

St. Thomas' Annual Meeting 2021

Voting Guide

In 2021 our annual meeting will take place online. Voting will be challenging online. Therefore you are strongly encouraged to review this voting guide *today* and to mail in the ballot in the back. You may also drop it into the offering basin if you attend church in person or email it to “vote@stthomasglassboro.org” (either scanned or typed in). Your vote will be held in confidence and reported only in aggregate. Once submitted, your vote cannot be changed.

Two ballots are included for up to two adults in your household to vote. If there are more qualified voters in your household, feel free to photocopy the ballot or just reproduce it by hand.

Nominations will be accepted at the Annual Meeting. But our goal is to avoid last-minute nominations that have not been thought through and prayed over. In the pages of this guide you will find the list of people who, with prayer and discernment, have offered themselves for these ministries ahead of time.

Please consider carefully and prayerfully the roles and people discussed in this guide. Who best reflects your vision of St. Thomas' and our Convocation/Diocese in 2021?

Annual Meeting – 31 January 2021 – 2pm – Online



St. Thomas' Vestry Candidate Information

(Vote for three)

The function of the Vestry is outlined by the canons of the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of New Jersey, and New Jersey state law. Serving on the vestry means being a legal representative of the parish and bearing responsibility for the conduct of the business of the parish. Candidates for vestry are required by canon to be “adult communicants in good standing” (which means over 16 years of age, registered as a member of the parish, attending regularly, and giving according to one’s pledge). Vestry are elected at the annual meeting to serve three year terms. This year we will elect three people.

Expectations for vestry persons are that they will:

- Attend monthly meetings (3rd Thursdays, 7.30-9.30pm)
- Attend an annual retreat (Superbowl Saturday, 9-4)
- Contribute to committee work outside of meetings
- Obtain and maintain current Safe Church training
- Attend weekly worship, occasionally visiting other services
- Participate in formation, coffee hour, other parish events
- Lead the parish in practices of Prayer, Stewardship, Hospitality, Service, and Love

Barbara J. Cadogan, MD

Member since: 1991

Why do you seek to serve on the Vestry?

To help St. Thomas in all aspects to include enhanced diversity and community outreach.

What do you see as the greatest opportunity and challenge facing St. Thomas'?

Right now, facing recovering from the Coronavirus, keeping people active in their faith and attending church (through Zoom or in person), and reaching out to those in need (physically and mentally).

What are your areas of interest as you serve on the Vestry?

Health and Aging Ministries, Community Service, Altar Guild



St. Thomas' Vestry Candidate Information (cont.)

Stacey Noll

Member since: 1982

Why do you seek to serve on the Vestry?

This church has helped me grow in faith as well as supported me over the years. I hope to give back in love and service.

What do you see as the greatest opportunity and challenge facing St. Thomas'?

I think we have a great opportunity to reach members and non-members through social media and our online presence.

What are your areas of interest as you serve on the Vestry?

I look to help wherever I am needed. I also have a background in marketing and graphic design that I believe can be helpful in reaching the church's goals.



Wayne Rowbotham

Member since: mid-1980's

Why do you seek to serve on the Vestry?

Over the years I have served multiple terms on vestry, and I currently participate in several ministries including: work crew, stewardship, stay safe, cemetery, and ham and oyster committees. This church has been here serving

God and the community for close to 250 years. Just think of how many lives have been touched by St. Thomas' over those years. I am honored to be able to contribute my time and talents to help maintain our campus, manage our finances, build our congregation, and expand our ministries. The strength of these elements will help assure that St. Thomas' will remain a safe haven for worship and comfort for all people in the years to come.



St. Thomas' Warden Candidate Information

(Vote for one)

St. Thomas' has two Wardens who serve as the executive committee of the Vestry and, for the purposes of New Jersey law, officers of the corporation. Our Wardens, the Junior and Senior, are elected on alternating years, each serving two year terms. The Junior Warden often concentrates on the care of St. Thomas' buildings and property. The Senior Warden facilitates the business of the Vestry and assists the Rector with the business of the parish. Presently our Junior Warden is Joe Rizzuto. This year we will elect our Senior Warden.

Eric Cephas

Member since: 2010

Why do you seek to serve as a Warden?

As part of my stewardship, I believe in doing my part and using my skills to support the good work and ministry of our church. Serving is the best way for me to be an example of Christ and to show how God is working in my life.



I have served in various roles at St Thomas': Lay Reader; Lay Eucharistic Minister; CROP Walk coordinator/recruiter; Secretary of Kitchen of Hope; Discernment Committee Chair; Stay Safe Committee Chair; and Choir. I look forward to serving and using my strengths in the future.

The current challenge for St. Thomas' is no doubt staying connected in this environment of social distancing, but it has also been a great opportunity in re-connecting with folks on a more personal level. Since the beginning of the pandemic, I've been working with vestry and other members of the congregation to regularly reach out to members we have not seen. Our Caring Phone Tree has been a fantastic way to both let our congregants know that we care about them and to also make sure others know how they are doing.

Creating opportunities for worshipping safely is critical to our continuity. I am most interested in making sure that our rector, our vestry, and our congregation have what they need to succeed in this goal.

Diocesan Convention Delegate (Vote for up to three)

St. Thomas' will elect three delegates for Diocesan Convention. The candidate with the most votes will lead the delegation. The top three candidates will be our delegates. The next three candidates will be the alternates.

Diocesan Convention is a time when representatives from around our Diocese gather to share in the polity of the Church, upholding the common mission and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. All are welcome to join us as we worship, conduct business, view and listen to presentations. Delegates have voice and vote to take part in the decision-making of the Diocese. The one-day convention will be held via Zoom this year on Saturday, 6 March 2021 (all day).

Because the business of the convention involves hundreds of people accomplishing many tasks in just a few short hours, virtually all the work has to be done ahead of time and simply ratified at convention. It begins in committees and proposals. It finishes in the pre-convention meetings which are designed to help the delegates to understand the matters that will be brought to the floor and convention and enable us to act upon them expeditiously. Thus the pre-convention meetings are the place to find out what's going on and also the place to ask questions, voice opinions, and make last-minute contributions to the shape of what will be brought to the convention floor. Pre-convention meetings are smaller than the full convention, making it easier to hear individual voices.

In addition to the Convention itself, delegates are expected to attend at least one pre-convention meeting of the several that will be held across the Diocese on weekday evenings in late January and early February.

Diocesan Convention Delegate Candidate Information (Vote for up to three)

Cole J. Banning

Member since: 2018

Fostering connections across the Diocese only enhances the work we are able to do as a parish, and allows us to better align our goals with the diocesan leadership's--and vice versa!

Tal Kramer

Member since: 2001

Reasons for wanting to participate: fostering relationship with Diocese in general; represent St Thomas on issues up for vote in a manner consistent with our parish's beliefs about the importance of the Diocese; stay abreast of developments within the Diocese.

Maiiya O'Neal

Member since: 2018

I think this delegate role will allow me to fellowship with other parishes as well as serve in a meaningful role for our church this year.

Convocation Delegates (Vote for up to six)

The “Convocation” is a group of Episcopal parishes and missions in South Jersey who choose to work together by virtue of our geographical proximity. The Dean of our convocation is The Very Rev. Brian Burgess, Rector of Christ Church, Woodbury. Our convocation is composed of the following congregations:

- Bridgeton, Church of the Resurrection
- Clarksboro, St. Peter’s
- Glassboro, St. Thomas’
- Millville, Christ Church
- Mullica Hill, St. Stephen’s
- Paulsboro, St. James’
- Penns Grove, Our Merciful Saviour
- Pennsville, St. George’s
- Pitman, Good Shepherd
- Salem, St. John’s
- Swedesboro, Trinity Church
- Wenonah, Holy Trinity
- Williamstown, St. Mark’s
- Woodbury, Christ Church
- Woodstown, St. Luke’s

St. Thomas’ will elect six delegates to Convocation. These will be responsible to attend quarterly convocation meetings. Meetings are typically on a weeknight, at Christ Church Woodbury. This is a great time to network with other nearby churches and to engage in mission as the larger Episcopal Church of south Jersey. Meetings are open to all, but only our official delegates get to vote.

Convocation Delegate Candidate Information

(Vote for up to six)

Cole J. Banning

Member since: 2018

I'm a firm believer in the importance of the Convocation as an essential step in between the individual congregation and such a large diocese as the Diocese of New Jersey. In a time when many parishes and missions face dwindling resources, it's essential for Episcopalians to work together to spread the good news of Jesus Christ in the region.

Eric Cephas

Member since: 2010

I seek to serve as a delegate to convocation because I see it as another opportunity to voice our parish's concerns, desires, or wishes and to be heard and represented at these meetings.

Becky Foster

Member since: 2018

I enjoy representing St. Thomas' at diocesan events and hearing what other churches in the convocation are involved in.

Gretchen Owen

Member since: 1968

I like to keep in touch with the happenings of not only the Woodbury Convocation but the Diocese as well. I look forward to sharing what happens at the convocation level with the members of St. Thomas.

Rachael Owen

Member since: 2000

I would like to be a convocation delegate because I want to serve St. Thomas as well as learn about what other churches are doing in our convocation.

Sarah Ternay

Member since: 1984

I seek to serve as a delegate to convocation because I believe staying "in the know" with our sister churches is important. I was proud to represent St. Thomas' in 2020 and would be honored to do so again in 2021.

By-Laws of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Glassboro, New Jersey

ARTICLE I

Annual Parish Meeting and Special Meetings of St. Thomas' Church

Section 5. Qualification of Voters. The persons entitled to vote at any meeting of the Parish, shall be:

- (a) Baptized;
- (b) At least 16 years of age;
- (c) Of good moral character;
- (d) Adherents of the Protestant Episcopal Church;
- (e) Regular attendees at the services of the Parish, meaning thereby those who are more frequently present than absent;
- (f) Regular contributors to the current operations of the Parish; and
- (g) Ineligible to vote or hold office in more than one parish in the Diocese of New Jersey.

Section 6. Call for Candidates. No less than thirty (30) days prior to each annual meeting the rector or designee shall announce the officer positions that are open for election at the next annual parish meeting and place a call for candidates. Such announcement and call shall be either verbally stated at Parish services or published in the service bulletin.

Candidates are encouraged to submit a biography to the rector or designee that will be published preceding the election.

Qualified persons may be nominated at the annual meeting. Nominations will remain open until the presiding officer of the meeting determines that no further nominations are being offered.

Instructions for Voting

Your ballot is on the reverse side of this page.

Vote for no more than the required number of candidates in each box.

Voting for too many candidates will disqualify your vote for that position.

If you circle a name and change your mind, just cross out the erroneous vote and choose another. Your name must appear on the bottom of the ballot to avoid double-counting.

After voting, tear this page off of the booklet and mail it in to the parish office, marked "Annual Meeting" as soon as possible! Alternatively, you may drop it into the offering basin or email it (a scan or typed in) to: vote@stthomasglassboro.org. Ballots must be received before the meeting in order to be counted.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church; 212 N Main St; Glassboro NJ 08028

2021 St. Thomas' Annual Meeting Ballot

Vote for Vestry (circle up to three):

Barbara Cadogan

Stacey Noll

Wayne Rowbotham

Vote for Senior Warden (circle one):

Eric Cephas

Vote for Diocesan Convention Delegates (circle up to three):

Cole J. Banning

Maiiya O'Neal

Tal Kramer

Vote for Convocation Delegates (circle up to six):

Cole J. Banning

Gretchen Owen

Eric Cephas

Rachael Owen

Becky Foster

Sarah Ternay

Voter Name:

Ballots due before meeting: Sunday, 31 January 2021, 2pm.

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