

## **A Call from the Reparations Committee of the Diocese of New York to Live into Apology**

**Proposer of Resolution:** Ms. Diane B. Pollard

**Parish or Organization:** The Reparations Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of New York

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**Title of Resolution:** Living into an Apology for Slavery

Whereas, the Reparations Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of New York has been charged with examining and addressing the impact of slavery in the Episcopal Diocese of New York; and

Whereas, the findings of the Reparations Committee have indicated that restorative justice within the Diocese should include, without limitation, a formal apology for slavery in the form of a Service of Apology to be conducted at the 244th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

### **TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION(S):**

[ 12 ] Resolved: that the congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of New York commit to the exploration and creation of a permanent acknowledgment of their involvement in slavery; and further

Resolved: that in order to implement the above resolution, the Reparations Committee will prepare a toolbox that can be used by congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of New York to assist them in this effort; and further

[ 13 ] Resolved: that congregations should report their actions to the Secretary of Convention by not later than the 244th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York; and further

[ 14 ] Resolved: that the Reparations Committee call upon the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New York to implement a formal Service of Apology for slavery, for use at the 244th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

### **Explanation**

The Reparations Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of New York has since 2006 engaged in a variety of activities designed to study and address the impact of slavery in the Episcopal Diocese of New York, in our daily lives and in the lives of our congregations. The scope of our engagement has included the study of various forms of literature and media productions that have served as education into our complicity in these heinous activities. We believe that the time has come for our Bishop and Diocese to commit to a formal apology and that the 2020 Diocesan Convention will be an appropriate time. This resolution calls us to plan and to execute the act of apology for slavery at the 244th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of New York, with the venue being the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine.