

**BETHESDA PARISH BYLAWS**  
**ADOPTED BY VESTRY**  
**JANUARY 18, 2017**

# **MODERNIZED AND UPDATED**

**Repealed bylaws of 1950s/1993**

**Adopted new bylaws**

**Chancellor of Diocese approval**



# PARISH MEMBERSHIP DEFINED

Baptized

Age 16+

Acknowledgement, attendance and support

If one year of no worship and support, Vestry may  
remove from vote roll, hearing

Members entitled to vote in Parish affairs, list kept  
by Clerk

## **ELECTED LEADERSHIP**

**Officers (elected by parish, max 3 2-yr terms)**

- Two Wardens
- Treasurer
- Clerk

**Vestrypersons (9, elected, max 3 3-yr terms)**

**Diocesan Conv. delegates (may be Vestry)**

# **PARISH MEETINGS**

**Annual and Special**

**Called by Vestry**

**Notice, presiding officer, quorum**



# **RECTOR**

**Eligibility**

**Election**

**Powers and duties**

**Vacancy or incapacity**



# **WARDENS**

**Elected by Parish**

**Maximum three two-year terms**

**Duties listed**



# TREASURER

Elected by Parish

Maximum three two-year terms

Duties: oversee, keep records, present statements, liaison Endowment Committee

- Optional Assistant Treasurer (Vestry app't.)

Voting of securities

Bonded

Also serves on Vestry





# CLERK

**Elected by Parish**

**Also serves on Vestry**

**Maximum three two-year terms**

**Duties: keep records of Parish and Vestry, list of members entitled to vote**

# **VESTRY PERSONS**

**Elected by Parish**

**Maximum two three-year terms**



# **VESTRY**

**Wardens, Treasurer, Clerk, Rector and Vestrypersons**

**Authority and duties per The Episcopal Church, State of New York, and the Bylaws**

**Meetings, annual audit, sale or encumbrance of real estate, gifts and memorials**



# **ORGANIZATIONS**

**All formal organizations responsible to Rector  
Charter required defining purposes,  
members, scope of action**

**Report to Annual Meeting**

**Failure to meet for 3 yrs, may be declared  
defunct**



# **OTHER PROVISIONS**

**Amendment of bylaws**

**Conflicts of interest (per policy of Diocese  
of Albany and TEC and NYS law)**

**Indemnification of parish officers**

