



THE TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
A Missionary District of the Anglican Catholic Church

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Vicar General

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Nothing equals prayer! It makes the impossible possible, and the difficult easy.
(St. John Chrysostom)

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

It is now three months since we held our inaugural Synod in Mississauga and I should like to give you a brief update of some things that have happened since that event.

The District Council has met by teleconference once a month since the Synod.

You will remember that for the present, the Council is comprised of the Vicar General, Secretary, Clergy and Lay Delegates for Eastern and Western Canada. We still have a place for a Treasurer and for a Chancellor.

The Council Members chosen at Synod were Secretary—Marie Tetlow, Clergy Members—Fr. James Chantler and Fr. David Marriott, Lay Members—Willa Rea and George Ferguson, and myself as Vicar General.

Regrettably, earlier this month, Marie Tetlow found it necessary, for personal reasons, to withdraw from the Council and the Secretary's position. Joyce Mansfield offered to serve as Secretary and this was approved by the Council in January meeting.

As a Council, we are moving ahead with several items.

We are currently working on the application to the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA)—old Revenue Canada—for a registration as a charitable organisation. This will take some time to work this through.

Preparations are being made to establish a bank account, though we are not rushing ahead with this since the CRA is quite adamant that, until such time as we are a registered charity, we are not accounted to be a qualified recipient of money from other charities—i.e., the various parishes. The parishes will be the main financial support of the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada. A bank account will be established in Parry Sound, Ontario once our charities application has moved ahead. For the present, St. John's, Parry Sound, Ontario is administering funds given to support the TACC.

In the very near future, a dedicated telephone line will be established for the TACC. This will be located at the Office of the Missionary District in Parry Sound and will be manned part of the time and a voice mail/answering machine will be attached for use at other times. Once in place, the number will be distributed so that parishes who so choose might use the number, freely, in

their advertising. The Council considered the idea of a toll free "800" number but felt that the additional cost including the fact that we would pay rate per minute for each incoming call was not to our advantage. We considered that since most people now have some sort of "plan" for their long distance calls, the use of a regular number would work as well for us. Using a dedicated line allows us the advantage of being able to answer the phone with the Church name and in the case of the answering machine picking up the call of using a very brief message about the Church.

The topics of communication, outreach, and evangelism have been addressed briefly.

It seems a bit obvious, perhaps, to make the point that communication is a two way street, so to speak; but I shall do it anyway—communication is a two way street.

We do need your comments and help. We invite you to share information about your parishes and communities so that we can share the information with others in the Church. We need your constructive suggestions so that we be responsive to the real needs of our Church.

At Synod there were three proposals for a coat of arms for the Traditional Anglican Church of Canada. The "winner" was of the *Agnus Dei*—the Lamb of God—placed over a Cross of St. George surrounded by "Canadian" maple leaves and other symbols of our English, Welsh, Scots, and Irish heritage. There will be more on the coat of arms on another occasion. What I want, particularly to draw your attention to is that below the coat of arms is a motto *Euntes in mundum universum*. These words are taken from the Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter 16, verse 15—*Euntes in mundum universum praedicate evangelium omni creaturae—Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature*—St. Mark's version of the Great Commission.

One response to this Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world", is the Africa Appeal.

As I was beginning to write this letter, I received an email from Fr. Marriott with the current Africa Appeal Newsletter. Immediately following that email came another with a note from Archbishop Haverland responding to the Newsletter. The Archbishop wrote, "Please, Father David, extend to your people my warm congratulations on their very generous response to the needs of our churchmen in Africa. They have been VERY generous. +MDH

While this is definitely not the only way in which we reach out into the world, it is one way. I commend the Appeal to you. At present, the Appeal is supported and maintained by the Parishes of the Lower BC Mainland—St Bride of Kildare and St. Columba of Iona—with support from other parishes and individuals.

We need take note that "the world" to which we are called to go could be as near as the next person we meet. St. Francis of Assisi is reputed to have said words to this effect: "Preach the Gospel always; when necessary use words." We are called to be living love letters from God to those around us. To become that, the greatest asset that we have for outreach is God Himself with whom we share time in prayer.

We are about to begin Lent and I have no doubt that you will hear the words of the Exhortations from the Prayer Book at some point during the next couple of months. The Exhortations to which I am referring can be found on pages 90-92 and on page 611 of our Canadian 1962 BCP and they really are worth your prayerful consideration.

The Exhortation in the Penitential Office on page 611 is only five sentences long, but the framers of our Prayer Book have compressed so much into these sentences. I shall not repeat the whole thing but draw your attention to the final line: "I therefore invite you, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting, and self-denial, and by reading and meditation upon God's holy Word."

