



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

The Rev. Canon Rich Simpson

Nomination to Serve as Clerical Deputy to General Convention

1. Have served for twenty-five years in our diocese: a little more than fifteen as the rector of St. Francis, Holden and almost ten as Canon to the Ordinary. During that time:
 - a. Convention Deputy to the 77th General Convention (Indianapolis, 2012) and the 78th General Convention (Salt Lake City, 2015)
 - b. Past member of the Board for the Transition Ministry Conference.
 - c. Conference Leader for CREDO, a wellness program of the Church Pension Group.
 - d. Chaired the Search Committee for the IX Bishop of our Diocese.
 - e. Past member and then Chair of the Commission on Ministry.
 - f. Member of Diocesan Council as a parish priest and *ex officio* as diocesan staff.
 - g. Speaker for the Diocese of North Carolina and the Diocese of Massachusetts Clergy Conferences; conducted a Mutual Ministry Review for the Diocese of Maine.

2. I served twice before in this capacity as a parish priest and as a very new canon. Although I stepped back for a time, it now feels like the right time to serve again, if elected. There is a breadth and depth of experience of parishes large and small in our diocese that I now bring to my work and I think that voice would be helpful to share as part of a deputation.

3. The biggest challenge is what a post-pandemic Church is going to look like. We have been through some unintentional deconstruction at every level: now what do we build and plant? More importantly, what is God building and planting and how do we share in that work? Although I did not attend the last General Convention, I know it was much shorter. There were no doubt learnings that will shape what happens in Louisville in 2024. My prayer is that it will be the beginning of something new; different from the conventions I previously served at and different from what unfolded in Baltimore this past summer. God is surely doing a new thing!