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**Regarding Rules of Order**

**for**

**The 2022 Election of the Second Bishop**

**for the Gulf Atlantic Diocese**

 ***Proposed by the Standing Committee of the Diocese and referred to the Constitution and Canons Committee of the Diocese.***

***Whereas***the Canons*of the Gulf Atlantic Diocese provides the normal Rules of Order for the conduct of a Diocesan Synod and,*

***Whereas*** *the preamble of those Rules of Order allows for the normal Rules of Order to be suspended only with a majority vote of the members present,*

***Whereas*** *the Electing Synod for a Bishop is procedurally different, requiring a modification of the customary Rules of Order, therefore it is*

***Resolved****, that solely for the meeting of the Diocesan* Electing Synod *held May 14, 2022, the rules included in the Canons be suspended and the following rules be adopted for this Synod only.*

*Proposed* **Rules of Order**

**Electing Synod – May 14, 2022**

*Rule 1*. The Eucharistic service at the Synod shall be at the discretion of the bishop, and shall be closed with appropriate prayers.

*Rule 2*. The Rules of Order for the Conduct of the Election on this day shall be those adopted by the Electing Synod and the only business to be conducted this day shall be the election of a Bishop.

*Rule 3*. The Secretary of Synod shall report on those present by Order for the conduct of the election and declare a quorum in each Order before proceeding. A majority of eligible delegates in each order shall constitute a quorum.

*Rule 4*. The Secretary of Synod shall read Canon 1, Section 5 of the Diocesan Canons, designating the required voting for an Episcopal election. The Chancellor will then give his interpretation of how that Article will be applied in this election.

**REGARDING THE ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS:**

*Rule 5.* After the Electing Synod has been declared organized the **order of proceedings shall be**:

 (1) The bishop shall appoint the elected representatives of the Diocesan Council to assist in the voting process. The appointment by the bishop of the following as Tellers for the election process:

1. The Rev. Bill Driscoll
2. The Rev. Taylor Ishii
3. The Rev. Christopher Jones
4. Mrs. Karla George
5. Mrs. Beth Kirby
6. Mrs. Julie O’Steen

 (3) The bishop may appoint such other committees as he deems necessary.

 (4) Other special reports to convention may be called for by the bishop at his discretion in the working

 agenda.

 (5) The Standing Committee of the Diocese and the Bishop Nominating Committee shall present the nominees in consideration for election as Bishop.

 (6) Upon completion of the nominations, the bishop shall bid the Convention to prayer, after which

 voting shall begin.

 (7) Voting for the election of the second Bishop for the Gulf Atlantic Diocese, in compliance with Canon 1, Section 5, shall proceed as further described below.

**THE FOLLOWING RULES SHALL DIRECT THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS ON THIS DAY:**

*Rule 6.* Voting will be by paper ballot using different colored paper for clergy and lay delegates. Also, if additional ballots are required, different colors shall be used for both orders than the colors used in any prior ballot.

(a) The Clergy Delegates and Lay Delegates shall vote simultaneously and their votes tallied by the tellers separately by Order.

(b) When the votes are tallied by the tellers, they are reported to the bishop, who announces the results to the assembly. A 2/3 majority in both orders is required for an election*.* The bishop then announces the result of the vote, in a manner similar to the following:

*"The whole number of votes cast is ; the number necessary for an election is in the Clergy Order and \_\_ in the Lay Order.*

*The Rev. \_\_\_\_\_\_ received \_\_ votes in the Clergy Order and \_\_ votes in the Lay Order. The Rev. \_\_\_\_\_\_ received \_\_ votes in the Clergy Order and \_\_ votes in the Lay Order.*

*The Rev. \_\_\_\_, having received the required number of votes is elected".*

(c) Voting will continue until such time as one nominee achieves a two-thirds majority in both orders. If no candidate is elected on the first ballot, delegates shall revote up to four additional times.

 *Rule 7.*  No name in nomination may be withdrawn during the conduct of a ballot. Before voting begins

or between ballots a nominee (or his nominator) may have his name withdrawn by communicating that request to the bishop, in which case the name will be automatically withdrawn and the members of the Electing Synod so advised.

*Rule 8.* After voting begins and prior to the election of the new Bishop, no members should be recognized for any purpose except (a) to move to suspend the balloting temporarily, (b) to move to recess the Electing Synod or (c) to move to adjourn. A member desiring recognition shall first go forward and state to the bishop the purpose for which he desires recognition.

 *Rule 9.* Upon the completion of a ballot, unless some member is recognized for the purpose of making a

motion permitted under Rule 8 above, the bishop may declare a recess and call the Electing Synod back to order when the Electing Synod is prepared to proceed.

 *Rule 10.* In the event there is no election on the 14th day of May, the delegates shall vote by majority to: (a) revote or (b) send both names to the College of Bishops for their choosing; or (c) reject all names. If all names are rejected, responsibility reverts to the Bishop Nominating Committee to produce a new slate of candidates. Within 90 days, the Electing Synod shall be reconvened by the Bishop and Standing Committee for a new vote and the bishop will declare the Electing Synod in recess.

 *Rule 11*. After the election of the new Bishop, no motion to recess or adjourn shall be in order until delegates representing two-thirds of each order present have signed the requisite testimonial .

 *Rule 12.* If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the Electing Synod, the bishop shall, or any member may, call to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immedi­ately be silent, unless permitted to explain. All questions of order shall be determined in the first instance, without debate, by the bishop, but any member may appeal from such decision to the Electing Synod and on such appeal no member shall speak more than once, without leave of the Electing Synod.

 *Rule 13.* The bishop shall have the right to name a member to perform the duties of the chair, but the substitution shall not extend beyond an adjourn­ment.

 *Rule 14.* None of the Rules of Order shall be suspended without the concurrence of a majority of the members present.

 *Rule 15.* Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings for this Electing Synod except as otherwise provided by the Constitution and Canons of this Diocese, and by these Rules of Order.

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**Testimonial of Delegates**

**for**

**The 2022 Election of the Second Bishop**

**for the Gulf Atlantic Diocese**

We, whose names are hereunder written, fully sensible of how important it is that the Sacred Order and Office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify that we know of no impediment on account of which the Reverend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ought not to be ordained to that Holy Office. We do, moreover, jointly and severally declare that we believe the Reverend \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to have been duly and lawfully elected and to be of such sufficiency in learning, of such soundness in the Faith, and of such godly character as to be able to exercise the Office of a Bishop to the honor of God and the edifying of the Church, and to be a wholesome example to the flock of Christ.

(Date) May 14th, 2022

Name Signature Congregation

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