

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2022-C037  
**Title:** Inclusion of Bishop Barbara Harris to the Calendar of the Church  
**Proposer:** New York  
**Topic:** Church Calendar

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

None

**Indirectly Related:** (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.*

# C037 - Inclusion of Bishop Barbara Harris to the Calendar of the Church

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** New York

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** No

**Has Budget Implications:** No

**Cost:**

**HiA:** HB

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy & Music

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That Barbara Clementine Harris, Bishop, be included and entered into the Calendar of the Church year, to be celebrated on March 13.

## Explanation

Barbara C. Harris (1930 – 2020) became the first woman to be ordained a bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion on February 11, 1989. Her years of episcopal leadership were filled with traveling and witnessing, preaching, and teaching and administering the sacraments. A gifted storyteller known for her quick wit and raspy-voiced delivery, she was also a spirited and sought-after preacher of hymn-laced, Gospel-grounded sermons, and an outspoken advocate for, in her words, “the least, the lost and the left out.” With great grace, she worked tirelessly serving the people of The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts as their suffragan bishop for 13 years, until her retirement in 2002.

After her retirement, she served from 2003 until early 2007 as an assisting bishop in the Diocese of Washington (D.C.). She continued to volunteer and preach at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston during her retirement, even while continuing to be in demand worldwide as a preacher.

Barbara Clementine Harris died on March 13, 2020, at Care Dimensions Hospice House in Lincoln following a hospitalization in Boston, faithfully attended throughout by close friends, and upheld by the prayers of many. She was 89.