

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church

2020 Vestry Nominees (pick 4)

- Robert Garrity
- Linda Seeber

2020 Delegate Nominees (pick 5)

- Bob Bess
- Phyllis Bess
- Keen Haynes
- Brandy Heckel
- Ed McGlaston
- Becky Snell

Vestry Nominees

Each Vestry nominee has answered Yes to the following questions
([full questionnaire attached](#))

The Vestry asks each Vestry candidate to make the following declaration:

I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and, I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

- Are you willing to make this declaration? o YES o NO
- Vestry meetings are at 12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month, with occasional exceptions. The June 2020 meeting will occur on 6/28 to allow for Father's Day. Will you commit to arrange your work and travel schedule in order to attend regularly? o YES o NO
- Will you commit to attend the annual Vestry Retreat each year? (The 2020 Vestry Retreat is scheduled for February 28-29 @ location TBD) o YES o NO
- Vestry members are asked to help with coffee hour twice per calendar year are you willing to commit to this? o YES o NO
- Vestry members are asked to provide a meal for the entire vestry at one meeting per year, will you commit to this? o YES o NO
- Vestry members are encouraged to attend church or school fundraisers/activities when they are able. Will you commit to this? o YES o NO
- Will you commit to serve as a Vestry liaison to one of our commissions, standing committees, or ministries and to attend their meetings? o YES o NO
- Will you commit to attend Safe Guarding God's Children training? o YES o NO
- Will you commit to attend Safe Guarding God's People training? o YES o NO
- Vestry members must submit to a background check conducted by the Diocese. Will you allow this? o YES o NO
- Will you abide by the by-laws, policies, and guidelines adopted by the Vestry? o YES o NO
- Will you support the Vestry's commitment to faithful stewardship? o YES o NO
- Do you believe God is calling you to serve as a member of the Vestry at this time? o YES o NO
- Will you schedule an appointment with one of our Priests for a conversation about this discernment? o YES o NO



Robert J. Garrity, Jr.

Bob Garrity – FBI Agent (retired). Attended University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and University of Baltimore School of Law, and the masters University of Southern California.

Stroke

I was born on September 17, 1952, in Baltimore, Maryland. I am currently 67 years old. I have been an Episcopal all my life.

On October 29, 2007, when I was 55 years, I was a victim of a massive stroke, with total right side paralysis. I was in the shower first, but then felt dizzy, and fell. I fell at 8:00 am and was not rescued until 4:00 pm. I was in Denver, Colorado, and had been for two months, and my wife, was in Fairfax, Virginia trying to sell our home. I was a rehabilitation patient at Craig Hospital, located in Englewood, CO from the time of my stroke until I was released on February 29, 2008, when I then moved back to Texas. I've been recovering from the stroke for last 12 years.

I currently participate in speech therapy at Texas Woman's University (Stroke Center) in Dallas, and University of Texas (Autism Center) at Dallas. I have regained the use of my right leg, which has allowed me to be independent and to drive. I also have attended four six-weeks sessions at the University of Michigan, in their Aphasia Program, where I had intensive one-on-one speech therapy.

Vestry History

Church of the Messiah (Episcopal), Baltimore, MD – 1/74 - 8/76

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ellicott City, MD – 1/93 - 2/95

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, Keller, TX – 1/99 – 7/2000

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In August 1976, I became a Special Agent with the FBI, where I served for 32 years. I moved 11 times during my tenure. I served in the Savannah and Statesboro, Georgia Offices; the New York Office on two occasions; the FBI Headquarters on four occasions; Dallas, Texas Office; Jackson, Mississippi Office; and the Denver, Colorado Office. I was the Special Agent in Charge in two divisions, Jackson and Denver.

Boy Scouts of America

In September 1960, I join the Cub Scouts, and three years later, I joined the Boy Scouts in the Baltimore Area Council. I have been a member ever since – all 59 years. My passion for Scouting goes back to when I was a young boy. I have been involved with the Baltimore Area Council, Coastal Empire Council, Bucks County Council, Watchung Area Council, Longhorn Council, National Capital Area Council, Andrew Jackson Council, and Denver Area Council. Today I serve as Unit Commissioner for four Packs, five Troops, one Crew, and Service Team for five Law Enforcement Explorers.



Linda Seeber

Linda Seeber is a "Cradle Episcopalian" and has been a member of St. Martin-in-the-Fields for over 20 years. She has served the church in many aspects such as Altar Guild Member and Director, Quiet Committee, Welcome Committee, Sisters of the Spirit, Flower Guild, and of course Vestry Member and Junior Warden.

While she is adamant in her beliefs she still understands the right of everyone to have an opinion and listens with open ears and an open heart. She is honest, caring, friendly, compassionate, and passionate about St. Martin in the Fields.

Linda has taken congregational concerns and relayed them to the vestry (and above if needed) to get an equitable resolution. They trust her to handle their issues with confidentiality and speed. In addition, with over 20- years' experience with St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Linda has been the "Go To" person for anything dealing with church operations.

Linda has made, and would continue to be, an ideal Vestry member and I urge the congregation and fellow vestry members elect her for vestry.

Diocesan Delegate Nominees

Each Delegate nominee has answered Yes to the following questions
([full questionnaire attached](#))

The Vestry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields also asks each nominee to make the following declaration:

"I am persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all doctrine required as necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ; and I accede to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Episcopal Church."

- Are you willing to make this declaration? Yes No

The 2020 Convention of the Diocese of Fort Worth will be held November 13-14, 2020 at the Convention Center in Cleburne, Texas. During the month preceding the Convention, an informational meeting may be held.

- Will you commit to arrange your work and travel schedule in order to attend? Yes No

The Vestry wishes to receive a report from Convention Delegates within thirty days following the Convention.

- Will you participate with the other Delegates in preparing and presenting this report? Yes No

In "An Outline of the Faith" found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, the following description of "the duty of all Christians" is given:

"The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God."

- Do you believe that your life is in harmony with this description? Yes No
 - Will you abide by the by-laws, policies, and guidelines adopted by the vestry? Yes No
 - Will you support the Vestry's commitment to faithful stewardship? Yes No
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Bob Bess

Bob is an active member of St. Martin's currently serving as a Junior Warden and Usher. Bob would like to serve as a delegate to The Convention of the Diocese of Fort Worth in order to represent our congregation and keep everyone informed about the actions taken at convention.



Phyllis Bess

My passion for the Episcopal Church and all it stands for runs long and deep. As a kid, "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" was on every sign sporting the Episcopal shield along with the name of the church that could be found nearby. While on family vacations, we would often spy the sign and then prowl through cities or towns looking for the church. This is definitely not what other families did, but it was certainly interesting!

Our annual Diocesan Convention is the culmination of work done all year at the local level (deaneries) and an opportunity to celebrate our shared life as a diocese. Contributing to the work of the church in Fort Worth as a convention delegate has been my joy over the years and I would be honored to represent St. Martin's in 2020.

Diocesan Delegate Nominees



Keen Haynes

As the current Senior Warden of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, I am actively involved both as a member of St. Martin's and the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth. As Senior Warden, I serve on numerous committees including the finance committee and school board. My commitments provide me with an understanding of the day-to-day operations of St. Martin's and our long-term goals as a congregation. I have also represented St. Martin's as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention, served as chair of a discernment committee and been active as a member of the Holy Mowers and an Usher. At the Diocesan level, I

currently represent our Deanery as a member of the Executive Council and am a member of the Diocesan Mission & Outreach Committee. I feel my numerous commitments place me in a unique position to help our Church and Diocese as a delegate to the 2020 EDFW Diocesan Convention.



Brandy Heckel

If selected as a delegate, I will faithfully represent the desires and concerns of St. Martin-in-the-Fields' community to the best of my ability. My family and I have been members of St. Martin's for 18 years. I have served and continue to serve on several ministries here. Currently I am a member of the vestry, an acolyte, lay reader, chalice bearer, and one of the worship ministry schedulers. I participate in the Sisters of the Spirit, Daughters of the King, and 4Saints Episcopal Food Pantry. I also led the efforts for the 2019 Rummage Sale, coordinating with internal and external entities to raise funds for our church's finances.

As I do my best to live each day with generosity and an open heart, God continually shows me grace. I ask for your grace to be a delegate.



Ed McGlaston

I have been a member of St. Martin's since 2010. For the past 9 years, I have served as an usher and greeter at the 8:30 am service. I also served as a Diocesan Convention Delegate in 2018 & 2019 and I would like to continue in that ministry in 2020.

I have been a Christian since childhood and a member of the Episcopal Church since 1970. I served on the vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City. I am a husband, father, and grandfather. I hold a BS Business Administration from Northeastern University with a major in Finance. Retired since moving to Texas in 2008, I would describe myself as an innovative, hands-on manager of people, processes, and change. I have led business organizations through periods of major change caused by competition, changing costs, technology, legislation and regulation. In addition, I have served as a director of non-profit organizations such as the San Francisco Bay Area March of Dimes, the Omaha Symphony Orchestra, the Joslyn Art Museum, and the Child Saving Institute. I believe that my personal and professional experience make me well qualified to serve as a convention delegate.

Diocesan Delegate Nominees



Becky Snell

I have been involved either as a delegate or as a volunteer for the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth Convention since 2009 and would love to participate at the 2020 convention as a delegate of St. Martin's. It is an honor to represent St. Martin's as a delegate and a responsibility to fully read all material and keep up with diocese news throughout the year to be fully prepared to act for the parish.

At St. Martin's I am currently a vestry member finishing my last year in 2020. I am active in worship as an Acolyte and Lector. I serve in our Memorial Garden assisting with all activities from clean-ups to interments as well as fountain maintenance. I am active in several groups including Sisters of the Spirit, Daughters of the King, hospitality table movers, and several committees including Finance, Memorial Garden and Outreach.

I am currently the Dean of the East Deanery of the Diocese of Fort Worth and organize the Deanery meetings and agenda.

At various EDFW Conventions, I have chaired the Nominations Committee, been responsible for the vote tally and reporting, assisted at the credentials table, and be a go-for assistant.

I have been a licensed Physical Therapist for 35 years and served in the Air Force for 16 years.

Thank you for your consideration.