

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-D012  
**TITLE:** Add the Four Chaplains of the USAT Dorchester to the Church Calendar  
**PROPOSER:** Captain Louis Cavaliere  
**TOPIC:** Lesser Feasts/Fasts

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2006-B008 Consider Adding Dorchester Chaplains to the Church Calendar

**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 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*

# D012 Add the Four Chaplains of the USAT Dorchester to the Church Calendar

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<b>Proposer</b>	Captain Louis Cavaliere
<b>Endorsed by</b>	Ambos, Canon Paul; Russell, The Rev. Daniel Scott
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	/
<b>Current Status</b>	Pre-Filed Resolution
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

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## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 79th General Convention recommend inclusion of The Four Chaplains of USAT DORCHESTER in the Episcopal Church calendar in “Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018”.

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## EXPLANATION

Although The Dorchester Chaplains: Lieutenant George Fox, Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, Lieutenant Clark V. Poling and Lieutenant John P. Washington, 1943, are commemorated on February 3rd in the Church publications Holy Women, Holy Men, and in A Great Cloud of Witnesses, their feast day has not been included in the Episcopal Church Calendar in Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018 that is being proposed to this convention. This resolution identifies that the military community is an important subset of the Episcopal Church and that worthy veterans such as the Four Chaplains should be included in the Calendar on February 3, a date that is currently vacant in the proposed Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018.

A similar resolution, 2006-0008 was passed by both Houses at the 75th General Convention, but the Four Chaplains of the USAT Dorchester was never added to the calendar.

Military service has been experienced by many members of this church who look to other Veterans as a source of inspiration, such as the Four Chaplains who gave up their life jackets on a sinking ship in the North Atlantic on February 3, 1943.

As reported by the STANDING COMMISSION ON LITURGY AND MUSIC SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE CHURCH CALENDAR in their report to this convention “It is our strong belief that at some point the Episcopal Church would do well to attend to the different theologies of sanctity that are at play in the church, and the different understandings of what it means for someone to be placed on the calendar.” In acknowledgment of that diversity, we note here that the Four Chaplains were of different faiths, one Dutch Reformed Minister, one Methodist Minister, one Jewish Rabbi and one Roman Catholic Priest.

The wartime sacrifice and selfless service of the Four Chaplains is a model for all Episcopalians, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13 NRSV



**Resolution Number:** 2006-B008  
**Title:** Consider Adding Dorchester Chaplains to the Church Calendar  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, That the 75th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to consider the commemoration of the Dorchester Chaplains as an addition to the Calendar of the Church Year, with appropriate biographical material and propers for inclusion in Lesser Feasts and Fasts.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 469.