

A Bishop for Chicago

The Transition Committee's Charge

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Chicago has appointed a Transition Committee for the election of the 12th Bishop of Chicago, and issued this charge to direct its work.

The primary role of the Transition Committee is to develop and oversee a process that allows for a smooth transition for the new diocesan bishop. This will include support for both the outgoing and incoming bishops and their families, support for diocesan staff, planning for the election and consecration of the new bishop, communications, and celebrating the ministry of the Bishop and Mrs. Persell. All members of the Transition Committee are expected to have or be planning to participate in Anti-Racism training. The expected tenure of those serving on the transition Committee is from election and consecration planning, through new bishop's first year. The Transition Committee is expected to work within the parameters of the budget and seek alternative funding when needed, with the approval of the Standing Committee.

Communication

Participate on a Joint Communications Committee comprised of representatives from the Standing, Search and Transition committees in addition to others, setting a consistent tone and message for all communications regarding the search through the consecration of the new bishop.

Election

In conjunction with the Diocesan Convention Planning Committee and the approval of the Standing Committee, develop a plan for the election of the new bishop and coordinate aspects of this plan with the appropriate parties involved.

Thanking those nominees that are not elected.

Celebrating the Persells

Assist with administrative matters related to Bishop Persell's resignation
Plan and execute diocesan celebrations of ministry, in consultation with the Persells and other interested entities (e.g. the Convention Planning Committee)

Welcoming the new Bishop

Assist the new Bishop (and family) with transitional issues such relocation, job possibilities, schools
Arrange for introductory gatherings with appropriate constituencies

Support for Diocesan Staff

With the Standing Committee, identify and address the pastoral care needs of the diocesan staff during the period of farewell to the Persells through the election and consecration of the new Bishop

Consecration

Date set by the Standing Committee; overall plan approved by Standing Committee
Select and secure venue(s) for liturgy and "rehearsal" dinner; arrange lodging as needed
Design liturgy and prepare liturgical support materials; Coordinate liturgy
Oversight and administration of the consecration of the new Bishop
Consulting with the new bishop and others, prepare a guest list, and produce and send invitations

The First Year

Continue to support the new bishop (and family) through the first year of the new bishop's tenure with any transition issues that may arise, and consult with the Standing Committee as needed