



The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender  
Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of California

*Celebrating God's Presence in LGBT Life and  
Advocating Justice for LGBT People*  
[www.oasiscalifornia.org](http://www.oasiscalifornia.org)

For More Information

Thomas C. Jackson  
510.704.1733  
cell: 510.759.3275

## **Bay Area LGBT Episcopalians pleased gay man & lesbian Are nominated in search for a new Bishop**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - - - Bay Area LGBT Episcopalians are pleased a gay man and lesbian woman are among five candidates nominated Monday to become the next Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California.

"We commend the search and standing committees for their commitment to presenting a highly qualified slate of nominees that reflects the diversity of the Bay Area," Oasis President the Rev. John Kirkley said. "We are grateful for the prayerful manner in which the search committee members approached this important work of discernment. Their efforts have borne good fruit."

"It is now the responsibility of the electing convention to discern whom God is calling to be our next bishop," he added. "We encourage all the members of the Episcopal Diocese of California to attend the meetings in April to meet the nominees. It is important that the voices of as many people as possible be heard by the clergy and delegates who will gather at the diocesan convention on May 6." These meetings are currently set for April 24 thru 29, 2006 in various parts of the Bay Area. Additional information on dates and locations of these meetings is available at [www.bishopsearch.org](http://www.bishopsearch.org).

Earlier, Oasis California urged the Diocese to "continue to reject any recommendations to discriminate against qualified gay and lesbian clergy who might be nominated in the course of our episcopal search process."

"We acknowledge that the current crisis in the Anglican Communion regarding inclusion of LGBT Episcopalians in the life of our church is painful to many of the members of our diocese," the Oasis Board said.

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“We also lament the vilification of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people on the part of some in the Anglican Communion, and call the Church to repentance for its ambivalence regarding the human dignity and sacramental equality of all God’s children. We will continue to advocate for the full inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people.”

An Oasis/California Town Hall meeting on current issues and program needs is set for 7 P.M. March 14, 2006 in San Francisco’s [St. Francis Church](#).

A list of Episcopal churches that welcome Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender is found at the [Find a Church](#) section of the Oasis California web site ([www.oasiscalifornia.org](http://www.oasiscalifornia.org)).