



The Forty-First Annual Convention of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama Thursday, February 2 through Saturday, February 4

The following is a from a address by Julie McClelland to the parish on Sunday, January 15.

You have been hearing about the Diocesan Convention for about a year, and now here it is, 3 weeks away. I would guess that many of you are like me and have never been anywhere near a Diocesan Convention, that is until last year when I went to the one at St. James in Fairhope.



Excerpts from Convention Registration letter:

Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile welcomes you to the Forty-First Annual Diocesan Convention. The theme of this year's convention is "You are my refuge and shield." The psalmist's words remind us that the love and power of God are before and behind us, providing both renewal and strength for the work to which we are called. In our convention worship and business, we will locate our hope, like the psalmist, in God's word.

Christ Church Cathedral occupies a central place in historic and vibrant downtown Mobile. Our convention will take place in the midst of a Mardi Gras atmosphere that will lift our spirits and provide the theme for this year's "gala"—a Mardi Gras Party at the nearby Mobile Carnival Museum. Downtown parking will be limited. We encourage carpooling for commuters living nearby and hotel parking for those staying downtown.

I want to give you a brief idea of what will happen here at Christ Church Cathedral on February 2nd, 3rd and 4th. On Thursday, February 2, the clergy and delegates, around 250 of them from around the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, will arrive for registration. We will have snacks, coffee, and water for them from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m.. There will be a few group meetings that afternoon. From 6 to 8 o'clock that evening, the Opening Eucharist will be held in the church. We are expecting about 400 people at this service.

Friday, February 3rd, the day will kick off with a stand-up breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by Morning Prayer in the church. We are expecting around 350 people for that service. Snacks and drinks will remain available in the Chapter House all day. The meeting will last until lunch, when we will serve everyone a box lunch. At the same time the spouses of clergy will be attending a progressive lunch at the homes of Ann and Jex Luce and Gretchen and Angus Cooper. They will end their lunch with dessert at Bradley's. We hope to provide transportation for them for the lunch. Friday afternoon, here at church, there will be 7 different breakout sessions that the clergy and delegates will attend. At 5:00 p.m., after a brief reception, weather permitting in the garden, they will walk to the Carnival Museum for supper and a parade—for many of them their first Mardi Gras experience.

Saturday morning, again begin with a stand-up breakfast at 7:30 a.m., followed by Morning Devotion, then the Business section of the convention—adoption of the budget, resolutions, election of officers and whatever other business there may be. The closing Eucharist will be at around 11:30 a.m.. Then we will get the church ready for the Sunday morning service the next day.

The Flower Guild and Altar Guild will have their hands full setting up and taking down before and after each service. Robby McClure is organizing ushers for all the services, so see him if you would like to help with that. But there are many other opportunities to help—stuffing packets before the convention, helping to serve meals, being a greeter, working in the kitchen, shuffling tables and chairs around during the convention and just being here to welcome our guests and extend our hospitality.

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Convention 2012



We are now looking for more detailed needs for volunteers. We need volunteers for stuffing delegate packets on Monday, January 30. We will be setting up tables and chairs on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of convention week. Conversely there will be take-down at noon on Saturday.

Greeter Talking Points

Greet our guests with a kind

“Welcome to your Cathedral. We are glad you are here.”

- ⌘ Smile with the joy of the Holy Spirit.
- ⌘ Convention delegates will register in the Chapter House. We would like for them to use the garden entrance.
- ⌘ Clergy vesting is in the Chapel undercroft (formerly the Godly Play Room, downstairs past the nursery).
- ⌘ Exhibitors will be set up in the Brantley and Huger parlors. They may unload at the front doors of the houses.
- ⌘ Cathedral volunteers will report to Lucy Rouse Wright in the Cathedral office to receive a nametag and an assignment.
- ⌘ Be prepared to assist guests with directions to the restrooms.
- ⌘ Ushers are scheduled for the three major services to assist and hand out service leaflets.
- ⌘ Please try to stay in your location until you are relieved.
- ⌘ Please report back to the Cathedral office before leaving to let us know if you had anyone with problems or questions, to report housekeeping issues and to return your greeter tag.
- ⌘ The Convention will take delegates to all areas of our campus. We will give you a campus map so you will know where meetings are taking place.
- ⌘ Please keep your cell phones with you while greeting, and make sure Lucy Rouse Wright has your number. This will make communication easier on our large campus.

**Thank you for your commitment to our hospitality ministry.
You are greatly appreciated.**

2012 Diocesan Convention Delegates

*as elected on Sunday,
December 4, 2011.*

Harwell E. Coale, Jr.
Carolyn D. Eichold
Carolyn S. Jeffers
Richard Mitchell

Rick Mitchell will serve as
Chair of Elections
Robby McClure will serve
as Head Teller

Volunteer Parking

Members of the Cathedral family will park in the City parking garage on the corner of Church and Jackson Streets. The entrance is on Jackson Street (Jackson Street is one way to the north). We encourage you to carpool when possible. Bring your ticket to the Cathedral office for validation. On campus parking is reserved for our convention guests.

Needs List

Wheelchairs
Items for gifts bags
(400 each)

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