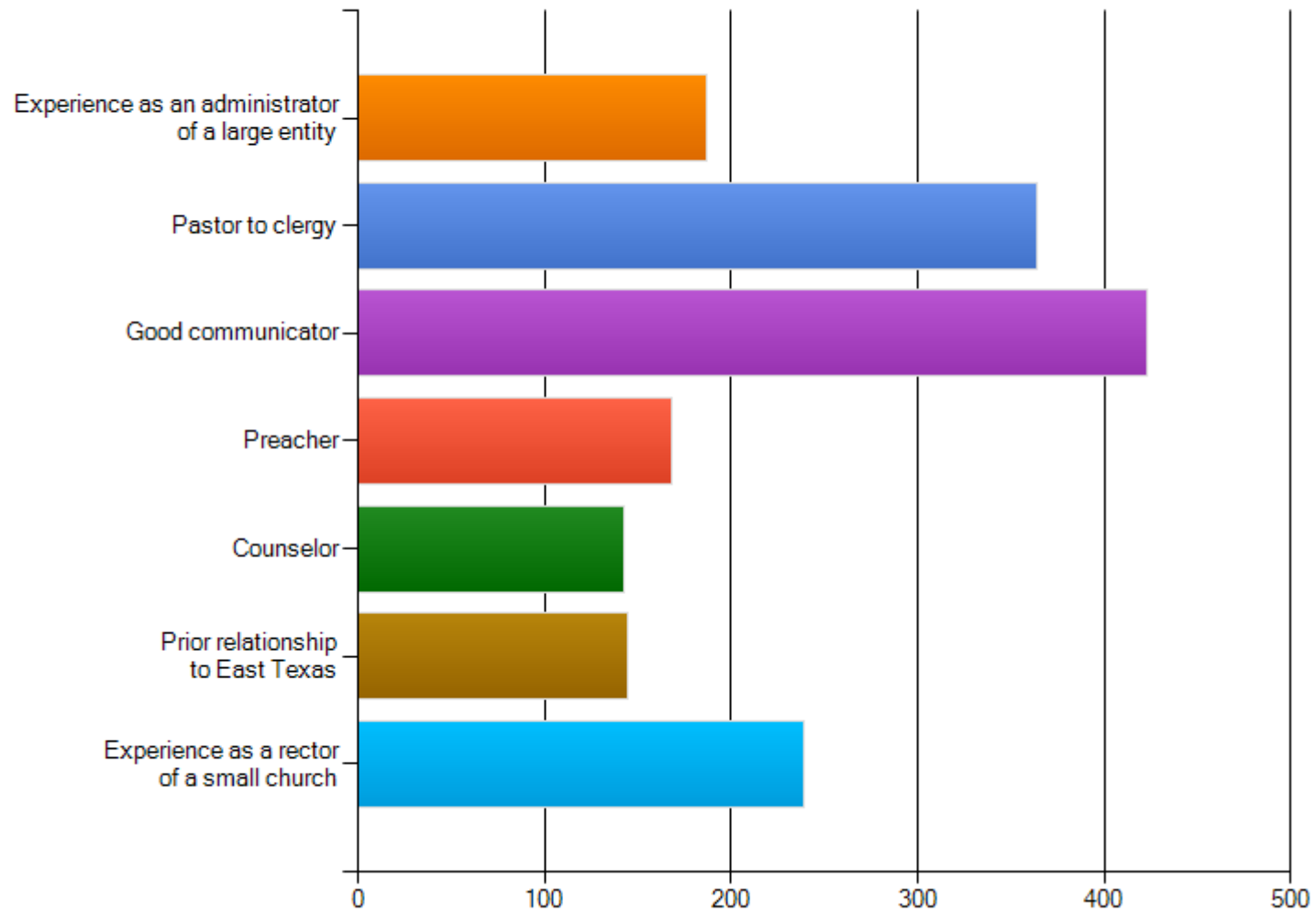
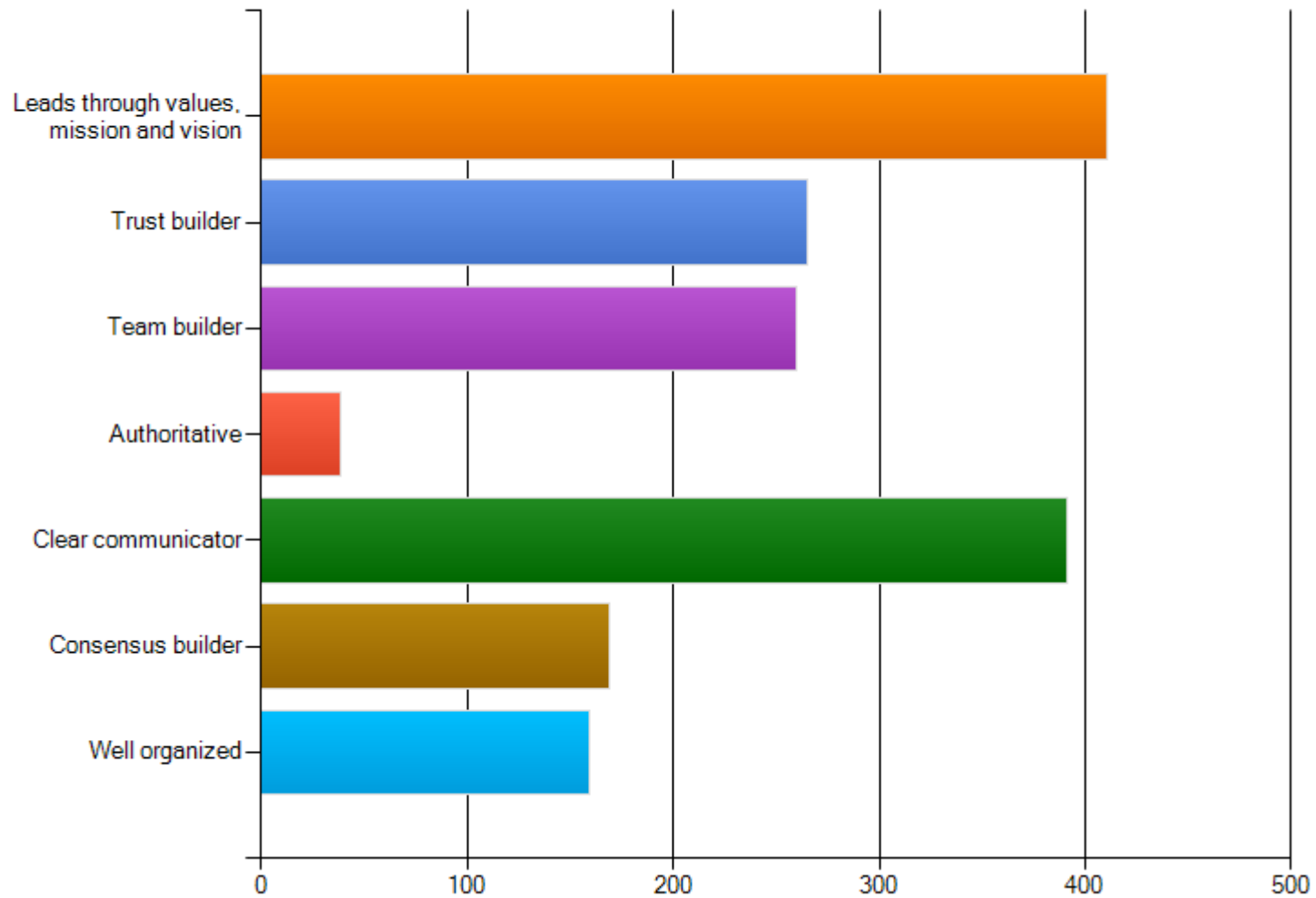


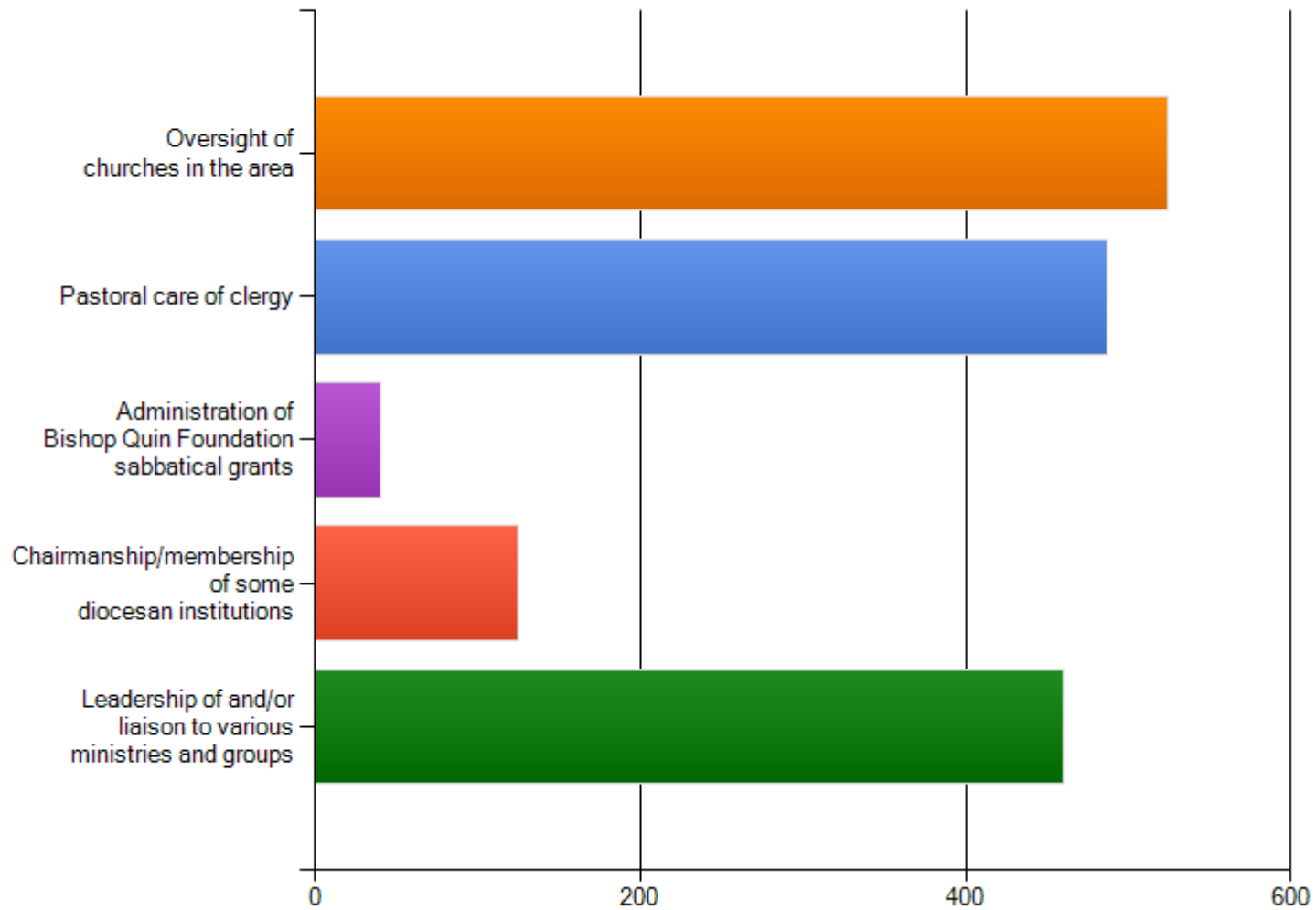
**Please indicate the top three most important talents you would most like to see in the next bishop suffragan serving East Texas:**



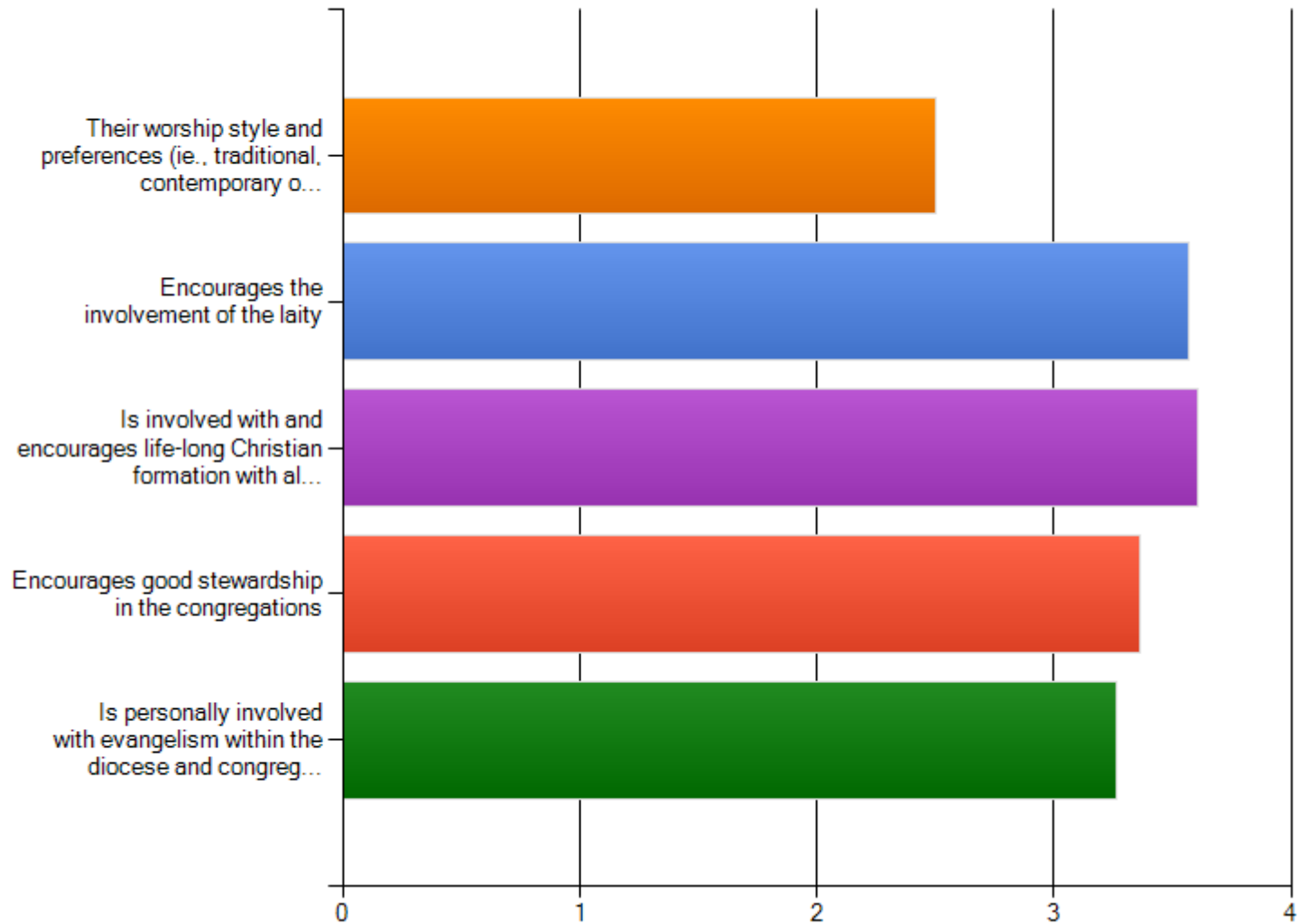
**What three leadership/administrative qualities do you consider most important for the new bishop suffragan to have?**



**Of the responsibilities that will be given the new bishop suffragan, which three of the following are most important to you?**



Please rate the importance of the following with regard to the new bishop suffragan.



I would prefer that the new suffragan be chosen from priests within the diocese rather than from outside.

Hope that the new bishop suffragan realizes the importance of continuing and representing the "Little Church Club".

I would like for the new bishop suffragan to be truly in tune with and responsive to the parishes and clergy under his/her care.

I think the significant number of small parishes & missions in the diocese would make creativity in funding and staffing them crucial -- hope candidate has that talent too.

Individual needs to understand direction, goals, etc. of Bishop Doyle and act in concert with them, assist in their execution, give counsel to Bishop Doyle especially by "speaking for" the people of the area--members of the area Episcopal churches as well as a broad range of individuals.

Currently serving as a Rector in the Diocese of Texas.

I believe it is important that the future Suffragan Bishop of this area should be someone who is from this area or someone that has an understanding of the East Texas Culture. We are special.

I believe the Episcopal Church should be on the forefront of a giant growth spurt in Christianity, as an answer to an unsteady economy, world and life in general. We are called to be Courageous and a new Suffragan will surely help Bishop Doyle in this quest.

The new Bishop Suffragan must have an excellent relationship with the small churches around the diocese. in the overall picture the small churches of the diocese are the "annoying little brother" of the power base of Austin and Houston. It is preferable that the new Bishop Suffragan have experience as a Rector of a small church. That way the Bishop Suffragan knows directly the problems and values that small churches have.

Caring and trustworthy are most important characters our new Bishop Suffragan should have, to feel the love of Christ through our leaders would be healthy for our Diocese. It should come easy and not have to be learned.

Authoritative leadership would alienate and lose numbers in this Diocese. I pray for God's hand to lead the hands of the Clergy.

I believe that the new bishop suffragan should understand that we have many come and go "Episcopalians". If the music or liturgy does not fill "their" needs it should be changed, and then walk away if those wishes are not satisfied. My hope is that we continue to invite and initiate any new family into the church simply because it is a wonderful place to worship and we are pleased that they are with us. But certainly not to change the proof of the Prayer Book or the Hymnal.

The suffragan should be an extension of the Bishop's leadership and the philosophy with which he is leading the DOT; being a cohesion builder-not an island unto him/herself. Mature in years but with at least five years to serve; a mentoring approach appropriate to that stage of life; comfortable with being a servant of the DOT and not the top dog; comfortable with DOT positions on the Church situation being faced today.

NOT to be a dictator!

Energetic and in good health

The survey seems to cover the bases. Thank you for asking for cleric/lay feed-in.

My husband and I are very unhappy with the stand on the National Church leadership on many issues and are very close to leaving the Episcopal Church for an Anglican congregation. I think our diocese needs to carefully pick leaders to reflect biblical based decision makers.

1. Please rebuild the honor, respect and Christian reputation of the Episcopal Church 2. Don't ordain priests that are unsuitable 3. Listen to the laity

Must have good leadership qualities for Clergy and Laity. Must be willing to take a stand on social issues.

This person should be, in the first instance, a man of God who is proud of his faith, is non political and cares for his pastors and their flocks

Must be approachable by both clergy and laity. Must not be right wing Tea Party conservative trying covertly to push that agenda on the church.

Religious presence over administrative abilities.

It is important that a Bishop be open in whatever they do. It is imperative that he/she be a good listener and not only listen to the clergy of a church, but also to that church's congregation.

Needs to have an "open door policy" for clergy in his area.

Devotion and loyalty to the Anglican Communion is the most important quality I hope to see in the suffragan. I would also hope to see minimum involvement with intra church politics.

I believe that one female bishop in our area is sufficient, therefore another male presence would be preferred.

I believe that one female bishop in our area is sufficient, therefore another male presence would be preferred.

"Approachability" is a key attribute for a bishop. Someone who has the knack of talking to people at all levels as though they are important - not someone who mostly talks to 'direct reports' (clergy).

Hard to replace Rayford, but I know it can be done, God Willing. It would great to find a conservative leader for the bishop suffragan of East Texas. One that understands small town values and beliefs.

Be able to relate to the needs of each congregation. Be available

As a native of East Texas (Tyler) now living in Houston my perspective is that East Texas is much more conservative than Houston/ Austin and any Bishop elected to be Suffragan of that area needs to understand that basic truism. The Episcopal Church in East Texas faces almost overwhelming competition from the Baptists and other more fundamental denominations. But East Texas as a whole has a lot of church goers or potential church goers so there is a lot of opportunity. Tyler is a very wealthy and a very cultured city for its size-- don't send someone there with a pre conceived notion that he or she is going to "red neck" land.

I believe it very important that he is patient and kind with all people in all walks of life. He should be very visible at all times to all clergy and laity. We should all get to see him and be with him many times throughout his term in office.



I feel that this person should be vibrant and energetic -- probably more so than many who are at this stage of their career. Our church has lost many members, and those who remain are largely older, thereby making our church an unusually aging congregation. We need ongoing assistance and direction with respect to building and energizing our younger sectors. This is becoming a desperate situation within our parish, and we need someone who is willing and able to commit the time and focus to this effort.

When problems arise with clergy or clergy is making a change, the bishop's guidance and support is invaluable to the church affected. Rayford High made the difference in our church remaining viable and strong.... We would be struggling still if not for High's leadership and direction.

Approachable.

I believe the new Bishop must hold conservative views of the traditional church and not become involved with liberal over the top views of the National Church, No same sex marriage, gay clergy etc

My guess is that many or most of the parishes in the east TX area are small and many may not have full time clergy. So, maybe this particular Bp. Suffragan needs to be especially available and visible to the laity. If there is no specific clergy for a parish, perhaps it is for the Bp. to fill the pastoral role until a specific clergy person can be called. I would love to see this Bp. lead the way in building back up membership and financial resources in the east TX region to be able to call more clergy to specific parishes and for the DOT to more fully live into the communities where it has presence. Build, build, build. Rejuvenate and enliven by meeting the people where they need to be met, especially non-members. Make the Episcopal church a known entity that offers life affirming ministry to all people.

Leadership and Moderation

Please find someone who is as likable and sincere as Bishop High



I feel that most Bishop's encompass a majority of the qualities listed herein. I feel strongly about tradition, care and concern of the congregation specifically pastoral counseling. I feel the Bishop level it is important for them to recognize the needs of clergy and guide them so as to better serve their congregation.

That this person is open minded, educated in science, history of the church as a whole and is flexible and understanding to the needs of a changing church and clergy.

Needs to be in excellent health. Energetic middle-aged (45-55) active wife who will share ministry to some degree. Proven track record of active parish leadership in med size church preferably from EDOT

Someone like Bishop High!

Flexibility. Because of the diversity of the area. Ability to see Christ in all parishioners. Willingness to spend time with people in each congregation to hear what their thoughts, desires, and personal goals are for their church. Willing to set aside time to visit the community and learn about the town the churches are in. Open to provide pastoral care for congregants upon request. Ability to laugh and have fun.

Belief in and following traditional Episcopal Church doctrines.

Willingness to live and serve in the East Texas area would be a plus.

Someone who can see the Diocese moving forward as a diverse group that can live in brotherhood as Christians, even if we don't always agree on every issue.

I believe the leadership of the Episcopal Church have become so focused on foreign mission, "evangelism," and doctrinal and organizational issues, that they have forgotten that there is an "existing flock" that is under great stress, and I believe that is why the existing flock is diminishing. Our current parishioners, throughout the nation, face such unprecedented hostility from government agencies, economic catastrophe both personally and nationally, that, frankly, it is difficult to be enthusiastic about solving the problems in Uganda. I do not hear the Bishops of the Episcopal Church comforting and encouraging their own flock. The "fellowship" churches seem to be doing a much

better job of identifying with and motivating the people in their own communities, and I would like to see us elect a Bishop who has experience in and is dedicated to helping us become integral parts of the communities around us.

Prefer a long time Episcopal member, but not necessarily "cradle"

I would hope that s/he is forward thinking--appreciating the past but moving into the future. Inclusive. Appreciates creative thinking and liturgies. Sound theologian. Able to help people appreciate differing views and work together.

It is important that this person remain focused on the larger issues that motivate people to share the love of Christ with the world. This person will have the ability to avoid getting bogged down in the current social issues that seem to easily derail the work of the Church. This person needs to be comfortable with the Mission of the Church as the Diocese and Bishop Doyle have articulated it, and strive to implement that vision in the work.

The translation of our Religion into our churches is a key function of the clergy, I think. The person in this position can support parish clergy by making the "big" church an integral part of the congregations' life pursuit: day-to-day Religion, through communication. I know it can make a real difference.

Must be an active supporter of Cursillo and other lay-led ministries. These ministries die without active leadership from the top and Bishop Doyle can't do it all.

Technology savvy, caring

These are exciting times for our Diocese. I would encourage you to be of good cheer and to look to Jesus for the strength you need to get things done. Welcome on board.

We need a female of color, who is in a committed same-sex relationship, with children.

The vision of Christ Church is to be a beacons of Light and Hope, not to judge or become a part of the worldly ways but to lead people to know the Love that Jesus Christ tried to leave with us. Today's church is too worldly and has forgotten many of the teaching of Christ. I would hope and pray that the person that is chosen would have the honest

mind set to embrace Christ Teaching and to be that Light that in these days and time would project just that Love and knowledge that with being through the Holy Spirit will lead the people of East Texas with strength and Love for all.

Needs to be in synch with the Diocesan Bishop in matters of theology, priorities and values. Must be able to speak accurately and clearly for the Diocesan so that they speak as one. No competition. While s/he functions as a pastor to the clergy in the Eastern Region, those same clergy need to retain direct access to the Diocesan. Must complement the Diocesan and not be his "hatchet man."

A pastor founded in the Word of God, not subject to the demands of popular culture.

Genuine concern in times of difficulty and crisis Physical presence (personal visits), basic knowledge of each ET church at least enough to be helpful in times of significant need or in a planning process

Listen and guide

Leadership. An open mind to suggestion. Flexibility.

This person should be added to address the needs of the diocese and not to make a political statement to the nation or the Episcopal faith.

The laity MUST be able to trust him as he is our channel to the office occupied by Bishop Doyle. For the past 19 months our church has been without a permanent rector. ....In the meantime we are hanging in limbo. We're beginning to see the inevitable spiritual and morale cracks in our church. At this point there appear to be a number of hands wishing to make new rules and decisions concerning the services and other ministries. We had an excellent vestry but we're beginning to see a disintegration even there because of lack of clear direction from a permanent rector. We have had an Interim Rector for several months but we must not expect that he be in a position to restructure services, etc. given the limited term of his service.

I'll pray for someone who is comfortable with and has a sense of love for all people. A gregarious loving person.

Being so far north of Houston, we desperately need connection with the rest of the Diocese OR more of a fellowship within this part of the Diocese. Thank you for this survey.

Rather than focus principally on geography, I think it is important to fill out the skills and gifts of our current bishop staff.

Cost?

I'm praying.

That they adhere to Biblical principles and are NOT politically correct principles. I do not want gay, lesbian, transgender issues forced on me.

Needs to be more available to the Church's. We need a visual reminder of the ties/support between the bishop and the laity.

none

To restore fellowship and love among the members of our diocese and to refrain from political agendas.

Should exhibit those qualities that would make him (her) eligible for eventual promotion.

I hope and pray for a godly bishop who is in sympathy with the Anglican Covenant. This is basically a conservative area and most of us hope for a bishop who is traditional where theology is concerned rather than revisionist.

I would like the new bishop to be someone who welcomes ALL to be a part of the church and does not discriminate based on sexual orientation. We need to join the 21st Century. I would like someone whose ideas are along the lines of Bishop Spong in his or her understanding of scripture.

I am very new to the Episcopal church after a life time as a Roman Catholic. There were many things that brought me to the Episcopal church but I never thought of being asked to voice my thoughts about what qualities I want in a bishop would be one of them. Thank you.

I hope that our next suffragan is a priest of great personal warmth and holiness. I would hope that he or she will be an excellent preacher, is solidly "Anglican", and is formed by the creeds, the scriptures, and patristic spirituality. I hope their focus is on worship, discipleship, evangelism, and care of the poor. Committees, foundations, etc. should take a back seat to those things. Lastly, I would hope that they have a catholic vision of the church, as opposed to seeing the Episcopal Church as simply another American denomination free to do as it will and must.

Acceptance and love of all people, regardless of sexual orientation.

It will be hard to fill Rayford's shoes!

We are far removed from the Diocese that we are part of. We need more of a presence in the East Texas area. Camp Allen is wonderful but we need a retreat facility in the East Texas area. It would be so nice to have a place to go to commune with God in our area. Houston is a long way away and it is hard to get there.

He or she must be able to relate to large and small churches, Vestries and laity

We have such a terrific team now--another fairly young clergyman would give us great continuity for the futures

Believes that small churches are important in the decision making process of the diocese

I believe we need leadership that embraces all people regardless of sexual preference, skin color, etc. and sees the church as a hospital for sinners rather than a house of the holy.

I believe that the position should be a person who is also compassionate and always is looking to better the church in the traditional ways. He should be a person who is passionate about his position and wants to provide the support for the clergy and laity when needed especially in time of individual crisis. Also to help the younger clergy grow and become great men of leadership.

As a mother with a mentally ill child, I would value any church leader with experience & insights into spiritual inclusion of this underserved population.

The bishop needs to be an extrovert, with positive attitude, optimistic approach... hope for the future.

would like opportunity to know bishop personally. too often the bishops "run in" for an hour and leave. we have no way to get to know bishop or to talk to bishop.

East Texas is such a unique and rich "gumbo" of peoples and cultures that finding someone "within" or "from" would be better suited than someone "without."

I think it is very important for the candidates to be relevant and engaging to all ages, especially younger adults and youth.

conservative/traditional with regards to same sex marriage.

While it has long been the habit of the DoT to promote from within, I believe we should at least canvass and consider all likely candidates no matter where they are from. They should be someone who is a uniter and while holding personal opinions is something everyone does, they MUST be without personal agenda.

Although Bishop High was not our Bishop, I felt he was very connected with needs of the individual parishes.

I personally think Bishop Doyle should spend more time in East Texas and let others tend to administrative duties,.

I would like the bishop suffragan to consider the thoughts, desires and goals of those he serves over his/her own vision and plan.

Candidate must uphold the teachings of scripture.

I would like to see a bishop suffragan who is 'multi-cultural' one of whose roles would be to foster and encourage development of communities of Hispanic and Asian among other Christians. I see this person as being of Hispanic, Asian or other cultural background. The late Rt. Rev. Leopoldo Alard in my view, provided the ideal model of a multi-cultural suffragan bishop.

When visiting Parishes be engaged with the Vestry and parishioners, don't huddle with the priest. Be visible and accessible to church members especially after church during "coffee hour" Bishop High was/is very good at this

I Timothy 3:2-6. "A bishop must be above reproach, husband of one wife, sober, temperate, courteous, hospitable, and a good teacher; he must not be given to drink or brawling, but be of a forbearing disposition, avoiding quarrels, and not avaricious. He must be one who manages his own household well and controls his children without losing his dignity, for if a man does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take charge of a congregation of God's people? He should not be a recent convert; conceit might bring on him the devil's punishment. He must moreover have a good reputation with the outside world, so that he may not be exposed to scandal and be caught in the devil's snare."

Be available to confirm new members who have completed all requirements

Bishop Doyle, Appointing a bishop suffragan for East Texas is a wise decision. This is a unique region of the state, with a strong aversion to change, but with an equally strong tendency to stability. In these turbulent times, you may be surprised to find this region a surprising source of strength, and even wealth (they live rather simply, regardless of their bank accounts). It is a good idea to seek a bishop suffragan who has 'a good head of his shoulders', and who is not likely to mistake an old farmer in overalls for someone of no consequence or influence; quite the contrary, very often, in this region, the person who seems least likely to carry any weight beyond the local area can be a real asset, with surprising influence throughout the region, and the state (they tend to dress in inverse proportion to their real influence). :) I will state again the likely unpopular view (in Austin) that this position is not one for a female, if you wish for that person to be most effective in this unique region. It is not a region for social experimentation or revolution, which has created such fractious divisions in even the most open-minded regions of the state. If you select a bishop suffragan who understands this, and who appreciates the balance that such a 'fundamentalist' region offers to the Diocese, in the worst of times (the poor shall, after all, inherit the earth, or so someone has said, whether or not their understanding of things has reached the maximum state of 'enlightenment'), I think you will be surprised down the

road, in retrospect, at the strength that this region can be to the state, especially when the going gets really rough (precisely because that is all they have ever known).

We need someone that leans a bit more to the liberal than the conservative, is open to new ideas. Should encourage sermons that are more contemporary and based in the world today i.e.--how does what God says in the Bible pertain to our lives NOW rather than just telling us what Jesus did or said THEN. Talk about social issues (abortion, homosexuality, capital punishment, etc) and how the bible and our contemporary church relates to them. Give a more positive outlook on life and what God wants of us. Suggest answers to questions that are on our minds--Will we know each other in Heaven? Why does God allow bad things, like 911 to happen? Can a person go to Heaven if he doesn't go to church? It is well and good to tell how Jesus fed the masses, but we already know that from Sunday School. Let's talk about life in the present tense and what we can do to live a Christian life; talk about peer pressure (its not just a teen problem); how do we get adult children back to the church; some positive messages about how God wants us to be happy and have a good life.

Leadership is most important. The new bishop should be able to convey a positive vision for our diocese to our diverse parishes. That's tough, but doable.

The comments are directed to personal opinion as relevant to all bishopric and vestry service, not simply this new position. I was recently taken aback by the dowdy, limited perception of vestry and diocesan duty being the financial and administrative maintenance of the parish. That's like saying as parents our responsibility is to pay the bills and make sure the A/C works (albeit especially relevant in August in Houston), but it shouts its unnecessarily myopic description of the care and maintenance of the communicants and spiritually focused assets allowed by the Father and the Church Corporation. Further, it communicates at least a minimal if not a more dangerous disregard of the fact that a church of any faith or proportion has a duty to engage and provide a focal point of hope, unwarranted love and support, as well as service and spiritual recovery/worship for the community it serves. as fundamentally tuned in as that may sound. Bible teaching and crawfish boils while great fun and superficially helpful do not by themselves, a viable ministry make nor do we proceed with that definition of Christian servitude. As a diocese, we are, it seems (We'll see) progressing toward a more authentic realization of the conjunction of religious alignment and Trinitarian practice. That in itself produces a spark of hope if not for an unwarranted degree of truth of service, of at least a grasp of the need for acceptance in His will in our discerning both trust and faith.



A ministry to clergy using resources only the bishop knows about; e.g., psychiatric and psychological services. A bishop MUST be able to keep confidentiality.

HE should get a feeling of how the members of the Laity approve or disapprove of the priest's style and actions. A survey of the church members thoughts of the priest's leadership would be helpful to all concerned even though the priest is not in agreement with this..

Some of the liberal views of the national Episcopal Church are not popular in many small towns in Texas.

The new bishop suffragan must be theologically conservative (orthodox) and pastorally active.

The diocesan should be concerned for the clergy's welfare. Of course, with the recommendations from the suffragan. Local congregations need to have a close relationship with the suffragan since most of us feel very removed and disconnected from Houston. We need an advocate and we felt we had that with Bishop High.

Must have excellent leadership qualities. Must be able to work with all levels of the Bishop's office as well as the clergy in each of the churches he or she is involved with and especially have an excellent ability to work well with our Bishop.

Please include clergy from ministries besides parishes/missions. Many of us serve as chaplains to hospitals, universities and special ministries.

Vision, experience and passion working with small churches who are dying in East Texas!

I believe the search process should be open to the whole Church. Even medium-sized parishes within the Diocese have a much broader search process than what is customary for our episcopal elections.

Support of traditional Episcopal values and worship is extremely important to me and my family.

Experience is important, but, it should not be the deciding factor. Education, necessary skill sets, commitment are equally, if not more so.

I would hope that the elected bishop suffragan would be skilled in both pastoral and organizational abilities. I would also hope that the one chosen would have the ability to connect in a genuine, open manner with the people, understanding their particular culture of the area, their joys, their sorrows. I would also, perhaps especially, hope that the one chosen will have an ability to "think outside the box" in such manner that the church and all the people she touches thrive.

East Texas is a much more conservative section of Texas than is Central Texas. A Bishop Suffragan with traditional approach, perhaps one just a bit 'older', would be helpful. This area of Texas is much more "old South" than it is 'Traditional Texan'; someone who is sensitive to that would be helpful.

I would pray that those who feel called to offer themselves have an understanding of the great difference between East Texas and other parts of the diocese. He/she needs to be very very much the pastor of the flock.

Please find someone with grassroots, in-the-pews pastoral service.

We don't necessarily need to choose someone with prior experience in the region

I think it is important that our area Bishop be a person who is comfortable letting people know that they are loved and being loved back by a large and diverse group of people. We need to see Christ in our Bishop so that she or he can lead us deeper into our relationship with God.

Doctrinal fidelity is important!! This is an area that is heavily Catholic and evangelical (two trends), and the churches have to be unapologetically Episcopalian in tone and flavor (i.e., not just an ineffective copy of a Southern Baptist mega church wannabe, complete with mediocre-at-best praise music) but also very solid on the doctrinal basics that define all true Christian denominations.

Pastoral counseling is very important in this role. Also assisting with retirees. Someone everyone can relate to.

For East Texas in particular, I would look for someone who has already demonstrated the ability to gain the trust and friendship of a wide variety of his or her peers and works well with others.

Ability and willingness to be a pastor to all. Respect for all from the very traditional to whatever the opposite of that is. Someone who can help us be a Christian community and not a political one (either of the right, middle or left).

Right brain global view of issues the church and confronting humanity + left brain ability to oversee/coordinate details.

Suffragan must be a member of a team, understanding the Bishop of the Diocese is THE Bishop and sets policy, etc.

They should be guided by the holy spirit and that should show in all they do.

Prayer.

Leadership is single most important trait.

This diocese is pulling up the draw bridges and closing the gates in advance of changes coming as a result of the next two general conventions. If we do not get ready, both clergy and laity not to mention our bishops, we will fail in our charge to spread the Good News. Our institutions will continue to wither. Perhaps even more community churches ... will seek to rent space in our facilities for we certainly don't seem to need them. This next Bishop needs to lead from the front, be willing to meet with foe as well as friend and be more concerned with the sheep outside the pen, than those inside. Oh, and my answers to the questions? Let's say I'm more concerned with paying attention to the fundamentals than "Their worship style and preferences".

Someone who shares the values, mission and vision that the Diocesan Bishop has for this Diocese. A willingness to adapt to the worship style of any parish visited. A good balance of personalities with existing clergy and staff

good working relationship with diocesan staff good idea of the various institutions of the diocese ability to help churches live into lifelong formation

I would like to submit a name to be considered but I am not sure how to go about it

Whoever is elected will be a resource for the diocese for the rest of their career. It is important to consider more than what is immediately needed in East Texas. Please bear in mind the wide range of possible responsibilities a suffragan bishop might be assigned to over the coming years, as the needs of the Diocese of Texas change and Bishop Doyle's vision for the Diocese evolves correspondingly.

Rayford and Bill (Sterling) were great places to go for clergy who needed help. I sued them both and it was so helpful.

Keep parish informed of diocesan activities.

A bishop should have a healthy sense of humor and is able to laugh with people and not at them.

We need a leader that can focus on developing Episcopalian laity leaders....both young and old.

When selecting a new bishop I think it is important to examine what the current staff/leadership strengths are and what areas we are weaker in. The new bishop should help to smooth those cracks over to strengthen the diocese over all. Also, I do not feel it necessary to duplicate responsibilities, for instance, we already have a Canon for Life-Long Christian formation, do we really need a bishop with the same focus? It is an exciting time for the Diocese of Texas, my God bless and guide the selection process.

Very hard questions, as laity I do not know the big picture and my comments may not be very reverent.

I feel it is extremely important that the person be committed to historical, orthodox, and traditional Biblical positions of our faith.

Plenty of prayers for selecting the person God wants for our new Bishop.

I would be sure that he is solid and reformed in his theology.

Conservative Christian!

A good friendly type person that shows his or her love of Christ through his or her daily life. We had a hispanic bishop, I am sorry I don't remember his name, when he did the service, you could see his enjoyment and his love of Christ with his body action and with his vocal expression. Also, Bishop High had some of those qualities. Growing up in the Episcopal Church, I have seen too many Bishops that showed very little emotion during the services. These two gentlemen shine with the light of Christ as they perform His service.

I have always believed that our Bishops should be approachable to the laity. We have a situation in our parish that I would love to talk to the Bishop about, but, sadly, there are many roadblocks to pass, and, then, even that would not come from the "parishioner" but from some other spokesperson. While I KNOW the Bishop is super busy, and cannot "take" phone calls, knowing he IS approachable would be amazing.

This survey has nothing to do with the ministry of a Bishop - all questions are geared to the specific location of East Texas. If this is what you want, invite an assisting bishop who can be pastoral and take responsibility for whatever committees you want him or her to serve on. But this has nothing to do with the ordinal and who we say a Bishop is called to be.

The person should be Laity first. Follow the path set. Determined to be available, 24/7. likeable., Tempered, not temperamental.

Pastoral vision for the clergy is very important to me. Most lay folks haven't a clue what it takes to be a priest, and have absolutely no idea what makes a good priest. The clergy do. A candidate for bishop should have as her or his number one priority the health of her/his priests. All else will come.

This questionnaire is insufficiently related to the ordinal and does not show an adequate grasp of the role of a bishop in the church. for years we have elected bishops whose lives are not exemplary and whose knowledge of Christian belief and practice is at best marginal. The results are all around us. One might hope that the diocese of Texas would take a lead in seeking persons whose lives were more in accord with the ordinal than with a management profile.

Bishop High was such a "peoples" Bishop and I think it is very important that the new Bishop follow his style of closeness with the congregations. You always knew Bishop High was going to be a warm and friendly celebrant when he visited. He also had a great sense of humor!!!

Any time they are going to close a church, they should advise of other Episcopal Churches in the area.

I trust that the Bishop would be able to model prayerful leadership...gentleness born of wisdom as James says, and wisdom born of prayer.

Person should be theologically moderate leaning somewhat to the conservative (orthodox & catholic) side

Tradition, scripture and reason are important. Support of homosexual clergy who are non-celibate is not at all important. We need a Bishop who supports the traditional view of marriage and family.

If you could clone Rayford High you would do well.

Needs to be very active in growing the ministry in the E/Tex area. We need to attract some young families.

I have tried to take the survey; however, the computer would not accept any of my preferences!

Of course I think Bishop High will be VERY hard to replace. I believe the new bishop needs to be a good communicator; but having someone who really loves the Lord, lives by his convictions, truly cares for people and is available to listen and counsel are qualities I feel are important because they are qualities the people in this area are accustomed to having here. That person has "big boots" to fill. I know you can guess who this comes from.

I believe that the new bishop suffragan must be, first and foremost, a daring Christian. At this time in the life of the Church we must stop electing bishops who are "nice," ornamental figureheads. We need a bishop suffragan who thinks theologically, lives Eucharistically, and preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ without shame or trepidation. This new bishop suffragan must also reek of Anglicanism. This does not mean that he or she knows how to look pretty in a purple shirt and mitre. This means that he or she has to live a daily, disciplined life of prayer and worship. This means that he or she must practice Christian virtue, not just talk about it. Finally, our new bishop suffragan must have the wisdom, courage, and joy to love the unlovable, to build up the Church, and to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

Faith in the church is under fire and, consequently, steadfast faith in Christ is as well. Strength of Biblical knowledge and principals, along with a clear demonstration of commitment to traditional worship practices is critical. "Walk the walk and talk the talk"

The bishop suffragan would do well to model his/her ministry along the lines of Bishop High: encouraging of clergy and congregations, sincerely interested, available to all at all times, and emphasizes the importance of relationships.

A gentle pastor like Rayford would be my preference

While this bishop will be elected for the whole church, it's important to note that he will be primarily serving people in the E. Texas portion of the diocese. Therefore it would be prudent to elect someone who understands the societal and ecclesiastical culture of East Texas Episcopalians.

The DOT is facing increased pressure to move toward a "progressive" position. As the Traditionalists abandon TEC that pressure will only increase. Anyone we elect to the HOB must have a vision that is flexible enough to survive without being so eager to "progress" that the people in the pew are left behind.

Traditional Conservative

This person must know the Diocese, know the eastern and northeastern convocations, work well with Bishop Doyle, be an inspiration to the churches in her or his region. Ideally, this person should enhance the diversity of episcopal ministry in the Diocese.

Important to have someone without agenda except the worship of Our Lord and the trust of all

Our parish, in all likelihood, would not look favorably on a female bishop suffragan.

There is a need for someone who can hear both sides of an argument, find reason in both sides and seek consensus or understanding. We do not need someone who is so strong on one side of issues that polarization takes place and or both sides do not feel they are heard and respected and have a place at the table.

The questions are great, but my main concern is that our leadership be a believer in God's Holy Word. I prefer a male, if the Bible is to be our example, I can find no example where a woman is leading a church body. It is imperative that a new bishop suffragan believe that scripture is the infallible Word of God.

Traditional worship and views are needed in the person selected.

Consider the role of bi-vocational priests-- do they have different needs than full time priests? How will you help them in their ministry? Due to huge geographic area-- consider methods to "show the flag (of the Diocese)"-- throughout the large area. Recall the small rural church can slip into the mindset-- "what do we "get" for our assessments" rather than a pride and honor in affiliation with the largest diocese in America!!

I am saddened that, as I understand it, we will not be having a search process to nominate candidates.

I'm still sad that we can't have an election at the same time as Diocesan Council, expanding the time of Council & allowing the delegates to do their jobs in one trip instead of 3.

The previous bishop suffragan was heavily involved in Cursillo and Kairos and attended almost all closing ceremonies for Cursillo and was concerned about its future, as well as, Restorative Justice, which has a major impact in the East Texas area. I'm also concerned about these issues and hope our new bishop is as well.

The bishop Suffragan has to accept the challenge of the growing diversity of East Texas; He/She must be able to bring the gospel to situations not yet touched by the Good News and continually discern what are "frontier situations" in the diocese; and accompany all these by "witness of an authentic Christian life.

Experience as a small church rector would be a plus.

Dear Friends, Godspeed to y'all in this endeavor! I appreciate the opportunity to offer feedback to the process. I believe that the current distribution of labor among the bishops will likely remain more or less constant during Bishop Doyle's episcopate. I see in Bishop Doyle creative gifts for visioning and coordination, and, in Bishop Harrison, administrative gifts for Diocesan and board leadership. Bishop High's pastoral gifts, exercised so gracefully in his ministry to clergy, simply must be replaced in this call of a new bishop suffragan, in compliment to the gifts and



graces of our continuing bishops. I appreciate the East Texas setting as a consideration for the call, but this will be a bishop for the whole Church...and, more locally, for the whole diocese. I am glad to visit more, if need be, and can be reached at the parish office. Please know that you all have my prayers and the prayers of our parish.

The bishop must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money. S/he must manage his/her own household well, keeping his/her children submissive and respectful in every way— for if someone does not know how to manage his/her own household, how can s/he take care of God's church? S/he must not be a recent convert, or s/he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, s/he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that s/he may not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.

Is he or she loyal to the current directions and values of The Episcopal Church as developed in the last several General Conventions? The #2 vote-getter in a recent suffragan election has since left The Episcopal Church, taking parishioners with him. We do not need such reactionaries in the episcopacy.

I believe a bishop is first, foremost and in all things a pastor (chief pastor). My hope is that he/she would also be mission minded.

It does not appear that there will be time for discernment, a search process, and a selection of candidates by a search committee. A process with time for discernment and search might still arrive at the same conclusion, but the opportunity for the diocese to grow during that process could be a very good thing. Have we considered doing things differently from the way we have "always" done them?

I am looking for a bishop who is intelligent, wise and effective at moving things forward. Someone who can support the vision of Bishop Doyle and bring complementary gifts to the mission and vision of the diocese. Someone who knows how to handle conflict and who can build consensus.

Orthodox voice in the house of bishops

Since there are very few congregations in the East Region that are bigger than pastoral and family sized, the new bishop should have an understanding of the unique challenges and benefits of small churches. Hopefully this bishop

will be a strong coach to both laity and clergy, and have a strong sense of the importance of developing the ministries of all baptized persons; while providing pastoral support and wise counsel to the clergy.

I pray we would elect a bishop suffragan who has an invested interest in the Episcopal schools (whether parochial, diocesan or independent) as an important part of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas' mission and evangelism efforts-- someone who will help to tend the seeds we're trying to plant for Christ's harvest.

To choose a bishop that aligns with the more conservative values of the people of the Diocese of Texas, and to teach the Word of God directly from the Bible as it is written.