

TITLE: Updates to Canon 32.10 and Canon 32.12

PROPOSED BY: The Rev. Jeanne Forte
Mr. John Miller
The Very Rev. Cliff Haggenjos
The Rev. Betsey Monnot
Ms. Lynn Zender
Ms. Tammy Murray
The Rev. Richard Yale

NAME OF REPRESENTATIVE: The Rev. Jeanne Forte

REPRESENTATIVE AT CONVENTION: The Rev. Jeanne Forte

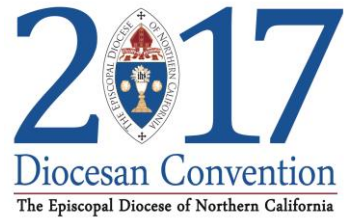
DATE: August 14, 2017

RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, That Section 32 of the Canons of the Diocese of Northern California be amended as follows:

Sec. 32.10. After a parish is designated a Special Focus Parish, the Ecclesiastical Authority will appoint a team from the ~~Church Support Team~~ Congregational Development Group or other designated individuals to assess said parish and recommend a course of action including, but not limited to: (a) intentional redevelopment, (b) relocation, (c) merging or partnering, or (d) dissolution and closure. The Ecclesiastical Authority may identify a consultant to work with the congregation during the assessment process. While in Special Focus Parish status, the Ecclesiastical Authority will confer with the leadership of the congregation to ensure that ecclesiastical services by a priest are arranged.

Sec. 32.12. If a congregation is in Special Focus Parish status for no fewer than ~~two years~~ eighteen months, the Standing Committee may by a two-thirds vote and with the consent of the Ecclesiastical Authority, submit a resolution to Diocesan Convention to change the status of the Parish to that of an Organized Mission at the next scheduled Diocesan Convention. The congregation will remain in union with convention. A Special Focus Parish may at any time petition Diocesan Convention to become an Organized Mission upon a majority vote by Convention. Two parishes may at any time petition the Diocesan Convention for merger upon a majority vote by Convention.



EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTION:

This resolution comes at the request of members of the Congregational Development Group.

Amending Sec. 32.10 is necessary as the Church Support Team has been merged into the Congregational Development Group.

Amending Sec. 32.12 shortens the timeline that a congregation must be a Special Focus Parish before the Standing Committee and the Bishop may submit a resolution to Diocesan Convention to change the status of that congregation from Parish to Organized Mission. The Convention still needs to approve the change. Shortening the timeline provides more flexibility for the Bishop and the Standing Committee to respond quickly to changes that may occur in a Special Focus Parish.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RELATION TO DIOCESAN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This resolution supports Congregational Development by updating the Canons to reflect our current diocesan structure and by providing more flexibility for the Bishop and Standing Committee to respond to situations that may arise in Special Focus Parishes.