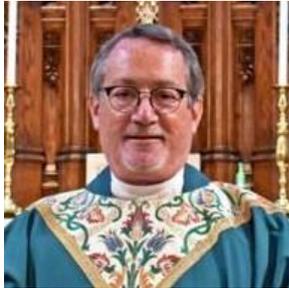


Individuals Elected to Diocesan Leadership Positions

At the 153rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York (2021)

Diocesan Board

The Rev. John W. Rohde (3-year term)



The Rev. John Rohde is a relatively new priest in the Diocese of CNY, and a lifelong Episcopalian. He lives in the Westcott neighborhood in Syracuse, NY. He is the Priest-in-Charge of Ss. Peter and John Church in Auburn, NY. Prior to ordination, John was a performing and teaching musician, a craft he continues to practice. He is a co-director of the Diocesan Lay Preaching Program.

Disciplinary Board

The Rev. Christine Williams-Belt (3-year term)



The Rev. Christine Williams-Belt is currently serving as Rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Utica, New York. Canadian-born, Christine holds a Master of Divinity with a concentration in Restorative Justice and was ordained a priest in 2010 in the Diocese of Ontario of the Anglican Church of Canada. In that Diocese, she served several parishes, including St. George's Cathedral (Kingston, Ontario) as a Curate, and completed three terms on the Synod Council (Diocesan Board). Christine has a special interest in the regulations and safeguards of church ministry. She has volunteered with restorative justice organizations and is an advocate for social justice. She and her son live in downtown Utica and are excited to be part of a diverse community and supportive parish.

Standing Committee

The Rev. Brooks A. Cato (4-year term)



A priest in good standing and the Rector of St. Thomas', Hamilton, the Rev. Brooks Cato is finishing his first term on the Standing Committee and has been its president for 3 years. He has previously worked with Happening, Learning Communities, and the Racial Justice & Response Team with the Diocese. In Hamilton, he is the Community Liaison to the Hamilton Police Department, co-leads the Hamilton Ecumenical Youth Group, and convenes the area clergy for ecumenical work. For the greater Episcopal Church, he is a member of the Task Force to Study Sexism in The Episcopal Church and Develop Anti-Sexism Training, a Deputy to General Convention, and was recently appointed to the Agencies & Boards Legislative Committee.

The Rev. Taylor D. Daynes (1-year term)



The Rev. Taylor Daynes is Episcopal Chaplain to Cornell University in Ithaca and Priest-in-Charge at the Church of the Epiphany, Trumansburg. She currently serves on the Companion Diocese of El Salvador Committee. She's also a published poet, and brings her passion for all forms of creative expression to her ministry. Before her priestly ordination in 2018, Taylor served as deacon at St. Paul's in Rochester, NY, and as Community Engagement Coordinator at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Baltimore, MD. She was also an instructor in the Creative Writing department at Johns Hopkins, and worked with several other community arts and social justice organizations. Taylor looks forward to expanding her service to the diocese as a member of the Standing Committee!

Dr. John W. Chaffee (4-year term)



Dr. John W. Chaffee was born to Presbyterian missionaries in China, but for the last thirty-five years has been an active and enthusiastic Episcopalian at Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church in Binghamton. His involvement there has included service as Vestryman, Clerk and Warden, and throughout he has been a member of the Trinity Choir and active in many committees. He has served three times as a Deputy to General Convention and two terms on the Diocesan Board. In his working life he is a Distinguished Service Professor of Chinese History and Director of the Institute for Asia and Asian Diasporas at Binghamton University.

Mr. John H. Orr (1-year term)

John H. Orr recently retired to Hamilton after a 40-year career in public relations at major agencies in Philadelphia, New York and Wilmington, Delaware. He joined St. Thomas' in Hamilton in the Fall of 2020 and currently serves on the Vestry and as chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee. At his previous parish (St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley in Paoli, PA) he served three full terms on Vestry, during which he was Senior Warden twice. During his 35 years there, he was also active on the Communications and Marketing Commissions, as well as founding the St. Peter's Players, an amateur theater organization that mounted annual staged productions for the benefit of the Church.

Bishop's Appointments

Individuals elected by the 153rd Convention by nomination of Bishop Duncan-Probe with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee

Commission on Ministry:

The Rev. Dr. Dan Handschy

Mr. Charles Abraham

The Rev. Shelly Banner

The Rev. Toppie Bates

The Very Rev. Megan Castellan

Ms. Ruthie Koerts
The Rev. Dcn. Charles Stewart
Ms. Lee Wakefield

Diocesan Board

The Rev. Paul Frolick

Foundation of the Diocese of Central New York

Mr. Michael Hardin