

The Role of the Parish Nominators

Updated 13 February 2020

Parish Nominators play an important role in the mission of our church. They do this by ensuring that should our rector (lead pastor) resign we are ready to start recruiting his replacement and nominate a person to the Archbishop to be appointed as our new rector.

What are the qualifications required to be a Parish Nominator?

In order to be eligible to be elected as a Parish Nominator for a parish, a person –

- must not be a member of the clergy,
- must be at least 21 years of age,
- must be a parishioner of the parish and a communicant member of this Church (baptised and regularly participate in the Lord's Supper at an Anglican church).
- must not be employed within the parish to perform substantially full-time work which is or includes pastoral work,
- must not be the spouse of a person who is a member of the Nomination Board, and
- must not have been convicted of a disqualifying offence listed in Schedule 2 of the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.

Parish Nominators are required to make the following declaration before or within seven days of being elected:

I make the following declaration:

(a) I declare that I have attained the age of 21 years and am a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia, and

(b) I declare that I have not been convicted of a disqualifying offence listed in Schedule 2 of the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012.

What is the time commitment required?

If there is no vacancy of rector, there is no reason for Nominators to meet. If the rector resigns from Vine Church, the commitment would be:

- Team meetings with Nominators to pray and plan the recruitment process
- Visiting other churches to evaluate potential candidates
- Interviewing potential candidates
- Meetings with the Bishop to get advice and direction

How do I nominate someone?

If you are interested in nominating a person as a Parish Nominator or you would like to offer yourself for this ministry, we recommend you first speak to our current rector, Toby Neal, to gauge the suitability of this person for the role. Once you have done so, you must make your nomination online two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting at www.vinechurch.com.au/agm

Who should I consider nominating?

There are a number of questions you should ask before you nominate a person:

- Does this person have a deep love for Jesus and are they living a godly life?
- Does this person demonstrate a consistent commitment to church life and ministry?
- Does this person honour God given leadership and do they seek the unity of the church?
- Does this person bring particular gifts, which would benefit the team who would nominate a new rector?
- Does this person have the capacity (time and energy) for this role?
- Have I spoken with the current rector to understand whether this person would be a helpful addition to the team?

Who can nominate someone as Parish Nominator?

You may nominate a person as a Parish Nominator if you:

- are a parishioner of Vine Church for a minimum of three months; and
- have regularly attended Sunday services (during 3 months in the past 12 months); and
- declare yourself to be a member of the Anglican Church of Australia (baptised and regularly participate in the Lord's Supper at an Anglican church); and
- have received verbal or written consent from the person; and
- will be at the general meeting at which the person is to be elected.

Frequently asked questions

What church ordinance does the role of Parish Nominator fall under?

The [Nomination Ordinance 2006](#).

Do Parish Nominators have any responsibility for the appointment of assistant ministers, student minister or other workers at the parish?

No. The Parish Nominators are only responsible for the recommendation of a clergyman to become the rector of the parish.

How many people are required to be Parish Nominators?

A parish may elect five lay persons as Parish Nominators.

How long is the term of office for Parish Nominators?

The Parish Nominators are elected each year at the annual general meeting and serve until the following annual general meeting.

If your rector has resigned, your current Nominators are entitled to remain in office until after the vacancy has been filled. If any of those Nominators have left the parish or desire to resign, you may hold an election at a general meeting of the parish to fill resulting vacancies among the Nominators.

Further information on the matters covered in this document can be found on the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat website at www.sds.asn.au.