

The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara

Anglican Church of Canada

The Right Reverend Michael A. Bird, Bishop

October 20, 2016

To the Members of the 142nd Synod of the Diocese of Niagara:

If this is your first Synod, we welcome you and hope that you will be enriched by this experience of the wider church. 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.

This session of Synod will convene promptly on **Saturday November 5th at 9:00 am**, with registration in Myler Hall beginning at 8:00 am; this is where you will there you will receive your nametags, voting cards, etc. Lunch will be catered by Jonny Blonde, one of our Hamilton food trucks; 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 'Baskets Overflowing'. We ask all delegates to please bring nutritious non-perishable food items that will be collected during Synod as an expression of our abundance together. These donations will then be disbursed to local foodbanks within your region of our Diocese.

This year marks a change in the process for the nomination and election of Regional Representatives to Synod Council. For further information, please refer to the Synod webpage http://niagaraanglican.ca/synod/2016/ or contact your local archdeacon. Three regions will have their regional caucus from 12:00-12:30 pm in designated breakaway spaces and the other three regions will have their caucus from 1:00-1:30 pm in the breakaway rooms. More detailed information will be available at registration.

Important Details:

Attached to this package is a map showing City of Hamilton parking lots to enable you to park close to the Cathedral.

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 layout of Synod will be slightly different in compliance with the Fire Code for the space within the Cathedral; straight tables will be set up down the length of the nave of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral is a Wi-Fi enabled facility which will facilitate delegates accessing Synod-related documents on wireless devices. This year we are increasing our bandwidth to

accodomodate the number of devices requiring wireless connectivity during Synod. 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. The emergency phone number in case you need to be contacted is: 905-527-1316, ext. 200.

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.

Other Questions?

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

See you at Synod, on November 5th!

The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell

Secretary of Synod

