



## **Petition Application Documentation for the XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia**

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of the call to be XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia. The Standing Committee is grateful for your interest and application. We have been praying for the bishop God has already chosen for us in all of our congregations.

Clearly, trust is essential to this discernment process. The Standing Committee will undertake all aspects of the nomination process with care and will endeavor to treat all information provided as part of the nomination and election process with confidentiality and respect. Members of the Standing Committee may speak to those whose names you provide as references and to others as appropriate in order to evaluate your qualifications and fitness to serve as our bishop.

By submitting this application packet, you are confirming your availability (should you meet the requirements) to participate in the Walkabout, September 4-8, 2019.

Applications for Petition candidates for the position of XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia must be received by Friday July 5, 2019, at 5:00 PM, EDT, by downloading the form, completing it, saving it as the last name of the candidate, and emailing it to [susan@susangrimm.com](mailto:susan@susangrimm.com). The complete application packet must be submitted at one time.

### **The following must be submitted electronically for a complete application:**

- Completed Petition Nomination forms from all 8 nominators (form follows)
- Completed Application Form, including responses to the essay questions, from the Nominee (form follows)
- Completed Consent to Nomination Form from the Nominee (form follows)
- A cover letter outlining why you believe yourself to be called through the Petition Process into discernment (max 250 words)
- A current resume or CV
- Three (3) letters of recommendation (minimum of 1 from clergy and 1 from a lay communicant)
- An updated OTM profile
- A current color photograph suitable for publication (head and shoulders)
- An autobiographical statement for publication (max. 500 words)



**Petition Nomination  
for the XI Bishop  
of the Diocese of Southern Virginia**

The completed Petition Nomination form must be received, with all other required materials, by Friday July 5, 2019, at 5:00 PM, EDT. The Petition Nomination must include name, signature, and required identifying information.

Petitions must be supported by eight (8) nominators: four (4) clergy canonically resident in the Diocese of Southern Virginia (active clergy or retired clergy serving a parish as interim, priest-in-charge, or regular supply) and four (4) lay communicants in good standing in the Diocese of Southern Virginia, for a total of eight (8) required signatures. Nominators must represent at least four (4) different Convocations within the Diocese.

I nominate by Petition

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as a candidate for election as the XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

By signing this nomination, I certify that the nominee is aware that this petition is being submitted and consents to becoming a nominee.

**Petition Nominator's Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lay Communicant in Good Standing of \_\_\_\_\_ Church OR

\_\_\_\_\_ Clergy serving \_\_\_\_\_ Church

Convocation \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: AS NOTED ABOVE, 8 NOMINATIONS REQUIRED. COPY THIS FORM.**



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**The following must be submitted electronically for a complete application and must be submitted as a package:**

1. Completed Petition Nomination forms from 8 nominators
2. Completed Application Form, including responses to the essay questions, from the Nominee (form follows)
3. Completed Consent to Nomination Form from the Nominee (form follows)
4. A cover letter outlining why you believe yourself to be called through the Petition Process into discernment (max 250 words)
5. A current resume or CV
6. Three (3) letters of recommendation (minimum of 1 from clergy and 1 from a lay communicant)
7. An updated OTM profile
8. A current color photograph suitable for publication (head and shoulders)
9. An autobiographical statement for publication (max. 500 words)

**PLEASE INITIAL THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS ABOVE \_\_\_\_\_**

### **Petition Nominee's Information**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Currently serving** \_\_\_\_\_ **Church in the**  
**Diocese of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ESSAY QUESTIONS TO BE COMPLETED WILL BE ATTACHED TO THIS**



## **Acknowledgment of and Consent to Nomination by Petition for the XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia**

The completed Petition Consent form must be received, with all other required materials, by Friday July 5, 2019, at 5:00 PM, EDT.

I, (please print full name)

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do hereby acknowledge that I have been nominated by Petition to be considered a candidate in the election of the XI Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia and, by my signature below, I hereby consent to the nomination.

By submitting this consent, I give the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Southern Virginia permission to conduct a background check.

By submitting this consent, I confirm that I will participate in any psychological evaluations required.

By submitting this consent, I acknowledge that I will be interviewed by the Chancellor of the Diocese of Southern Virginia.

By submitting this consent, I understand that the Diocese of Southern Virginia will contact my current Diocesan Bishop (or equivalent).

By submitting this consent, I confirm my availability (should I meet the requirements) to participate in the Walkabout September 4-8, 2019.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay Questions

1. Jeremiah 9:24 says “But let those who boast boast in this, that they understand and know me, that I am the Lord.” Tell us about who you understand and know God to be, and tell us how as Bishop you would call us to boast in him.
2. It could be said that each order of ministry has been given gifts for the exercise of that ministry. Looking at your current priestly ministry, do you believe there are gifts you have been given that would continue to be useful to the diocese and do you see yourself as possessing a few episcopal gifts that have not yet been manifested?
3. How have you experienced the creative influence of the Holy Spirit in your ministry?
4. Many are describing our world as post-Christian. How have you responded to this new context creatively in your ministry?
5. What does social justice mean to you? In the Examination of the bishop-elect the last question asked is this, “Will you be merciful to all, show compassion to the poor and strangers, and defend those who have no helper?” How might you demonstrate in your episcopate your willingness to fulfill this promise “for the sake of Jesus Christ?”
6. What do you see to be the greatest needs of today’s youth? How do you think the church must adapt in order to better meet these needs?
7. Likewise, what do you see to be the greatest needs of an aging population. For example, dementia, depression, failing health, Alzheimer’s and the needs of the caregivers?
8. Have you seen successful efforts in any diocese which promote a common vision for the work of that diocese as a whole entity? Have these efforts been effective in coordinating the ministries of the laity, the deacons, and the priests?
9. Tell us how you think meaningful change occurs. How have you helped facilitate changes in the church? What principles helped guide your leadership?
10. What are the most essential elements of the church’s evangelistic witness? How have you modeled this witness in your own life? How would you encourage the church to engage in evangelism in new ways?
11. As Bishop how would you nourish and support all baptized people in their gifts and ministries to encourage diocesan outreach efforts?
12. Why should the church struggle to be more diverse? What equips you help the church effectively deal with the challenges of becoming more diverse?
13. As you have been discerning God’s call in this process, have you received any insight into what you might like to focus your attention upon during the first few months of your episcopate in the Diocese of Southern Virginia?

The responses to these questions will be posted on the Diocesan website, as a part of each candidate’s information.