



# The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

## Anglican Church of Canada

The Right Reverend Michael A. Bird, Bishop

## WELCOME

### Secretary of Synod Welcome Letter

October 23, 2017

#### To the Members of the 143rd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara:

Welcome to the 143<sup>rd</sup> Synod of our Diocese. We pray that you will be enriched by this experience of the wider church. You may already be aware that the Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Niagara is the legal entity (established by statute of the Legislature in the Province of Ontario) with responsibility for the dealings of the Anglican Church within its diocesan boundaries. At Synod we seek God's intention for us as we pray, discern, talk, listen and work at being Church in the diverse community that is the Diocese of Niagara.

This session of Synod will convene on **Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**. Registration in Myler Hall will begin at 8:00 am on Friday and will also be available on Saturday for those who did not register on Friday. In Myler Hall you will receive your nametags, voting cards, etc. Lunch will be catered on Friday by Karam Kitchen, a Syrian women's refugee group and on Saturday by Lunch-Bags.ca. The cost of this will be included in your parish invoice for Synod delegate fees later in November. The theme of Synod this year is **The Diocese of Niagara: Looking Back, Looking Around and Looking Forward**. Archbishop Colin Johnson, Bishop of Toronto, of Moosonee and the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario will be present with us for our entire Synod and will help us to reflect on leadership as we set the stage for an Episcopal Election in March, 2018.

This is the second year of our changed process for the nomination and election of Regional Representatives to Synod Council. Time for this process is part of our agenda.

#### Important Details:

Attached to this package is a map showing City of Hamilton parking lots to enable you to park close to the Cathedral. We have just learned that the Santa Claus parade has changed their route this year, and will impact us on Saturday, as it will be travelling down James Street North. We encourage you to park east of James Street, in the Cathedral Parking lot, the municipal lot next door or use street parking. As we understand the plans, you will be blocked in if you park west of James Street. Please carpool or use alternate methods of transportation. We are working with the City of Hamilton and Santa Claus Parade to minimize traffic congestion. Our day on Saturday will be affected by the timing of the parade.

All motions and other important information at Synod will be presented on a large central screen so you may choose not to print the circular. If you wish to print portions of the information provided online and do not have a printer, please contact your parish for assistance.

The Cathedral is a Wi-Fi enabled facility which will facilitate delegates accessing Synod-related documents on wireless devices. It will also enable us to share the work of Synod widely through our Facebook page (Anglican Diocese of Niagara) and Twitter feed (@NiagaraAnglican). If you are using Twitter, please use #synodniagara as the hashtag for Synod-related posts. While you are at Synod, please set your phones to silent or vibrate as a courtesy to the people and process of Synod. In case of an emergency you if you are without a cell phone, the main switchboard number is: 905-527-1316, Ext. 200.

Please be sure to forward any dietary restrictions to [maryannegrant@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:maryannegrant@niagaraanglican.ca) no later than November Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

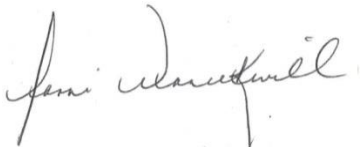
This year, the planning committee has been working with Greening Niagara to ensure that our time together is environmentally sustainable. We invite delegates to please "lug a mug" for tea and coffee and to bring a refillable container for water, etc. with our objective in mind.

**We ask that clergy ensure that should a delegate from their parish not have access to email, they distribute to those delegates all relevant information that has been distributed to clergy and lay delegates via email.**

#### **Other Questions?**

Please contact Mary Anne Grant: [maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca](mailto:maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca) or 905-527-1316 extension 380.

**See you at Synod, on November 17th!**



The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell  
Secretary of Synod

