

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

**Resolution No.:** 2022-C051  
**Title:** Include the Name Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris in the Lesser Feasts & Fasts Calendar  
**Proposer:** New Jersey  
**Topic:** Church Calendar, Lesser Feasts/Fasts

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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.*

# C051 - Include the name Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris in the Lesser Feasts & Fasts Calendar

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** New Jersey

**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 this 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church hereby direct the inclusion of the name Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris in the Lesser Feasts & Fasts Calendar of The Episcopal Church, and authorize trial use of the proper for the triennial 2023-2024 to be celebrated on March 13; and be it further

*Resolved*, that this 80th General Convention approve the appropriate proper to be prepared by the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.

## Explanation

When Barbara Harris was confirmed in the Episcopal Church as a young girl the bishop wore gloves so his hands would not have to touch the heads of the black people he was confirming. Despite this demeaning and undeniably racist "welcome" to the church, Barbara Harris was undeterred in her commitment to Christ, living her life as a powerful example of faith, both as dedicated and engaged lay woman and as the first woman bishop in the Anglican Communion. Her humble but unrelenting and heroic witness to those on the margins of the church and larger society, her warmth and generous spirit and her tireless energy and humor made her one of the most beloved and noteworthy bishops in the church, if not the world. In the eyes of God, Bishop Barbara Harris was an inspiration to

Episcopalians and others as a follower of Jesus, servant of God and the church, and lover of justice and peace.

The criterion for inclusion: "Before a commemoration is included in the Calendar, proposers must establish that significant, enduring local and regional commemoration in corporate worship exists." Local observances will occur on Sunday March 13, 2022 and subsequent March 13ths in the Diocese of New Jersey according to liturgical materials to be provided to Trinity Cathedral and all 140 congregations of the diocese. In the past year in the wider Episcopal Church, commemorations have occurred in the Diocese of Massachusetts at St. Paul's Cathedral and seven parishes; the Diocese of California at Grace Cathedral; the Diocese of Los Angeles; the National Union of Black Episcopalians; the Diocese of Western Massachusetts; the Diocese of Missouri; and others. Sixteen dioceses have passed resolutions that are similar to this resolution to ask the 80th General Convention to include Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris in the Calendar of the Church Year to be celebrated on March 13. By the time of General Convention in 2022 there will have been another year (two years in some places) of commemorations throughout the Church.