The **Standing Committee** of the Diocese of California consists of four lay members and four clergy members of the diocese elected by the annual Diocesan Convention and authorized by the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church. Each year one new lay and one new clergy member are elected to replace retiring members. The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of California specify membership, duties, and authority of the Standing Committee. One of the Standing Committee’s major responsibilities is to serve as the Bishop’s Council of Advice; the Canons also give the Committee broad responsibilities for oversight of diocesan affairs. In addition to advising the bishop, the Standing Committee has responsibilities involving such varied matters as the disposition of property, the election and consecration of bishops, ecclesiastical discipline as defined in Title IV, and the approval of candidates for ordained ministry.

**Qualities and competencies a nominee should have:**
- Experience of serving the diocese and a knowledge of the Diocese of California.
- A working understanding of the polity of the Episcopal Church.
- Good listening skills.
- Ability to work with others in a collaborative manner.
- Ability to deal with difficult and confidential matters in a non-anxious way.
- Prayerful presence.

**Other information:**
- Officers of the Standing Committee: President, Vice-President and Secretary have a monthly conference call or face to face meeting with the Bishop to prepare a portion of the Standing Committee Agenda.
- Meetings currently are held at Grace Cathedral’s Chapter Room from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, but the Standing Committee is open to consider alternative meeting times and locations.

**Time Expectations:**
- Up to 6 hours a month for monthly Standing Committee meetings including commuting to meetings.
- Up to 3 hours a month for liaison responsibilities with other committees.
- Up to 5 hours a month in preparation and writing reports, depending on pending issues.