



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
NOMINATION FORM (2022)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ For the position of \_\_\_\_\_

I / we wish to place in nomination the name of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name in full, as he or she signs it)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Congregation of Nominee)

She / He / They has given consent to this Nomination and, if elected, will serve in accord with the terms and responsibilities assigned to that particular office. Also, the three undersigned delegates or delegates-elect of the Diocesan Convention have consented to this nomination. At least two of the undersigned must represent Congregations other than that of which the nominee is a member.

(Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish) \_\_\_\_\_

(Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish) \_\_\_\_\_

(Print) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish) \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Signatures may be submitted via this form, or may take the form of an email to the Secretary of Convention indicating the endorser's support.**

**FOR THE PERSON NOMINATED:** Please submit your answers to the following questions. Please type or write legibly in black ink, and keep your answers brief.

1. List any elected or appointed positions or ministries held at the parish, diocesan, provincial and/or national church level.
2. Provide a 40-50 word Statement on why you seek to serve in the office for which you are being nominated.
3. Provide a 40-50 word Statement on issues that you believe are important in the life of the diocese and the church.
4. OPTION: Provide a short 2-3 minute YouTube video that covers the above questions.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- All candidates must submit a completed nomination form even if they are standing for reelection.
- The three delegates or delegates-elect of the Diocesan Convention listed above have consented to this nomination.
- At least two of the undersigned must represent congregations other than that of which the nominee is a member; they can be any combination of clergy or lay.
- Duplication of this form is permitted. \_

**Return this nomination form, via email ONLY, by August 30, 2022 to: The Secretary of Convention, Wende Wheeler at wende.wheeler@gmail.com**

Information requested with nomination

Eliot Moss, Nomination for Deputy to General Convention 2022

1. Elected/appointed positions/ministries:

General Convention Deputy, 2022

General Convention Deputy and co-Chair of Deputation, 2009

General Convention Alternate, 2006, 2012

Diocesan Council, 2008-2014, 2018-2024

Cathedral Chapter, 2006-2014

Priest-in-charge, St. John's, Athol, 2021-

Bridge/Interim Priest, St. John's, Athol, St. Paul's, Gardner, 2019-2021

Vicar, St. John's, Ashfield, 2008-2017

Assisting Priest, Atonement, Westfield, 2005-2008

Deacon, Atonement, Westfield, 2004-2005

2. Why I seek to serve in this office:

General Convention this year was drastically shortened; I want to follow through on the work we began. More than that, I believe our diocese is best served by a mix of experienced *and* newer deputies, so that we can have the most influence while also bringing up younger people after us. I believe I have enough experience to be effective and influential, especially by serving on the committees that craft the resolutions voted on at convention, without having over-stayed my welcome or denied voice to the next generations. My interests include expanding our welcome across genders and sexualities, dealing with generational shifts and negative perceptions of Christianity, advancing anti-racism and anti-colonialism, and addressing a growing shortage of clergy and shrinking budgets. I also want to see us expand our collection of fully authorized rites and prayers, including for marriage, while keeping the good liturgies we love, and to wrestle seriously with the issue of offering communion to those not yet baptized.

3. Issues I believe are important in the life of the diocese and the church:

Shrinking and aging congregations; a wave of clergy retirements; challenges in connecting with the younger generations; living into our welcome of diverse sexualities and genders; dealing with historical institutional collusion in racism and colonialism; and lack of diversity. I think there is a lot of *desire* to do better, and at the same time a lot of feeling at a loss as to *how* to move forward effectively while continuing to connect with longer time members. The deep divisions of this nation, which echo around the world, are also a big challenge. Together we need to find fresh ways to tell, and *be*, the Good News that reaches across difference and divides. Reform and institutional change in the central church and how it "does business" is a necessary part of this, and General Convention is the body that can create that institutional change.