

# The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

# Anglican Church of Canada

The Right Reverend Michael A. Bird, Bishop

October 9, 2015

# To the Members of the 141<sup>st</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Niagara:

If this is your first Synod, we hope that you will be enriched by this experience of the wider church. This year we are delighted that Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, will be an active participant on both days of Synod.

This session of Synod will convene promptly on **Friday October 30**<sup>th</sup> **at 9:00 am**, with registration in Myler Hall beginning at 8:00 am. You will have an opportunity to make a contribution during the Offering of the Synod Eucharist on Friday morning towards our  $140^{th}$  anniversary campaign, the focus of which is refugee sponsorship. What better way is there to celebrate our common life by standing with those who need a new beginning? We will resume business on **Saturday October 31**<sup>st</sup> **at 9:00 am** and conclude our time together with a luncheon at LIUNA Station. At LIUNA together with other members of our Diocesan Family, we will celebrate the  $140^{th}$  anniversary of the diocese and highlight some of the transformative moments we have experienced.

#### What IS Synod, after all?

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 a Church as a diverse community under the leadership of our Bishop, the Right Reverend Michael A. Bird.

# **Important Details:**

Attached to this package is a map showing City of Hamilton parking lots to enable you to park close to the Cathedral. Registration cards are not being sent in advance for this Synod, please present yourself at Myler Hall to register.

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. This year, we will be voting on resolutions using "voter friendly" clickers. This will afford us an immediate result of the votes undertaken, with a highly accurate count. (Don't worry we'll be taught how to use the clickers.)

The Cathedral is a Wi-Fi enabled facility which will facilitate delegates accessing Synod-related documents on wireless devices. It will also allow 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.

The emergency phone number in case you need to be contacted is: 905-527-1316, ext. 200. While you are at Synod, please set your phones to silent or vibrate as a courtesy to the people and process of Synod.

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

### **About Synod Fees:**

Fees for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of Synod (held last May) will be added to the final invoices issued in the fall after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of Synod. Parishes will be invoiced for the number of Synod delegates to which they are entitled. Your parish will pay your delegate fees.

# Other Questions?

Please contact Mary Anne Grant: <a href="maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca">maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca</a> or 905-527-1316 extension 380.

See you at Synod, on October 30 and 31!

The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell

Secretary of Synod

