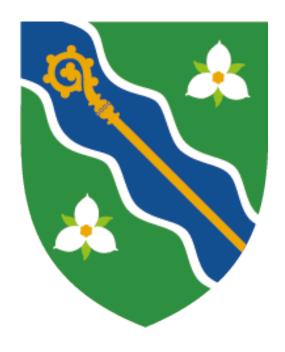
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE

151ST SYNOD

OF THE

DIOCESE OF NIAGARA



held on Saturday, November 1, 2025

via Zoom videoconferencing

MINUTES OF THE 151ST SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

Saturday November 1, 2025 via Zoom videoconference

"Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee."

Call to Order & Territorial Acknowledgement

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell called the Synod to order at 9:00 am.

A territorial acknowledgment was given by the Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin, rector of Christ's Church Cathedral & dean of Niagara.

Organizing Synod

Bishop Susan Bell welcomed all returning and first-time members to Synod. A practice vote was conducted to familiarize members of Synod with the voting platform.

<u>Credentials Committee Report</u>

Chancellor Greg Tweney advised Synod that—as of 8:55am—80 members of the order of clergy were present, representing 88.8% of those eligible and 112 members of the order of laity present, representing 78.8% of those eligible. Out of the 78 total parishes, 61 were represented by at least one lay representative, for a total of 78.8% of parishes present. The quorum required for the transaction of Synod business was achieved.

Motion 1: Credential Committee Report

Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous

THAT the report of the credentials committee be accepted.

CARRIED

Notices of Motions

The chancellor advised members that, since the convening circular had been published, no additional motions have been received. He indicated that any motions for consideration at this Synod would need to be communicated in writing to Ms. Hannah Keller no later than 10:30 a.m.

Appointments to Diocesan Court

The bishop informed members of synod that she was appointing the following people to the diocesan court: The Reverend Canon Dr. David Anderson, Mr. Neil Bell, Ms. Nancy Coombs, Mr. Neil Culp, The Venerable Paul Walker, and The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk.

Consent Agenda

The following items were listed on the consent agenda for the Synod:

A. Election of Synod Secretaries

that Mrs. Susan Little be elected as the honorary lay secretary of synod and The Reverend Canon Pamela Guyatt be elected as the honorary clerical secretary of synod for the 151st Synod of the diocese.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Synod

that the minutes of the 150th Synod of the diocese, as found in the convening circular, be approved.

C. Adoption of the Agenda

that the agenda as presented by the Synod Agenda Committee be adopted.

D. Reception of All Reports

that all reports found in the convening circular, including the audited financial statements and auditor's report, be received.

E. Trinity College Corporation

that the representatives from the Diocese of Niagara to the Corporation of Trinity College be: The Reverend Canon Garfield Adams (clergy), Mr. Tom Atterton (lay), and The Reverend Sarah Grondin (clergy); for a term of two years.

F. Synod Council Report

that the Synod Council report, having been fully considered, be now finally approved, and that all the decisions, agreements and documents entered into and signed on Synod's behalf since its last report, be hereby ratified and confirmed.

Motion 2: Approval of the Consent Agenda

Ms. Sarah Bird / The Reverend Cheryl Barker

THAT the items listed on the consent agenda be approved as circulated. CARRIED

Gathering Prayers with Bishop's Charge to Synod

The Synod's opening worship included readings from Isaiah 6:1-8, Ephesians 4:1-6, and John 1:35-50. The Reverend Canon Nirmal Mendis, Canon Donna Bomberry, Mrs. Judy Conning, the Reverend Deacon Roderick McDowell, and the Reverend Canon Bahman Kalantari assisted with the worship, led by the Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell.

The bishop began her charge by giving thanks for the faithfulness, resilience, and generosity that continues to animate the life of the Diocese of Niagara. Gathering once more as a diocesan family, she invited members to discern the movement of God's Spirit among them and to see themselves as part of a living, breathing body. Her charge was framed around three interwoven strands: a hymn, a vision statement, and a Gospel story; each illuminating what it means for the diocesan community to be consecrated to God's purposes in this time of renewal and change.

Drawing first on Frances Ridley Havergal's hymn "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee," Bishop Bell reflected that consecration means offering every part of life to God's service. Far from being an act of grim duty, this offering is joyful: what is entrusted to Love is transformed by Love. The bishop reminded Synod that this hymn is not only a personal prayer but also a communal one.

The theme of consecrated life connects directly to the diocesan vision statement to be "Called to Life and Compelled to Love." Bishop Bell emphasized that all Christian vocation begins with God's call, and that responding to that call frees the Church to live abundantly for the sake of the world. To be "compelled to love" is not to be coerced but to be moved by compassion and gratitude to see Christ's face in others. The vision statement unites personal transformation with the renewal of the Church's common life, calling Anglicans in Niagara to witness divine love in a world that hungers for hope.

In the Gospel reading, the bishop found the same pattern of call and response. Jesus' invitation to the first disciples models the heart of discipleship: relationship before dogma, invitation before instruction. Jesus sees people as they are and as they can become, naming divine possibility within them. Bishop Bell urged the members of Synod to adopt this Christ-like way of seeing, recognizing in one another the seeds of new life.

Bishop Bell then described consecration as both surrender and renewal. In a rapidly changing landscape of faith that is marked by smaller congregations, tighter budgets, and social uncertainty, the Church is invited to deep listening and courageous experimentation. The diocesan Mission Action Plan (MAP)

continues to anchor this discernment, fostering accountability and direction. The bishop highlighted developments in faith formation through the diocesan appointment of the Reverend Monica Romig Green, partnerships through the Niagara School for Missional Leadership, ongoing advocacy for climate and social justice, new initiatives supporting youth mental health, and the creation of the St. Brigid's Community—a contemplative community for young adults. She stressed renewed attention to stewardship as discipleship and celebrated the growth of diocesan missions and leadership development through the 150th Anniversary Curacy Fund.

Focusing on recent signs of hope, Bishop Bell noted that average Sunday attendance has risen by 18% over the previous year, Easter attendance by 9%, and diocesan finances have stabilized with the first balanced budget since 2019. Giving has increased and maturing mission congregations are beginning to reinvest in diocesan life. While challenges remain, especially in deepening discipleship and stewardship, the bishop emphasized that these indicators reflect renewal and resilience.

Bishop Bell then gave special recognition to two clergy, who in their ministry, have distinguished themselves through extraordinary service to the diocese. For their service to Niagara, the Reverend Cheryl Barker and the Reverend Will Alakas were appointed as honorary canons of Christ's Church Cathedral. The bishop also thanked diocesan staff members, acknowledging the dedicated work of Canon Drew MacDonald, Archdeacon Bill Mous, Chancellor Greg Tweney, Archbishop Colin Johnson, Dean Tim Dobbin, Treasurer Christine Morrow, and Ms. Jane Wyse.

Concluding her charge, Bishop Bell invited the Synod to join her in Havergal's prayer of offering. She called upon God to consecrate the diocese's parishes, missions, leaders, and hearts for renewed service and to make the Church in Niagara an embodiment of resurrection life. Echoing Isaiah's call in the reading, the bishop affirmed that consecration is the joyful surrender of the Church to divine purpose, transforming fear into faith and duty into delight. For the sake of the Gospel and the healing of the nations, she concluded, the people of Niagara are sent once again to live their calling joyfully and to love generously.

- BREAK -

Missional Moment #1: Designated Diocesan Missions

A short video was shown, which featured the Reverend Canon Dr. Ian Mobsby, community missioner, describing the work of the various diocesan missions across Niagara.

All Saints Mission—led by the Reverend Canon Mike Deed—focuses on providing hospitality and community to the de-churched and unchurched people in downtown Hamilton. The Migrant Farmworker Mission—led by the Reverend Peter Ciallella—provides for the material and spiritual needs of temporary farm workers from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Mission in Acts, Oakville—led by the Reverend Canon Garfield Adams—engages with Mandarin-speaking newcomers to Canada. The St. Luke's Community—led by the Reverend Rob Miller—engages with spiritual-seekers in Hamilton's North End neighbourhood, who are exploring contemplative and Anglo-Catholic spirituality. Hamilton's Well—led by Ms. Susie Kim, a Licensed Lay Missioner—reaches out to the "spiritual but not religious" (SBNR) through meditative and contemplative practices.

Audit Matters

Auditor's Report & Audited Financial Statements

Ms. Christine Morrow, diocesan treasurer and director of finance, spoke briefly about the 2024 auditor's report and audited consolidated financial statements, which were received at the outset of the Synod as part of the convening circular. She noted that the diocese's financial health was good and stable.

Appointment of Auditors for 2025

Motion 3: Appointment of Auditors

The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe / Mr. Tony Denning

THAT KPMG be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year 2025.

CARRIED

Breakout Groups: Exploring the Mixed Ecology Model of Ministry

The Reverend Canon Dr. Ian Mobsby, diocesan community missioner, and Dr. Emily Hill, parish development missioner, led a session with members of synod on the mixed ecology model of ministry for parishes.

Canon Mobsby began by reviewing the definition of mixed ecology as a term that describes how traditional parishes can co-exist with non-traditional ministry. Dr. Hill described the structural features of mixed ecology parishes, with the traditional congregation as a central hub and a network of fresh expressions connecting with it. She also explained the reason why mixed ecology matters in the current day's context of parishes. Canon Mobsby then provided an example of a successful mixed-ecology parish by sharing the story of the Church of Our Savior The Redeemer in Stoney Creek, and described the process of tending to a garden as the context for a mission.

After concluding their presentation, Canon Mobsby and Dr. Hill invited members of Synod to participate in a breakout room session to discuss a scenario about how their church could respond to spiritual curiosity without expecting participation in Sunday worship.

Following the exercise, Dr. Hill and Canon Mobsby provided some suggested feedback for the scenario, which included effective listening, trying and testing new ideas, sustaining the experimental alongside the established, and exploring next steps.

2026 Diocesan Budget Presentation

The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe, chair of the Missional Budget Planning Committee (MBPC), and Ms. Christine Morrow, treasurer and director of finance, presented the proposed diocesan budget for 2026. They shared that the budget is framed within the bishop's chosen theme for Synod and St. Paul's message in Romans 12 calling the faithful to be living sacrifices.

Canon Clitheroe noted that the MBPC's work was guided by a mandate to create a mission-shaped budget aligned with the diocesan Mission Action Plan (MAP), episcopal priorities, and strategic objectives. The 2026 budget reflects growing financial health and a unified diocesan direction, with nearly \$4 million invested in God's mission and a projected operating surplus before capital items, the first since before the pandemic.

Canon Clitheroe also highlighted five key priorities: investment in the MAP, launching the St. Brigid's Community, enhancing mission sustainability, supporting parishes and chaplaincies, and maintaining Cathedral Place. Budget allocations include \$1.1 million for MAP initiatives, \$30,000 in external funding for St. Brigid's, \$275,000 for parish and mission support, and \$100,000 for Cathedral Place capital work, marking a renewed commitment to mission, ministry, and stewardship across the diocese.

Ms. Morrow reviewed the details of the budget, which plans to invest over \$4 million in the mission and ministry of the diocese. Operating revenue of approximately \$2.92 million will come primarily from parish contributions, reflecting recovery from the pandemic era with a projected \$300,000 increase. Expenditures are forecasted to grow modestly by 3.6%, with the largest increase due to a 3.8% overall cost-of-living adjustment for diocesan staff.

Key highlights include an increased General Synod apportionment of \$567,000, higher Cathedral Place repair costs, minor adjustments in diocesan and mission expenses, and streamlined property schedules anticipating a \$16,000 deficit. A new schedule details \$134,000 investments in designated diocesan

missions. The budget projects a modest pre-capital cash surplus of \$58,000, with sufficient funds to cover anticipated capital deficits.

Canon Clitheroe concluded by highlighting the diocese's strong financial recovery from COVID-19 and emphasized that the budget supports key missional priorities. They commended the budget for approval, noting it enables continued faith development, mission work, and care for creation.

Mr. Michael Smith, from the Church of the Incarnation, Oakville, asked if the budget includes a provision for diocesan investments of more than 5%; Ms. Morrow explained that return on investments are not included in the budget, as they are a non-cash item unless drawn.

Motion 4: 2026 Budget

Ms. Christine Morrow / The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe

THAT this Synod approve the 2026 diocesan budget.

CARRIED

— BREAK —

Canon Changes

Canon Greg Tweney informed the members of synod that six canons have been put forward to Synod for amendment this year and outlined the process for making canonical changes.

Amendment to Canon 1.1

The chancellor explained that the College of Deacons has requested the option of electing an alternate member of Synod—similar to the provision of lay representatives to Synod—such that if one of their elected members is not able to attend Synod, an alternate can attend in their stead

Motion 5: Amendment to Canon 1.1 – Composition of Synod

Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous

THAT the following section be added to Canon 1.1:

4. The College of Deacons may annually elect up to two substitute members of Synod from among its members.

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY

Repeal of Canon 1.9(1)(n)

Canon 1.9(1)(n) provides membership of a representative of the Canterbury Hills Board of Directors on Synod Council. Archdeacon Mous explained that the proposed amendment comes after a governance review by the board and would remove the representative. The secretary of synod clarified that the board chose not to appoint a representative in 2025, and that other diocesan affiliated boards—such as St. Matthew's House—do not have representation on Synod Council.

Motion 6: Amendment to Canon 1.9 – Synod Council

The Venerable Bill Mous / Canon Greg Tweney

THAT sections (n) of Canon 1.9 be deleted.

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY
CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY

Amendment to Canon 2.10(2)

Section 2 of Canon 2.10 outlines the rights, responsibilities, and duties of the congregation of Christ's Church Cathedral, as well as the specific exemptions due to the cathedral's unique position within the diocese. Canon Tweney explained that the amendment would acknowledge the responsibility of the cathedral's established Cemetery Board for the upkeep of the columbarium.

Motion 7: Amendment to Canon 2.10 – The Cathedral of the Diocese of Niagara Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous

THAT section (2) of Canon 2.10 be amended to read:

2. The Cathedral congregation shall have all rights, responsibilities, and duties assigned to a duly established parish by Canon 4.1, with the exception of those fiduciary responsibilities related to the care and trusteeship of the buildings and property on which the Cathedral is situated, including its fixtures, fittings, and fabric, which shall be the responsibility of the diocese, save and except the maintenance, repair or improvement of the organ and the columbarium, which shall remain the responsibility of the Cathedral congregation.

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY

Amendment of Canon 3.5(5)(c)

Archdeacon Mous explained that section 5(c) of Canon 3.5 outlines the membership of the Executive Council of the College of Deacons, which has requested clarity about the length of term for members elected to said council.

Motion 8: Amendment to Canon 3.5 - College of Deacons

The Venerable Bill Mous / Canon Greg Tweney

THAT section 5(c) of Canon 3.5 be amended to read:

c) three delegates duly elected from the membership of the College of Deacons, for a two-year term;

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY

Amendment to Canon 4.1(4)

Section 4 of Canon 4.1 governs the requirements of parishes' Annual Vestry Meetings. First, Canon Tweney explained that vesting extraordinary annual vestry meeting deadline extensions with the bishop, rather than with Synod Council, will lead to more timely decisions and free up valuable time at Synod Council meetings. Additionally, Vestry regulations enacted during the pandemic recognized that communication about a meeting is best to happen in a number of ways, not just during Sunday worship services. The amendment also better reflects the business of an annual vestry meeting. Lastly, in response to regular inquiries, a new clause was added to provide some guidance about nominations, drawing on the canons of the Diocese of Huron. In response to a question, the chancellor clarified that nothing in this canon change would prohibit a parish from holding its annual vestry meeting over two sessions, where one dealt with the proposed budget for the coming year.

Motion 9: Amendment to Canon 4.1 – Vestries and Churchwardens

Canon Greg Tweney / The Venerable Bill Mous

THAT section 4 of Canon 4.1 be amended to read:

- (a) An Annual Vestry Meeting shall be held by the 1st of March each year, or on such day as may be fixed by the Synod. In extraordinary circumstances, this deadline may be extended with the approval of the Bishop.
- (b) Notice of the annual meeting shall be given during Divine Service on the two Sundays immediately preceding the said meeting, and communicated widely to the membership using other means available to the parish.
- (c) The annual meeting shall be for the purpose of receiving the audited accounts of the Vestry, the presentation of a budget, and subsequently of electing and appointing Churchwardens, Lay Representatives, Parish Council members, and other officers, and for the transaction of other business connected with the temporalities of the Church.
- (d) In the absence of an established nominations committee, the Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens (if any) shall act as the nominations committee. Further nominations with the consent of the nominee(s) may be made at the Vestry meeting.

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY

Amendment of Canon 4.7(9)

Archdeacon Mous explained that *An Act to Simplify the Sales of Property Held in Trust for the Church of England in Canada in the Diocese of Niagara* (1923) grants the diocese some discretion over the disposition of trust property where it is impossible or inadvisable to maintain the original charitable trust's purpose, however, this discretion is not currently articulated in the corresponding canon. The proposed change would harmonize the text of the canon with diocesan governing legislation such that the full powers available to the Synod are retained.

Motion 10: Amendment to Canon 4.7 – As to Purchasing, Selling or Mortgaging Church Property The Venerable Bill Mous / Canon Greg Tweney

THAT section 9 of Canon 4.7 be amended to read:

9. The proceeds realized from the sale of property shall be paid to the Synod to be held and invested by the Synod under the same trusts, uses, endowments or purposes as those for which the said property were acquired, or in the case of a change of circumstances, it becomes impossible or inadvisable to do so, such proceeds may, if so desired by the vestry, and with the approval of the Synod be applied for other church purposes for the benefit of the parish, mission, or congregation on whose behalf the said trust, use, endowment or purpose was created.

CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF CLERGY CARRIED IN THE ORDER OF LAITY

Report on the 44th General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada

The Venerable Terry Holub, from St. David's, Welland, Ms. Paige Keller, from St. George's, Guelph, and Mr. Adam MacNeil, from the Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton, spoke about the 44th Session of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, which took place from June 23-29 in London, Ontario.

Mr. MacNeil expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to represent the diocese, describing the gathering as a profound experience of unity and faith across the national Church. He highlighted the diversity of passions among delegates, reflecting the many ways God equips the Church. The Synod's theme, "They will soar on wings like eagles," inspired a spirit of discernment and renewal. Mr. MacNeil noted the energy of the opening Eucharist, featuring the Most Reverend Michael Curry as preacher, and the balance of worship, discussion, and community-building throughout the week. He also shared his involvement in passing motions to increase youth representation on the Council of General Synod (CoGS) and to create a National Youth Council, both warmly supported by delegates.

Ms. Keller shared her experience as a youth delegate, noting that youth delegates participated in an orientation led by Ms. Sheilagh McGlynn, national youth animator for the Anglican Church of Canada, who provided ongoing guidance and support throughout the week. The orientation helped delegates, many of whom were attending their first Synod, build relationships and understand General Synod procedures. Youth and young adults played a significant role in the proceedings, successfully bringing forward two motions, both of which passed. The experience highlighted the diversity of perspectives among participants and the respectful, faith-based dialogue that united them. Inspired by this environment of encouragement and inclusion, she gained the confidence to stand for election to CoGS and was elected, alongside Bishop Susan Bell, to represent the Province of Ontario.

Archdeacon Holub spoke about his impression as a first-time delegate to General Synod, focusing on the strength, hope, and unity of the Anglican Church of Canada. He discussed the ways that the Niagara delegation positively impacted every aspect of General Synod. Archdeacon Holub concluded the report by reflecting on the primatial election that took place on June 26, resulting in the election of the Right Reverend Shane Parker, Bishop of Ottawa, as the 15th Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The bishop gave thanks for all who represented Niagara at the Synod. She invited prayers for the Church and the new Primate, the Most Reverend Shane Parker, in the coming triennium as it pursues transformational by living into the six pathways of the Primate's Commission Report.

Other Business

Election of Regional Representatives to Synod Council

The bishop invited the secretary of synod to display the slate of nominees selected or acclaimed by their respective regions for election by Synod as representatives to Synod Council.

The following nominees were acclaimed for their region: Mrs. Susan Little (Hamilton-Haldimand), Mr. Mark Young (Lincoln) and Ms. Amy Collard (Trafalgar). Alternate delegates for the regions of Hamilton-Haldimand, Lincoln and Trafalgar will be appointed by the bishop following Synod.

In the regions of Brock and Greater Wellington, elections were held to determine a lay or clergy representative. In the region of Brock, the Reverend Rob Towler was selected as the nominee, with Mrs. Leslie Kennedy serving as the alternate. In the region of Greater Wellington, the Reverend Victor Kischak was selected as the nominee, with Mr. Bryan Elliston serving as the alternate.

Motion 11: Synod Council Election

The Venerable Bill Mous / Mrs. Leslie Kennedy

THAT this Synod elect the regional members of Synod Council and alternate regional members, as reported by the Secretary of Synod.

CARRIED

Anniversary Greetings

Bishop Susan Bell spoke to members of Synod about the unique ecumenical relationship between the Anglican Church of Canada, the United Church of Canada, and the Presbyterian Church in Canada, especially regarding the support of university chaplaincies. Both churches are celebrating major anniversary years, and a motion was put forward to have the bishop extend a formal greeting to each church on the occasion of these anniversaries.

Motion 12: Anniversary Greetings

The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin / The Reverend Aaron Orear

THAT this Synod extend warm greetings and congratulations to the United Church of Canada on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their formative Union, June 1925.

AND THAT this Synod extend warm greetings and congratulations to the Presbyterian Church in Canada on the occasion of their 150th anniversary.

AND THAT this Synod give thanks for its ongoing ecumenical relationships with the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the United Church of Canada, especially the unique witness of our ecumenical university chaplaincies.

CARRIED

Missional Moment #2: 150th Diocesan Anniversary Celebration

A brief video was presented, showcasing highlights from the diocese's 150th anniversary year, with an emphasis on the impact of curacies and the faithfulness and diversity of parishes and communities.

The Reverend Dr. Charles Meeks, assistant curate of St. Paul's, Westdale; the Reverend David Shumaker, assistant curate of St. George's, Guelph; and the Reverend Dena Thomas, assistant curate of St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton, were all featured providing reflections on their curacies.

Concluding Synod

The bishop gave her assent to all acts and resolutions during Synod.

After some final words of gratitude and a closing prayer, the bishop offered a final blessing.

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell adjourned the 151st Synod of the Diocese of Niagara at 12:42 pm.

2025

THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA

OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell, B.A., M.Div., D.D., Th.D.

CHANCELLOR

Canon Gregory J. Tweney, B.P.A, LL.B.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER & SECRETARY OF SYNOD

The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, B.Sc., M.Div.

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE SYNOD

Clergy

The Reverend Canon Pamela Guyatt, M.Div.

Lay

Mrs. Susan Little, B.Ed., O.N.

TREASURER

Ms. Christine Morrow, B.Acc., CPA, CA

SOLICITOR FOR THE SYNOD

Mr. David van der Woerd

BANKERS

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

CHURCH DIGNITARIES - ACTIVE

DIOCESAN BISHOP

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell, B.A., M.Div., D.D., Th.D.

ARCHDEACONS

The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, B.Sc., M.Div. Archdeacon of Niagara

The Venerable Terry Holub, B.A, M.Div.

Archdeacon of Brock

The Venerable Peter Scott, B.Sc., B.Ed., M.Div. Archdeacon of Greater Wellington (through October 31, 2025)

The Venerable Paul Walker, B.A, B.Ed., M.A., M. Div. Archdeacon of Greater Wellington (effective November 1, 2025)

The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk, M.Div.
Archdeacon of Lincoln

The Venerable Jeff Ward, B.A.S., M.Ed., M.Div. Archdeacon of Trafalgar

The Venerable Terry DeForest, B.A., M.A., M.Div. Archdeacon of Hamilton-Haldimand

REGIONAL DEANS

The Reverend Rob Towler, B.A., M.Div.

The Reverend Canon Paul Walker, B.A, B.Ed., M.A., M. Div

The Reverend Victor Kischak, B.A, M.A., M. Div.

The Reverend Canon Bahman Kalantari, B.A., M.A., M.Div.

The Reverend Canon Pamela Guyatt, M.Div.

The Reverend Canon Cheryl Barker, B.A., M.Div.

Trafalgar

CHAPLAINS TO ORDINANDS

The Reverend Canon Will Alakas, B.S., M.Div.
The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe, LL.B., LL.M., M.Div., D.Min.
The Venerable Terry DeForest, B.A., M.A., M.Div.
The Reverend Canon Bahman Kalantari, B.A., M.A., M.Div.
The Venerable Lynne Marchant, M.Div.

CANONS OF THE DIOCESE

The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin – Canon Pastor The Reverend Canon Dr. Ian Mobsby – Canon Theologian for Mission

Honorary Clergy Canons of Christ's Church Cathedral

Garfield Adams Malcolm French Nirmal Mendis William Alakas Leslie Gerlofs Richard Moorse David Anderson Matthew Griffin Katherine Morgan Martha Tatarnic Penny Anderson Pamela Guyatt Joseph Asselin Naomi Kabugi Tom Vaughan **Cheryl Barker** Bahman Kalantari Sue-Ann Ward Eleanor Clitheroe Susan Wilson Darcev Lazerte

Michael Deed James Lefebyre

Honorary Lay Canons of Christ's Church Cathedral

Joanna Beck Alison D'Atri **Christyn Perkons Donna Bomberry** Pat Davis **Greg Tweney** Robert Welch **Terry Charters** Robert Morrow

Clergy on Leave

The Reverend Mark Andrews The Reverend Erin Marriott The Reverend Deacon Kay Baxter The Reverend Peter McIntyre

The Reverend John Blair The Reverend Canon Christine McMaster

The Reverend Nancy Moffett The Reverend Mary Buckingham

The Reverend C. Douglas Campbell The Reverend Canon Keith Morrison

The Reverend Deacon Heino Claessens The Reverend Jeff Potter

The Reverend Brian Collinson The Reverend Ralph Richmond The Reverend Patrick Gray The Reverend Michelle Stanford The Reverend Donald West The Reverend Deanne Keatings The Reverend Steele Lazerte The Reverend Evelyn White Eye

The Reverend Robert Linklater

Retired Clergy

The Reverend Owen Ash The Reverend Amy Cousineau

The Reverend F. Gavin Barnett The Reverend John Cox The Right Reverend Michael Bird The Venerable Suzanne Craven The Reverend Canon Ralph Blackman The Reverend Canon Dr. Catherine

The Reverend Kevin Block

Crawford Browning

The Reverend Canon Kevin Bothwell The Reverend Canon Paula Crippen

The Reverend Deacon Lorenzo Cromwell The Reverend Donald Brown

The Reverend Canon David Browning The Reverend Canon Frances Darlington The Reverend Brian Burrows The Reverend Canon Patrick Doran

The Venerable Kenneth Cardwell The Reverend Canon Laurence Duby The Reverend Janet Cashin The Reverend Rob Duncan

The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick The Reverend Joan Dunn The Reverend Donald Coombe The Reverend Joseph Edwards The Reverend Dean Cormack The Reverend Carol Finlay

The Reverend Cheryl Fricker The Reverend D. Linda Corry The Venerable Dr. John Course The Reverend Brian Galligan The Reverend Mark Gladding The Venerable Thomas Greene The Reverend Dr. Eric Griffin

The Reverend Canon Dr. Sharyn Hall The Reverend Canon Lorenzo Harrison The Reverend Canon Dr. Alan Hayes The Reverend Canon David Howells The Reverend Canon Robert Hudson The Reverend Canon Robert Hulse

The Reverend Trevor Jones
The Venerable Dr. Richard Jones
The Venerable Valerie Kerr

The Reverend Mary Kimberley

The Reverend Canon Thomas Kingston The Reverend Canon Gordon Kinkley

The Reverend Carole Langlotz
The Reverend Canon Robert Lennox
The Reverend Canon David Linn
The Venerable Lynne Marchant
The Reverend Paul Maynard

The Reverend Canon Dr. Mark McDermott The Reverend Canon Michael McKinley

The Venerable Bruce McPetrie The Reverend Deacon Lynda Mee The Reverend Canon Jean Mitchell

The Reverend Canon Dr. Michael Mondloch

The Venerable Peter Moore

The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray The Reverend Canon Marion (Marni)

Nancekivell

The Reverend Carol Overing
The Venerable Kenneth Patterson
The Venerable Michael Patterson

The Reverend Canon Dr. Patrick Patterson

The Reverend Canon Robert Park
The Reverend Canon Stephanie Pellow

The Reverend Canon Stuart Pike The Reverend Dave Ponting The Reverend Lillian Porter

The Reverend Canon James Powell

The Reverend Deacon Christine Priestman

The Reverend Canon Barry Randle The Reverend Canon Lucy Reid The Reverend John Ripley The Reverend Canon Wendy Roy

The Reverend Richard Ruggle

The Reverend Canon Dr. Brian Ruttan

The Reverend Jerry Salloum
The Venerable James Sandilands
The Venerable Peter Scott

The Reverend Canon Beverly Shanley

The Reverend Olive Shepherd

The Right Reverend D. Ralph Spence The Reverend Canon Kristine Swire The Reverend Lorraine Tadman The Reverend Canon Paul Taylor

The Reverend Canon Lynne Thackwray
The Reverend Canon William (Bill) Thomas
The Venerable Dr. Michael Thompson
The Reverend Canon Philip Velpel
The Venerable Marion Vincett
The Very Reverend Peter Wall

The Reverend Canon Keith Whittingham

The Venerable Max Woolaver

The Reverend Canon Dr. Robert Wright

DIOCESAN SYNOD COUNCIL - 2025

Representatives of Regions

Canon Patricia Davis

The Reverend Deacon Rod McDowell

The Venerable Terry Holub

Brock

Brock

Dr. Thomas Littlewood Greater Wellington
Mr. John Laidlaw Greater Wellington

The Venerable Peter Scott Greater Wellington (through October 31)
The Venerable Paul Walker Greater Wellington (effective November 1)

Mr. Byron Nicholson Lincoln

The Reverend Rob Towler

Lincoln (through January 31)

Mr. Mark Young

Lincoln (effective February 1)

The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk Lincoln

Ms. Bev Groombridge Hamilton-Haldimand Mrs. Susan Little Hamilton-Haldimand The Venerable Terry DeForest Hamilton-Haldimand

Ms. Amy Collard Trafalgar
The Reverend Canon Malcolm French Trafalgar
The Venerable Jeff Ward Trafalgar

Representative of the Canterbury Hills Board of Directors

vacant

Representative of the Financial Advisory Committee

The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe

Bishop's Appointees

Ms. Nancy Coombs Ms. Gillian Hendry The Reverend Monica Romig Green Ms. Paige Keller

Ex-Officio Members

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell – Bishop & Chair
Canon Greg Tweney – Chancellor
The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin – Dean of Niagara
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous – Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod
Ms. Christine Morrow – Treasurer & Director of Finance

ANGLICAN CHURCH MINISTRIES FOUNDATION, NIAGARA DIRECTORS - 2025

Mr. Tony Denning, President
Mrs. Jodey Porter, Vice-President
Ms. Elizabeth Wensley
The Reverend Cheryl Barker
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, Bishop
Ms. Christine Morrow, Treasurer
The Reverend Canon Dr. Drew MacDonald, Episcopal Appointee
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, Secretary

AUDIT COMMITTEE - 2025

Mr. Greg Cook, Chair
Mr. Nicolas Choules-Burbidge
Mr. Tony Denning
Mr. David Eccles
The Reverend Canon Leslie Gerlofs
Ms. Ann Harvey Hope
Mrs. Kelley Twerdy
Ms. Christine Morrow, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS - 2025

Mr. André Gravelle, Chair
Ms. Brenda Brownlee (through April 22)
The Reverend Stewart Carolan-Evans
The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick
Canon Terry Charters
The Venerable Dr. John Course
Mr. Brian Culp
Mr. Fraser Earle
The Reverend Victor Kischak
The Reverend Canon Katherine Morgan (effective October 16)

Mr. Steve Swing The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, *ex-officio*

THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY RENEWAL - 2025

Canon Terry Charters, Chair
Mr. Gerry Aggus
Mr. Russell Cheeseman
Mr. Sandy McIntosh
Mr. Paul Racher
Mr. Malcolm Ramsay
The Venerable Jeff Ward
Mr. Gerd Wengler
Ms. Christine Morrow, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE - 2025

Mr. Steven Swing, Chair
Canon Terry Charters
Mr. Brian Culp
Mr. Phil Hartog
The Reverend Canon Kathy Morgan
Mr. Roy Timms (through June 17)
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

CANTERBURY HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2025 Mr. Allan Wadlev, Chair

Mr. Jason Blackwood, Secretary
The Reverend Canon Leslie Gerlofs
Ms. Virginia Jackson
Mr. Phil Jones
Mrs. Susan Little
Mr. Tom Mildren
Mr. David Orde
Ms. Kaitlyn Smit (through February 10)
Mr. Tim Webb, Past-Chair
Ms. Sarah Bird, Bishop's Delegate
Ms. Christine Morrow, Treasurer, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

CATHEDRAL PLACE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - 2025

The Reverend Canon Matthew Griffin, Chair
Canon Terry Charters
The Reverend Victor Kischak
Mr. Jim Newman
Mr. David Savage
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous
The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin
Mr. Derek Smith, ex-officio

CLIMATE JUSTICE NIAGARA COMMITTEE - 2025

Mr. Bruce Mackenzie, Chair
Ms. Rosemary Ansty
Ms. Sue Carson
Mr. Chris Miller
Mr. Norm Newbery
Ms. Irene Pang
Ms. Emily Pfau
Ms. Anne Young
The Reverend Fran Wallace
Deirdre Pike, *ex-officio*

DIOCESAN FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2025

The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe, Chair Mr. Nicolas Choules-Burbidge Mr. Jim Higginson Mr. Marshall Horner
The Reverend David Montgomery The Reverend Rob Towler Ms. Christine Morrow, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

DIOCESAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 2025

The Reverend Rob Duncan, Chair
Mr. Peter Barr
Mr. Bill Kuehnbaum
Mr. Brock Mason
Mr. John Nicholson
Mr. Mark Young
The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe
Ms. Christine Morrow, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

HUMAN RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE - 2025

Mr. Tim Tiernay, Chair
Mr. Neil Culp
Ms. Colina Magee
The Reverend Deacon Sheila Plant
The Venerable Sheila Van Zandwyk
Ms. Shannon MacKenzie, *Bishop's designate*Ms. Christine Morrow, *ex-officio*The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, *ex-officio*

MISSIONAL BUDGET PLANNING COMMITTEE - 2025

The Reverend Canon Dr. Eleanor Clitheroe, Chair
The Reverend Cheryl Hudson
Mr. John Laidlaw
The Venerable Peter Scott
Ms. Christine Morrow, ex-officio
The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, ex-officio
The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, ex-officio

NIAGARA SCHOOL FOR MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE - 2025

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, Chair Dr. Elizabeth (Beth) Green Dr. Emily Hill The Reverend Canon Dr. Ian Mobsby Canon Christyn Perkons Mr. Michael Smith Ms. Sarah Bird, *ex-officio*

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE - 2025

The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, Chair
The Reverend Malcolm French
Mrs. Leslie Kennedy
Mr. John Laidlaw
Mrs. Susan Little
Ms. Shannon MacKenzie
Ms. Janina Vanderpost

SYNOD AGENDA COMMITTEE AND PLANNING TEAM - 2025

The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, Chair
The Reverend Cheryl Barker
Ms. Sarah Bird
Dr. Thomas Littlewood
The Reverend Andrew Rampton

SYNOD COUNCIL COORDINATING TEAM - 2025

The Venerable William (Bill) Mous, Chair Canon Patricia Davis Dr. Thomas Littlewood The Reverend Canon Malcolm French The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell, *ex-officio*

WALKING ON WATER GRANTS COMMITTEE - 2025

The Reverend Canon Dr. David Anderson
The Reverend Deacon Doreen Haywood
Ms. Karen James
The Reverend Canon Bahman Kalantari
Dr. Thomas Littlewood
Dr. Emily Hill, ex-officio
The Reverend Canon Dr. Ian Mobsby, ex-officio

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR DECEMBER 1, 2024 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2025

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

June 15, 2025	Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton
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David Martin Shumaker

By the Bishop of Niagara, The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

June 15, 2025 Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton

Charles Edward Meeks

Edwina (Dena) Mary Thomas

By the Bishop of Niagara, The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell

APPOINTMENT TO PARISHES/MINISTRIES

December 1, 2024	The Reverend Colin Cameron, a licence to perform the office of Rector and
	Pastor of Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church, Burlington, on a full-time basis,

during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

February 1, 2025 The Reverend Mike Degan, a licence to perform the office of Rector of St. James

& St. Brendan Anglican Church, Port Colborne, on a full-time basis, during the

Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

February 1, 2025 The Reverend Rob Towler, a licence to perform the office of Rector of Holy

Trinity, Welland, on a full-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

March 1, 2025 The Reverend Monica Romig Green, a licence to perform the office of Faith

Formation Coordinator, on a half-time basis, and Priest Associate of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton, on a half-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's

pleasure.

May 1, 2025 The Reverend Peter Ciallella, a licence to perform the office of Rector of

St. John's, Winona, on a part-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

May 26, 2025 The Reverend Wojtek Kuzma, a licence to perform the office of Priest Associate

at St. Christopher's, Burlington, on a part-time basis, during the Diocesan

Bishop's pleasure.

June 1, 2025 The Reverend Sarah Grondin, a licence to perform the office of Priest Associate

of St. Jude's, Oakville, on a full-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

June 1, 2025 The Reverend David Montgomery, a licence to perform the office of Rector of

Grace Anglican Church, Waterdown, on a full-time basis, during the Diocesan

Bishop's pleasure.

August 1, 2025	The Reverend David Shumaker, a licence to perform the office of Assistant Curate of St. George's, Guelph, on a full-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
August 15, 2025	The Reverend Dr. Prakash Juststella Wilfred, a licence to perform the office of Priest Associate of St. David's, Welland, on a half-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
November 24, 2025	The Reverend Wojtek Kuzma, a licence to perform the office of Rector of St. Barnabas, St. Catharines, on a full-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
	ORDAINED MISSIONER
April 1, 2025	The Reverend Peter Ciallella, a licence to perform the office of Migrant Farmworkers Missioner, on a part-time basis, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
	BISHOP'S PERMISSION
January 12, 2025	The Reverend Dr. Michael Knowles, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Assistant at St. Paul's, Hamilton, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
January 15, 2025	The Reverend Leon Burke, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Assistant at Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
January 15, 2025	The Reverend Canon Dr. Margaret Murray, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Assistant at Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
February 1, 2025	The Reverend Canon Barry Randle, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Bishop's Chaplain from February 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
September 10, 2025	The Reverend Canon Barry Randle, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Bishop's Chaplain, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
October 15, 2025	The Reverend Mary Ryback, a bishop's permission to perform the office of Honorary Assistant at St. James, Dundas, during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.
LETTERS BENE DECESSIT	
May 1, 2025	From the Bishop of Huron, the Right Reverend Dr. Todd Townshend, for the Reverend Peter Ciallella.
A DECINITATINE OF DICKUTA DIFC	

APPOINTMENT OF DIGNITARIES

February 12, 2025 The Reverend Rob Towler, Regional Dean of Brock, for a three-year term.

November 1, 2025	The Venerable Paul Walker, Archdeacon of Greater Wellington, during the Bishop's pleasure.
November 1, 2025	The Reverend Canon Bahman Kalantari, Regional Dean of Hamilton-Haldimand, for a three-year period.
November 1, 2025	The Reverend Victor Kischak, Regional Dean of Greater Wellington, for a three-year period.
November 1, 2025	Appointed Honorary Canons of Christ's Church Cathedral: Will Alakas and Cheryl Barker

BISHOP'S COMMISSARY

January 30, 2025 to February 11, 2025 July 30, 2025 to August 14, 2025 August 27, 2025 to September 4, 2025 November 9, 2025 to November 14, 2025 The Most Reverend Colin Johnson Assistant Bishop

LICENSED LAY MISSIONER

September 15, 2025	Dr. Rebecca Vendetti, a licence as a Licensed Lay Missioner, on a part-time basis,
	at St. James, Dundas, under the supervision of the Reverend Canon Leslie
	Gerlofs and during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

COMMISSIONED LAY MISSIONER

April 1, 2025	Mr. Ellick Wong, appointed as a Commissioned Lay Missioner, on a part-time
	basis, in support of the Mission in Acts Mission, under the supervision of the
	Reverend Canon Garfield Adams and during the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure.

DECLARATION OF PARISH NAME CHANGE

March 1, 2025	The parish of St. Paul's, Glanford shall be known as the parish of St. Paul's, Mount
	Hope.

MISSION DESIGNATION

June 1, 2025	Mision in Acts Mission was designated as a diocesan mission, pursuant to Canon 4.9.
October 1, 2025	Migrant Farmworkers Project Mission was designated as a diocesan mission, pursuant to Canon 4.9.

ORDER OF NIAGARA 2025

Susie Baker, St. John, Nassagaweya Susan Bennett, St. Saviour The Brock Memorial Church, Queenston

Pat Biggar, St. John, Burlington Deborah Bowen, St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton Vicki Case, St. John, (Port Dalhousie) St. Catharines Ruth Court, St. Thomas, St. Catharines

John Creary, St. Matthew on-the-Plains, Burlington Barbara Davidson, Church of the Transfiguration,

St. Catharines

Effie Ditiello, St. George, St. Catharines Sandra Dudar, St. John, Jordan Linda Dueck, Christ Church, Niagara Falls Nicole Ebert, St. James and St. Brendan, Port Colborne

Pat Ellis, St. John, Elora
Jane Elphick, St. Simon, Oakville
Jeanne Forsythe, St. George, Guelph
Shirley Froman, Christ Church, Woodburn
Elisabeth Gedge, St. Paul, (Westdale) Hamilton
Don Hamel, St. Stephen on the Mount, Hamilton
Diane Hamilton, St. Alban the Martyr, Glen Williams
Lynn Horlick, St. Paul, Caledonia
Sylvia House, St. Alban, Beamsville
Gloria Howard, St. Michael, Hamilton
Stephen Hutchinson, The Church of the Incarnation,
Oakville

Doris Lampman, St. Luke, Smithville Michael Lubrick, Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton Moe Lyn, St. Barnabas, St. Catharines
Dave MacArthur, Grace Church, Waterdown
David MacKay, St. Cuthbert, Oakville
Virginia Mainprize, St. Mark, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Wendy McEachern, The Church of Our Saviour The
Redeemer, Stoney Creek

Frances Miller, St. Aidan, Oakville Beverly Mitchell, St. George, Lowville Lindsay Ogilvie, All Saints, Erin Kathy Parker, St. Luke (Palermo), Oakville

Prema Parris, Church of the Resurrection, Hamilton

Dan Prowse, St. John, Ancaster Chris Punnett, St. Jude, Oakville Tammy Rutherford, St. James, Fergus Marline Sarjeant, St. James, Dundas Dave Semley, Holy Trinity, Welland

Mary Simons, St. John the Evangelist (Stamford), Niagara Falls

Nan Smith, St. David, Welland Deborah Szymanski-Potts, All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church, Guelph

Winston Tinglin, St. Christopher, Burlington Alex van Nostrand, Church of the Ascension, Hamilton

Mark Volkov, Christ Church, Flamborough Janet Wright, Holy Trinity (Chippawa), Niagara Falls Peter Zarins, St. Stephen, Hornby Eliza (Yong Qiang) Zhu, Mission in Acts Mission, Oakville

Bishop's Appointees

Sandra Christie Karen Lannen Pam Lyn Sharon Millar