to vote, the Bishop or Bishop's representative shall be counted in determining how many votes are required to pass any measure considered during a Vestry meeting at which either of them is present.

Section 6. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Dean, the Bishop shall act as Dean until the office is filled. After consultation with the Vestry, the Bishop may appoint a member of the clergy to serve as priest-in-charge. The priest-in-charge shall exercise the duties of Dean and Rector, subject to the authority of the Bishop.

ARTICLE FOUR


Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be made by the Diocesan Convention. No amendment shall be proposed to a Diocesan Convention without the prior consent of the Bishop of Olympia and of St. Mark's Cathedral Parish. All amendments, unless otherwise provided, shall take effect immediately upon adjournment of the meeting of Convention at which they are adopted.

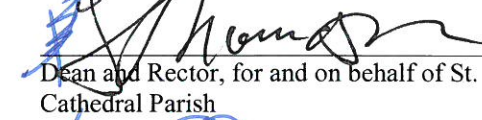
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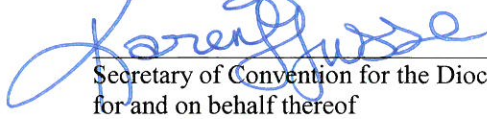
Date: 1-8-16

Date: 1-21-16

Date: 1-21-16


Bishop of Olympia


Dean and Rector, for and on behalf of St. Mark's
Cathedral Parish


Secretary of Convention for the Diocese of Olympia,
for and on behalf thereof

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