



The General Synod Times

vol. 2 January 2007

Greetings!

Welcome to the second issue of *The General Synod Times*, a short newsletter that will keep you informed about plans for General Synod 2007 and will provide you with helpful and timely information. If your email address is on file, you will receive all future issues of *The Times* electronically; if not, they will be mailed to you.

What's New

Scheduled for launch the week of January 8, IN PLENARY, will be a series of web-based essays and discussion groups on issues that will be before the Synod when it meets in June. IN PLENARY, will provide readers with an opportunity for lively on-line discussion of the issues prior to General Synod. Look for IN PLENARY at <http://www.anglican.ca/gs2007>



Holy Trinity Church, Winnipeg

The election of the 13th Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada will take place at Holy Trinity Church in downtown Winnipeg, Manitoba, a church that dates back to 1868 when it was conceived in the midst of the confusion and anarchy of the Riel Rebellion in the Red River Settlement. Manitoba was not yet a province; Winnipeg was not yet a city.

The first church building was completed November 4th, 1868 and enlarged in 1870. It was quickly outgrown, as was its successor. The present building was completed in 1884, with a seating capacity of 750. This neo-gothic structure is now a designated national historical site. The spiritual life of the parish was solidified under its first permanent Rector, Archdeacon Octave Fortin, who was Rector of the Parish for 42 years.

Holy Trinity is home to a diverse congregation, with parishioners born in more than 30 different countries. Together, the congregation focuses ministries of prayer, downtown mission where we provide a lunch to over 120 people daily, Christian education, worship, and hospitality. Services range across the spectrum of Anglican practice, from traditional B.C.P. to contemporary gospel. The congregation would like to invite delegates to the National Synod to their 2nd annual Gospel Pentecost--a celebration of the 40 days from Resurrection to Pentecost, told through gospel music--on Sunday, June 17th at 7 pm. Please visit <http://www.holytrinity.mb.ca/> for more information about the ministry of Holy Trinity Church, Winnipeg.

Ebb and Flow of the General Synod Agenda

Our meeting time will be full and will probably seem pressured at times. We have a lot to do! We have a full day with our Lutheran brothers and sisters celebrating and deepening our relationship of full communion; we have a day devoted to the election of a new Primate. Hence, our business time is quite concentrated. There are several important items on the agenda, including such things as:

- A report from the *Governance Working Group*;
- Welcoming the new National Indigenous Anglican Bishop;
- The St. Michael Report;
- Our response to the Windsor Report;
- The work and ministry of the Council of the North;
- Some resolutions deferred by the 2004 General Synod on the blessing same sex unions;
- Hearing important news from our domestic and international partners;
- The election of the Council of General Synod as well as of committees and boards.

This is but as partial list.

So there is a lot to do. There will be lots of opportunity to hear and learn about all of these issues, as well as to hear about the varied and amazing work our church carries out, both here in Canada and beyond our borders. *Peter Wall, Chair, General Synod Planning Committee*

Prayer for General Synod

Eternal One, whose love draws the circle wide,
prepare a place in our hearts for you
as we prepare for General Synod.

Open our hearts to the communion you have given us in your Son,
that in beholding each other
we may honour that gift of life together in You.

Open our lives to share your love and mercy
as we look on each other and see Jesus
our joy, our way, our truth our life. Amen

How to Contact Us

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