



ANGLICAN
DIOCESE OF
NIAGARA

September 11, 2025

To: Members of the Synod

Re: **The 151st Synod of the Diocese of Niagara**

Dear friends:

Greetings! I write to welcome you as a member of the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara! This year we are planning to convene Synod virtually, via Zoom videoconference, on the Feast of All Saints, **Saturday, November 1**, with a call to order at 9am.

"Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee" is the theme for the 151st Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, as chosen by Bishop Susan Bell. It's a theme, inspired by the classic hymn composed by Francis Ridley Havergal around the time of the diocese's founding, that evokes important diocesan priorities regarding vocations, leadership, and faith formation. These priorities are all articulated in our renewed diocesan Mission Action Plan, which continues to focus us on the many opportunities where God is calling us to life and compelling us to love. It's also an especially fitting theme for a Synod that will take place on the Feast of All Saints.

The Synod Agenda Committee has set about its work to prioritize the essential business of the Church that will come before us while highlighting some of the many Spirit-filled stories arising from our ministries. The bishop will open the Synod with a charge, the 2024 auditor's report will be received, a few canon changes will be considered, and the 2026 diocesan budget will be presented. Several ministry presentations and missional moments, highlighting how we're living into our renewed diocesan Mission Action Plan, will also be shared.

We'll also have an opportunity to reflect upon our sesquicentennial anniversary year, and to celebrate the success of the 150th Anniversary Diocesan Curacy Fund! If you'd like to [make a donation to the lead up to Synod](#), in thanksgiving for all the ways we've lived God's Way of love over the generations and to build up the Church in Niagara for future generations, donations continue to be gratefully received.

As you know, elections for [Synod Council](#) regional representatives will be conducted in advance of Synod using an online voting platform as we have done in recent years. Voting details will be shared in the coming weeks, but in the meantime please consider letting your name stand for election. You can [complete your online nomination form by visiting this page](#). The deadline for nominations is **September 30**.

I also want to invite you to register for one of our two upcoming pre-Synod meetings. Simply click on the date and time which works best for you: [Tuesday, September 30 at 1pm](#) and [Thursday, October 2 at 7pm](#). These meetings will be about an hour and a half in length and are a great opportunity to learn about the proposed budget—as well as some of the other matters that will come before Synod—and to ask any questions you may have!

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CALLED TO LIFE
COMPELLED TO LOVE

A few additional notes to share:

- The full and complete convening circular will be posted by mid-October, but already there is some information on [our Synod webpage](#) and we'll be sharing the agenda, resolutions, and background documents as they become available.
- If you, or someone from your parish delegation, is not able to attend Synod, please [contact Hannah Keller](#) as soon as possible so we can contact the alternate delegate.
- Each member of synod will need to login to Zoom individually in order to vote on resolutions. If you're unfamiliar with Zoom, [here's a brief tutorial](#) to get you acquainted with the platform. Login information will be shared in the week leading up to Synod.

Lastly, let me conclude by giving thanks for your willingness to serve as a member of synod! Whether this is your first or fifth Synod, I hope you will find it to be a spiritually enriching experience as we join together online for a time of prayer, discernment, and decision-making!

Please don't hesitate to [be in touch by email](#) if I can be of assistance as you prepare for our upcoming Synod.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bill". The letters are stylized and cursive.

The Venerable Bill Mous
Executive Officer & Secretary of Synod