the diocese of
Rhode Island

journal of convention

November 30th - December 1, 2012

reports from
convention 2011
to convention 2012
Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island
JOURNAL OF CONVENTION
November 30th - December 1, 2012
AND
REPORTS FROM CONVENTION 2011-2012

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DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND

275 North Main Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1298
(401) 274-4500
(Fax) 401-331-9430
www.episcopalri.org

BISHOP
The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Knisely

TREASURER
Mr. Robert L. G. Batchelor, CPA
303 Gilbert Stuart Drive
East Greenwich, RI 02818

SECRETARY
The Rev. Kevin Lloyd
67 Mt. Hope Avenue
Jamestown, RI 02835

REGISTRAR
Ms. Ruth Moulton
275 N. Main Street
Providence, RI 02903

DIOCESAN STAFF

Ms. Peggy Amatore
   Director, Episcopal Charities
Ms. Regina Barattini
   Finance, Assistant
Ms. Elizabeth Crawley
   Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mr. Christopher DeCelles
   Supervisor, Maintenance
Ms. Joan DeCelles
   Assistant Treasurer
Ms. Betsy Fornal
   Canon for Congregations & Clergy

The Rev. Canon Linda L. Grenz
   Canon to the Ordinary
Mr. Tony Lonardo
   Maintenance
Ms. Ruth Meteer
   Communications Director
Ms. Ruth Moulton
   Administration/Reception
The Rev. José Roberts
   Hispanic Missioner
Mr. Ronald W. Turnbull
   Comptroller
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF CONVENTION

STANDING COMMITTEE: Canon IV

The Rev. Pamela Mott 2012 Ms. Frances Gammell-Roach
The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick 2013 The Hon. Scott Avedisian (P)
The Rev. Anita Schell-Lambert 2014 Mr. William Plumb

DIOCESAN COUNCIL: Canon VI

The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Knisely, President

ELECTED BY CONVENTION
(5 Clergy, 4 Lay, staggered 3-year terms)

The Rev Jim Bocchino (V/P) 2011 Mr. Dante Tavolaro
The Rev Dennis Bucco 2011
The Rev. Scott Gunn 2012 Mr. Dennis Stark
*************** 2012 Ms. Modesta Pellot
The Rev. William Locke 2013 Mr. Dave Seifert
The Rev. Robert Marshall 2013

DIOCESAN COUNCIL - APPOINTED BY BISHOP
(3 Clerical, 3 Lay, staggered 3-years terms)

The Rev. Dcn Ted Hallenbeck 2011 vacant
The Rev. Ann-Marie Richards 2012 Mr. Jim Rezendes
The Very Rev. Harry Krauss 2013 Ms. Ann Rheault

Ex officio
The Bishop
The Chancellor
The Treasurer
Commission on Finance, Mr. Brian Ehlers
President, Standing Committee,
The Hon. Scott Avedisian
Secretary of Council, Ms. Liz Crawley

Staff
The Comptroller
The Canon for Program and Administration
The Canon for Congregations and Clergy

Executive Committee of Council
The Bishop, President
The Rev Jim Bocchino
Mr. Dave Seifert
The Rev. William Locke
The Very Rev. Harry Krauss
The Treasurer
COMMISSION ON FINANCE  Canon VII.1

**Elected** (1 clerical, 2 lay)  **Appointed** (1 clerical, 2 lay)

Mr. James Worrell  2011  Mr. Scott Nicholson (C)
Mr. Robert Bergstrand  2012  Mr. Brian Ehlers

**Ex officio**
The Bishop
The Treasurer

**Staff**
The Comptroller
The Canon for Program and Administration

ECCLESIASTICAL COURT  Canon XVI.3 (4 clerical, 3 lay, nominated by Bishop, confirmed by Convention, 4 year terms)

The Rev. Clare Fischer-Davies  2012  ****************
The Rev. Jim Bocchino  2013  Mr. Sydney Clifford
The Rev. Paul Twelves  2014  Mr. Rossi Harris

COMMISSION ON CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  Canon VII.2

**Elected**
(3 Clerical, 3 Lay, staggered 3-years terms)

The Rev Clare Fischer-Davies  2011  Ms. Catherine Thenault
The Rev. David Lucey  2012  Ms. Carol Drought
The Rev. Susan Carpenter  2013  Ms. Jacqueline Kirby

**Appointed**
Nominated by Bishop, Confirmed by Convention
(3 clerical, 3 lay, staggered 3-years terms)

vacant  2011  Mr. James Burgess
The Rev Casey Shobe  (C)  2012  Mr. Dennis Burton
The Rev. Kevin Lloyd  2013  Mr. Joel Gardiner

**Ex Officio**
The Canon for Congregations and Clergy (Bishop’s Designee)
COMMISSION ON MINISTRY Canon VII.3 (6 clerical, 6 lay; nominated by Bishop, confirmed by Convention. Staggered 3-years terms)

The Rev. John Alexander (C) 2011 Vacant
The Rev. Al Barnaby 2011 Ms. Carol Anne Bennett (C)

The Rev David Lucey 2012 Ms. Phoebe Pettingell
The Rev Chris Epperson 2012 Ms. Lavonne Seifert

The Rev. Dcn Jan Grinnell 2013 Ms. Karen Runner
The Rev. Richard Shippee 2013 Mr. Leon Sibielski

Staff
The Canon for Congregations and Clergy

COMMISSION ON INVESTMENTS Canon VII.4 (3 Clerical, 6 Lay. Nominated by Council, confirmed by Convention, staggered 3-years terms)

The Rev. Gregory Prior 2011 Ms. Francis Gammell-Roach
2011 Mr. Jeffrey Belden

The Rt. Rev David Joslin 2012 vacant
2012 Ms. Mary Daly

The Rev Chris Epperson 2013 Mr. Howard Merriman
2013 Mr. Austin Smith

The Bishop (Ex-Officio)
The Chancellor (Ex-Officio)
The Treasurer (Ex-Officio)

COMMISSION ON CHURCH ARCHITECTURE Canon VII.5 (2 clerical, 4 lay, two to be architects or engineers, staggered 3-years terms)

Currently vacant

COMMISSION ON SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFITS Canon VII.6 (3 clerical, 2 lay, staggered 5-year terms)

The Rev. Gordon Stenning (C) 2011
Ms. Bernice Belt 2012
Ms. Nancy R. Brown-Cobb 2013
The Rev. Daniel Burke 2014
The Rev. Harrington Gordon 2015

Staff
The Comptroller
The Assistant Treasurer
Committee on Admissions  Canon II.3 (1 clerical, 2 lay, staggered 3-years terms)

Currently vacant

Committee on Canons  Canon II.4 (3 Clerical, 3 lay, staggered 3-years terms)

The Chancellor (ex-officio)
The Rt. Rev. David B. Joslin  2011  Mr. Benjamin P. Harris III, Esq. (c)
The Rev. Pamela L. Rannenberg  2012  Mr. James H. Hahn, Esq.

Committee on Agenda  Canon II.5 (at least 3 persons)

The Bishop
The Chancellor
The Secretary of Convention
The Canon for Program and Administration

Committee on Resolutions  Canon II.6 (3 clerical, 3 lay, staggered 3-years terms)

The Rev. Chris Epperson  2011  Carol Anne Bennett
The Rev. Bill Locke  2012  vacant
The Rev. Scott Gunn (c)  2013  Dante Tavolaro

The Canon for Program and Administration (staff support)

Committee on Elections  Canon II.7 (3 clerical, 3 lay, staggered 3-years terms)

vacant  2011  Mr. Leon Sibielski
vacant  2012  Ms. Evelyn Brchan
The Rev. Dan Barker  2013  Ms. Meg Barker

The Convention Manager (Ex-Officio)
The Secretary (Ex-Officio)
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Michaelson
Rev. Peter

Mitchell
The Rev. Judith

Morgan
The Rev. Richard

Neale
The Rev. Dcn. Heddie

Nestor
The Rev. Elizabeth

North
The Rev. Dcn. Susan

Pallard
The Rev. John

Pedrick
The Rev. Jennifer

Pelletier
The Rev. Dcn. Ann

Penfield
The Rev. Dr. Joyce

Prior
The Rev. John Gregory

Rannenberg
The Rev. Pamela

Richards
The Rev. Cn. Anne Marie

Roberts
The Rev. Jose

Runner
The Rev. Wayne

Schell-Lambert
The Rev. Anita

Schweinsburg
The Rev. Rich

Shattuck
The Rev. Gardiner

Shobe
The Rev. Casey

Shobe
The Rev. Melody

Shoemaker
The Rev. Stephanie

Stenning
The Rev. Gordon

Stiles
The Rev. Susan

Strahan
The Rev. Linda

Thorne
The Rev. Dcn. Joyce

Tierney
The Rev. Peter

Tierney
The Rev. Veronica

Twelves
The Rev. Paul

Willis
The Rev. Nancy

Wrathall
The Rev. Susan

Total Clergy 73
## CONVENTION ROLL OF DELEGATES

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Hudson  Nancy
Hughes  John
Hunt  Janet
Hurn  Susan
Jorgensen  Ray
Kay  Jean
Kelley  Heidi
Kellihers  James
Kilborn  George
Kintzing  Deborah
Kiss  Heather
Korte  Tim
Lewis  Barbra
Lewis  Richard
Lynch  Maurice
Mahoney  James
Manchester  Donna
Manickas  Jeff
Mason  Jeanne
McNamara  Neal
Miller  Charlie
Miro  Carol
Mitchell  Pattie
Nathanson  George
O'Hara  Mr. Ed
O'Neills  Linda
O'Rourke  Cathy
Parent  George
Parks  Martha
Pettingell  Phoebe
Poder  James
Post  Janice
Pulice  Larry
Ravenscroft  Anne
Rezendes  Jim
Rodrigues  Joseph
Sabatino  Greg
Santolupo  Karen
Schofield  Stanley
Serdakowski  Arlene
Smith  Val
Soares  Jeanne
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Total Delegates 100

CONVENTION ROLL OF ALTERNATE DELEGATES

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Total Alternates 20
The two-hundred-twenty-second meeting of the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Rhode Island began with a service of Evensong at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 30th, 2012 at Saint Luke’s in East Greenwich, Rhode Island. Evensong was followed by a reception in the parish hall of Saint Luke’s.

Convention reconvened at Saint Luke's on Saturday, December 1st, 2011, beginning with Holy Eucharist at 9:00 a.m. The business portion of Convention was called to order by Bishop W. Nicholas Knisely at 10:45 a.m.

Bishop Knisely recognized The Rev. Kevin Lloyd, Secretary of Convention, who reported that at least 1/3 of all clergy of the diocese eligible to vote, and not less than 1/3 of all parishes and missions were registered and present, thus constituting a quorum.

Bishop Knisely then invited members of the Search and Nominations Committee and the Transition Committee to come forward. Bishop Knisely expressed his deep appreciation for the hard work of all those who served on these committees, commending them for providing an "extraordinarily well run process." He also shared that Presiding Bishop Jefferts-Schori was deeply impressed with how well the whole process went.

Bishop Knisely announced that he was instituting a new award called "The Anchor of Hope" to be given each year to a person or persons who have gone above and beyond what we would expect of a normal Christian. He then announced Lora McFall as this year's recipient for her extraordinary leadership in the diocese during the search and transition process.

Bishop Knisely recognized The Hon. Scott Avedisian, Convention Parliamentarian, to review the membership and rules of order for Convention, which he did as follows:

- Convention is governed by the Constitution and Canons of both the National Church and the Diocese of Rhode Island, and by the Standing Rules of Order of the Diocese of Rhode Island.
- All clerical and lay delegates are entitled to voice and vote, and all Deputies to General Convention, all officers of the Diocese, and all Chairs of Commissions of the Diocese are entitled to a seat and voice, but not a vote, unless they are otherwise members of Convention.
- Only members of Convention are entitled to offer a resolution and to vote.
- Convention is open to all persons unless otherwise ordered by Convention.

Mr. Avedisian asked that all speakers approach a microphone and before speaking identify themselves by name and congregational affiliation, or office from which their membership is derived. He further asked that any “late resolutions” be handed in writing to Ms. Carol Anne Bennett, Chair of the Committee on Resolutions.
Bishop Knisely recognized the Secretary for presentation of the Convention agenda. The Secretary asked members of Convention to pull the printed agenda from their packets and look it over. The Secretary then moved the adoption of the agenda as presented.

The motion to adopt the agenda was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Knisely then called on Mrs. Carol Anne "Missy" Bennett, Chair, for the Report of the Committee on Resolutions.

Mrs. Bennett reported that the Committee on Resolutions received four (4) resolutions, all of which were sent to members of the Convention in the pre-Convention materials. Three (3) of these resolutions concerned canonical changes and were referred to the Committee on Canons for their report. Mrs. Bennett then indicated that no late resolutions had been received.

Bishop Knisely then gave his annual address to Convention (text printed in Journal of Convention).

Following his address, Bishop Knisely reminded Convention that the morning's offering was designated for the WARM Center in Westerly. He then invited The Rev. Deacon Jean Barry to come forward. Deacon Barry recently retired after 17 years of service as the Executive Director of the WARM Center. Under her administration, they were able to raise the funds needed to build a new shelter, which is just about completed. Bishop Knisely presented a check for $5000 as the diocese's contribution toward getting WARM across the finish line. He then announced that WARM's board of directors unanimously decided to name the building The Rev. Jean Barry Center for Social Services in honor of her 17 years of service to WARM. Bishop Knisely congratulated and thanked The Rev. Barry for her years of service to WARM and her ministry on behalf of the church. The Rev. Barry expressed her gratitude and encouraged and challenged the diocese to continue working on behalf of the homeless in Rhode Island and to help create more affordable housing throughout the state.

Bishop Knisely then announced the appointment of The Rev. Meaghan Kelly as Coordinator for Youth and Family Ministries. The Rev. Kelly came forward to speak about the "wonderful and transformative ministry" that is going on at the Episcopal Conference Center. She then spoke about the "Send a Kid to Camp" program, through which individuals and parishes can make donations to help cover the cost of running ECC and to minimize the cost to the campers. She indicated that the cost to ECC for a week of camp is approximately $700 per camper, and each camper is charged $350. Last year ECC this program raised $15,000 for ECC's operating budget.

Bishop Knisely announced that through the creative use of diocesan properties and with some of his discretionary funds, we have been able to move Meaghan from part-time to full-time ministry at ECC and appoint her as Coordinator for Youth and Family Ministries.

Bishop Knisely then made the following introductions:

**Ordinations since last Convention**

The Rev. Patrick Campbell, Priest
The Rev. Rebecca Gettel, Transitional Deacon
The Rev. Sherilyn Pearce, Transitional Deacon
The Rev. Diane Pike, Priest (ordained by Bishop Joslin on behalf of Western Missouri)

New clergy since last Convention
The Rev. Canon Linda L. Grenz
The Rev. Virginia Heistand
The Rev. Meaghan Kelly
The Rev. Erik Larsen
The Rev. Tim Rich
The Rev. Kyle Walter Mitchell

Named Postulant since last Convention
Ms. Mary Ann Mello

New Diocesan Staff members
Ms. Ruth Moulton, Reception and Administration
The Rev. Linda L. Grenz, Canon to the Ordinary
The Rev. Meaghan Kelly, Coordinator for Youth and Family Ministries and Director of ECC
The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Knisely

Clergy who have retired since last Convention
The Rev. Dan Barker
The Rev. Jo-Ann Drake
The Rev. Ashley Peckham
The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf

Bishop Knisely recognized The Rev. Pamela Rannenberg, Chair, to present the Report of the Committee on Canons (written report included in Journal of Convention).

The Rev. Rannenberg moved the adoption of the first resolution which would amend Canon 5.5 to allow the chancellor to appoint assistants with the approval of the bishop. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second.

There being no discussion, the resolution to amend Canon 5.5 passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Rev. Rannenberg then moved the adoption of the second resolution, which would amend Canon 10:22 to change the date by which Parochial Reports must be submitted and to whom they are given in the absence of a bishop, thus bringing our canons into conformity with the Canons of the Episcopal Church. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second.

There being no discussion, the resolution to amend Canon 10.22 passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Rev. Rannenberg then moved the adoption of the third resolution, which would amend Canon 10.15 to allow members in good standing to vote at a parish meeting by
proxy or absentee ballot. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second. Bishop Knisely then noted that we do not currently have a Chancellor to review this resolution. He indicated that he had spoken with the proposers of the resolution and that they were prepared for this motion to be postponed. The matter will be referred to the Chancellor, when appointed, for consideration. Bishop Knisely recognized the Secretary of Convention, who moved to postpone this resolution indefinitely. The motion to postpone was seconded.

*There being no further discussion, the motion to postpone the resolution to amend Canon 10.15 passed unanimously by voice vote.*

Bishop Knisely recognized Mr. Leon Sibielski, Chair, to present the **Report of the Committee on Elections**, who presented a slate of nominees for election to various diocesan committees and commissions.

**Standing Committee:** Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a four-year term. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. James Bocchino (Christ Church, Westerly), The Rev. Evangeline (Becky) Anderson (retired), The Rev. Robert T. Brooks (retired)

**The Rev. James Bocchino was elected.**

The candidates in the lay order: Ms. Harriet DiCicco (St. Columba's, Middletown); Mr. Tylor Field II (St. Columba's, Middletown); Ms. Grace E. Swinski (St. Paul's, Pawtucket)

**Ms. Grace E. Swinski was elected.**

**Diocesan Council:** Choose one (1) from the clergy order and two (2) from the lay order, each for a three-year term; and one (1) from the lay order for a one-year term.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. Wayne Runner (Church of the Ascension, Wakefield).

**The Rev. Wayne Runner was elected by unanimous ballot.**

The candidates in the lay order for a three-year term: Ms. Ellen Vadney (Emmanuel, Newport), Mr. Mike Brito (St. Peter's & St. Andrew's, Providence), Mr. Dennis Stark (St. Martin's, Providence).

**Ms. Ellen Vadney and Mr. Mike Brito were elected for three-year terms. There being no nominations for the one-year term, Mr. Dennis Stark was elected to a one-year term.**

**Commission on Finance:** Choose one (1) from the lay order for a three-year term.

The candidates: Mr. Robert Bergstrand (Church of the Epiphany, Rumford).

**Mr. Robert Bergstrand was elected by unanimous ballot.**

**Commission on Congregational Development:** Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a three-year term.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. Pamela Gregory (Trinity, N. Scituate) and The Rev. Casey Shobe (St. Peter's-by-the-sea, Narragansett).
The Rev. Pamela Gregory was elected.
The candidates in the lay order: Ms. Carol Drought (St. Francis, Coventry) and Ms. Jane Jellison (Church of the Redeemer, Providence)

Ms. Jane Jellison was elected.

Bishop Knisely then invited The Rev. Meaghan Kelly to lead Convention in Noonday Prayers, during which the Necrology was read by Secretary of Convention.

Convention was adjourned for lunch.
Convention reconvened at 1:00pm.
Bishop Knisely recognized the The Rev. Edmund Harris who offered a report on the Jonathan Daniels House.

The Rev. Harris offered an overview of the work that has been on the path towards establishing and opening Jonathan Daniels House as a Episcopal Service Corps location in South Providence. The mission of Jonathan Daniels House is "to build the kingdom of God through justice, reconciliation, and presence together with the people of Providence". The goal has been to launch Jonathan Daniels House in 2013 and to welcome its first group in August of 2013. This still the desire of the Steering Committee, but it may be delayed because of the numerous "movable parts" in getting to that goal. To date they have applied for membership to the Episcopal Service Corps; developed a budget for the first two years; launched a web page; begun securing placement sites for interns; and initiated a search for the first Executive Director. The Rev. Harris expressed gratitude to members of the Steering Committee: Bill Locke, Anne Rowe, Casey Shobe, Dante Tavolaro, David Ames, Ricky Brightman, Care Fischer-Davies, Jim Burgess, Sheila Conley, and Ruth Moulton. He also expressed gratitude to Bishop Knisely and Canon Linda L. Grenz for their support. The Rev. Harris listed four ways that congregations can support Jonathan Daniels House:

- help get the word out in our search for an Executive Director (full job description available on website jonathandanielshouse.org)
- housing suggestions or connections for housing interns in and around South Providence
- help find community organizations at which interns could work
- congregations could decide to sponsor part or all of the cost of an intern

The Bishop then recognized Mr. Robert Batchelor, the Diocesan Treasurer, who offered the Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Batchelor began by announcing that all on-line reports as required by national canons were filed in a timely manner by congregations of the diocese! He also reported that the diocese has no debt on the books, expressing gratitude to the Program &
Budget Committee. He also reported that the apportionment collection rate for 2012 was over 94%.

His report is a summary of diocesan financial statements as audited by an independent CPA firm for year ended December 31, 2011. His report also includes an overview of the Diocesan Investment Trust, also audited by an independent CPA firm. All these materials are on the diocesan website.

The diocesan Finance Office of the diocese submits monthly internal financial statements to appropriate persons and committees for review and approval. These reports present in the detail the year-to-date revenue and expenses of the diocese. The revenue of the diocese comes from two sources: apportionment and non-apportionment. Apportionment comes from churches and represents close to 60% of the operating budget. Endowment income is provided by quarterly distributions from the DIT. Most of the diocesan investment income is restricted assets (93%). The unrestricted monies (about $40,000 per year) are used to offset the apportionment administrative costs. What constitutes apportionable income for parishes is determined by longstanding guidelines and is monitored by committee.

Mr. Batchelor then moved through a PowerPoint presentation of charts and financial reports, including the DIT, reiterating that the contents of his presentation can be found on the diocesan website and in his filed report in the Convention Journal.

Apportionment amounts for parishes are determined by a two-year look-back at parish revenue. The percentage as applied by Convention is 17%.

Mr. Batchelor thanked Convention for its continued trust in him, he thanked God and his wife Ruth and his family.

Bishop Knisely invited a motion to adopt the 2011 financial statements as presented. The motion to adopt the 2011 financial statements as presented was made, seconded, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Knisely called The Rev. Canon David Lucey, Chair, to give the report of the Program & Budget Committee.

The Rev. Lucey stood to present the proposed budget for 2013. First, he acknowledged and recognized and those who have worked so hard on the diocesan budget. He particularly thanked Bishop Wolf for her dedication (attended every meeting) and Bob Batchelor and Ron Turnbull for the huge amount of work they do. He also thanked the committee members: Ted Hallenbeck, Scott Nicholson, Shirley Sibielski, Peter Tierney, Susan Wrathall.

Canon Lucey called attention to the "summary budget" provided in the delegate packets (full budget can be found on diocesan website). Pleased to say that the Committee is presenting a balanced budget.

Budget is presented in four major categories: Leadership & Pastoral Support (i.e. Bishop's Office); Outreach, Advocacy, & Service (largest category, part of which is 19% Episcopal Church assessment); Congregational Development; Support Services (i.e. overhead).
Highlights: addition of Canon to the Ordinary; continued support for Episcopal Conference Center; call and installation of new bishop; continue with responsible management of endowments; continue to commit to Hispanic Ministry of the diocese.

Canon Lucey asked members of Convention to recommend new members for the Program & Budget Committee.

The Rev. Lucey made the following motion: **Resolved, that the budget of the Diocese of Rhode Island with an apportionment percentage of 17% for calendar year 2013 is hereby approved and adopted as presented; and that for purposes of apportionment for fiscal year 2013, income of each parish, organized mission, and congregation of the Cathedral Corporation shall be an amount equal to "Total Normal Operating Income", as set forth in the report known as the Parochial Report for The Episcopal Church, less deductions approved by Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Rhode Island ("Income") for the second fiscal year immediately preceding the applicable budget year.**

The motion was seconded.

The Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Knisely thanked Bob Batchelor; the Rev. Canon David Lucey; The Rev. Dn. Ted Hallenbeck; Ms. Shirley Sibielski; The Rev. Peter Tierney; The Rev. Susan Wrathall; the Comptroller, Mr. Ron Turnbull; the staff of the diocese; and all who helped craft this budget; and to all the congregations who so faithfully support the life and ministry of the diocese.

Bishop Knisely then recognized Mrs. Bennett for the **Report on Resolutions:**

Mrs. Bennett called attention to the copy of the resolution entitled "Focusing on Those Living in Poverty" in the delegate packets. She then indicated that Resolutions Committee considered this resolution and made no recommendation on the resolution: "While this is an important issue, there was concern over mandating this issue (or any issue) to be considered at all parish, deanery, or diocesan meetings.

To put the adoption on the floor, Mrs. Bennett moved adoption of the following resolution:

**Resolved, That the 222nd Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island call upon its members to begin every meeting in the calendar year 2013, whether at parish, deanery, or diocesan level, and no matter what purpose, with this agenda item: "How will what we are doing here effect or involve those living in poverty."**

Bishop Knisely invited discussion.

The Rev. Dn. Ted Hallenbeck spoke in support of the resolution, saying that it was "designed to start a conversation at as many levels of the diocese as we can conjure up." He shared several statistics about the reality of poverty in Rhode Island. He wants there to be ways in which we can accumulate and share information about what are congregations are doing to address issues of poverty (doesn't show up in parochial reports).
The Rev. David Ames said the "effect" should be "affect". Bishop Knisely indicated that it was a typographical error that could be changed at the discretion of the chair.

The Rev. Dn. Sue North, who teaches at a school in South Providence, spoke in support of the resolution. Many of her students are living in poverty. She asserted that people living in poverty tend to be invisible to those not living in poverty. This resolution may not make a huge difference to those living in poverty, but it will at least make those people more visible to us.

The Rev. Dn. Robin Higbie spoke in support of the resolution, saying that we can no longer afford to be isolated and insulated from each other. "Poverty exists in Rhode Island, but we ignore it and try to avoid dealing with it. There may even be some sitting in this church today who are close to being homeless. Think about them."

Ms. Modesta Pellot spoke in support of the resolution, sharing personal experiences of interacting with those in poverty in Central Falls.

Mr. Dante Tavolaro offered an amendment to the resolution:

Resolved, That the 222nd Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island calls upon each parish to designate one group within the parish to address how that parish can live into the Gospel mandate to serve the poor by creating concrete ways to serve those in need. And be it further Resolved, That those efforts be reported to the Mission Task Force for collection and distribution to the wider diocese.

The amendment was seconded.

Mr. Tavolaro spoke in favor of the amendment, saying that he appreciates the intent of the motion, but questions whether it will accomplish the purposes it intends. It's not practical do talk about this at the beginning of every meeting. It would better for us to share ways in which we are serving the needs of the poor.

A delegate (name not audible) spoke against the amendment, asserting that the actions proposed by the amendment would not raise the same level of awareness as would the actions proposed by the original resolution.

The Rev. Linda Strahan spoke, saying there is room for both of these, raising the possibility of creating a resolution that would include both.

The Rev. Susan Wrathall spoke in favor of the amendment, saying it's not practical nor advisable to try to begin every meeting with this discussion about poverty.

Bishop Knisely, after consulting the Parliamentarian, indicated that we would have to vote to suspend the rules of order to allow an additional resolution to come to the floor. It would have to referred to the Constitution & Canons Committee and to the Resolutions Committee before making it to the floor. It would be difficult to accomplish all of this at this Convention.

A delegate (name not audible) from St. Stephen's Providence spoke in favor of the amendment, saying that he fears that mandating this conversation at every meeting would lead to a conversation that's more about form than substance.

There being no further discussion, Bishop Knisely asked for a vote.

The amendment to the resolution passed by voice vote.
There being no further discussion, the amended resolution was voted upon and passed by voice vote.

Mrs. Bennett moved adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the 222nd Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island affirms the bishop’s call for the creation of a special ad hoc task force to look at the ministry and property of St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral in Providence with the goal of reporting back to the 223rd Diocesan Convention a set of options for that Convention to consider.

There being no discussion, the resolution was voted upon and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mrs. Bennett moved adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved that the 222nd Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island affirms the bishop’s call for the creation of a special ad hoc task force to work with him to create guidelines for use by congregations in the diocese who wish to offer blessing liturgies for same-sex couples entering into civil partnerships here in Rhode Island or marriage in one of our neighboring states.

Bishop Knisely expressed his hope that it would be a brief bit of work, a couple of months at most.

There being no further discussion, the resolution was voted upon and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Knisely recognized Mr. Sibielski, who offered election results (see above).


The Rev. Peter Tierney began his report with prayer. After referencing the 2010 Report of the Mission Task Force which created the 2015 Task Force, The Rev. Tierney introduced the members of the Task Force, expressing his gratitude for their work (applause). He expressed gratitude for the work of The Rev. Edmund Harris and The Rev. Michael Tessman, who served on the Task Force but have not been able to continue as members due to other commitments. Also thanked Lil Hargrove and Shirley Sibielski, for their support of the Task Force.

Task Force understands their work to be spiritual work. They always begin their meetings with prayer. It is a collaborative body that was designed to be a cross-section of different diocesan entities; the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, and Finance Commission are all required to be represented on the Task Force. They have also sought out members from the Commission on Congregational Development, the Program & Budget Committee, and are in close contact with the Mission Task Force. The Task Force is also collaborating with entities outside the diocese, who have experience in this kind of process: Diocese of Maine, who is one year ahead of us in a similar process; the Diocese of Chicago. The Task Force also submitted a name to the restructuring process begun by the last General Convention.

Task Force sees itself as open to discovery and to what God is revealing to us and what the data they are gathering says. There is no hidden agenda. The members see themselves as working under an apostolic model. The Task Force is long term: there
charge is for 5 years, but they are hopeful that their work will have an even longer impact on the life of the diocese.

The Task Force has been working on four (4) projects:

- **Snapshot of church finances** - This was an instrument sent out to parishes to be filled out and returned to the Task Force, to help them gain a clearer picture of the financial situations of the parishes and the diocese as a whole. Thirty-two (32) have submitted those forms, as of the date of Convention. The Task Force has done face-to-face follow-up with leadership from eighteen (18) of those thirty-two (32). This is a useful tool, but does not tell the whole story. The face-to-face conversations help flesh things out.

- **Pulling Parochial Report Data for years 2006-2011** - On the diocesan level, we are generally in a stable and balanced position. Parishes are doing a very good job of making their apportionment payments. Eight (8) congregations are exceeding the diocesan average pledge. For the first year in recent history, the Diocese of Rhode Island is not at the bottom of the list of average pledges in The Episcopal Church. We are, however seeing a decline in attendance. In general, congregations are struggling to meet their budgets through pledges and other revenues. A number of congregations are drawing on their endowments and investments at a level higher than 5%, which is not a sustainable pattern. This raises the question of how we are going to provide clergy support for our congregations.

- **Snapshot of Spiritual Health of Congregations** - After looking at several instruments for this purpose, the Task Force chose one from Willow Creek Church that had been adapted for use in The Episcopal Church by the Diocese of Chicago. This instrument looks at how congregations are helping their members grow in their spiritual maturity, focusing in on certain spiritual practices (e.g. regular prayer, tithing, etc.). This survey has been administered in over 1200 churches, and the report indexes your results against that data-base. The Task Force ran a pilot program with this survey in four (4) congregations around the diocese (and Trinity, Newport had already done it themselves). The Task Force is intending to make this survey available to every congregation in the diocese in the coming year, and they have set aside a budget to help subsidize the cost of the instrument for thirty (30) congregations. The pilot program indicated the following: that more of our members in the diocese are at an early stage of spiritual development, as compared to the broader data-base; less attachment to core beliefs; less dedication to daily spiritual practices, like daily prayer; above average in valuing membership in the church; above average in the personal spiritual practice of prayer for others; a high dedication to serving others. The Task Force hopes that everyone will participate in this survey.

- **Looking at the four (4) mission priorities of the diocese (ECC, Hispanic Ministries, Congregational Development, Christian Formation)** - We are seeing new life at ECC, with the hiring of The Rev. Meaghan Kelly and creative efforts to increase revenues. In the Hispanic Ministry, we have seen the development of two (2) growing congregations (St. George’s, Central Falls and Ascension, Cranston), both of which are supported by full-time clergy through
diocesan grants, offering Spanish language services and ministries to the surrounding communities. The Commission for Congregational Development continues to make grants to parishes and missions in the diocese, and has run two (2) very successful "Learn & Lead" seminars in the diocese on Stewardship and on Communications. Christian Formation has had minimal dedicated resources in most recent times, and needs another look. There remain wider questions about how and why these became our mission priorities. There is a great deal of overlap amongst these priorities. It has been difficult to discover specific data and metrics about the goals and success of these priorities. Do we need to re-think our diocesan mission priorities? The 2010 Convention adopted "Feeding the Hungry" as a mission focus. How should this be reflected in our budgeting and be raised up?

Next steps for the 2015 Task Force:

- Will continue to follow up on the financial snapshot and encourage more congregations to do it.
- Will continue working on the spiritual health instrument and making it available to congregations.
- Will continue the conversation about mission priorities of the diocese.
- Will begin shifting from the question of where we are to the question of where we want to go.

The Rev. Tierney closed with the following quote from Bonnie Anderson: "Make no mistake about it, our church, our country, and our world are experiencing significant change. For the sake of God's church and the poor we serve, we are compelled to adapt intelligently. We need to slow down and not seek easy answers; we need to rely on the Holy Spirit to be with us in our deliberations now." The Task Force is committed to adapting intelligently and following the leadings of our God.


The Rev. Locke pointed out that one may go to The Episcopal Church website for detailed information on General Convention, including all of the resolutions. He spoke of a trajectory over the course of the three General Conventions that he has attended. 2006 General Convention was his first, and it was a very tense and divided Convention, still dealing with the aftermath of the ordination of Gene Robinson to the episcopate. Three years later, at the 2009 General Convention, the temperature was down a bit, with many of the most contentious voices having left, and resolutions seeming to him to be more about "this is where we are" as a church. At this past General Convention in 2012, it began to feel as if we are "turning a corner". The conversation was much more about the larger mission and ministry of the church, and about structures and organizations.

He highlighted the following:

- Approved a budget based on "The Five Marks of Mission"
- Created a special Task Force of up to twenty-four (24) people to take a hard and creative and hard look at the organization and structure of The Episcopal
Church. This was an extraordinary moment in that this resolution received a unanimous vote of approval in the House of Deputies.

- A focus on reducing poverty
- Approved the resolution on the provisional use of the liturgy for blessing same-gender relationships provided by the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.
- Affirmed that Baptism is in face required before receiving Holy Communion.
- Passed a resolution it possible for use of the BCP lectionary with bishop's permission.
- Gave consent to the election of eight (8) new bishops, including Bishop Knisely.
- Approved the canon change to longer consent to the elections of bishops at General Convention.
- Dante Tavolaro was elected as the lay representative from Province I for the Committee to Elect the Presiding Bishop.
- The Rev. Gay Jennings was elected as the new President of the House of Deputies, and Byron Rushing was elected as the new Vice President.

The Rhode Island Deputation will continue to be the deputation until a new one is elected. He recognized the members of our deputation: Missy Bennett, Mary Ann Kolakowski, Dennis Stark, Dante Tavolaro, Joel Gardner (first alternate), The Rev. Scott Gunn, The Rev. Pamela Mott, The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, The Rev. Melody Shobe (first alternate).

Bishop Knisely then recognized The Rev. Casey Shobe for the Report on Congregational Development.

The Rev. Shobe referencing the written report, offered the following highlights:

- The work of Congregational Development Commission continues to include grants to parishes and missions in support of creative ministry.
- This past year the CDC offered a "Learn & Lead" Seminar on church communications, which was very well attended and received.
- This year CDC will offer another "Learn & Lead" seminar on "Hospitality for Evangelism", which will partner with Convocation. Details on date and location to be announced.
- The Rev. Shobe encouraged members to consider the CDC grant process for their own churches, to seek funding for creative and new ministry programs. In particular CDC has a significant pot of money designated for Mission churches in the diocese. We can't fund everything that comes our way, but we want to be a source of encouragement and support, whether we're able to provide funds or not.

Bishop Knisely announced the following elections, confirmations, and appointments:

**The Rev. Kevin M. Lloyd** is hereby elected Secretary of the Diocese of Rhode Island for a term of one year.

**Mr. Robert L. G. Batchelor** is hereby elected Treasurer of the Diocese of Rhode Island for a term of one year.
The Rev. Clare Fisher-Davies, The Rev. David Dobbins, and Mr. Leon Sibielski are hereby confirmed as members of the Disciplinary Board for a term of three years.

The Rev. Susan Wrathall and The Rev. Patrick Campbell are hereby confirmed as members of the Commission on Ministry, each for a term of three (3) years, and The Rev. Sandra Haines-Murdocco for a term of two (2) years.

The Rev. Virginia Heistand and Ms. Jayne Bellows are hereby confirmed as members of the Diocesan Council, each for a term of three (3) years, and Mr. Jim Rezendes for a term of two (2) years.

Mr. J. Geddess Parsons, Ms. Mary Daly, and The Rt. Rev. David Joslin, having been duly nominated by the Diocesan Council, are hereby confirmed as members of the Committee on Investments.

The following positions will be appointed by the bishop and confirmed by Diocesan Council:

- One (1) lay person to a three-year term on the Finance Committee
- One (1) lay person to a three-year term on the Disciplinary Board
- Two (2) lay persons to a three-year term on the Commission on Ministry
- One (1) lay person to a two-year term on the Commission on Ministry

Bishop Knisely invited a motion to suspend the Rules of Order and allow him to make these appointments and have them confirmed by Diocesan Council. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Bishop Knisely then made the following appointments:

**Committee to Audit the Minutes:**
- The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely
- The Rev. Canon Linda L. Grenz
- The Hon. Scott Avedisian

Bishop Knisely then recognized Mrs. Bennett, Chair the Committee on Resolutions, who, with Mr. Joel Gardiner, offered the following **Courtesy Resolutions**:

**Resolved**, that the 222nd Diocesan Convention heartily welcomes its new bishop, The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, and his family, as he begins his work with us, and we look forward with anticipation and excitement to his leadership, and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Convention expresses its appreciation and sends greetings to its recently retired bishop, The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf, and her husband, Tom Bair, as they begin their new chapter of retirement, and be it further

**Resolved**, that this Convention expresses its appreciation to The Rt. Rev. David Joslin, Assisting Bishop of Rhode Island, who for many years helped with diocesan affairs and now is retired once again, and be it further
Resolved, that this Convention sends its greetings of affection and prayers to The Rt. Rev. George Hunt and his wife Barbara, and expresses its sincere appreciation that they were able to be with us for the consecration last month, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention extends its greetings and prayers to our Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, and to the retiring Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Rowan Williams, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention sends its greetings to the people of our companion Diocese of Ezo and their bishop, The Rt. Rev. John Zawo, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention heartily thanks the magnificent Search and Nomination and Transition Committees, headed so ably by Mrs. Lora MacFall, for their excellent work and superb process that enabled us to so easily select an outstanding new bishop, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention congratulates The Rev. Everett Greene on the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and The Rev. Daniel Burke on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention extends its congratulations to the Church of the Holy Trinity in Tiverton on its 300th anniversary and to Saint Matthew's Church in Jamestown on its 175th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention congratulates Saint Peter's (170 years) and Saint Andrew's (120 years) Church in Providence on its 40 years of merger and wishes the parish continued success and faithfulness, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its congratulations on the recent mergers of Saint Alban's Church in Centredale and Trinity Church in North Scituate, and Saint Mark's Church in Riverside and Saint Matthew's Church in Barrington, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its sincere thanks for the ministry of the parishioners of the recently closed Cathedral of Saint John in Providence and Saint Mark's Church in Warren, and wishes their people well as they find new parish homes, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its appreciation to all the dedicated Episcopalians within this state who work so diligently on the various commissions, committees, and institutions of this Diocese, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its warmest appreciation to the Episcopal Church Women who provided welcomed hospitality for Convocation, the election of the bishop, and this Convention, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its thanks to all those who have offered their ministry of administration and support for this Convention, and especially to Saint Luke's Church in East Greenwich, our host for Evensong and this Convention, and be it further
Resolved that this Convention expresses its appreciation to all the members of the Bishop's staff for their continued, faithful ministry to all of us and for our Diocese during this period of transition and into the future.

The Courtesy Resolutions were passed with applause.

Bishop Knisely expressed his gratitude to Mrs. Bennett and to the members of the Committee on Resolutions: The Rev. Bill Locke, The Rev. Becky Anderson, The Rev. Tim Anderson, Mr. Joel Gardiner, and Mr. Dante Tavolaro.

Bishop Knisely announced that the 223rd Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island will be held on November 1, 2013 at a place to be determined, expressing his preference that Convention be held in churches for the time being, rotating amongst our largest churches.

Bishop Knisely made the following closing announcements:

- Confirmations will be available in May as scheduled or in local congregations on his visitations. Having received no confirmands for the one scheduled in Advent, the planned Confirmation service on December 8th has been cancelled.
- He expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Rector and congregation of St. Luke's for hosting this Convention and for setting such a fine example of gracious hospitality.
- He expressed thanks to the Episcopal Church Women who provided and served our wonderful breakfast and who assisted with registration, and on a personal note, helped him unpack his kitchen while he was alone in his new home.
- He expressed his thanks to diocesan staff for welcoming him into the diocese.

Bishop Knisely entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously by voice vote.
222ND CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
1 DECEMBER 2012
ADDRESS TO CONVENTION
THE RIGHT REVEREND W. NICHOLAS KNISELY

As I stand here and address this 222nd Diocesan Convention I’m aware of the great march of history that these meetings have represented, and how little of that history I share with all of you. Just two weeks ago I was in an upper room at St. George’s school sitting with a host of bishops nervously waiting for call to start the procession into the main room. Walking into that space was an experience that I’m still processing, and one that I expect I’ll be reflecting on for a long time. It was the culmination of over a year’s discernment on both of our parts and the beginning of what I pray will be a long and happy shared ministry together.

I’ve been here in the state for three months as of this morning. For most of that time I have been learning about you, about the history and traditions of the diocese and about the amazing resources that you share and that you are. I wish I had the ability to tell you how extraordinary you all are, how inspiring your passion for God is and how much affection people have for all of you across the Episcopal Church. But I’ve gotten to know you all well enough in this short time to know that you’re already wondering who I’m talking about when I say this, and just what it is that I’d be going on about.

While this year of search, discernment and transition is growing to a close, I don’t think that the processes that brought us all to this moment have ended, and I don’t imagine that they will any time soon. There’s much we need to learn about each other, and more importantly, there’s much we need to learn about the world that is changing at an ever increasing pace all around us. I hope you’ll agree to keep walking with me on this journey, keep struggling to hear that still small voice of the creator that fills all of creation, and continue to have enough faith to believe in an exciting future in spite of the so many very real fears that confront us.

I do have one special request. I’ve been a bishop now for just under two weeks. As you listen to what I say this morning, and as you seek to tease out any hidden meanings, I’d ask that you keep in mind that short two week period. There are things that are still very new to me. Like being called “bishop”… I keep looking around to see who’s come into the room when people say that. I know that I will make mistakes in the first year, and that I will do things that will be interpreted to mean something that I didn’t intend them to be. And I expect you might do the same with me. That you will say things and do things that I will misunderstand. We both bring a lifetime’s worth of experiences with the church and with other bishops, to this new relationship or ours. Perhaps if we can both keep in mind that we’re all new at this, we can try hard to see what is happening and not read into a word or a moment more than is really present. This is a spiritual discipline I mean for both myself and all of you; and it’s something that I’ve learned is an excellent for all groups of people entering into new relationships with each other - both in parochial ministry and in everyday life.

At any rate, I’ll try and I hope you will too.

I have so many thank you’s to share that if I tried to just mention every one by name, we
wouldn’t be out of here until next week. It’s been an amazing year and it’s been filled to the
bursting with amazing people. My first contact with the Diocese of Rhode Island came when
Lora MacFall contacted me to say that my name had been nominated as part of the bishop
search and that if I was willing, she had some questions she’s like me to answer. Little did I
expect where that would lead. And little did I expect how much respect, gratitude and even
awe I now hold in my heart toward her. I suspect that the entire search and transition
committee would join me in all of that. But Lora would be very quick to point out that she
was not alone in the task that you all undertook, and so I want to say thank you both
personally and on behalf of this entire convention to everyone who was a part of the search
and transition process - as a member of the committees, as someone who helped out in a
specific way or was willing to enter into the discernment process as a fellow participant.
Thank you for all the late nights, the difficult decisions, the faithful actions and willingness
to open yourselves up to God’s action in our community.

I want to say thank you as well to all the people who participated in the ordination service
two weeks ago. I have heard again and again from people that it was a moving, beautiful and
deply prayerful experience. I know as a liturgist that such things don’t just happen. There
were months of planning that went into the event, there were thousands of volunteers and
tens of thousands of hours of work that made it possible for everything to seem to happen
so effortlessly.
Thank you!

You should know that the Presiding Bishop remarked repeatedly on how well organized the
whole event was and how thoughtfully prepared the liturgy and participants were. Thank you
to the many people who traveled from across the country to be a part of the day, and who
made the event a memory that I shall cherish the rest of my life. Thank you to my new
colleagues in the house of bishops who made it here on that holiday travel week. And thank
you to many musicians, acolytes and clergy who participated by offering their special gifts in
service to our diocese.

The Presiding Bishop, in addition to praising the work of the Transition committee, was also
clear that we all owe a debt of thanks to Bishop Wolf and her staff for the work they did to
make this entire transition go as smoothly as it did. As one who was intimately involved in
this process, I can testify that the 12th bishop was determined that the 13th bishop would
have full access to whatever he needed to get started in this new ministry as quickly and as
effectively as possible. Likewise the diocesan staff has been wonderfully helpful in making
this transition work. From little things like making sure I knew how to find my way around
the state to big things like helping to figure out how to get Linda Grenz on the staff as
quickly as possible.

Just as I owe thanks to the diocesan staff, I owe thanks to the entire diocese. You all have
welcomed me and my family warmly into yours. I have been stunned by the warmth and
generosity of your welcome. You have made it very hard for me to believe in the myth of the
taciturn Yankees of Southern New England. The people I have met have been hospitable,
generous, kind, and funny. I’m grateful that I am going to get to spend a very long time in
your company.

I want to take a moment to thank the people of Arizona too. So many of you have asked me
how the transition of moving from Arizona to Rhode Island was going, worried that I was
going to be surprised by the cold and the rain. The people of Arizona know that it was
actually the other way around. Moving there six years ago, I had to learn to manage with the
heat, the dust and a much spicier menu than my PA Dutch palate was used to eating. But
they welcomed me into their community and put up with my very eastern ways. (Apparently
most people don’t wear blue oxfords and dock-siders in the desert…) When I told them that
I had been elected to serve as the 13th bishop of Rhode Island, they were as generous in
saying good bye as they had been in saying hello. The cross I wear around my neck is a
present from that congregation and some of the vestments that I was presented with at my
ordination were purchased for our use by their donations.

Finally, in this long list of thank you’s I want to thank my family, my daughter Kenney and
my wife Karen. It’s no small thing to have to uproot your life because someone you love has
been called by God to serve in new place and in a new way. But that has happened six times
including the initial trip to seminary. Karen and Kenney have handled each of the transitions
in a way that gives witness to their deep faith in God and their willingness to answer God’s
call to them.

I’m sure by now a number of you have wondered about my vision for the Diocese of Rhode
Island. It’s a question that I expected to be explicitly asked by the search and nomination
committee and one that I recall coming up as part of the walk-about interviews last spring.
My answer now is the same as it was then. I’m not convinced that it is proper, much less
effective, for the two week old bishop of a diocese to tell the diocese where they are to aim
themselves. I just don’t believe it is effective at the diocesan level because I’ve not found it
to be completely effective at the parish level as I’ve participated in early stages of transition.

Rather I believe it is important for the leadership of a community to learn to listen to the
diverse voices within a community and then to reflect back to them what is being heard.
Once the community recognizes their own voice - as their leader expresses their hopes and
dreams as a people - they are ready to do the work of planning how to achieve what they are
describing.
I do have some areas that I believe we must focus on within our diocesan life. As you’ve
probably already noticed, I hold leadership development among the young people of the
diocese to be a high priority. I also believe we need to be even more effective in
communicating to the people of this state than we already are. But those are my personal
goals and things that I will work to support during my time as your bishop.

But the vision of the diocese is yours to determine.

So in the coming year or so, I hope you will see me doing a lot of listening. I probably won’t
be doing all that much talking. That can be unsettling if you’re not used to it. I’ve seen
communities become concerned that there’s a hidden agenda since they don’t see one being
revealed as quickly as they’d like. But I think it’s important to remember that you and I have
time. God willing I’ll be your bishop something like the next 15 years, perhaps more. We
don’t have to do everything overnight. We’re blessed to be in a place where we are, for the
most part, not being dictated to by a series of urgent crises demanding a response. We are in
a place where we can be strategic in our decision making, and I think it’s important for us to
appreciate what this means.
So how will I listen? You have my email address: nick@episcopalri.org - or Nicholas or bishop or whatever else you can find on the web. They all work, and they all come directly to me. I do want to hear from you - particularly those of you in this room today. You are the elected and ordained leadership of the diocese and in my servant ministry among you, I need to hear your voices.

But it’s not just email. I’ll be trying to show up in your parishes over the next few years. Sometimes just to spend time with you. Sometimes as part of a formal visitation. Sometimes because you’ve invited me and I want to make that a priority. And I’ll try to hang out with you at coffee hour, and before and after the service. Talking directly with the people we serve is one of the best parts of being a member of clergy, and I don’t intend to miss out on the good stuff.

A number of you have contacted me on Facebook and on twitter. I’ve already gotten a reputation as being the “digital bishop” or the bishop of social media. (Remind me to say a special thanks to Bishop Kirk Smith for that… heh.) I do all that to be accessible to you. But I do it just as much because I want to hear your voices as much as I can. And I want to hear the voices of the other people in the state - the people who are not part of the Episcopal Church but who are searching to hear the Good News that God loves us and that God has been faithful to us even when we didn’t always reciprocate.

And then in the next couple of years, I’m going to start reflecting back to you what I’m hearing. And asking you to tell me if it seems genuine. And then together we are going to figure out what we need to do to get to where we believe God is calling us to be.

I admit that there’s one common thing I’ve been hearing already - and which I’m already ready to reflect back to you. And that is your concern about the future of St. John’s Cathedral church in Providence. From the moment it was announced that I had been nominated, I’ve been asked what was going to be done about the Cathedral. When the services at St. John’s were suspended last spring, the number of questions increased. And after I was elected, it’s been hard to have a conversation, an interview, or even just walk along Benefit Street in Providence, without having someone ask me about the Cathedral. As I’ve started to spend Sunday mornings with you, or meet clergy and leaders at deanery events, the same question is raised.

So, I get it. This is a big concern for all of you.

And the most common concern I hear raised is that people don’t feel that they were given a chance to participate in the decision making process. For some the news that the Cathedral was going to have its services suspended came as a complete surprise. For others it was a disappointing but not surprising announcement even if it the timing was unanticipated. And for some, who did participate in the decision making process, there’s surprise that any of this was a surprise.

The upshot from where I stand, is that the process by which this particular decision was made did not have much buy-in from the community. And that is why the community (both of the Cathedral itself but also of the diocese and the neighborhood around St. John’s) is struggling to understand what happened.

The good news is that the way the decision was made has left us an opportunity to revisit it -
though to be honest the challenges facing the Cathedral are in some ways greater now that it has stood vacant and unused for the past six months.

But we can revisit the decision, and hopefully construct a different kind of process that will allow us to have a greater participation and buy-in once it comes to a conclusion.

So, all that said, with your consent, I am calling for the creation of a special ad-hoc task force to look at the ministry and property of St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral in Providence with the goal of reporting back to the 223rd Diocesan Convention a set of options for that convention to consider. I would hope that the committee to be made up of clergy and lay leaders of the diocese, of the former members of the Cathedral community and of the wider community of Providence would describe each option and list as much as possible what resources would be needed to act on any one of them. I envision a task force of something like a dozen people who would report regularly on their progress and process to Diocesan Council during the next year. I would like to present a list of names for the Task Force to the Diocesan Council for their consent at their January meeting.

At the presentation of their report, the task force will be disbanded. This is a different group than the existing Chapter of the Cathedral - which was appointed to a two year term this past July by Bishop Wolf, but which to my knowledge has not subsequently met. It is different than the Cathedral Corporation, who held the endowments of the Cathedral prior to returning them to the Chapter. But I expect that the task force will include members of the Chapter going forward.

A relatively well know Chicago politician has been known to remark that it is a shame to ever waste a moment such as we have arrived at with the Cathedral. It seems to me that we are given the gift of an opportunity to learn a new way to make decisions as a community going forward. And that opportunity is too precious a thing to not be taken seriously.

I hope that you will not object to this proposal, and that in about a year’s time you will be ready to make some hard decisions about how we are going to use the assets that have been given to us in our moment of leadership to continue to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus as we move forward into the three hundredth year of ministry at the corner of Church Street and North Main.

There was another common question that I was repeatedly asked during the walk-abouts at St. Andrew’s last May. That was what I would do about allowing for a generous pastoral response to people in same-sex relationships who are active in the Episcopal Church, and who ask for the Episcopal Church’s blessing on their intention to live into a covenant of lifelong, monogamous, mutual loving relationships. I said then that I intended to vote for such legislation at General Convention this past summer, and given that it would be hypocritical for me, should I be elected bishop to block such blessings going forward.

I was indeed elected, and I did intend to vote in favor. But the vote came to the House of Deputies days after I resigned my seat in that body and had been seated as bishop-elect in the House of Bishops. But both houses of General Convention did vote in the affirmative by significant majorities to approve the provisional use of blessing liturgies for, in case of Rhode Island, same-sex couples entering into civil partnerships here in Rhode Island or a
marriage in one of our neighboring states. I am going to give permission, indeed I have already done so in one case for a couple desiring a ceremony later this month.

But my giving of this permission represents a significant change in policy for the Diocese of Rhode Island. While Bishop Wolf did vote in favor of the blessing liturgies at General Convention, she did not allow such services to take place. That means that we don’t have the infrastructure that I believe we need to have moving forward. Because of that, I am going to create a small task force to work with me in December and January to quickly create guidelines for use by congregations in the diocese who wish to offer this pastoral office to their members.

There are a few questions that need to be decided. How do we make the decision that a parish would like to offer this ministry? I would strongly urge, in fact I have already required, that the vestry or bishop’s committee pass a resolution expressing their support of the offering of blessings to be communicated, along with a letter from the rector or priest in charge, before the first blessing takes place. No priest is required to perform a blessing service, and the legislation enacted at General Convention was very clear that there must be no penalty for a member of the clergy who’s conscience will not allow them to do so. Similarly, because the blessings take place in the context of a worshiping community, it seems important to me to know that the community in whose presence these blessings are going to occur is committed to supporting the couple.

If a parish and priest decide to take up this ministry of blessing, what expectations should we as a diocese place upon those coming seeking the blessing? What requirements should there be for pre-blessing counseling? What requirements are most helpful in the case of a prior divorce? What resources shall we provide if there are children who will be living with their parents in a civil partnership? What extra legal resources must we be careful to discuss with the couple, given the present difference between civil partnerships and marriage here in Rhode Island, and in Federal law?

Many of the questions have been anticipated, and resources are provided in the official materials approved at General Convention. In addition, the Diocese of Rhode Island is part of Province One of the Episcopal Church and many of our sibling dioceses have had long experience with answering these questions and have shared that experience with us already. So the time to create the guidelines shouldn’t be longer than a month or two I would imagine. And again, in keeping with the recognition that Diocesan Council is the Diocesan Convention meeting in recess, I would like to bring the guidelines that are created to Council for their approval. Having received that approval, I will authorize them to be used by any parish or mission that formally requests to do so.

For those who have waited so long, I apologize that you must wait just a little while longer. But I believe it is important that in a matter like this that we have a chance to have a broad a consultation as possible (albeit quickly). I’ve only been your bishop for two weeks now, and as I mentioned, this represents a significant change in policy for our diocese. But if there is a pastoral necessity that arises here or there in the next two months, I will be happy to talk directly with the responsible clergy directly. As I mentioned, I have already done so.

On the topic of clergy… I have begun a conversation with the members of the Commission on Ministry. There are, as you might expect by this point in my address, going to be some
changes in the process we use to discern ordained ministry and in the way it is expressed in the Diocese of Rhode Island. The first and most immediate is that I will be talking with them about guidelines for the recruitment of more deacons to serve in our parishes and ministries around our state. We will be talking about what the ministry of deacon might look like here in Rhode Island and what it is we as a people need to be able lift up women and men to serve as exemplars and living icons of servant ministry in our midst.

We (the COM and I) have already committed ourselves to a conversation about the ministry of the priesthood in the 21st century as well. While the classic vision of parochial ministry will still be with us, and still be an important part of our common life, there is a need for new forms and new sorts of preparation for priestly ministry in Rhode Island. And as we begin to share consensus on what that will be, we will need to begin to recruit new leaders who we believe have been uniquely gifted by God for that new sort of role.

I expect we will be issuing new guidelines about the schedule and structure of the process of discernment for ordained ministry as well. I believe the most effective discernment of ministry takes place in the person’s local community with their local clergy and fellow parishioners. I believe we will move toward a strengthening of that role going forward.

You should expect to hear news from my office in the next months about the ministry of the existing deacons of the diocese. I believe the Episcopal Church, particularly in Rhode Island, is poised to enter a period of growth and expansion. Indeed I am already hearing from a number of you about new people expressing interest in your communities, in growing children’s formation programs and in crowded worship spaces. Hallelujah! We will need workers to go into the vineyard as quickly as we can find them. But it would be shame to miss opportunities because we didn’t believe we had the resources we needed. I am hoping that the deacons and I will come to a common mind on how to respond to this need in the short term.

Like I said, stay tuned.

And finally, a common question I was asked prior and immediately following my consecration was “What do you want us to call you?” My response has been that I don’t have a particular title in mind, but that I’m fascinated to discover what the community will bestow upon me. Well that question seems to have been quickly answered. Bishop Smith called me the “Digital Bishop” in his sermon at my ordination, and local news and radio reporters have picked up on that theme. I was titled the “tweeting bishop” by Channel 12 in their promo the other evening of a TV interview I did with them on my use of social media.

Digital Bishop and Tweeting bishop were not exactly the titles I had expected, but he who opens his mouth… must abide by the decisions of the community.

So if that’s how I’m to be known for the moment, then I intend to embrace the implications. I do think we as a people must learn to be able to share the gospel with people around us in a way that shows them the same dazzling richness of God’s love that brought each one of us to this particular place. As a few people have quipped, “your tweet today might be the only gospel someone will hear.” Or your Facebook status, or blog post, or newspaper article or…

This is true for the clergy of the diocese in an obvious way simply by virtue of their having been set apart for the service of the Gospel. But it is just as, if not more true for the laity of
the diocese because their voices have a unique power to speak to their neighbors without the overlay of stuff that often drowns out the voice of the clergy. I know for me it was the witness of my close friends that brought me back into the church when I was a student in Delaware all those years ago.

I'm hoping that in the coming years we will all build on the excellent foundation that has already been laid here in the Diocese of Rhode Island and continue to find new and compelling ways to share the Gospel with our neighbors. It's not all social media you know. I've seen people use yard signs, use church socials, use beach cleanup events, use softball leagues, and even use coffee and donuts to effectively share the good news.

We are all called to be evangelists, and we all have exactly what we need to do what God asks of us. It's going to be different for each one of us, but if we are faithful, we will be doing God's will. We will share the vision of God's dream for ourselves and our neighbors. We will take our place as missionaries and emissary's a new and glorious way of living - and we will be doing this at a particular moment in history that I believe needs our voices as much as any we have experienced in our state’s history.

Thank you for calling me to labor beside you in this work. Thank you for gifting me and this community with all we will need to do what the tasks that God has set us to doing. Thank you for being courageous enough to live lives that witness to the hope that is in all of us.
Roger Griswold
Eleanor Melcher
Carey Cobb
Richard Benson
Robert May
The Rev. A. Royston Cochran
Ruth B. Fadden
Bernice Coyle
Elizabeth G. Christie
Robert Olsen
Dorothy Gardiner
Mildred B. "Pat" (Bowen) Farrar
Sandra J. (Watson) Hurry
Alexandra Lee Mink
Cliff Thresher
Charles Kittelle Moore
Bette Raye Cote
Judith Beals Brown
John Henry Lane III
Jeanie Bayer Potter
Dorothy Pierce Potter
Emil "Bud" Mittendorf
Clara-Betsy Carson
Kristen Grace Dyer
Ethelinda Prescott Groff
Mabel Burt
Nancy Demerchant
Dorothy Senior
Frederick Griffiths
John Kean
Margaret M. Brear
Donald R. Sankey
David A. Smith
James Irving (Sam) Gifford Jr.
Valerie Jaggi
Paul R. Miller
Helen Peckham Anderson
Eleanor Gravdahl
Barbara Pritchard
James Christie Barrie
Cortine Carter Harvey
Arthur W. Lacoy
Joyce Estelle Ray-Crowle
Alice Veznazian
Noreen Drexel
Annis Prevost
Elaine Anderson
Jack Sisto
Joan Dolan
Herman & Doris Hassinger
Thomas James Vanner
Joseph Mete
David Villanova
Laura Kent Hynes
Theodore F. Goodchild
Marjorie L. Goodchild
Anita G. Finch
Joan D. Fury
John L. Gormly, Jr.
The Rev. Granville Henthorne
Dorothy “Ovie” Knowles
Ruth Covell Barrett
Carmine F. Marabello
The Rev. Alcide Barnaby
The Rev. Peter Chase
George D. Langdon, Jr.
Ruth Gronneberg
Elisabeth Burns
John V. Kean
Peter T.E. Gebhard, Jr.
Alan D. Storms
Beatrice Primiano Russo
Warren Ray
Conrad Swanson
Louise Eleanor Rounds
Frederic Archie Rounds
REPORT OF THE TELLERS
2012 Convention Elections Summary

**Standing Committee**: Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a four-year term. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. James Bocchino (Christ Church, Westerly), The Rev. Evangeline (Becky) Anderson (retired), The Rev. Robert T. Brooks (retired)

The Rev. James Bocchino was elected.

The candidates in the lay order: Ms. Harriet DiCicco (St. Columba's, Middletown); Mr. Tylor Field II (St. Columba's, Middletown); Ms. Grace E. Swinski (St. Paul's, Pawtucket)

Ms. Grace E. Swinski was elected.

**Diocesan Council**: Choose one (1) from the clergy order and two (2) from the lay order, each for a three-year term; and one (1) from the lay order for a one-year term.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. Wayne Runner (Church of the Ascension, Wakefield).

The Rev. Wayne Runner was elected by unanimous ballot.

The candidates in the lay order for a three-year term: Ms. Ellen Vadney (Emmanuel, Newport), Mr. Mike Brito (St. Peter's & St. Andrew's, Providence), Mr. Dennis Stark (St. Martin's, Providence).

Ms. Ellen Vadney and Mr. Mike Brito were elected for three-year terms. There being no nominations for the one-year term, Mr. Dennis Stark was elected to a one-year term.

**Commission on Finance**: Choose one (1) from the lay order for a three-year term.

The candidate(s): Mr. Robert Bergstrand (Church of the Epiphany, Rumford).

Mr. Robert Bergstrand was elected by unanimous ballot.

**Commission on Congregational Development**: Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a three-year term.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. Pamela Gregory (Trinity, N. Scituate) and The Rev. Casey Shobe (St. Peter's-by-the-sea, Narragansett).

The Rev. Pamela Gregory was elected.
The candidates in the lay order: Ms. Carol Drought (St. Francis, Coventry) and Ms. Jane Jellison (Church of the Redeemer, Providence)

**Ms. Jane Jellison was elected.**

**Standing Committee:** Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a four-year term.

The candidates in the clergy order: The Rev. Michael Coburn, Ascension, Cranston

The Rev. Michael Coburn, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.

The candidates in the lay order: Mr. James Kelliher, Good Shepherd, Pawtucket

**Mr. James Kelliher, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.**

**Diocesan Council:** Choose two (2) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a three-year term; one (1) from the clergy order for a two-year term; and one (1) from the clergy order for a one-year term.


**The Rev. Patrick Greene and The Rev. John Higginbotham, being unopposed, were elected by acclamation.**

The candidates in the lay order for a three-year term: Ms. Sue Hearn, St. David's-on-the-hill, Cranston.

**Ms. Sue Hearn, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.**


**The Rev. Dn. Barbara Mays-Stock, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.**

The candidate for the one-year term in the clergy order: The Rev. James Bocchino, Christ Church, Westerly.

**The Rev. James Bocchino, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.**

**Commission on Finance:** Choose one (1) from the lay order for a three-year term.

The candidates: Mr. Michael Lofaro, Saint Ann's, Block Island.

**Mr. Michael Lofaro, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.**
Commission on Congregational Development: Choose one (1) from the clergy order and one (1) from the lay order, each for a three-year term.


The Rev. Dennis Bucco, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.

The candidates in the lay order: Ms. Catherine Thenault, Saint James, Woonsocket.

Ms. Catherine Thenault, being unopposed, was elected by acclamation.
Parochial Organizations of the Diocese

Alton  St. Thomas’  ■
322 Church Street (Rt. 91) ................................................................. 364-3113
Mail to: P.O. Box 33, Wood River Jct. 02894-0033 .................. (Fax) 860-439-1871
www.stthomasalon.blogspot.com
Clergy: Bettine Besier  Sr. Warden: Mary Hafey
Treasurer: Tim Dutra  Administrator: Cathy Harvey

Barrington  St. John’s ■
191 County Road, 02806-4501 .................................................. 245-4065
www.stjohnsbarrington.org  dale@stjohnsbarrington.org .......... (Fax) 245-0518
Treasurer: Andrew Faulkner  Administrator: Dale West

Barrington  Sts. Matthew & Mark ■
5 Chapel Road, 02806-1861 .................................................. 245-3690
www.saintsmatthewandmark.org  office@stsmatthewandmark.org
Clergy: Richard Shippee  Sr. Warden: Dennis Hogan
Treasurer: Sally Easton  Administrator: Laurie Aparicio

Block Island  St. Ann’s-by-the-Sea ■
25 Spring Street ........................................................................ 466-2911
Mail to: P.O. Box 622, 02807-0622
www.stannsbythesea.com  saintannsbythesea@verizon.net
Clergy: Gary Lemery  Sr. Warden: Theresa Sisto
Treasurer: Michael Lofaro  Administrator: Erica Tonner

Bristol  St. Michael’s ■
399 Hope Street ................................................................. 253-7717
Mail to: P.O. Box 414, 02809-0414 .................. (Fax) 253-7785
www.stmichaelsbristolri.org  stmichaels@fullchannel.net
Clergy: David J. Lucey  Sr. Warden: Garry Holmstrom
Treasurer: Matthew Kirchner  Administrator: Elizabeth Vargas

Central Falls  St. George’s
12 Clinton Street, 02863-2906.................................................. 722-9449
stgeorgeschurch@msn.com
Clergy: José Roberts  Sr. Warden: Modesta Pellot
Treasurer: Martha Velez  Administrator:

Charlestown  Church of the Holy Spirit  ■
4150 Old Post Road ................................................................. 364-6368
Mail to: P.O. Box 241, 02813-0241
www.holyspiritrri.org  holyspirit47@verizon.net
Clergy: Michael Tessman  Sr. Warden: Joan Strader
Treasurer: Dennis Meagher  Administrator: Catherine Holly
Coventry St. Francis  ■
132 Peckham Lane .................................................................................................. 397-7757
Mail to: P.O. Box 142, 02816-0003
www.stfrancisri.org                     sftrancisepiscopalchurch@verizon.net
Clergy: Sean Manchester                      Sr. Warden: Carol Drought
Treasurer: Shirley Matthews                   Administrator: Carol Drought (acting)

Cranston Church of the Ascension  □
390 Pontiac Avenue, 02910-3322 ................................................................. 461-5811
www.ascensioncranston.org                     ascensioncranston@verizon.net (Fax) 461-5811
Clergy: Michael Coburn, Anne Burke          Sr. Warden: Michael Tullie
Mercedes Julian, Hispanic Missioner
Treasurer: Cynthia Sparkes                     Administrator: Jean Field

Cranston St. David's-on-the-Hill  □
200 Meshanticut Valley Parkway, 02920-3997 ................................................. 942-4368
www.stdavidsonthehill.org                     stdavidsonthehill@verizon.net (Fax) 942-4368
Clergy: Peter Lane                           Sr. Warden: Sue Hurn
Treasurer: Lorena Dodge                         Administrator: Beth Hammond

Cranston Church of the Transfiguration  □
1665 Broad Street, 02905-2727 ................................................................. 461-3142
www.church-transfig.org                      office@church-transfig.org
Clergy: Mary Korte                           Sr. Warden: Dwight Barrett
Treasurer: Kim Ford                           Administrator: Tara Converse

Cranston Trinity  ■
139 Ocean Avenue, 02905-3628 ................................................................. 941-4324
www.trinitypawtuxet.com                      trinitypaw@gmail.com
Clergy: Marsue Harris                       Sr. Warden: Stephan Sloan
Treasurer: Sandy DiMarinis                   Administrator: Joyce E. Jackson

Cumberland Emmanuel  □
120 Nate Whipple Highway, 02864-1410 ............................................................. 658-1506
www.emmanuelri.org                           office@emmanuelri.org
Clergy: Donald Parker, Melody Shobe           Sr. Warden: Michael Cunningham
Treasurer: Dan Adamski                         Administrator: Christine Hanley

East Greenwich St. Luke's  ■
99 Peirce Street 02818 ................................................................. 884-4116
www.stlukeseg.org                             (FAX) 398-8986
Clergy: Timothy Rich                       Sr. Warden: Arlene Serddakowski
Administrator: Barbara DeFusco              Treasurer: Gregory deGroot

East Providence St. Mary's  □
81 Warren Avenue, 02914-5199 ................................................................. 434-7456
www.stmaryeastprovidence.org                  stmaryeastprov@aol.com
Clergy: Ashley Peckham                     Sr. Warden: Gordon Hubbard
Treasurer: Beverly Edwards  Administrator: Terri-Lyn Capron

**East Providence** Church of the Epiphany [see RUMFORD]

**Greenville** St. Thomas’
1 Smith Avenue ................................................................. 949-2260
Mail to: P.O. Box 505, 02828-0505.........................................................(Fax) 949-0261
www.stthomasgreenvilleri.org  office@stthomasepiscopalri.org
Clergy: Susan E. Carpenter  Sr. Wardens: Deborah Farrar
Treasurer: Ronald Slocum  Parish Administrator: Joan Pelletier

**Hope Valley** St. Elizabeth’s
63 Canonchet Road .............................................................. 539-7346
Mail to: P.O. Box 48, 02832-0048.................................................................
www.stelizabethri.org  stliz@hv.necoxmail.com
Clergy: Richard Schweinsburg  Sr. Warden: Richard Nassaney
Christine Burton  Administrator: Susan Perreault
Co-Treasurers: Brian Thorp, Roger Haskell

**Jamestown** St. Matthew’s
87 Narragansett Avenue .......................................................... 423-1762
Mail to: P.O. Box 317, 02835-0317.........................................................(Fax) 423-3311
www.stmatthewsjamestown.org ......................................................... st.matt@necoxmail.com
Clergy: Kevin Lloyd  Sr. Warden: Ron Black
Treasurer: John Flinton  Administrator: Susan McIntyre

**Kingston** St. Augustine’s
15 Lower College Road, 02881-1307 .................................................. 874-2739 (Fax) 783-2153
www.staugustineuri.com  info@staugustineURI.com
Clergy:  Sr. Wardens: David Masse
Treasurer: Jane Grenier  Administrator: Shelley Dziedzic

**Lincoln** Christ Church in Lonsdale
1643 Lonsdale Avenue .................................................................... 725-1920
Mail to: P.O. Box 245, 02865-0245.........................................................(Fax) 723-1815
www.christchurchlincoln.org  office@christchurchlincoln.org
Clergy:  Sr. Warden: Marilyn Fletcher
Treasurer: Robert Grudner  Administrator: Brenda Florez

**Little Compton** St. Andrew’s by-the-Sea
182 Willow Avenue ........................................................................ 635-2452
Mail to: P.O. Box 491, 02837-0491.........................................................(Fax) 635-2452
www.saintandrewsbythesea.org  mail@saintandrewsbythesea.org
Clergy: Peter G. Tierney, III  Sr. Warden: Peter Kastner
Treasurer: Frederick Buhrendorf, Jr.  Administrator: Brenda Florez

**Middletown** Holy Cross
1439 West Main Road .................................................................... 846-7076
Mail to: P.O. Box 4121, 02842-0121 .................................................www.thechurchofthecross.org
Clergy:  Sr. Warden: Scott Hovanec
Treasurer: Patricia White  Parish Administrator: Teresa Cunha

**Middletown** St. Columba's Chapel  
55 Vaucluse Avenue, 02842-5742 .............................................. 847-5571
www.stcolumbaschapel.org  kwarren@stcolumbaschapel.org ............................................. (Fax) 847-1199
Treasurer: Kenneth Lindh  Administrator: Kathryn Warren

**Narragansett** St. Peter’s by-the-Sea  
72 Central Street, 02882-3647 .............................................................. 783-4623
www.stpetersbythesea.com  stpetersbythesea@verizon.net
Clergy: R. Casey Shobe  Sr. Warden: Joan Anderson
Treasurer: Steve Bucci  Administrator: Linda O’Neill

**Newport** Emmanuel  
42 Dearborn Street, 02840-3408 ............................................................... 847-0675
www.emmanuelnewport.org  admin@emmanuelnewport.org ...................................... (Fax) 849-7696
Clergy: Anita Schell-Lambert  Sr. Warden: Lil Hargrove
Treasurer: Anne Sherman  Administrator: Kirby Lee

**Newport** St. John’s
61 Poplar Street, 02840-2434 ............................................................... 848-2561
http://www.saintjohns-newport.org .................................................. rector@saintjohns-newport.org
Clergy:  Sr. Warden: Frank Jenks
Treasurer: Edward L. Carnes

**Newport** Trinity  
1 Queen Anne Square, 02840-6855 ....................................................... 846-0660
www.trinitynewport.org  info@trinitynewport.org ..................................... (Fax) 846-8440
Clergy: Anne Marie Richards  Sr. Warden: Stephen Rous
Treasurer: Christian Myers  Administrator: Barbara Roos

**North Kingstown** St. Paul’s  
55 Main Street, 02852-5017 ............................................................... 294-4357
www.stpaulswickford.org  office@stpaulswickford.org ..................................... (Fax) 294-9437
Clergy: Virginia Heistand, Patrick Greene  Sr. Warden: Raymond Jorgensen
Treasurer: Kirsten Rounds  Administrator: Barbara Roos

**North Providence** St. James
474 Fruit Hill Avenue, 02911-2636 ............................................................. 353-2079
Clergy:  Sr. Warden: Peter Bak
Treasurer: Deborah Kintzing  Administrator:
debokintzing@yahoo.com

**North Scituate** Trinity  
251 Danielson Pike, 02857-1906 ............................................................... 647-2322
www.trinityepiscopalonline.org  nitrinity@aol.com .................................. (Fax) 647-5158
Clergy: Pamela S. Gregory, Sue North  Sr. Warden: June Guglielmi
Treasurer: Linda Strocky  Administrator: Nancy Harris
**Pawtucket** Church of the Good Shepherd ■
490 Broadway, 02860-1340 .......................................................... 723-0408
www.goodshepherdri.net secretary.goodshepardchurch@verizon.net
Clergy: Gardiner Shattuck Jr. Sr. Warden: Richard Emerson
Treasurer: Carol Keiser

**Pawtucket** St. Luke's
670 Weeden Street, 02860-1649 .................................................... 723-9216
www.stlukespawtucket.org admin@stlukespawt.org
Clergy: Dennis Bucco, Joyce Thorne Sr. Warden: Joseph Tassone
Treasurer: Barbara Stevenson Administrator: Elaine Oliveira

**Pawtucket** St. Paul's ■
50 Park Place, 02860-4010 .............................................................. 728-4300
www.stpaulspawtucket.org office@stpaulspawtucket.org ............................................(Fax) 728-4318
Clergy: William Locke Sr. Warden: Bradford Bellows
Treasurer: Bob Benson Administrator: Debbie Smith

**Portsmouth** St. Mary's ■
324 East Main Road, 02871-2113 .................................................... 846-9700
www.smcportsmouth.org info@smcportsmouth.org
Clergy: Pamela Mott, Diane Pike Sr. Warden: Murray Edwards
Treasurer: Christine Winslow Administrator: Martha Hultgren

**Portsmouth** St. Paul's ■
2679 East Main Road, 02871-2613 .................................................... 683-1164
www.stpaulsportsmouthri.org lindaremdean@earthlink.net
Clergy: Sr. Warden: Linda Remington
Treasurer: Robert Gessler

**Providence** All Saints' Memorial ■
674 Westminster Street, 02903-4066 ................................................ 751-1747
www.allsaintsmemorial.org asmcri@verizon.net ..................................(Fax) 273-4205
Clergy: David A. Ames Sr. Warden: Daniel Mechnig
Treasurer: Robert Wells Secretary: Grace E. Malaby

**Providence** Grace ■
175 Mathewson Street, 02903-3499 ................................................. 331-3225
www.gracechurchprovidence.org hello@gracechurchprovidence.org ......(Fax) 331-3247
Clergy: Jonathan Huyck Sr. Warden: James Poder
Treasurer: Laurie DiBattista Administrators:

**Providence** Church of the Redeemer ■
655 Hope Street, 02906-2652 ......................................................... 331-0678
www.redeemerprovidence.org office@redeemerprovidence.org ..............(Fax) 331-0678
Clergy: Patrick Campbell Sr. Warden: Edgar Bailey
Treasurer: Bonnie Galvin
Providence St. Martin’s  ■
50 Orchard Avenue, 02906-5418 ................................................................. 751-2141
www.stmartinsprov.org  dbsbard@stmartinsprov.org .............................. (Fax) 751-0038
Clergy: Clare Fischer-Davies  Sr. Warden: Sarosh Fenn
Treasurer: Dennis Stark  Administrator: Deborah Bshara

Providence St. Peter’s & St. Andrew’s  ■
25 Pomona Avenue, 02908-5244 ............................................................... 272-9649
www.stpeters-standrews.org ................................................................. stpanda25@verizon.net
Clergy: Joyce Penfield  Sr. Warden: Betty Sloane
Treasurer: Dorothy Lariviere  Administrator: Catherine Calistra

Providence S. Stephen’s
114 George Street, 02906-1189 ................................................................. 421-6702
www.ssthephens.org  office@ssthephens.necoxmail.com .......................... (Fax) 421-6703
Clergy: John D. Alexander  Sr. Warden: Richard Noble
Treasurer: Ransom Widmer  Administrator: Cory MacLean

Rumford Church of the Epiphany  ■
1336 Pawtucket Avenue, 02916-1412 ........................................................ 434-5012
www.epiphanyep.org  office@epiphanyep.org ................................. (Fax) 438-5032
Clergy: Jennifer Pedrick, Edmund Harris  Sr. Warden: Steve McGrath
Treasurer: Scott Haggerty  Administrator: Beth Dench

Saundersontown Chapel of St. John the Divine
10 Church Way at Willett Road .............................................................. 295-0193
Mail to: P.O. Box 541, 02874-0541 ............................................................ (Fax) 667-0098
www.stjohnschurchway.org  ......................................................... office@stjohnschurchway.org
Clergy: Judith N. Mitchell  Sr. Warden: Jean Bowerman
Treasurer: Jill Osgood  Administrator: Patricia J. Williams

Tiverton Holy Trinity  ■
1956 Main Road, 02878-4698 ................................................................. 624-4759
www.holytrinitychurch.org  ......................................................... office@htc.necoxmail.com
Clergy: John Higginbotham  Sr. Warden: Susan Richardson
Treasurer: David Brower  Administrator: Cindy Cwalina

Wakefield Church of the Ascension  ■
370 Main Street, 02879 ........................................................................ 783-2911
www.ascensionwakefield.org  .................................................. AscensionW@verizon.net
Clergy: P. Wayne Runner  Sr. Warden: Sigrid Hewett
Treasurer: Karen Crosby  Administrator:

Warwick All Saints’  ■
111 Greenwich Avenue, 02886-1279 ........................................................ 739-1238
revdev@bryant.edu
Clergy: Philip Devens  Sr. Warden: Alfred Liddle, III
Treasurer: Meredith MarcAurele  Administrator: Robin Palmieri
Warwick St. Barnabas □
3257 Post Road, 02886-7196 ................................................................. 737-4141
www.StBarnbasWarwick.org parishadmin@stbarnabaswarwick.org
Clergy: John Pallard Sr. Warden: Joe Rodrigues
Treasurer: Stan Schofield Administrator: Robin Meunier

Warwick St. Mark's □
111 West Shore Road, 02889-1102 .............................................................. 737-3127
www.stmarkswarwick.org office@stmarkswarwick.org
Clergy: Susan Wrathall Sr. Warden: Jeanne Soares
Treasurer: Shirley Kolarik Parish Administrator: Barbara-Jean Lynch

Westerly Christ Church □
7 Elm Street, 02891-2198 ................................................................. 596-0197
www.christchurchwesterly.org christ-church@verizon.net (Fax) 596-6529
Clergy: James Bocchino Sr. Warden: Heather Kiss
Treasurer: Glenn Mortoro Administrator: Jeanne MacLaughlin
Secretary: Rebecca Cherenzia

Wickford, St. Paul's (See North Kingstown)

Woonsocket St. James' □
24 Hamlet Avenue, 02895-4427 ................................................................. 762-2222
www.stjameswoonsocket.org stjames@cox.net (Fax) 762-2230
Clergy: Eletha Buote-Greig Sr. Warden: Margot Powell
Treasurer: Joyce Meleleu Administrator:
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President of the House of Deputies: Ms. Bonnie Anderson

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The Rev. Dcn. Dorothy Brightman

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The Rev. Dr. Donald C. Anderson, Executive Minister

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OFFICIAL ACTS:
November 7, 2011 - November 29, 2012

Visitations

January 8, 2012 Trinity, Newport
January 15, 2012 Ascension, Cranston
January 29, 2012 Holy Trinity, Tiverton
March 11, 2012 Grace Church, Providence
March 25, 2012 St. Elizabeth’s, Hope Valley
April 15, 2012 Cathedral of St. John
April 29, 2012 Chapel of St. John the Divine
May 6, 2012 St. Ann’s by-the-Sea, Block Island
June 10, 2012 Sts. Matthew & Mark, Barrington
June 17, 2012 S. Stephen’s, Providence
July 1, 2012 S. John the Evangelist, Newport
July 15, 2012 St. Andrew’s by-the-Sea, Little Compton
July 22, 2012 Holy Cross, Middletown
September 16, 2012 Ascension, Wakefield
September 30, 2012 St. David’s on-the-Hill, Cranston
October 14, 2012 St. Barnabas, Warwick
October 21, 2012 Emmanuel, Newport
October 28, 2012 St. Matthew’s, Jamestown
November 4, 2012 St. Mark’s, Warwick

Confirmations/ Receptions

Confirmations: 74
Receptions: 11
Reaffirmations: 1

Candidates:

Ordinations:
The Rev. Patrick Campbell, Priest
The Rev. Rebecca Gettel, Transitional Deacon
The Rev. Sherilyn Pearce, Transitional Deacon
The Rev. Diane Pike, Priest (ordained by Bishop Joslin on behalf of Western Missouri)

Letters Dimissory In: 10
Letters Dimissory Out: 4
Clergy Deaths: 6
NON-PAROCHIAL CLERGY REPORT
December 31, 2011

Austin A. Almon, Jr.          pastoral visitations;
Andersen, Evangeline         Retired
Henry F. Anthony             Retired
Robert W. Anthony            led weekly bible study; chaplaincy work; preached and celebrated
Patricia Bailey              Retired; nursing home visitations
Jean Barry                   Westerly area rest meals, WARM, Inc.
Hébert W. Bolles             Retired
Lawrence H. Bradner          Retired; diocesan historian;
Janet Broadhead              Retired
Robert T. Brooks             DFMS audit comm. chair; RI bishop’s search comm.; MED in Dio MA; Amos House Cap camp co-chair
Douglas C. Burger            Retired
J. Daniel Burke              Retired; supply St. Paul’s Portsmouth
R. Craig Burlington          Retired; summer supply York harbor ME; supply St. Elizabeth’s Home
George M. Chaplin            Retired.
John A. Chrisman             Retired. Assisting priest St. Boniface Sarasota FL
A. Royston Cochran           Retired
Robert C. Cummings           Retired; supply
Maria DeCarvalho             Executive coaching, counseling
Mark DeWolf                   supply at St. Michael’s, Bristol & Holy Cross, Middletown
John H. Evans                 Retired
Henry F. Fairman Retired. Supply.
William Fraatz No report submitted.
Karen Fraioli Supply; Priest-in-charge St. John’s Westwood MA
Kenneth R. Franklin Retired
James Frink Retired; Sunday supply
David M. Gillespie Retired
Harrington Gordon Retired; daily office & masses @ S Stephen’s Prov.
Everett H. Greene Retired; supply coverage as needed.
Scott Gunn exec dir of forward Movement Publication
Sandra P. Haines-Murdocco Retired; supply, member search & nomination comm. for 13th bishop of RI
Edwin F. Hallenbeck Retired; Serve on several committees and boards.
Augustus Hemenway Retired
Granville Henthorne Retired. Pres & academic Dean Logos House of Theological Studies
Jean Webster Hickox Retired Deacon
George N. Hunt Retired Bishop of RI; part-time P-I-C St. Paul’s Healdsburg CA
Ida Johnson Retired Deacon
Michaela Johnson
Paul S. Koumrian Part-time Assistant, Trinity in Newport
August Kuehl Retired; visiting elderly
Richard Laremore Retired
Donald Lavallee Retired
Gary Lemery  Episcopal Charities board member; Chaplain TF Green airport fire & rescue, RI fire chief’s assoc., RI critical incident team

M. Teresa Matthews Retired

Michele Matott

James Patrick Mauney Retired

Peter Michaelson supply, volunteer fundraiser RISCC

Nancy F. Miller Retired

Hedwig B. Neale Retired; outreach to seniors.

Eloise Neilsen Retired; active with Order of Julian

Elizabeth Nestor, M.D. Emergency dept, RIH

Janet Worth Nunley Supply in Region II Diocese of NY

Nancy Olmsted Retired

Christopher Pappas rector in Edmonton AB

Ceilia C. Perry Chaplain, Hallworth House, Providence;
supply

Paul Pickens Retired

Pamela Rannenberg Chaplain, Butler Hospital

Marshall T. Rice Retired

David A. Ryan Retired

Richard Schweinsburg supply

Keith E. Scott Retired; preaching, teaching, pastoral care @
St. Andrew’s, Albany

Marcia A. Sessions Supply

Robert L. Shearer Interim Rector St. Peter’s, Morristown, NJ; no report submitted.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marlene J. Simonian</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard R. Simpson</td>
<td>Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter L. Spencer</td>
<td>Retired; Chaplain St. Elizabeth Home; Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick J. Spulnik</td>
<td>Retired; volunteer work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon J. Stenning</td>
<td>Eucharist to nursing homes; supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Stiles</td>
<td>Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Strahan</td>
<td>Pastoral Counseling and supply work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Trafford</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry G. Turnbull</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Twelves</td>
<td>Retired; long-term supply St. Alban’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centredale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paula Ulanowski</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Vanderau</td>
<td>Retired; Priest-in-charge St. Richard’s Winter Park FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James L. Verber</td>
<td>Long term Supply, St. Mark’s, Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Warren</td>
<td>Retired; supply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter H.G. Westhorp</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gail Wheelock</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Willis</td>
<td>Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward S. Winsor</td>
<td>Assisting, Fort Myers, Florida;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geralyn Wolf</td>
<td>Bishop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Wright</td>
<td>Retired Deacon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Significant Actions of the Standing Committee
October 2011 – November 2012

October, 2011
Consented to the election of the Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Alabama.
Approved the calling of Diocesan Convention on December 1, 2012.

November, 2011
Recommended Becky Binns Gettel as a candidate for the transitional Diaconate.

December, 2011
The Hon. Scott Avedisian was elected President of The Standing Committee for a second one year term. The Reverend Anita Schell-Lambert was elected Secretary of The Standing Committee for a one year term.
Approved by-laws changes for Trinity Episcopal Church, Pawtuxet.

January, 2012
Authorized St. Alban’s, Centredale to begin discussion with possible merger partners and to sell their rectory.
Authorized Grace Church, Providence to sell land in Little Compton.
Consented to the election of two Bishops.

February, 2012
Approved amended by-laws for Emmanuel Church, Newport.
Approved amended by-laws for St. Stephen’s Church, Providence.
Allowed the Vestry of St. Alban’s, Centredale to remain in place until their merger process was complete.
Consent was given to the election of a new Bishop Suffragan for the Diocese of Haiti.

March, 2012
Resolution passed honoring the work and life of Chancellor Ed Bennett.
Approved amended by-laws for St. Martin’s, Providence.
Consent was given to allow for the election of a Bishop Suffragan for the Diocese of Texas.

April, 2012
Approved the sale of the Grace Church apartments by Grace Church, Providence.

May, 2012
Consent given to the election of Bishop Suffragan for North Carolina.
Completed the Title IV case against Fr. William Fraatz.
Approved for candidacy three people: Patrick Campbell, Becky Gettel, and Sherilyn Pearce.

June, 2012
Approved the sale of property owned by St. Mark’s, Warren.
Approved changes to Canon IX, Cathedral Corporation.
Approved a loan application from St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, Narragansett.  
Approved the merger of St. Alban’s., Centredale with Trinity, North Scituate.  
Approved Mary Ann Mello for candidacy.

**August, 2012**  
Gave approval to the sale of property owned by St. John’s, Ashton.  
Approved Sherilyn Pearce for ordination.

**October, 2012**  
Approved by-laws changes for St. Andrew’s-by-the-Sea, Little Compton.  
Approved Becky Gettel for ordination to the priesthood.

**November, 2012**  
Consent given to the election of the Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Lexington.  
Approved a loan application for St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Jamestown.
Grants in support of parishes and missions
In 2012, CDC continued a revised grant process that resulted in significantly stronger and better-developed proposals than in previous years. Several excellent ideas did not receive grants due to the overall quality of the submissions. In the end, grants were awarded to the following applicants:

- **Aquidneck Island collaborative (plus St. Michael’s, Bristol)** – $6,000 for a leadership development initiative to grow the ranks of healthy lay leaders in churches
- **St. Thomas, Alton** – $8,000 for an after-school mentoring and tutoring program for children of Alton schools
- **Church Beyond Walls** – $25,000 to build on ministry at Occupy Providence and foster non-traditional congregation in Providence

We also continued funding for several previous grantees:

- **Emmanuel Church, Cumberland** – year two of funding for an Associate Priest to manage significant growth
- **Ascension, Cranston** – year two of grant to assist bilingual congregation
- **St. Luke’s, Pawtucket** – year three of grant to subsidize expansion of music ministry
- **St. George’s, Central Falls** – year three for ongoing support of music ministry

The deadline for initial, brief proposals for CDC grants in 2013 is March 1. Mission churches are especially encouraged to apply. Details and applications are available on line by visiting the diocesan website ([www.episcopalri.org](http://www.episcopalri.org)) and linking to the CDC page through “What We Do.”

Learn and Lead
In January, CDC held a successful day of workshops on the subject of communication, generously hosted by AIPSO in Johnston. The keynote speaker was Nancy Davidge, editor of Episcopal Church Foundation’s Vital Practices ([www.ecfvp.org](http://www.ecfvp.org)) and president of Episcopal Communicators Network, who encouraged us all to get our stories of transformation and vitality out there. Then attendees were invited to attend three workshop blocks from a choice of five:

- effective use of social media
- building and maintaining a quality website
- Constant Contact and email newsletters
- Traditionally mailed newsletters
- Sunday service bulletins

125 participants left with applicable information on how to improve their church’s communication practices. *The 2013 Learn and Lead will be held on the topic of “hospitality for evangelism.”*
Convocation

CDC once again supported Convocation, this past year led by the Mission Task Force. We were especially proud of the implementation of the mission theme “Feeding the Hungry,” and the many churches who shared their stories of feeding the hungry through worship, formation and actual food.

Respectfully submitted,

St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, Narragansett  Emmanuel Church, Cumberland

Betsy Fornal (Bishop’s Designate)  The Rev. Kevin Lloyd (2013)
Canon for Congregations and Clergy  St. Matthew’s, Jamestown

All Saints’, Providence  St. Matthew’s, Jamestown

St. Thomas’, Greenville  St. Michael’s, Bristol

St. Francis, Coventry  St. James, Woonsocket

Mercedes Julian (2014)  The Rev. Dennis Bucco

Ascension, Cranston
THE EPISCOPAL CHARITIES FUND OF RHODE ISLAND

2012 Annual Report to Diocesan Convention

The Board of Trustees, all Committees and Parish volunteers completed their work both in fundraising and outreach efforts. Grant distributions in the amount of $353,900 were given to 73 social service agencies and programs throughout Rhode Island.

Congratulations are extended to the agencies funded through Episcopal Charities for their commitment to deliver the valuable services given to the people of Rhode Island who are in crisis and need.

The Susan Hudson Memorial Fund awarded grants in the amount of $18,500. A grant of $500 was awarded, in collaboration with the Rhode Island Interfaith Poverty Coalition and the Rhode Island State Council of Churches for a conference – Why are People Poor?, held Tuesday, May 16, 2012. A grant of $18,000 was awarded to Bread of Life Ministries at St. Luke’s in Pawtucket for kitchen renovations.

In total, the Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island dispersed $373,400 to assist people in crisis, need and fragile situations for the year 2012.

The volunteers and donors of Episcopal Charities deserve gratitude and recognition for their work, dedication and support. Special thanks are extended to Jane Peach of Emmanuel Church in Cumberland and Jim Tracy of St. John’s Church in Barrington, who chaired the diocesan-wide parish campaign and to Ed Bailey and Nancy Dorsey for their outstanding leadership as President and Vice President. Gratitude and appreciation is extended to all the members of the Board of Trustees for their dedication and commitment to the Mission of Episcopal Charities.

National Philanthropy Day was held in November, 2012. Non-profit organizations throughout Rhode Island had an opportunity to honor their valued volunteers and donors as “Partners in Philanthropy”. Judith T. Collins and Noel Eve Bassett were honored as our "Partner in Philanthropy" of the Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island for their outstanding service, dedication and support to the Mission of Episcopal Charities.
Committee on Canons

The Rev. Rannenberg moved the adoption of the first resolution which would amend Canon 5.5 to allow the chancellor to appoint assistants with the approval of the bishop. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second.

There being no discussion, the resolution to amend Canon 5.5 passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Rev. Rannenberg then moved the adoption of the second resolution, which would amend Canon 10:22 to change the date by which Parochial Reports must be submitted and to whom they are given in the absence of a bishop, thus bringing our canons into conformity with the Canons of the Episcopal Church. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second.

There being no discussion, the resolution to amend Canon 10.22 passed unanimously by voice vote.

The Rev. Rannenberg then moved the adoption of the third resolution, which would amend Canon 10.15 to allow members in good standing to vote at a parish meeting by proxy or absentee ballot. This being from a committee report, it did not require a second. Bishop Knisely then noted that we do not currently have a Chancellor to review this resolution. He indicated that he had spoken with the proposers of the resolution and that they were prepared for this motion to be postponed. The matter will be referred to the Chancellor, when appointed, for consideration. Bishop Knisely recognized the Secretary of Convention, who moved to postpone this resolution indefinitely. The motion to postpone was seconded.

There being no further discussion, the motion to postpone the resolution to amend Canon 10.15 passed unanimously by voice vote.
Report of the General Convention Deputation

Your Deputation to General Convention 2012 consisted of Mrs. Carol Anne Bennett, Ms. Mary Ann Kolakowski, Mr. Dennis Stark, Mr. Dante Tavolaro, the Rev’d Scott Gunn, the Rev’d William Locke, the Rev’d Pamela Mott, and the Rev’d Jennifer Pedrick. First alternates were Mr. Joel Gardner and the Rev’d Melody Shobe.

The 2012 General Convention was characterized by a reduced level of tension and anxiety over some of the controversial issues of recent years, most noticeably in matters of sexuality. That reduced tension was matched by an increased focus on the mission of the Church and the structures and patterns that will be needed in moving into the future.

A summary of the work of General Convention would include:

Approving a $111,516,032 budget for 2013-2015. The budget is based on the Five Marks of Mission: Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom; Teach, baptize and nurture new believers; Respond to human need by loving service; Seek to transform unjust structures of society; Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Calling on the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church to study the current budgeting process and matters of financial oversight and make recommendations to next General Convention.

Creating a special task force of up to 24 to meet in the next two years from all levels of the church on reforms to structure, governance and administration. There will be a special gathering from every diocese to hear what recommendations the task force plans to make to the 78th General Convention. The final report is due by November 2014.

Affirming that all Episcopalians are called to be evangelists to help grow the church.

Calling upon every congregation to use social media in its current and future forms.

Commending the relationship of full communion with the ELCA and asks the Lutheran-Episcopal Coordinating Committee to address areas where Episcopal and Lutheran practices differ, especially who can preside at Holy Communion and the role of deacons.

Affirming positive investment in the Palestinian Territories and calling on the church to support "the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian study on peace with justice in the Middle East."

Committing the church to “focus our hearts and the mission of our congregations and dioceses on reducing poverty and increasing economic and racial justice”.

Neither affirming nor rejecting the propose Anglican Covenant outright.

Adopting a provisional liturgy for the blessing of same gender relationships under the authority of the diocesan bishop.
Reaffirming that Baptism is required for receiving Holy Communion.

Making it possible to use the Book of Common Prayer Lectionary in place of the Revised Common Lectionary, with the approval of the diocesan bishop.

Authorizing continued trial use of Enriching our Worship and Holy Women, Holy Men.

Adding gender expression and identity to canons that prevent discrimination in church life and in access to the ordination process.

Giving consent to the ordination and consecration of 8 new bishops, including our own Bishop.

Approving a change in rules so that elections held close to General Convention no longer need to go to General Convention for the consent process.

The Rev’d Gay Clark Jennings of Ohio was elected President of the House of Deputies and the Hon. Byron Rushing of Massachusetts was elected Vice President of the House of Deputies.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev’d William Locke
Chair of the Deputation
Good afternoon! I’m here today to give you an update on Jonathan Daniels House.

We’ve come a long ways! Nearly two-and-a-half years ago now, the South Providence Task Force was established to study the possibilities for the ongoing presence of the Episcopal Church in South Providence and the surrounding communities. After a year of careful consideration of many potential ministries in this part of our city, the Task Force honed in on the idea of planting an Episcopal Service Corps community there.

As many of you may know by now, the Episcopal Service Corps is an expanding constellation of over 20 residential service programs across the Episcopal Church for young adults aged 21-35. Participants in Episcopal Service Corps programs live together, work alongside service agencies embedded in local communities, and engage in vocational and spiritual discernment for a period of 9-11 months. The Episcopal Service Corps is one of the most exciting and engaging forms the Church is taking on in the 21st century.

Last year, the South Providence Task Force morphed into a Steering Committee to pave the way for an Episcopal Service Corps community in the Diocese of Rhode Island. Our committee decided to name this community in honor of Jonathan Daniels, seminarian of the Episcopal Church and martyr of the Civil Rights movement who ministered in South Providence before traveling to the South. We drew the mission of Jonathan Daniels House directly from the concerns for which Daniels lived and died: It is to build the Kingdom of God through justice, reconciliation and presence together with the people of Providence.

Our hope and prayer has been to launch Jonathan Daniels House in 2013 and to welcome the first class of 4-6 interns to Providence in August. Although this is still our desire, we have also learned that there are many moveable parts in successfully initiating a program like this one. During the past year, we have applied for membership to the Episcopal Service Corps, developed a budget for our first two years, launched our webpage, begun the work of securing placement sites for interns and initiated the search for our first Executive Director, to name only a few of these moveable parts. And all of this during a year of Episcopal transition!

Through it all, our amazingly dedicated Steering Committee has pressed on, having faith that if this ministry is indeed of the Spirit, it will be born, and trusting in the slow but steady work of God. Thank you to Bill Locke, Ann Rheault, Casey Shobe, Dante Tavolaro, Ricky Brightman, Clare Fisher-Davies, Jim Burgess, Sheila Conway, and Ruthie Moulton. And thank you, Bishop Knisely, for your desire to see Jonathan Daniels House come to fruition and to you, Canon Grenz, for graciously serving as our Diocesan liaison.

Many of you have asked me whether there is some way that you or your congregation might support Jonathan Daniels House. The answer is YES, a million times, YES! I am here today
to tell you about four very concrete ways you can get involved:

- First, as I mentioned, we are currently searching for our first Executive Director. Help us get the word out!

- Second, in the near future, we will be looking for a place for our interns to live together in South Providence. Perhaps you or someone you know might have housing suggestions or connections. Let one of the folks wearing “Ask me about Jonathan Daniels House” badges know!

- Third, we are currently searching for community organizations in Providence that might be interested in hosting a Jonathan Daniels House intern. Interns, who will be college graduates, will work full-time for a period of eleven months in organizations whose goals reflect part of the three-fold mission of Jonathan Daniels House: justice, reconciliation and presence. Organizations that host an intern will pay a site fee for the cost of an intern that covers the intern’s living expenses & health insurance. Because site fees will also build the bulk of our annual budget, securing intern sites is the most critical component of building an Episcopal Service Corps community. If you know of an organization that might be a good fit for a Jonathan Daniels House intern and that would benefit from an intern, please let us know!

- Finally, perhaps you or your congregation would like to consider sponsoring part or all of the cost of an intern. Your generosity could enable an organization that might not be able to afford a Jonathan Daniels House intern to still benefit from one and Jonathan Daniels House to serve the places of greatest need. Or perhaps you or your congregation would like to consider making a gift to Jonathan Daniels House. There are many ways to help. Jonathan Daniels House is a ministry of the whole Diocese, and we look forward to the involvement of the whole Diocese.

To learn more about us, to read the job description for Executive Director, or to get in touch, please visit our webpage, JonathanDanielsHouse.org. I look forward to sharing in a conversation with many of you. Thank you.
When Jesus invited his disciples to take responsibility for their ministry by feeding the crowd, “all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.” (Matthew 14:20) We love and serve a Lord of abundance who asks only that we let him work through us. In the midst of our current struggles, we are blessed – with faith, with resources of many kinds, with one another. Together, we can pray and plan and work and give. We claim a future of hope for our own parishes and missions, and for our Diocese.


The 2015 Task Force for Strategic Needs and Planning was created by the Diocesan Convention of 2010, in response to a recommendation from the special Mission Task Force, which continued its own work following that Convention. Initial recommendations for the 2015 Task Force included focusing on opportunities and challenges identified by the MTF listening process and recorded in their final report, such as revising the budgeting process and financial reporting in the Diocese, implementing a process for planning and evaluating diocesan structure and programs, and addressing the number and locations of parishes and missions. The 2015 Task Force was commissioned by Convention for a term of five years, with final recommendations to be implemented by the Convention of 2015.

At the outset of the Task Force’s work, Bishop Wolf called for the election of her successor. The report of the MTF that prompted the formation of the 2015 TF had suggested that the early work of the TF should focus on assessing the budgeting and financial processes within the Diocese, but the anticipation of a new bishop led us to focus primarily on taking stock of the “state of the Diocese,” so that the new bishop would be well informed about the condition of the Diocese. The first two years of the 2015 TF’s work has focused on conducting this assessment. With the election of Bishop Knisely, we are poised to begin the work of developing and renewing the organizational structures and policies that will support the mission of the Diocese under his leadership.

As this work is taking place in Rhode Island, it is important to note that similar efforts and parallel processes are going on in other parts of the Episcopal Church, including at the national level. Resolution C095 of the General Convention of 2012 called for the formation of a special Task Force charged with formulating a plan to reform the structures, governance, and administration of the Episcopal Church. Likewise, many other Dioceses are engaged in efforts to reimagine what forms of organization will best support the mission of the church in the future. Our hope is that God’s presence in the work of strategic planning here in Rhode Island will benefit our own situation, and may also be a blessing to the wider church.
Task Force Members

The current membership of the 2015 TF, and the Diocesan bodies that they represent, is as follows:

Dennis Burton, Church of the Epiphany, Rumford, (elected) East Bay Deanery.
LuJean Johnson, Emmanuel Church, Cumberland, (elected) Blackstone Deanery
The Rev. John Higginbotham, Holy Trinity Church, Tiverton, (Diocesan Council), Aquidneck Deanery
The Rev. R. Casey Shobe (Congregational Development Commission) Narragansett Deanery.
Dennis Stark, St. Martin’s Church, Providence (Diocesan Council) Central Deanery.
The Rev. Peter Tierney, St. Andrews by the Sea, Little Compton, (elected) Aquidneck Deanery, Chair

Two other individuals have also served on the 2015 TF, but are not currently active members

The Rev. Edmund Harris, Church of the Epiphany, Rumford, (elected) East Bay Deanery.
The Rev. Michael Tessman, Church of the Holy Spirit, Charlestown, (elected), Narragansett Deanery

The Task Force meets as a whole monthly for prayer, the study of scripture, a review of current projects, and to assign sub-groups to work on the tasks that we are pursuing. Our conviction is that God has a purpose for the Episcopal Church in Rhode Island; our overall project is to see that the Diocese of RI is prepared to serve and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a faithful and holy manner.

Survey of Diocesan Life

Over the course of the past two years, the 2015 TF has engaged in several projects to assess the state of the Diocese:

1. **Snapshot of Financial Health in Congregations:**
   As a response to the State of the Congregations presentation by the Committee on Program and Budget in the spring of 2011, all congregations of the Diocese were asked to fill out a brief form on Congregational finances, including an assessment of satisfaction on various measurements of financial health and a summary of plans to address concerns where satisfaction levels were low.
As of the filing of this report, 32 of the 50 congregations have completed this snapshot, and members of the 2015 TF have gone to 18 of the 32 responding congregations to have direct conversations with congregational leaders about the Snapshot report. This has given us an opportunity to hear about real financial concerns, success stories, planning that is being done at the congregational level, and has helped to flesh out a picture that is only partially completed by numbers and metrics. The TF encourages all congregations to use this tool and to share your findings with us—members of the TF are continuing to schedule follow-up visits in order to gain as complete a picture of the Diocese as possible.

2. Analysis of Parochial Report data from 2006-2011:

In addition to the review of the current Snapshots, members of the TF have collected and collated parochial report data in order to analyze congregational trends over the past five years. Summaries of this information were presented to Diocesan Council, the Standing Committee, the Bishop and the Bishop-elect in September of 2012, and highlights will be presented to Convention.

3. Pilot Program of a Spiritual Vitality assessment survey:

After researching various options for conducting an assessment of spirituality in congregations, in addition to financial health, the TF opted to make use of a survey developed by Willow Creek Church and adapted specifically for Episcopal churches by the Diocese of Chicago. The Renewal survey helps congregations identify levels of spiritual maturity amongst members of the congregation, and indicates how well members are satisfied that church leaders and programs are helping to foster spiritual beliefs and practices that lead to a deeper relationship with God in Christ. Individual congregations’ responses are indexed against a database of over 1,000 churches of various denominations that have participated in the survey—this broad base for comparison was one of the strengths of this tool that led us to select it.

A pilot program was launched in collaboration with the Diocese of Chicago, who helped subsidize the cost of administering the survey. Four churches participated:

- Church of the Epiphany, Rumford
- Emmanuel Church, Cumberland
- Holy Trinity Church, Tiverton
- St. Barnabas’ Church, Warwick

In addition, Trinity Church in Newport had already administered the unadapted survey. Results of the pilot program were consistent amongst the congregations in Rhode Island, and also tracked the results of the congregations in the Diocese of Chicago, as well as other Episcopal Churches who have participated.

Highlights will be shared in our presentation to Convention, but overall, the findings show a pattern of spiritual immaturity amongst Episcopalians, with fewer regular spiritual habits and less conviction about core Christian beliefs. However, these areas of concern appear alongside a strong commitment to personal service in communities. Considering that one of our Diocesan mission priorities has been Christian formation, these findings suggest that we need to look at new ways of communicating and fostering Christian teaching and growth in our congregations.

The 2015 Task Force intends to offer all congregations in the Diocese the opportunity to use this survey, and will have a team available to support congregations as they process
the results and look for how to adapt their own methods to help foster greater spiritual maturity amongst their members. Details about how to participate will be forthcoming in 2013.

4. Evaluation of Diocesan Mission Priorities:

As the TF has gone out to meet with congregations, so we have also met with Diocesan leaders and staff members in programs connected to each of the stated Mission Priorities: the Episcopal Conference Center, Hispanic Ministries, Congregational Development, and Christian Formation. Interviews with these leaders have focused on determining whether there are clear goals, what planning is taking place to meet those goals, financial support for initiatives and programs, how these ministry areas foster spiritual health and vitality for members of the Diocese, and how they serve the general populace of Rhode Island.

The 2015 Task Force has also begun speaking with the Mission Task Force about the role of the Mission Focus: feeding the hungry, and a shared dinner between the two groups and Bishop-elect Knisely opened the conversation about what the future mission priorities will be for our Diocese. Over the course of 2013, we envision that the two Task Forces will make recommendations about how to focus the energies of the Diocese on a restated set of Mission Priorities.

Other Activities

1. Endowment Consolidation:

The Diocese of Rhode Island is the beneficiary of funds received over many years, now held in over 130 separate accounts. Some are unrestricted, while many are restricted for designated uses, with some being quite small. Under recent Federal and State of RI legislation it is now permissible to consolidate and eliminate restrictions on small funds as long as the broad purpose is maintained. The legal basis is the Uniform Performance Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) and the parallel Rhode Island law. Approval authority rests in the Attorney General’s office. In 2011, the 2015 TF began exploring whether the Diocese could take advantage of these new provisions to consolidate some of our endowed funds, which would have the benefit of streamlining our accounting and budgeting procedures. With the assistance of the Diocesan Treasurer, we have identified all of the endowed accounts that would be eligible for consolidation. Furthermore, we are monitoring the progress of another non-profit institution that is currently pursuing consolidation, so that we will be aware of potential complications and able to complete any application expeditiously. Such an application will depend upon the services of the Diocesan Chancellor.

2. Revising the Diocesan Budget and Chart of Accounts:

Without a clear sense of the mission that we are aiming to strategically support, the Task Force cannot at this time make concrete recommendations about how we change the financial structures and reporting of the Diocese. However, we have met with Diocesan staff members and are collaborating with the Program and Budget Committee in order to familiarize ourselves with the current budget structure. With that knowledge, and a clearer vision of where God is leading our Diocese, which we anticipate will emerge over the course of this next year, we are confident that we will be able to make strategic decisions.
about how to adapt our budgeting and accounting procedures to support the renewed mission of the Diocese and its congregations.

3. Review of Diocesan Governance, Committees, Constitution and Canons:

As with the financial piece, it would be premature to make significant changes to our organizational structures without a mind to what we are reorganizing to support. However, early in 2013, the TF will be speaking with Dan Hotchkiss, an Alban Institute consultant who specializes in church governance and organization, and the developer of the Financial Snapshot, to explore options for preparing to help our systems match our missions.

4. Analyzing Demographic Trends and Assessing Needs in Rhode Island

We have begun looking at the geographic distribution of our congregations, using demographic and mapping tools to see where our congregation can reasonably expect to draw participation and provide service. Our strongest concentration is in urban areas and weighted toward the southern and central portions of the state, with limited coverage in the northern and western parts of Rhode Island. Work in the coming years will determine how we can help expand the reach of the Diocese to the whole of Rhode Island, both in geographic scope and in determining what are outstanding needs of the people for which the Church is the best equipped body to address.

Summary

After two years of gathering information and analysis, the 2015 TF has a good picture of the state of the Diocese: our strengths, both at a Diocesan and Congregational level, as well as our challenges. Knowing who we are and where we are is helpful in determining where we wish to go together. In 2013, we encourage congregations to make use of the tools that this Task Force is making available, so that we are all in a position to contribute to a renewed and revitalized sense of mission and purpose together. Determining the shape and contour of that vision and will be the primary task of this coming year, and then we will be able to make recommendations about how to translate vision into reality.

If we want to save the life of this Church, we're going to have to lose it. If we want to find life within this body, we're going to have to give it away. We are once again being invited to let go of our idols and turn to God. . . This is kenotic work, self-giving work, what God does in pouring out the divine self into human flesh. We are here to serve God's people and God's creation, rather than ourselves.

--The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop
The Commission on Ministry met 8 times between October 2011 and October 2012.

The Commission considered and recommended 2 persons for candidacy (priesthood) and 1 person for candidacy (diaconate); 2 persons for ordination to the transitional diaconate; and 1 person to the priesthood. Becky Gettel and Sherilyn Pearce were ordained to the transitional diaconate and Patrick Campbell was ordained to the priesthood.

The Commission considered and interviewed three persons who completed the Discernment Program in the fall of 2011 for the permanent diaconate and one person for the priesthood who was recommended for postulancy. With the election of a new Bishop, it was decided not to recommend any aspirant to the diaconate for postulancy.

The Discernment Program for 2011-2012 began in the fall of 2011 but was not fully completed due to the death of its leader and mentor, The Rev. Alcide Barnaby. There are 5 persons in the process of finishing the program at this time.

The Commission also reviewed and revised its application for postulancy forms and mental health evaluation process. Also a diaconal formation subcommittee met several times and presented its report at the May meeting.

The Commission also met with The Rev. Linda Grenz and Bishop-elect Knisely to discuss its current work and concerns and to begin to consider its work with new diocesan leadership.

Carol Anne Bennett, Chair
COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Bennett, Chair the Committee on Resolutions, who, with Mr. Joel Gardiner, offered the following Courtesy Resolutions:

Resolved, that the 222nd Diocesan Convention heartily welcomes its new bishop, The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, and his family, as he begins his work with us, and we look forward with anticipation and excitement to his leadership, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its appreciation and sends greetings to its recently retired bishop, The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf, and her husband, Tom Bair, as they begin their new chapter of retirement, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its appreciation to The Rt. Rev. David Joslin, Assisting Bishop of Rhode Island, who for many years helped with diocesan affairs and now is retired once again, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention sends its greetings of affection and prayers to The Rt. Rev. George Hunt and his wife Barbara, and expresses its sincere appreciation that they were able to be with us for the consecration last month, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention extends its greetings and prayers to our Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, and to the retiring Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Rowan Williams, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention sends its greetings to the people of our companion Diocese of Ezo and their bishop, The Rt. Rev. John Zawo, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention heartily thanks the magnificent Search and Nomination and Transition Committees, headed so ably by Mrs. Lora MacFall, for their excellent work and superb process that enabled us to so easily select an outstanding new bishop, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention congratulates The Rev. Everett Greene on the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and The Rev. Daniel Burke on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention extends its congratulations to the Church of the Holy Trinity in Tiverton on its 300th anniversary and to Saint Matthew’s Church in Jamestown on its 175th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention congratulates Saint Peter’s (170 years) and Saint Andrew’s (120 years) Church in Providence on its 40 years of merger and wishes the parish continued success and faithfulness, and be it further
Resolved, that this Convention expresses its congratulations on the recent mergers of Saint Alban's Church in Centredale and Trinity Church in North Scituate, and Saint Mark's Church in Riverside and Saint Matthew's Church in Barrington, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its sincere thanks for the ministry of the parishioners of the recently closed Cathedral of Saint John in Providence and Saint Mark's Church in Warren, and wishes their people well as they find new parish homes, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its appreciation to all the dedicated Episcopalians within this state who work so diligently on the various commissions, committees, and institutions of this Diocese, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its warmest appreciation to the Episcopal Church Women who provided welcomed hospitality for Convocation, the election of the bishop, and this Convention, and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention expresses its thanks to all those who have offered their ministry of administration and support for this Convention, and especially to Saint Luke's Church in East Greenwich, our host for Evensong and this Convention, and be it further

Resolved that this Convention expresses its appreciation to all the members of the Bishop’s staff for their continued, faithful ministry to all of us and for our Diocese during this period of transition and into the future.

The Courtesy Resolutions were passed with applause.
Canonically Resident Clergy as of November 27, 2012

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<td>ALMON, Austin A. Jr.</td>
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HICKOX, Jean W. 4/5/1986 RI
HIGBIE, Margaret C. F. 6/23/1990 RI
HIGGINBOTHAM, John 01/08/11 RI
HITT, Mary L. 4/13/1995 RI
HUNT, Bishop George N. 3/1/1980 CA
HUYCK, Jonathan T. 11/8/2010 Conv. of Amer. Churches in Europe
JOHNSON, Ida R. 7/13/1985 RI
JOHNSON, Michaela M. 12/1/1992 W. MA
JULIAN, Mercedes 04/12/2010 So. Carolina
KELLY, Meaghan 11/29/2012 No Carolina
KNISELY, W. Nicholas 11/17/2012 AZ
KORTE, Mary 08/16/2012 MA
KOUMRIAN, Paul S. 1/2/1992 MA
KRAUSS, Harry E, 10/24/2005 NY
KUEHL, H. August 9/17/1973 Rochester
LANE, Peter A. 03/27/2012 NH
LAREMORE, Richard T. 6/20/1954 RI
LAVALLEE, Donald A. 6/19/1965 RI
LEMERY, Gary C. 8/19/1983 CA
LESIEUR, Betsy 7/13/1985 RI
LLOYD, Kevin M. 3/7/2006 Western North Carolina
LOCKE, William R. 12/27/1993 RI
LUCEY, David J. 2/10/2009 Chicago
MANCHESTER, Sean 11/16/1992 Rio Grande
MARSHALL, Robert K. 9/30/2010 Southwestern Virginia
MATOTT, Michele 11/22/1992 RI
MAUNHEY, James Patrick 4/27/1982 Sul Central Brazil
MAYS-STOCK, Barbara L. 3/20/1994 RI
MELLO, Iris E. 7/13/1985 RI
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<td>RYAN, David A.</td>
<td>6/18/1960</td>
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SCHELL-LAMBERT, Anita 04/16/2010 Vermont
SCHWEINSBURG, Jr., Richard 5/20/1998 Albany
SCOTT, Keith E. 6/28/1965 S. OH
SESSIONS, Marcia A. 8/1/1994 VA
SHATTUCK, Gardiner H. 7/15/1986 MA
SHIPPEE, Richard C. 6/14/1975 RI
SHOBE, Melody W. 09/13/2010 Virginia
SHOBE, R. Casey 11/25/2008 Texas
SHOEMAKER, H. Stephanie C. 3/16/1991 RI
SIMONIAN, Marlene 6/23/1990 RI
SIMPSON, Richard R. 8/26/1997 Western KS
SPENCER, Peter L. 6/19/1965 RI
SPULNIK, Frederick J. 6/26/1984 MA
STAHL, Daryl W. 8/15/1990 IA
STENNING, Gordon J. 6/24/1955 RI
STILES, Susan R. 1/27/1996 RI
STRAHAN, Linda C. 2/21/1984 VA
TARRANT, Paul 2/23/1995 MA
THORNE, Joyce 5/22/2010 RI
TIERNEY, Peter G. III 06/30/2010 MA
TIERNEY, Phillip J. 1/31/2005 NC
TIERNEY, Veronica M 01/12/2012 Los Angeles
TRAFFORD, Edward J. 4/5/1986 RI
TURNBULL, Henry G. 6/23/1956 RI
TWELVES, Paul D. 12/17/1996 Newark
ULANOWSKI, Paula H. 4/17/1983 RI
VANDERAU, Robert J., Jr. 3/17/1994 Cent. FL
VERBER, James L. 7/13/1985 RI
WARREN, George H 12/7/2005 Western MA
WESTHORP, Peter H. G. 6/24/1968 RI
WHEELOCK, L. Gail 2/4/1989 RI
WILLIS, Nancy A. 6/15/1996 RI
WINSOR, Edward S. 6/7/1958 RI
WOLF, Geralyn 2/17/1996 Kentucky
WRATHALL, Susan Lynn 5/25/2006 RI
WRIGHT, Elizabeth L. 2/4/1989 RI
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND

December 31, 2012

VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY (Owned by the Diocese) as of November, 2012

Values reflect search of Local Tax Assessors records for “Assessed Tax Valuations” in the city or town of record. Although listed on the Tax Rolls, these properties are not billed for any tax due based on exemption of religious organizations. This project is an annual update to 2012 assessed values. The only unknown at this time is the cemetery adjacent to St. Andrews/Phillip in West Warwick, not recorded as owned by the diocese, although we treat it as such.

This update reflects the record of these properties within the official requirement of the Secretary of Diocesan Convention for annual certification.

These assessed values DO NOT necessarily reflect a real market value for any purpose, but are a measure of value short of doing professional outside appraisal of each property. Such a cost to diocesan resources would be prohibitive (& considered unnecessary) by the writer.

Robert L. G. Batchelor, CPA
Treasurer of the Diocese
# PLANT ASSETS – PROPERTY OWNED

**October, 2011**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2011 Assessed Valuation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cathedral Close:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cathedral House &amp; Annex</td>
<td>273-305 North Main St., Providence, RI</td>
<td>$ 1,684,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hallworth House</td>
<td>62-66 Benefit Street, Providence, RI</td>
<td>3,234,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hallworth House Parking Lots</td>
<td>14 &amp; 18 Star Street, Providence, RI</td>
<td>483,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwards Fund Homes</td>
<td>74, 78,80,82, &amp; 88 Benefit St., Prov., RI</td>
<td>3,085,400</td>
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<td>Adjacent Parking Lot</td>
<td>69 Benefit Street, Providence, RI</td>
<td>502,500</td>
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<td>Old Narragansett Church Close:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old Narragansett Church</td>
<td>62 Church Lane, No. Kingstown, RI</td>
<td>389,500</td>
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<td>“Greenway” (vacant land)</td>
<td>Access from Main St., No. Kingstown, RI</td>
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<td>Vacant Land (Merrill/Brown)(Lot 072)</td>
<td>Church Lane, No. Kingstown, RI</td>
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<td>Vacant Land (Merrill)(Lot 269)</td>
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<td>Vacant Land (Baker)(Lot 277)</td>
<td>Church Lane, No. Kingstown, RI</td>
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<td>Burial Ground</td>
<td>Shermantown Road, No. Kingstown, RI</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Properties:</td>
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<td>Episcopal Conference Center Complex –</td>
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<td>Parcel 264/001</td>
<td>872 Reservoir Rd., Pascoag, RI (Burrillville)</td>
<td>1,174,000</td>
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<td>Parcel 264/006</td>
<td>874 Reservoir Rd., Pascoag, RI (Burrillville)</td>
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<td>Parcel 007-001-000</td>
<td>872 Reservoir Rd., Pascoag, RI (Glocester)</td>
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<td>Parcel 010-044-000</td>
<td>155 Reservoir Rd., Pascoag, RI (Glocester)</td>
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<td>May House &amp; Cottage</td>
<td>110-120 Cold Spring Lane, No. Kingstown, RI</td>
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<td>Vacant Land(Lot 087)</td>
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<td>Vacant Land(Lot 104)</td>
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<td>Improved Land (Long Term Lease)</td>
<td>389 Elmwood Ave., Providence, RI</td>
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<td>Cemetery (adjacent – St. Andrew/Phillip)</td>
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<td>Vacant Land (Grant House)(Lot 29/30)</td>
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<td>Mission Churches:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calvary Church &amp; Vicarage</td>
<td>156 Broad Street, Pascoag, RI</td>
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<td>Church of the Holy Cross</td>
<td>1439 West Main Road, Middletown, RI</td>
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<td>Church of the Holy Spirit -</td>
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<td>Vacant Land (Lot 13/42)</td>
<td>Old Post Road, Charlestown, RI</td>
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<td>Land &amp; Building (Lot 13/43)</td>
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<td>St. Ann’s-by-the-Sea</td>
<td>25 Spring Street, New Shoreham, RI</td>
<td>866,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>----------</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Elizabeth Chapel</td>
<td>63 Canonchet Road, Hope Valley, RI</td>
<td>$486,700</td>
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<td>St. Francis Church</td>
<td>RR#2, Peckham Lane, Coventry, RI</td>
<td>403,900</td>
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<td>St. Mark’s Church</td>
<td>21 Lyndon Street, Warren, RI</td>
<td>260,000 (*)</td>
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<td>St. Mark’s Vicarage</td>
<td>16 School Street, Warren, RI</td>
<td>255,000 (*)</td>
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<td>St. Matthias Church</td>
<td>1395 Nooseneck Hill Rd., Coventry, RI</td>
<td>450,000 (*)</td>
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<td>St. Matthias Vicarage</td>
<td>1 Rectory Drive, Coventry, RI</td>
<td>190,000 (*)</td>
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<td>St. Paul’s Church</td>
<td>2673 - 2679 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI</td>
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<td>St. Thomas Church</td>
<td>322 Church Street, Alton, RI</td>
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**Total Estimated Value**

$19,588,400

This is to certify that the above are Diocesan owned properties.

The Reverend Kevin M. Lloyd, Secretary to Convention
APPENDIX I – Agenda

THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
222nd Annual Convention

Saturday, December 1, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
Saint Luke's Episcopal Church
99 Peirce Street, East Greenwich

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Report of the Secretary
3. Recognition of Search and Transition Committees
4. Membership and Rules of Order
5. Agenda
6. Consideration of Late Resolutions

Address by The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely

7. Report of Committee on Canons
8. Report of Committee on Elections

Balloting

9. Report of the Treasurer
10. Report of Committee on Program and Budget
11. Report of the Committee on Resolutions
12. Report on the Jonathan Daniels House
15. Report of Commission on Congregational Development
16. Elections, Confirmations and Appointments
17. Consideration of Courtesy Resolutions
18. Closing Prayers

At the discretion of the Bishop

Additional Balloting
Announcements and Recesses
Noonday Prayers and Necrology
Luncheon Recess
Appendix II
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
December 31, 2011
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<tr>
<th>Table of Contents</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent Auditor’s Report</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Statements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Financial Position</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statement of Activities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Statement of Cash Flows</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes to Financial Statements</td>
<td>5 - 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Auditor’s Report on Additional Information</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Schedule of Program Expenses</td>
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To the Diocesan Council
The Diocese of Rhode Island
Providence, Rhode Island

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of The Diocese of Rhode Island (a not-for-profit organization) as of December 31, 2011, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Diocese's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Diocese of Rhode Island as of December 31, 2011, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

May 22, 2012
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2011

ASSETS

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (Notes 2 and 15) $ 3,024,274

RECEIVABLES:
   Apportionment – net of allowance for
      uncollectibles of $8,235 $ 90,358
   Pledges - net of allowance for
      uncollectibles of $6,879 (Note 3) 12,776
   Loans (Note 4) 213,901
   Other 3,981
   Total receivables 321,016

BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN PERPETUAL TRUSTS (Note 5) 433,189

INVESTMENTS (Note 2 and Note 6) 17,767,927

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, Net (Note 8) 3,742,683

TOTAL ASSETS $25,289,089

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES $ 128,126

NET ASSETS:
   Unrestricted:
      Undesignated $6,480,892
      Designated for specific purposes 3,193,189
   Total unrestricted $ 9,674,081

   Temporarily restricted (Note 10) 11,568,416
   Permanently restricted (Note 11) 3,918,466

TOTAL NET ASSETS 25,160,963

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $25,289,089

See accompanying notes to financial statements.
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the year ended December 31, 2011

OPERATING REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT:

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<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
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<td>Program services revenue</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>149,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions (Note 12)</td>
<td>1,207,765</td>
<td>(1,207,765)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total operating revenue and other support $3,792,019 $55,879 $0 $3,847,898

OPERATING EXPENSES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program expenses (Schedule 1)</td>
<td>$2,366,887</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$2,366,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support services</td>
<td>757,028</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>757,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Charities granted to Non-Diocesan programs</td>
<td>343,798</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>343,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>125,012</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>125,012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total operating expenses $3,592,725 $0 $0 $3,592,725

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$199,294</td>
<td>$55,879</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$255,173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER CHANGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment returns (losses) not designated for current operations</td>
<td>($230,767)</td>
<td>($784,444)</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>($1,015,211)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net loss on beneficial interest in perpetual trusts</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>(22,842)</td>
<td>(22,842)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of church property (Note 14)</td>
<td>535,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>535,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other transfers</td>
<td>(115,231)</td>
<td>115,231</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total other changes $189,002 ($669,213) ($22,842) ($503,053)

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$388,296</td>
<td>($613,334)</td>
<td>($22,842)</td>
<td>($247,880)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET ASSETS, January 1, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9,285,785</td>
<td>12,181,750</td>
<td>3,941,308</td>
<td>25,408,843</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NET ASSETS, December 31, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$9,674,081</td>
<td>$11,568,416</td>
<td>$3,918,466</td>
<td>$25,160,963</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended December 31, 2011

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES
Changes in net assets
Adjustments to reconcile changes in net assets to net
  cash provided by operating activities:
    Depreciation
    Land and buildings from church closings
    Realized and unrealized (gains) losses
    Decrease in receivables
    Increase in accounts payable and
    accrued expenses
  Net cash provided by operating activities

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES
Purchase of property and equipment
Proceeds from sale of investments
Purchase of investments
  Net cash used by investing activities

NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, January 1, 2011

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, December 31, 2011

See accompanying notes to financial statements.
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND  
Providence, Rhode Island  

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2011  

Note 1. NATURE OF ACTIVITIES

The Diocese of Rhode Island ("Diocese") is a nonprofit religious corporation established under the laws of the State of Rhode Island. The Diocese is dedicated to establishing, developing, and furthering the mission of The Episcopal Church in Rhode Island.

The Diocese is supported by apportionment amounts received from member parishes, contributions received from various donors, and endowment income.

The accompanying financial statements do not include the activities of any of the following funds or entities: The Diocesan Investment Trust; Cathedral of St. John; and the individual parishes and missions within the Diocese.

Note 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and follow the provisions of ASC 958-205, which provides guidance on the net asset classification of donor-restricted endowment funds for a non-profit organization that is subject to an enacted version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act ("UPMIFA") and also requires disclosures about endowment funds, including donor-restricted endowment funds and board-designated endowment funds.

The Diocese is incorporated in and is subject to the laws of Rhode Island, which adopted legislation that incorporates the provisions of UPMIFA. Under UPMIFA, the assets of a donor-restricted endowment fund may be appropriated for expenditure in accordance with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. As a result of this law and the adoption of ASC 958-205, the Diocese classifies its net assets as follows:

Unrestricted – includes net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purposes in performing the primary objectives of the Diocese.
Temporarily Restricted – includes net assets that are subject to donor-imposed restrictions that will be met either by actions of the Diocese or the passage of time.
Permanently Restricted – includes net assets that are subject to donor-imposed restrictions that they be maintained in perpetuity by the Diocese. Generally, the donors of these assets permit the Diocese to use all or part of the income and gains earned on related investments for general or specific purposes.

When donor-imposed restrictions are met, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. For those temporarily restricted gifts whose restrictions are met within the same fiscal year, the Diocese initially records them within temporarily restricted net assets.
Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual amounts could differ from those estimates.

Cash Equivalents

The Diocese considers all highly liquid instruments with an original maturity of three months or less from the date of the purchase to be cash equivalents, with the exception of cash and short-term investments managed by the Diocese investment managers for long-term investment purposes.

Receivables

Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect on outstanding balances. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a provision for bad debt expense and an adjustment to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable.

Investments

The Diocese’s investments are in pooled investment funds held by the Diocesan Investment Trust, a separate non-regulated investment fund organized to provide investment options to the Diocese, its parishes and other related organizations. The investments in the Diocesan Investment Trust are carried at estimated fair value based principally upon the quoted market prices of the underlying assets of the fund.

Assets Held in Trust

The Diocese is a beneficiary of certain trusts that have been established by donors with funds contributed to be held in perpetuity. Under provisions of the trusts, the Diocese receives, annually, income on the trusts’ assets, as has been stipulated by the donor, that can be utilized in any way that is consistent with the Diocese’s mission. Distributions are recorded as unrestricted program service revenue in the combined statements of activities and changes in net assets. Changes in market value are recorded as increases or decreases to permanently restricted net assets in the statement of activities.
Property and Equipment

Missions and other real property in the name of the Diocese at January 1, 1982 were recorded at appraised value. Subsequent acquisitions are carried at cost. Land and building of the Hallworth House are carried at cost. Land and buildings restricted by donors are recorded at appraised value. Equipment and motor vehicles are carried at cost. Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Expenditures for maintenance and routine repairs are charged to expense as incurred; expenditures for improvements and major repairs that materially extend the useful lives of assets are capitalized.

Income Tax Status

The Diocese qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, has no provision for federal income taxes. In addition, the Diocese qualifies for the charitable contribution deduction under Section 170(b)(1)(A).

Subsequent Events

In connection with the preparation of the financial statements, the Diocese evaluated subsequent events through May 22, 2012 which was the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3. PLEDGES RECEIVABLE

Unconditional promises are included in the financial statements as pledges receivable and revenue of the appropriate net asset category. Pledges, net of allowance for uncollectibles, are expected to be collected within the next year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total pledges</td>
<td>$19,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less allowance</td>
<td>6,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net pledges</td>
<td>$12,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pledges receivable at December 31, 2011 have the following restrictions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Charities</td>
<td>$12,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 4. LOANS RECEIVABLE

The Diocese maintains a revolving loan fund for the purpose of granting loans to parishes and missions in need of financial assistance. At December 31, 2011, nine (9) loans were outstanding totaling $213,901. Interest is charged on the loan balances at an annual rate ranging from 2.25% to 6.50%. The loans mature at various dates until the year 2016.
Note 5. BENEFICIAL INTERESTS IN PERPETUAL TRUSTS

The Diocese is the beneficiary of certain trusts created by donors, the assets of which are in the possession of financial institutions and not the Diocese. The Diocese's rights to such assets, is the right to receive annual income. Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) related to the beneficial interests are reported as changes in permanently restricted net assets based on explicit donor stipulations. The fair values at December 31, 2011 of those beneficial interests were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arthur A. Gammell Fund</td>
<td>$213,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James S. Dunning and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beatrice Marion Dunning Fund</td>
<td>121,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edna H. Treat Trust</td>
<td>98,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$433,189</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 6. INVESTMENTS

Investments at December 31, 2011 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment Funds</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Fair Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pooled investment funds – Diocesan Investment Trust</td>
<td><strong>$14,442,377</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,767,927</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Investment income (losses) for the year ended December 31, 2011 is comprised of the following:

- Interest and dividend income: $961,606
- Realized gain: 3,208
- Unrealized loss: (1,018,419)

Note 7. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is the price that would be received upon sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The following fair value hierarchy is used in selecting inputs, with the highest priority given to Level 1, as these are the most transparent or reliable:

Level 1 – Quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND  
Providence, Rhode Island  

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
December 31, 2011  

Level 2 – Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical 
or similar instruments in markets that are not active, and model-derived valuations in which 
all significant inputs are observable in active markets.  

Level 3 – Valuations derived from valuation techniques in which one or more significant 
inputs are not observable.  

Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2011 are as follows:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pooled investment funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Investment Trust</td>
<td>$ -0</td>
<td>$17,767,927</td>
<td>$ -0</td>
<td>$17,767,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets held in Trust</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>433,189</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>433,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>$18,201,116</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>$18,201,116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 8. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT  

Property and equipment consist of the following:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land and buildings</td>
<td>$7,346,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>37,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>94,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$7,478,812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>3,736,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,742,683</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Depreciation expense for 2011 was $73,350.  

Note 9. ENDOWMENT  

The Diocese’s endowment consists of approximately 100 individual funds established for a 
variety of purposes, including both donor-restricted endowment funds and funds designated 
by the Diocese to function as endowments. Net assets associated with endowment funds, 
including funds designated by the Diocese to function as endowments, are classified and 
reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.  

Interpretation of Relevant Law  

The Diocese has interpreted the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act 
(UPMIFA) requiring the preservation of the original value of the original gift as of the gift 
date of the donor restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the 
contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Diocese classifies as permanently restricted net 
assets (a) the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment, (b) the original gift
value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment, and (c) accumulations to the
can be made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift
instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund.

The portion of donor-restricted endowment funds that is not classified as permanently
restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are
appropriated for expenditure by the Diocese in a manner consistent with the standard of
prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. In accordance with UPMIFA, the Diocese considers the
following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted
endowment funds:

- The duration and preservation of the fund
- The purposes of the Diocese and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- General economic conditions
- The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- Other resources of the Diocese
- The investment policies of the Diocese

Net assets comprising true endowment funds and funds designated by the Diocese to function
as endowments were as follows at December 31, 2011:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donor-restricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endowment funds</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>$3,706,302</td>
<td>$14,592,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board-designated</td>
<td>3,608,600</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>3,608,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>endowment funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$3,608,600</td>
<td>$10,886,214</td>
<td>$3,706,302</td>
<td>$18,201,116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2011 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment net assets,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beginning of the year</td>
<td>$3,707,596</td>
<td>$11,475,967</td>
<td>$3,729,144</td>
<td>$18,912,707</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Investment return:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dividend and interest income</td>
<td>$193,418</td>
<td>$768,188</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$961,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized and unrealized gains</td>
<td>(230,767)</td>
<td>(784,444)</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>(1,015,211)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease value to beneficial</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>-0</td>
<td>(22,842)</td>
<td>(22,842)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interest in perpetual trusts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total investment return</td>
<td>($37,349)</td>
<td>($16,256)</td>
<td>($22,842)</td>
<td>($76,447)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2011

Other changes:
Contributions $ 36,862 $ 200,691 $ -0 $ 237,553

Appropriation of endowment
assets for expenditure ( 98,509) ( 774,188) -0 ($ 872,697)
Total other changes ($ 61,647) ($ 573,497) $ -0 ($ 635,144)

Endowment net assets,
end of the year $3,608,600 $10,886,214 $3,706,302 $18,201,116

Funds with Deficiencies

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with an individual donor-restricted endowment fund may fall below the amount designated as permanently restricted net assets. Deficiencies of this nature, which are reported in unrestricted net assets, aggregated $47,603 as of December 31, 2011. These deficiencies resulted principally from investment losses and continued appropriation for certain programs that was deemed prudent by the Diocese. Subsequent gains that restore the fair value of the assets of these endowment funds to the required level will be classified as increases in unrestricted net assets.

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The Diocese has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets, including both donor-restricted and designated funds. The long-term investment return objective is developed to maintain purchasing power after accounting for both inflation and spending. Actual returns in any given year or period of years may vary from this amount.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Diocese relies on a total return strategy in which the investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Diocese targets a diversified asset allocation to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.
Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy

The Diocese invests its endowment funds and allocates the related earnings for expenditure in accordance with the total return concept. The endowment usage is determined in accordance with the policy adopted by the Diocese. This policy fixes the spending range of endowment total return between 4.25% and 5.25% of the average fair value of applicable endowment for the twelve quarters preceding the quarter of a distribution, with the objective being to hold the spending rate to no more than 5% average over time. Applicable endowments include Diocese-designated and donor-designated endowment funds.

Note 10. TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets are available to support the following purposes at December 31, 2011:

Office of the Bishop .................................................. $3,268,846
Clergy development .................................................. 495,467
Other leadership and pastoral support ......................... 24,513
Episcopal Conference Center and City Camp ............. 491,558
Ministry to higher education ................................ 217,366
Other outreach ......................................................... 591,476
Congregational development ................................ 2,441,004
Support services .................................................... 1,835,044
Episcopal charities .................................................. 2,203,142
Total ........................................................................ $11,568,416

Note 11. PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Permanently restricted net assets consisting of property and investments are restricted in perpetuity, the income from which is available to support the following purposes at December 31, 2011:

Office of the Bishop .................................................. $1,565,502
Episcopal Conference Center and City Camp .......... 108,193
Other outreach ......................................................... 90,039
Congregational development ................................ 384,776
Support services .................................................... 378,279
Episcopal charities .................................................. 1,391,677
Total ........................................................................ $3,918,466
THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND
Providence, Rhode Island

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2011

Note 12. NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by occurrence of other events specified by donor.

Purpose restrictions accomplished:
Office of the Bishop $ 312,304
Clergy development 26,971
Other leadership and pastoral support 15,162
Episcopal Conference Center and City Camp 159,187
Ministry to higher education 12,512
Other outreach 33,893
Congregational development 107,648
Support services 71,278
Episcopal charities 468,810

$1,207,765

Note 13. PENSION PLANS

The Diocese has a defined benefit pension plan covering its retired lay employees. Benefits are based on years of service and the employee’s average earnings for the highest five (5) consecutive years. The Diocese’s funding policy is to annually contribute the amount required under the minimum funding standards.

The Diocese did not contribute to this plan in 2011. An actuary’s statement shows that no contribution was needed to keep the plan funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

The Diocese also has a defined contribution plan sponsored by the National Church. The plan covers the Diocese’s active lay employees. Contributions are made by the Diocese at a minimum of five percent of an employee’s salary to a maximum of nine percent. The Diocese contributed $62,256 to this plan in 2011.

The Diocese also contributed $61,698 to a plan sponsored by the National Church covering clergy employed by the Diocese.
Note 14. CHURCH PROPERTIES

In 2011, the Diocese received land and buildings upon the closing of certain parishes. At December 31, 2011, mergers and closings of other parishes and missions were under consideration. The financial effect to the Diocese from future mergers and closings cannot be estimated at this time, and therefore are not reflected in the financial statements.

Note 15. CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

At times, throughout the year, the Diocese maintained amounts in certain bank accounts in excess of the FDIC insured limits.
To the Diocesan Council  
The Diocese of Rhode Island  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
ON ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have audited the financial statements of The Diocese of Rhode Island as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, and have issued our report thereon dated May 22, 2012, which contained an unqualified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedule of program expenses is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

May 22, 2012
### SCHEDULE I

THE DIOCESE OF RHODE ISLAND  
Providence, Rhode Island

**SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM EXPENSES**  
For the year ended December 31, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Apportionment Funded</th>
<th>Non-Apportionment Funded</th>
<th>Total Program Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leadership &amp; Pastoral Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of the Bishop</td>
<td>$ 297,442</td>
<td>$236,657</td>
<td>$ 534,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support of the Bishop</td>
<td>92,719</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>92,719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>84,195</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>84,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergy Development/Deployment</td>
<td>99,813</td>
<td>5,972</td>
<td>105,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Leadership &amp; Support</td>
<td>75,095</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>81,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total leadership &amp; pastoral support</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 649,264</strong></td>
<td><strong>$248,629</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 897,893</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outreach, Advocacy &amp; Service</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal Conference Center &amp; City Camp</td>
<td>$ 451,119</td>
<td>$ 7,605</td>
<td>$ 458,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Church Assessment</td>
<td>471,789</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>471,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry to Higher Education</td>
<td>41,591</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>41,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplaincies</td>
<td>17,771</td>
<td>10,272</td>
<td>28,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Outreach</td>
<td>27,622</td>
<td>32,197</td>
<td>59,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total outreach, advocacy &amp; service</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,009,892</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 50,074</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,059,966</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Congregational Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 282,547</td>
<td>$126,481</td>
<td>$ 409,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total program expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,941,703</strong></td>
<td><strong>$425,184</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,366,887</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>