

2009

PLACES OF REFRESHMENT

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Welcome

What is Synod?

- **Synod means ... to sit together;**
 - ... a seeing together;
 - ... a sharing together.
- **“Value of Synod”** ... it is a rich & full tradition of the church - we have the privilege to give direction and guide the work and ministry of the church.
- Synod is **ONLY AS GOOD AS WE MAKE IT!!**
 - God has given you a voice, and a discerning heart and mind; the church is asking you to use them!!

The Anglican Church is:

**Episcopally led
Synodically governed**

Diocesan Council

- acts for the Synod between sessions
- membership is important
- informed participation is important

Mystery???

- Together, in prayer and informed, charitable discussion, we seek the mind of Christ.
- We will be making decisions on a variety of issues that affect all our parishes & churches.
- We learn from presentations about programs, people and ideas.
- We enjoy meeting new people and hearing about other parishes.

Value Your Experience

You have an important part to play.

- Your opinions are as important as anyone else here. ***Your vote matters!***
- We represent the 'whole church.' We must try to respect differences and encourage one another to see each other's point of view.
- Ultimately, we need to consider what is best for the whole church - this is not easy - but we try to hold to this ideal !

Who am I?

- You are you, an individual
- You are from a Parish
- You are from a Region
- But most of all, you are part of a Church that seeks to know the mind of Christ together, in prayer, in community.

The Bishop's Charge

- Bishop Sue speaks to the Church.
- Challenges us in our life together in Christ
- Examines how we are living out God's ministry, how we are accountable for our stewardship of God's gifts
 - ... Calls us to new initiatives of love for God's people, and
 - ... invites us to RESPOND!!

Synod Procedures

- The business of Synod may seem a little stiff and formal, but it helps give shape and order to the debate.
- When rising to speak to the motion, you should be adding something new to the debate, not repeating something already said -you only get one shot!!!
- Don't be afraid to interrupt if speakers fail to introduce themselves or speak loudly enough.

Robert's Rules of Order

- You are going to hear a great deal about amendments, people calling for "*the question*", etc
- Definitions of some of the major terms are in the Participant Handout
- Any questions so far ?????

Guidelines for 'Mike'

Your viewpoint is important -
Tips to help get your point across clearly!!

- First - outline your points
- Before speaking - adjust the microphone
- Speak *directly* into the microphone
- Address the Chair & members of Synod
- Introduce yourself name & parish
- Keep on topic ... stating clearly *for* or *against*

Timing is everything!!!

- Movers of Motions have 10 minutes
- Secunder of Motion has 5 minutes
- Speakers have 5 minutes
- Mover or secunder has 5 minutes to close debate

Let's Practice

“The best way to learn is to do.”

Part I of Circular - Notice of Motions

1. Pick one of the motions coming before Synod
2. Take time in your group to discuss the impact & implications of the motion
3. Using your handout, each person is to prepare to address your concerns/position to this gathering.
4. Time for Presentations: Priority will be given to those who have never used a microphone before it is not so scary!

Thoughts, Tips and Questions

Back home

- You may be asked to prepare a Synod Report for your Parish, or to speak to parishioners or Parish Council.
- Making notes in your Synod Circular is helpful for keeping things straight. Especially with difficult motions, keep some notes about all sides of the debate.
- Synod Delegate status means you are a member of your Parish Council until new delegates are elected.