

Resolution C: Deanery Study Groups

Resolved, that the 42nd Convention of the Diocese of El Camino Real request the Standing Committee to commission a Deanery Study Group; and be it further

Resolved, that the Standing Committee appoint, with the consent of the Bishop, nine (9) persons to the Deanery Study Group; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group examine how each deanery in our diocese is formed, how it is led, what it accomplishes, and whether it is effective; and be it further

Resolved, that effectiveness of a deanery should be measured as the extent to which the deanery meets its canonical observations and serves the needs of the Diocese, the needs of each congregation in the deanery, and the needs of the delegates as they participate in the affairs of the deanery; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group examine the structures and functioning of deaneries in other dioceses that have reputations for effectiveness; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group examine the extent to which the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese influence the effectiveness of the deaneries; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group prepare a report with its findings about the effectiveness of each deanery; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group, and if appropriate, the Constitution and Canons Committee, recommend changes to make each deanery more effective; and be it further

Resolved, that the Deanery Study Group, and if appropriate, the Constitution and Canons Committee, present the report's findings and recommendations to the 44th Convention of the Diocese of El Camino Real in November 2024.

Explanation:

In October 2021, the Standing Committee published its 2016-2020 5-Year Review of the Diocese. See [Report of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of El Camino Real to Diocesan Convention 2021](#). The second recommendation from that report was to ask and answer the question, "Is the deanery structure and role the best organizational vehicle for furthering the diocesan mission?" The purpose of this resolution is to move toward an answer to that question.

Diocesan Canons 4.3 and 9.3 require each deanery to meet in plenary session at least semi-annually, elect a convener, and elect two members of the Diocesan Nominating Committee. The Canons do not otherwise specify what the deaneries are supposed to do when they meet.

Lately, the deaneries as a group have been struggling to meet their minimum canonical obligations. Deaneries have on occasion served to inspire initiative and express concerns in a way that strengthens in diocese. The Standing Committee has started exploring ways to help the deaneries meet their canonical obligations and be more effective generally. The Standing Committee believes that a study group with more time and more stable membership that that of the Standing Committee is needed to complete this undertaking.

The Standing Committee has the power to appoint a study group but would like affirmation that the delegates assembled in convention share the Standing Committee's concerns and agree that the study group is an appropriate undertaking.

Presented by the Standing Committee of 2022:

The Rev. Rob Keim (2024), President
Mr. Steve Pearson, Esq. (2022), Vice President (contact person)
Mr. Matt Cameron (2023), Secretary
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall (2022)
The Rev. Martin Juarez (2023)
Ms. Shonna Close (2024)
The Rev. Salying Wong (2025)
Ms. Tricia Ottesen (2025)