



Minster and Convocation Listening Process

**Side-by-side Comparison of
Convocations and Minsters**

*with a listing of other recommendations
from the Council of Trustees*

Side-by-side Comparison

Convocation

Geographically proximate parishes gathered as a “Council of the Church” to build relationships and share governance responsibilities per canon	Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish leaders connected and networked, through governance, to one another and wider Church • Affirmation of connectedness to the wider Church • Peer network supporting each other in ministry 	“Gathered for Relationship”
Four corners of the diocese <i>(Canon III.5)</i>	Geographic Area
10-13	Number of Churches/Parishes
By the Ecclesiastical Authority	How are parish groupings determined?
Convocation Board	Leadership Body
President <i>(supported by Vice President/President Elect, Secretary and Convocation Dean)</i>	Convener
By election of the Convocation Board per each convocation’s bylaws	How is the Convener selected?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish clergy and delegates • Lay Council of Trustees representative elected by the Convocation • Campus and Youth Delegates resident in the Convocation • Non-parochial clergy resident in the Convocation 	Membership of Leadership Body
Administration, Diligence, Discernment, Cheerfulness, Exhortation, Faith, Interpretation, Knowledge, Leadership, Prophecy, Teaching, Wisdom, <i>(Governance, Formation)</i>	What sort of Spiritual Giftedness would we look for in a lay member of this body? <i>Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10; 28-30, and Ephesians 4:11</i>
“At least three times a year” <i>(proposed canonical amendment)</i>	Meetings
Clericus, convened at least three times per year by Dean for collegiality in ordained ministry	Role in Clergy Collegiality

Side-by-side Comparison

Minster

Purpose	Geographically proximate parishes gathered together for relationship, ministry, sacramental provision, and mission in their shared neighborhood
“Gathered for Relationship”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships defined by shared, local mission and practices in the neighborhood • Mutual support, “Who do I rely upon beyond my local parish?” • Peer network supporting each other in ministry
Geographic Area	Neighborhood: the area the minster claims as its shared mission field.
Number of Churches/Parishes	2-5
How are parish groupings determined?	By the Ecclesiastical Authority
Leadership Body	Minster Team
Convener	Minster Shepherd(s)
How is the Convener selected?	Appointed by the Ecclesiastical Authority
Membership of Leadership Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All parish clergy • Lay representation from each minster parish
What sort of Spiritual Giftedness would we look for in a lay member of this body? <i>Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10; 28-30, and Ephesians 4:11</i>	Apostleship, Compassion, Cheerfulness, Discernment, Evangelism, Faith, Giving, Healing, Leadership, Mercy, Prophecy, Service, Teaching, Tongues/Languages, Wisdom, <i>(Pastoral & Sacramental Care, Justice & Advocacy)</i>
Meetings	“Not less than once every two months, or as directed by the Ecclesiastical Authority” <i>(proposed new canon)</i>
Role in Clergy Collegiality	Gatherings include clergy and laity

Other Recommendations from the Listening Process

Develop policy and other clarifying documents

- Role Descriptions
- Visualization of distinction between Minsters and Convocations
- Guidelines for Convocation Board Meeting Agendas
- Harmonize Convocation Bylaws
- Diocesan body structure visualization with purpose statements
- Strategic Communication Plan related to Diocesan Goals
- Review and refinement of Minster groupings
- Create Minster Charter/Covenant

Formation through training and collegial support

- Renew Convocation Clericus
- Delegate Orientation
- Convocation Presidents meeting semi-annually with Bishop

Amend the canons

- Fewer Convocation Board Meetings
- Delegate Term Limits
- Youth Delegates at Convocation Board Meetings
- Add Minsters to Canons

Prioritized Goals from 2022 Strategic Planning

1. Develop culture of invitation throughout the diocese.
2. Focus on Congregational Vitality as a major tenet of congregation and diocesan health; both spiritually and financially.
3. Increase youth and young adults participation in leadership and decision-making bodies of the Church.
4. Grow leadership capacity (clergy and lay) in all congregations.