

Determining the Allocation of Congregational Lay Delegates

When decisions were being made about the May 14 gathering, we were in the midst of the pandemic. As a pastoral accommodation, it was decided then that we would allow parishes to use their pre-COVID numbers to determine their number of delegates; we didn't want anyone to be penalized due to COVID.

However, we must adhere strictly to the Diocesan Canons, which require that **all parishes use the attendance numbers from their 2021 Parochial Report** when determining the number of delegates they will send to this election. <u>A letter</u> to the Standing Committee from the Diocesan Chancellor explains this decision further.

This will have the greatest impact on larger parishes, causing most to lose at least one delegate. The Standing Committee's only instruction about how a parish determines which delegates do not register is that the Rector and Vestry are in agreement.

If a rector or priest-in-charge feels that the diocese's 2021 numbers are incorrect for their parish, she or he may call the Diocesan Office for assistance.

If anyone has questions about the reasons for this decision, they may reach out to the Standing Committee via email at <u>standingcommittee@diocesefl.org</u>.