

Norms of Vestry Membership  
(A Vestry Covenant )  
Christ Church+Washington Parish

1. Participation
  - a. Don't hold back, be open to discussion
  - b. Don't vote negative without explanation
  - c. Set meetings as a priority
2. Loyalty
  - a. Commitment to the ministry of Christ Church – Washington Parish
  - b. Not representative of a constituency
  - c. Support in decision once decisions are made
3. Honesty
  - a. Speak your mind and your heart
  - b. Say the same thing in meeting that you say later in parking lot
4. Confidentiality
  - a. Not the same thing as secrecy– everything is open to scrutiny
  - b. Tell the whole story without interpreting others' position
5. Mutual Support
  - a. Build up the Body
  - b. Encouragement
  - c. Attendance
6. Consensus
  - a. Few votes are taken
  - b. All are heard
7. Prayer
  - a. A community of prayer
  - b. By face and name
8. Transparency
  - a. Decision makers are accountable
  - b. Inform the Parish what the Vestry does
9. Communication

Remember the above responsibilities to the Vestry and to the Parish

Text adapted from Christ Church Cathedral, Houston, TX