

# Jane Batarseh



## Chapter Nominee Biography and Statement (Self Nomination)

(Please include a photo when submitting this document)

1. Nominee Name/Phone/Email:

*Jane Batarseh / 916-719-4940 / jane.dominee@gmail.com*

2. What brought you to St. Paul's Cathedral and why did you stay?

*In August 2020, when we moved to San Diego from Sacramento, Trinity Cathedral's Interim Dean enthusiastically suggested that I attend St. Paul's, since he knew Penny and of her dynamic ministry.*

*Since I began attending St. Paul's, I have been spiritually energized.*

*Each of the ministries in which I have been involved is rich and distinct in its spiritual purpose. These ministries and the time I have set aside for meditation and contemplation has given me new spiritual initiative.*

3. With what activities or ministries have you been involved and how?

*I have regularly participated in Tuesday Evening Prayer, taken faith formation classes, designed kneelers, participated in the Listening Hub, presented a Forum on Palestinian Christians, read my poems at the Forum Poetry Slams, become a member of the planning committee for Women Together, contributed to the Lenten Reflections and, most especially,*

*been a lector for the past five years.*

4. Chapter is considering a strategic plan with four major goal areas for the cathedral community to prioritize over the next few years:

- 2 Build Disciples for Today and Generations to Come (*formation, worship, justice*)  
     1 Build Community and Congregational Connection (*growth, incorporation, fellowship*)  
     4 Be Good Stewards of our Resources (*finance, campus, operations*)  
     3 Serve as a Cathedral in the City, for the City (*interfaith, ecumenism, public space*)

Please rank these four areas in descending order of interest to you, with 1 being the item of most interest.

5. What attributes and gifts do you bring to the ministry of Chapter (please include any pertinent educational, professional or community experience)?

*The first attribute is an ecumenical curiosity; the second is a passion for teaching.*

*In 1975 as newlyweds, my husband Haitham and I traveled to his ancestral home in Bethlehem, in the occupied West Bank. Bethlehem was a terra incognita ancient, enigmatic, intriguing both spiritually and intellectually. My ignorance of this land's history was appalling. So began a spiritual journey toward the confluence of East and West, their influence upon one another spiritually, intellectually, politically, and culturally. This study has informed my spirituality, revealed my prejudices, and opened new channels of thought.*

*For 25 years I taught high school Latin at Sacramento Country Day School. Teaching has been—with the exception of my children—the most difficult and rewarding element in my life.*

6. Why do you feel called to serve on Chapter at this time in your life and in the life of the cathedral?

*St. Paul's reach into our community brings vital help to those in need—physically and spiritually. Our enlightened and generous congregation invites us to deepen our prayer life. I have benefitted and now wish to contribute.*

*In the past five years, my participation has been contingent upon my familial duties. Our family calendar is filled with the priorities of each member; however, my family understands that St. Paul's is my priority.*

1. Nominee Name/Phone/Email: Jane Batarseh 916-719-4940 Jane.Dominee@gmail.com

2. Nominator Name/Phone/Email: Lucinda Parsons 858-342-7206 lulu2parsons@gmail.com

3. What qualities do you see in the nominee that lead you to recommend them for leadership in the parish?

Jane is very intelligent yet warm and approachable. I have enjoyed our friendship over the years during Evening Prayer and love hearing her read scriptures from the pulpit. Additionally she designed a needlepoint kneeler for our services, is involved in Women Together and has excellent teaching skills as an experienced educator.

4. Specifically, how does the nominee live out the Cathedral's mission to "Love Christ. Serve Others. Welcome All."?

Jane's extended family has experienced living in several countries including Israel and delving into eclectic religious backgrounds. Thankfully she has wholeheartedly embraced being an Episcopalian for many years at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Sacramento and now with us.

5. Bearing in mind the corporate nature of Chapter deliberations and Chapter's role as spiritual leaders in the parish, why would the nominee would make a good Chapter member?

Jane's openness and awareness of today's culture makes her a perfect example of how to embrace the leadership required to be a Chapter member at St. Paul's.