

Nom. for Standing Committee (Clergy):

Garang Atem

Nominee *	Gabriel Garang Atem
Nominated by: *	Pablo Ramos
Church or ministry *	Latino Ministry
Date	Monday, April 9, 2018
Select desired office *	Standing Committee Clergy (1 to be elected)
Email *	sanesteban1@aol.com
Phone *	8019682731

Statement of why nominee would make a good office holder

Gabriel is one of the Lost Boys of the South Sudan. He was born on Christmas Day 1978 in Boma at Kiir, Lith Payam, South Sudan. In 1987, civil war in Sudan forced him and thousands of Sudanese children, mostly young boys, to flee to Ethiopia on foot to escape death or induction into the northern army. Some girls also escaped, but most suffered death with their parents, or were enslaved. After being orphaned or separated from their families, some 20,000 Sudanese boys endured unthinkable dangers: attacks from wild animals, drowning in rivers and attacks from rebel soldiers. Additionally, they were malnourished, dehydrated, and constantly exposed to the elements. Thousands of them were killed or died. Gabriel was seven years of age when he fled to Ethiopia. He began elementary school in the Pinyudu Refugee Camp and stayed there until the Ethiopian Civil War broke out in 1991. Eventually, he and others made their way to the Kakuma Camp in Kenya, where he secured the status of refugee. Ten years later, in 2001, he was granted the opportunity to settle in the United States of America and relocated to Richmond, Virginia. In 2004 he moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. The following year, he began studies at Salt Lake Community College, where he was awarded an Associate of Arts.

In 2006, he returned to South Sudan to visit relatives, and there he met Ms. Mary Alek Kuir Akuoch at a church conference; they were married in July of that year. He became a U.S citizen in 2007. In March of 2014, Gabriel and his wife were blessed with twin boys, Atem and Kuir.

Gabriel was ordained as a priest, October 1, 2016 at All Saints Church.

Has the nominee has affirmed that he/she is willing to serve?	Yes
---------------------------------------------------------------	-----

Created
9 Apr 2018
9:49:11 AM

